

AFEP BRINGS FORWARD THE COMMITMENTS TAKEN BY LARGE COMPANIES TO FOSTER CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The French Association of Large Companies' ([AFEP](#)) member companies are acting at the highest level to make circular economy a key lever for reducing their environmental impact and improving economic efficiency. This commitment stands in synergy with their actions for climate and biodiversity. It is a concrete implementation of their strong engagement in favour of CSR, as reflected in the recently revised corporate governance code for listed companies.

In 2017, AFEP launched the development of member companies' commitments to act towards greater resource efficiency and published a yearly follow-up of these commitments on the basis of detailed data. Following the publication of three annual monitoring reports in 2018, 2019 and 2020, AFEP has designed a new information platform, **Ambition4Circularity**, whose aim it is to improve public access to companies' information. This platform is made public on 18 January 2023.

It provides a direct access to the commitments, their follow-up, possible selection of commitments depending on the circular economy levers, direct contacts within companies and additional information. It is also aimed at non-French speakers as it comprises an English version. It is the "counterpart" of the **Ambition4Climate** platform, which brings together the low-carbon projects being implemented by member companies.

Ambition4Circularity now brings together 143 commitments from 38 member companies, including 61 new commitments since the publication of the previous AFEP report. New commitments can be found in [Annex](#). Altogether, these commitments mobilise all the circular economy levers defined by ADEME, the French Environment Agency, from eco-design to recycling.

The follow-up report for 2022 highlights the headways companies have made:

- 61% of commitments are being implemented.
- Among them, 71% are on track and 13% are deemed to be ahead of schedule.
- 35% of the commitments from previous years have been completed and 79% of them have reached their targets.

The chairman of the AFEP, M. Laurent Burelle remarks that: *"Large French companies perceive the circular economy as a relevant competitive tool bringing about sustainable solutions across the world. As is the case with climate, companies' voluntary commitments to circular economy continue in a dynamic way, in conjunction with the increasingly demanding legislation. AFEP hopes this new Ambition4Circularity platform will encourage constructive exchanges between companies and stakeholders, thereby contributing to promote innovative, efficient, and economically operational modes of production and consumption, for the preservation of the environment"*.

Weblink to the Ambition4Circularity platform:

www.ambition4circularity.com

AFEP contacts :

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About us: [AFEP](#) (the French Association of Large Companies) is an association founded in 1982 representing 114 of the largest companies operating in France. AFEP's objective is to foster a sustainable and business-friendly environment and to present the vision of its member companies to French public authorities, European institutions and international organisations.

Annex

AFEP member companies' new commitments to foster circular economy

a) New commitments made by companies which have already made prior commitments in AFEP's publications

Alstom:

- Reach the target of 25% recycled content in newly developed rolling stock by 2025

Arkema:

- Organise a polymer recycling value chain that allows customers to partner with Arkema in post-industrial recycling projects and post-consumer regarding its High Performance Polymers (between now and 2030)

Bouygues:

- Creation of the first international chair dedicated to the circular economy with the goal of training 120 future economic leaders by 2025

Eiffage :

- Develop and deploy by 2025 R&D experiments of reuse and valorisation solutions on work sites
- Develop by 2025 circular offers and associated marketing
- Reduce the ecological footprint on the whole value chain including the target of reaching by 2025 25% of recycling for coating manufacturing

Elis:

- Reuse or recycle 80% of the Group's end-of-life textiles by 2025
- Offer at least one collection using responsible materials in each product family by 2025
- Ensure by 2025 that 95% of procurement spends from direct suppliers have undergone a CSR assessment within the previous three years
- Promote Circular Economy to our ecosystem/stakeholders through actions to be implemented until 2025

Fnac Darty:

- Develop by 2025 a framework to inform customers to enable them making an educated choice in terms of sustainability
- Recruit and train 1,000 after-sales service technicians to support the Group's sustainability strategy

Legrand:

- Achieve 15% recycled plastics use rate and 40% recycled metals use rate in the products manufactured by the Group by 2024
- Eliminate by 2024 100% single-use plastic in flow pack and expanded polystyrene packaging

L'Oréal:

- By 2025, all L'Oréal sites will achieve carbon neutrality by improving energy efficiency and using 100% renewable energy
- In 2030, 100% of the water used in L'Oréal industrial processes will be recycled and reused in a loop

- By 2030, 100% of L'Oréal biobased ingredients for formulas and packaging will be traceable and will come from sustainable sources. None of them will be linked to deforestation
- By 2030, 95% of L'Oréal ingredients in formula will be biobased, derived from abundant minerals or from circular processes
- By 2030, 100% of the plastic used in L'Oréal packaging will be either from recycled or biobased sources (the Group will reach 50% in 2025)

Michelin:

- Introduce at least an average of 40% of sustainable materials by 2030 and 100% by 2050

Pernod Ricard:

- From 2025, reach at group level 50% of recycled glass after consumption and 25 % recycled PET; 100% of cardboards will be certified by standards that will ensure that forests are sustainably managed
- By 2025, 100% of packaging and 100% promotional items which are bought will be reusable, recyclable and compostable
- By 2030, initiatives will be launched in order to foster recycling in 10 key markets
- By 2030, the Group will steer five R&D projects on circular economy methodologies for wine and spirits retailing

Plastic Omnium:

- Increase the content of recycled plastic materials in automotive plastic body parts by 2024
- Assess the opportunities and feasibility of using sustainable materials (recycled and bio-sourced) in the automotive sector and validate alternative materials by 2025
- Eco-design the body panels of the future to reduce the carbon footprint by 50% by 2030 compared to 2020
- Assess the use of non-fossil raw materials in the fuel tanks production with validation of alternative materials by 2025
- Replace a share of the plastic content of a light brackets component with recycled plastic. This recycling process will take place in the framework of an Audi / HBPO partnership by 2027
- Improve by 2024 the circularity of carbon fiber by using recycled carbon fibers and valorising the end of life composite materials

Sanofi:

- By 2025: More than 90% of waste will be either reused, recycled or recovered and 100% of our sites will no longer use landfill
- Implement an eco-design approach taking into account all stages of the product life cycle – all new products on the market will be eco-designed by 2025; the approach will be extended to our top-selling products already on the market by 2030
- Implement an eco-design approach for packaging – 100% of packaging for our new products will be designed taking into account environmental criteria by 2025 and vaccine packaging will be blister-free by 2027

Schneider Electric:

- Reach 420,000 tons of avoided primary resources consumptions through take back at the end of use by 2025 since 2017
- Reach by 2025 200 sites “Waste to Ressource” sites
- Ensure by 2025 that 100% of our primary and secondary packaging is free from single use plastic and used recycled cardboard
- Increase to 50% by 2025 the green material content in our products
- Reach 80% of products revenues covered by the Green Premium™ program

Groupe Seb:

- In the framework of the « Repair rather than throw away » program, reaching 90% of small domestic appliances repairable for 15 years at fair prices

Société Générale:

- Ban single-use plastics from the workplace by 2025, and sooner if possible in some regions

TotalEnergies:

- Produce biofuels in a sustainable way at a level of 5 Mt/year in 2030
- Produce more than 20 TWh/year of biomethane in 2030
- Produce 30 % of recycled or biopolymers by 2030, ie. 1 Mt/year
- Recover more than 70% of the waste by 2030
- Engage in and contribute to international initiatives promoting the circular economy: for instance PACE (Platform for Accelerating Circular Economy), Alliance to End Plastic Waste

Veolia:

- Target 2023: 610 kt of recycled plastics
- Increase the turnover linked to the circular economy with a 2023 target set at 6.3 billion euros

b) New commitments undertaken by firms participating for the first time to AFEP publication on circular economy**Getlink:**

- Recovery of used uniforms from insulating material for the automobile and construction sectors by 2024

Hermès:

- Valorize dormant materials and production leftovers with the Oïkos Lab

Kering:

- Zero destruction of unsold goods by 2022 worldwide
- Zero single-use plastic for client packaging (B2C) by 2025 and for logistics packaging (BtoB) by 2030
- 100% of raw materials in compliance with Kering Standards by 2025
- Zero microfiber waste by 2030

Verallia:

- Maximise the use of recycled glass in our products with the following objectives:
 - Intermediate objective: increase the rate of use of recycled glass (external cullet) in Verallia's production worldwide to reach 59% by 2025
 - Final objective: Increase the rate of use of recycled glass (external cullet) in Verallia's production worldwide to reach 66% by 2030
- Develop eco-design for responsible products with an objective of reducing the weight of our standard and non-returnable bottles and jars by 3% by 2025 (base year 2019)
- Develop our glass reuse and return capacity with an objective of testing at least one pilot reuse project in France by 2025.
- Optimise water use with an objective of reducing water consumption in glass plants by 5% between by 2025
- Limit waste production and optimize waste management, with an objective of 75% of recycling rate for our waste by 2025

Sodexo:

- Reduce food waste by 50 % on 85 % of our sites covered by the "WasteWatch program" by 2025
- 100% deforestation and conversion free supply chain globally by 2030 for palm oil, soy, beef and paper products. Our shorter-term goals for 2025 are:
 - 100% certified sustainable palm oil
 - 100% certified sustainable disposable papers
- 100% reusable, recyclable or compostable packaging by 2025 in the United-Kingdom and in Ireland