



Sector: *Electricity*

Employees: 8,843

Criteria 11: The COP describes effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for environmental stewardship.

Description and implementation process:

RTE monitors its dedicated programme for measures that protect biodiversity in the land occupied by its existing electricity facilities.

The programme of proactive measures in favor of biodiversity contributes to the practical expression of RTE's commitments regarding protection of natural environments, preservation of biodiversity and restoration of ecosystem services through exemplary uses of the land under and around existing power lines and substations. It sets out a framework and resources underpinning concrete action by the Development/Engineering and Maintenance centers to restore, rehabilitate, create and protect natural habitats, and carry out subsequent monitoring. These measures are carried out under a three-party agreement between a local management body or association, a landowner, and RTE. In December 2012 RTE won recognition for its commitment to France's National Biodiversity Strategy. Two action programmes for biodiversity have been initiated by RTE in continuation of the steps already taken: improving, enhancing and sharing knowledge on biodiversity; and implementing practical measures to protect biodiversity. In compliance with the National Biodiversity Strategy, RTE regularly assesses its commitments. The company also prepares a report each year on all the action taken for the environment, in application of its ISO 14001 certification.



Challenges encountered and response(s) provided:

One of the main difficulties in implementing this programme concerns our partnerships. Since RTE is not the owner of the land underneath its power lines, any intervention must be approved by the landowners, and they are often difficult to identify, especially in forest areas. Furthermore, as RTE is not an expert in biodiversity it must work with local management bodies or conservation associations and draw on their expertise to design and monitor appropriate action. Setting up such partnerships can be complex and time-consuming. RTE has therefore signed framework agreements with several expert bodies (e.g. FPNR, FCEN, LPO) to facilitate local partnerships. For optimum monitoring of these partnerships, information is regularly shared between central departments and regions through a biodiversity skill network of biodiversity actors at RTE.

Impact and results:

An indicator has been defined to monitor progress on this biodiversity programme; it corresponds to the land surface occupied by electricity facilities where environmentally-friendly maintenance is practiced. This indicator is monitored quarterly by RTE's Environmental Consultation Committee, which represents the company's main divisions concerned by the environment. It shows that more than 582 hectares of natural environments have now been restored, redesigned and preserved, in over 270 measures for biodiversity and ecosystems. For example, in partnership with the association Noé Conservation, RTE has set up flower meadows in the forest corridors, to encourage development of the specific biodiversity of open areas. The results of this experiment show that both the number and diversity of butterflies found under the power lines have increased.

Links to reference documents / Links for more information:

Link to annual report 2013 (pages 51 and 52): [Click here](#).

Photos and videos:

Link to the vidéo "L'effet Papillon": [Click here](#).



Sector: Real Estate Investment & Services **Employees: 16**

Criteria 11: The COP describes effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for environmental stewardship.

Description and implementation process:

Consulting firm in tertiary real estate and working areas market, Modencia has rethought its activities through the prism of sustainable development.

A new expertise had been developed, in both, an independent and a transversal way: environmental management consulting

Our activities impact the environment, be it directly or indirectly.

By putting in place an environmental management system such as ISO 14001 we have been able to identify our impacts, develop our environmental policy, and put in place an action plan. ,

Our environmental policy is about improvement processes: step by step we are improving our way of operating in a more ethical and conscious manner.

We have established a board to track our progress and performance. It exists to assess progress and to align our operations with regulatory obligations. Stretching over a long term period, every little effort is turning into an established practice towards the protection of our environment.

For example: interior designers are now trained on eco conception with regards to office furniture and opt for products that meet this vision when building new projects.

Challenges encountered and response(s) provided:

Meeting every employee in our corporation with the objective of explaining direct and indirect environmental impacts in business operations defining our environmental policy.

Reporting on actions and progress



Impact and results:

- Expose our weaknesses and habits that require improvement;
- Be aware of our environmental regulations;
- Measure and define our impacts and environmental issues (monitoring table and key indicators);
- Set a clear action plan develop a system based on the three pillars of sustainable development.