

# Circular solutions and fight against pollution

**Prevention**

—  
**Upcycling**

—  
**Management**



# Our action today



12 projects for managing waste and pollution underway in 2022

— amounting to →



€17,9 M

earmarked for waste and pollution management

FFEM supports projects that tackle pollution and implement circular solutions. It accompanies integrated approaches that consider the entire product life cycle. It also supports the strengthening of governance and regulatory frameworks in countries, in accordance with commitments made in international conventions.

## 1 Source reduction and the circular economy



COSTA RICA  
€2 M

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the government of Costa Rica are collaborating with the private sector and civil society to **reduce plastic pollution**. Supported by FFEM, **this project promotes sustainable practices and a circular economy.**

Current modes of production and consumption generate significant waste, much of which is openly burned or dumped into natural ecosystems. Faced with this situation, FFEM promotes the shift from a linear economic model (produce, consume, discard) to **a sustainable circular model that fully integrates source reduction**. It thus supports enduring circular solutions for waste reduction and upcycling. At the same time, FFEM encourages behavioural change through **producer and consumer awareness as well as the use of incentive and certification approaches.**

## 2 Preventing the risks associated with chemical products

FFEM supports projects that aim for the rational use of chemicals, one of the challenges being the **transition to safer alternatives**. We especially take into consideration persistent organic pollutants (POPs), heavy metals, and pesticides. We also support projects that **reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants**, mainly soot, methane, fluorinated gases, and ozone, which represent a major environmental and health threat due to their impact on climate and air pollution. All these projects include awareness-raising activities with the goal of changing practices and the transfer of skills and technologies.



GUYANA, FRENCH  
GUIANA, SURINAME  
€1 M

In the Guiana Shield, FFEM is helping **reduce mercury contamination** with a project both to eliminate mercury in the gold-mining sector and to curb deforestation due to mining.

# 3 Sustainable channels to manage hazardous waste



## GAMBIA €1 M

FFEM supports an innovative project aimed at **improving the management of hazardous waste**

**in Gambia.** The goal is to reduce the risks of contamination for both humans and the environment.

In countries of the Global South, where access to adequate and efficient hazardous waste management services is limited, FFEM supports projects aimed at preventing the production of such waste, promoting their recycling, and **improving treatment systems.** It specifically targets areas that are high generators or impacted by poor waste management. These projects, for example, encourage the strengthening of governance and the structuring of waste management systems. Special attention is given to **waste from electrical and electronic equipment as well as plastic waste** due to their increasing quantities and impacts on ecosystems.



In Cameroon, FFEM supported the WEECAM project which established an electrical and electronic waste collection and treatment system (WEE).

## A cross-cutting approach

Human activities that generate pollution and waste are affecting ecosystems more than ever. To preserve the environment in the long term, the projects supported by FFEM encourage more sustainable practices, whether they involve reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution or improving waste management. With this in mind, we support cross-cutting projects that target biodiversity and human health as well as the climate. In this way, we contribute to achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## 3 ILLUSTRATIVE CROSS-CUTTING PROJECTS



POLLUTION



BIODIVERSITY



FORESTS

### UGANDA

The “For a new balance among forests, wildlife and riverside communities” project takes a systemic view of human, animal and environmental health, using a “One Health” approach.



POLLUTION



FORESTS



ENERGY

### KENYA

The Sanergy company has developed a network of low-cost toilets. They are installed in impoverished neighbourhoods, where organic waste is recovered via a bioconversion process.



POLLUTION



OCEAN

### CÔTE D'IVOIRE-UGANDA-SENEGAL

The WaSAF project monitors growth of toxic cyanobacteria in an area covering three lakes and lagoons. In this way, it helps preserve drinking-water resources over the long term.

# Nearly 30 years of solutions



24 projects funded since 1995



€30 M

committed to waste and pollution management

Since its creation, FFEM has dealt with pollution and waste management in a cross-cutting way. The scale of pollution-related impacts on the environment and on health, as well as the lack of funding to fight it, led us to make pollution a key aspect of our strategy in 2018.

## Control of chemical pollutants



MALI, TUNISIA-2005

€1.4 M

A FFEM program sought to **eliminate outdated pesticide stocks** and improve purchase and usage practices through **collection and treatment** of contaminated packaging.

Chemical pollutants threaten the environment and health, especially those of the poorest.

Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) have been regulated by the Stockholm Convention since 2001 and are the focus of FFEM's projects in Africa and the Mediterranean region. We support **the promotion of pesticide alternatives** and work to eliminate outdated stocks of pesticides and POPs. We work on **regulatory frameworks for the control of pollutants** as well as the transfer of skills to promote the best available techniques and environmental practices.

## Depollution of aquatic environments



UGANDA-1999

€1.2 M

A project by the KCCL company and the French Geological Survey (BRGM) sought to **control pollution and decontaminate sediments**

polluted by a mine near two threatened areas: Elizabeth National Park and Lake George.

To fight the release of untreated wastewater into the environment, FFEM has supported the creation of regional institutions that can **influence national water-treatment policies**. We have also supported countries that face difficulties in following international agreements to prevent the dumping of waste at sea. We have helped identify **sources of pollution of international waters** and have established pollution control in international basins. Our actions have also sought to **develop water-management plans** that incorporate resource-use planning.





# Toward sustainable value chains of waste prevention, management, and recovery

“Good waste is waste you don’t make.” FFEM has adopted this zero-waste principle by working first and foremost on preventing the production of pollution and waste. We strive to improve the governance among the players in polluting sectors. By helping **organise value chains for the treatment, recovery, and recycling of waste**, we promote a circular approach to the product life cycle. We also contribute to the fight against greenhouse gas emissions, for example by **promoting the recovery of organic waste** to reduce carbon consumption.



AFRICA-2011

€1 M

The regional Africompost project has made it possible to **establish composting units in five African cities**. This has helped develop an economic value chain for the recovery of household waste.

## Supporting the implementation of the Montreal Protocol


The goal of the Montreal Protocol is to eliminate the production and use of ozone-depleting substances and to help reduce the use of alternative substances that have a greenhouse effect (HFCs). Up to 20% of the contribution by France to the Montreal Protocol’s multilateral fund go to bilateral projects. FFEM, as a French bilateral agency, supports the implementation of these projects. Following the adoption of the Kigali Amendment on HFCs, we are also working to create synergies between French bilateral projects and the projects we support on energy efficiency in the refrigeration sector.



### THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

  
**\$965 M**  
TOTAL BUDGET OVER THE 2024-2026 PERIOD

  
**45**  
CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES

  
**\$38.5 M**  
IN GRANTS (France is the 5th largest donor)

### An illustrative HFC project

#### Making a more sustainable cold chain

ZIMBABWE

FFEM is financing a **\$113,000 project to convert two production lines of household refrigerators and freezers**. The goal? To replace HFC-134a with R-600a isobutane as a refrigerant. This project is being implemented by the United Nations Development Programme as part of the Kigali Amendment.

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**The French Global Environment Facility (FFEM)** supports pilot and innovative projects in favour of the environment in developing countries. These projects contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, climate, international waters, land and ozone layer and combat pollution in response to international environmental conventions. They are in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and generate local environmental, social and economic benefits.

The particularity of the FFEM: It relies on pilot projects to support innovation and disseminate lessons learned on a larger scale. It supports projects carried out by public, private or civil society actors from both the South and the North, in co-financing with other financiers and international organizations.

Created in 1994 by the French government following the first Earth Summit, the FFEM has since its creation supported more than 400 projects worth €500 million in over 120 countries, 70% of which are located in Africa and the Mediterranean.

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**FONDS  
FRANÇAIS POUR  
L'ENVIRONNEMENT  
MONDIAL**

Editorial and graphic design: ANIMAL & PENSANT

Photo credits: Janique Etienne - FFEM, Municipalidad de Desamparados - Costa Rica, Didier Gentilhomme, Janique Etienne - FFEM, Dominique Richard, Nyashadzashe Kadandara, Jjumba Martin, Gevalor, UNDP