

Greening Report

2020

Foreword by the Secretary-General

The world is battling the COVID-19 global health emergency, while simultaneously trying to mitigate the economic and social ramifications of the policy responses to this crisis. It is also racing against the clock to avoid the environmental crisis around the corner. As the health crisis comes under control, a key question will be how to restart the economy while dealing with the looming challenge of climate change, which in-turn has a direct impact on inequalities and social challenges. We need to step up ambitions to produce a low-carbon recovery. Stimulus packages need to be aligned with ambitious policies to tackle climate change and environmental degradation. The OECD is compiling data, analysis and recommendations on a range of topics, and publishing [key policy responses](#) to help governments address the COVID-19 crisis, facilitate co-ordination, and contribute to the necessary global action.

Against this background, we present the OECD Greening Report 2020. Our colleagues in the Executive Directorate collaborate with OECD experts on the circular economy, responsible business conduct, behavioural economics and carbon pricing to deliver best corporate environmental sustainability practices. As we analyse 10 years of environmental data from our activities, we see the results of our collective efforts and engagement.

The future is uncertain but the time for co-ordinated action is now. Protecting the planet is the most important inter-generational responsibility we have today.



Angel Gurría
OECD Secretary-General

*The future is uncertain
but the time for
coordinated action is now.
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Preface by the Executive Director

The OECD acknowledges the role of all global actors to drive change and to contribute towards achieving the SDGs. In recognition of this, we aim to be a sustainable organisation by embedding sustainable practices into our daily functioning and work culture.

These internal efforts emphasise our commitment with driving management excellence and continued improvement in our in-house operations, allowing it to be consistent with OECD's commitment to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As part of our commitment to Climate Action (SDG 13), the Secretary-General joined the UN's "Carbon Neutral Now" initiative in 2018. The OECD achieved carbon neutrality this year through a combined approach of reducing the Organisation's carbon footprint and offsetting the remaining emissions. In addition, in 2019, we became ISO 14001 certified, helping to ensure that our buildings management will remain environmentally responsible in the long run. This report is a sample of all our efforts and progress on environmental sustainability.

We are now looking to further reduce our footprint through a stronger engagement and commitment amongst OECD staff, in areas such as waste management and green procurement. To be able to keep improving, we need to work together in an effective and coordinated manner.

As an organisation, we seek to move forward, acknowledging that our comprehensive approach towards sustainability requires a strong vision, a shared value system, and a strategic plan, in order to continually work towards achieving a better world for the current and future generations.



Josée Touchette
OECD Executive Director

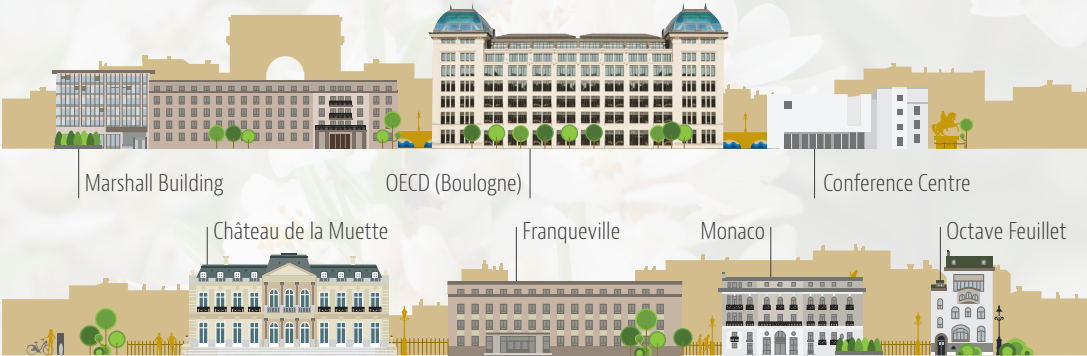
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Scope of the Report

This report covers the environmental performance of the OECD for the staff working in the two main sites: La Muette and OECD (Boulogne). All data related to the International Energy Agency and the OECD centres outside of Paris are excluded from this analysis.

The total buildings area under the scope of this report is approximately 95 000m², including:



The scope of the calculations made for the Greening Report 2020 are based on 3,640 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff working in the facilities. It takes into account the number of work stations and includes officials, consultants, temporary staff, and trainees. This number does not reflect the OECD official staff members as it does not include staff working in the OECD Centres outside of Paris. For the official staff statistics please refer to the Staff Profile Statistics 2019.

Acronyms and abbreviations

CPCU	Compagnie Parisienne de Chauffage Urbain (Parisian Company of District Heating)
EMS	Environmental Management System
FTE	Full-time equivalent
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GWP	Global Warming Potential
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
tCO ₂ e	Tonnes of equivalent carbon dioxide

Executive Summary

Historically, the Greening Report has detailed the OECD's progress in environmental performance. As a new decade begins, and in the spirit of continuous improvement, this year's report showcases how far the OECD has come in its efforts to reduce GHG emissions, use of natural resources and waste, and highlights new projects and challenges for the years to come.

The OECD has achieved a number of important milestones in its environmental performance since 2019. For example:

- **ISO 14001:2015:** In December 2019, the environmental management system of our buildings use, maintenance and related services received the ISO 14001:2015 certification. This is a first step towards gradually including other services and activities under the scope of certification.
- **GREEN PROCUREMENT:** In the same year, green criteria were included in procurement processes for a new caterer and electricity supplier. These experiences demonstrated that emphasising the importance of good environmental performance amongst our providers can help us to select better qualified providers overall.
- **GREENING COMMUNITY:** In 2019, the online Greening Community was launched, allowing staff members to calculate their carbon footprint and share tips and even taxi rides.
- **CARBON NEUTRALITY:** Finally, in 2020, the OECD reached carbon neutrality. This achievement was built on 21% emissions reductions per staff in the past 10 years and a carbon offsetting project which commenced in 2017.

The OECD plans to continually innovate its greening efforts in the years to come, setting even bolder environmental targets and further advancing a sustainable culture and pro-environmental behaviours across the Organisation. In particular, future greening projects will draw on insights from the behavioural sciences to design and test solutions in impactful areas such as travel and canteen services. All members of staff are encouraged to contribute to improving the environmental performance of the Organisation through the OECD's Greening Network.



Mainstreaming biodiversity into our daily operations

The World Environment Day is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. **The theme for 2020 is biodiversity.** These are exceptional times in which nature is sending us a message: to care for ourselves we must care for nature. Throughout this report, we will highlight how the OECD mainstreams biodiversity into its daily operations.

The Executive Directorate's continual efforts in this area are also reflected in key figures. For example, while the number of visitors and staff members jumped by over 50% and office area increased by 18% over the past decade, total energy consumption has reduced by 16% since 2010 and paper consumption is at a third of its 2011 volume.

Responsible use of natural resources

► ENERGY

-28%

Total energy consumption per m² has been reduced by **28%** since 2010.

► WATER

-8%

Water consumption by employee has decreased by **8%** since 2011.

► PAPER

-66%

Total paper consumption dropped by **66%** since 2011.

pages 12 & 13

Carbon neutrality

-1%

OECD's carbon footprint reduced by **1%** compared to 2018.

► MONITORING GHG EMISSIONS:

12 055 tCO₂e; 3.3 tCO₂e per FTE.

► REDUCING CO₂ EMISSIONS:

Different initiatives including **Carbon Pricing** and **web conferencing** equipment.

► OFFSETTING CO₂ EMISSIONS:

The remaining emissions are offset through the purchase of **carbon credits** from third-party certified projects.

pages 10 & 11

OECD Greening Report 2020 at a glance

ISO 14001:2015 certification

Provides assurance that environmental performance in being **measured** and continuously **improved**.

OECD's EMS has **6 KPIs** to measure its environmental performance.

pages 8 & 9

Improved waste management

-16%

General waste volume reduced by **16%** compared to 2018.

40

In recent years, the OECD has placed a greater emphasis on fully measuring their waste outputs. Today, almost **40** different items are monitored.

pages 14 & 15

Promoting green procurement

100%

All high impact calls for tenders launched by the Executive Directorate included environmental or sustainability criteria.

LOW

Most of our purchases are considered to have **low** environmental impact because they mainly concern intellectual services.

pages 16 & 17

ISO 14001

An Environmental Management System (EMS) is a set of processes and practices that enable an organisation to identify, control and reduce its environmental impacts and to implement its Environmental Vision. The most commonly used framework for an EMS, and the one implemented at the OECD, is based on the ISO 14001:2015 standard. Developed by the International Organization for Standardisation (ISO) in 1996, the ISO framework is the official international standard for an EMS, and provides assurance to top management, employees and external stakeholders that environmental performance is being measured and continuously improved.

The OECD received the ISO 14001:2015 certification in 2019 for the use and maintenance of its main buildings and related services.



Indirect emissions related to
TRAVEL
(commuting, official missions, shuttle and courier service)



Use of electricity, heating and water related to
FACILITIES
management and use



Use of
HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS
including gas for refrigerant systems, in buildings maintenance

MAIN COMMON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES RELATED TO OUR ACTIVITIES



WASTE

including hazardous, and wastewater production from facilities management and use



Reinforcement of
BIODIVERSITY
from garden areas

In 2019, the OECD received the ISO 14001:2015 certification for the "Utilisation and maintenance of OECD's main buildings located in "La Murette" and "Boulogne" sites and its related services (including works, cleaning, gardening and office space management)". Our EMS is described in the Environmental Management System Manual. Our objectives and progress on related KPIs are exposed on page 9.

These objectives are determined following the analysis of the environmental aspects related to the OECD's activities that fall under the scope of the EMS, taking into account how these interact and impact the surrounding environment.



Mainstreaming biodiversity into our daily operations

The management of green areas in which birds nest, beehives are maintained and plants are cultivated without chemical products is considered a positive environmental aspects from our activity.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS OF OECD'S EMS

- Reduce GHG emissions (tCO₂e) related to buildings (Scope 1 and 2) per full-time equivalent staff (FTE) by 2% per year

-19% Shift to green electricity supplier

Actions 2020
+ Ensure French production of green electricity
- Reduce energy consumption (kWh) per square meter by 2% per year

-1% When correcting the values based on the external temperature, target reached (-2%)

Actions 2020
+ Review change in Conference Centre temperatures as energy consumption increase by 9%
- Reduce water consumption (m³) per FTE by 2% per year

+5% Caused by two important water leaks in garden area

Actions 2020
+ Install extra water meters and alert system in garden area
- Improve recycling share (%) by 2% per year

+3% General waste volume dropped by 16% (better monitoring)

Actions 2020
+ Work with new restaurant provider to maintain results
- Include environmental criteria in all call for tenders having environmental impact

100% All call for tenders from BLS division includes environmental criteria

Actions 2020
+ Include environmental considerations in "description of work"
- Reduce environmental risks (no. Emergencies situations) associated with OECD's activity by 2% per year

5 2 water leaks and 3 refrigerant gas leaks

Actions 2020
+ Install more refrigerant gas detection alarms

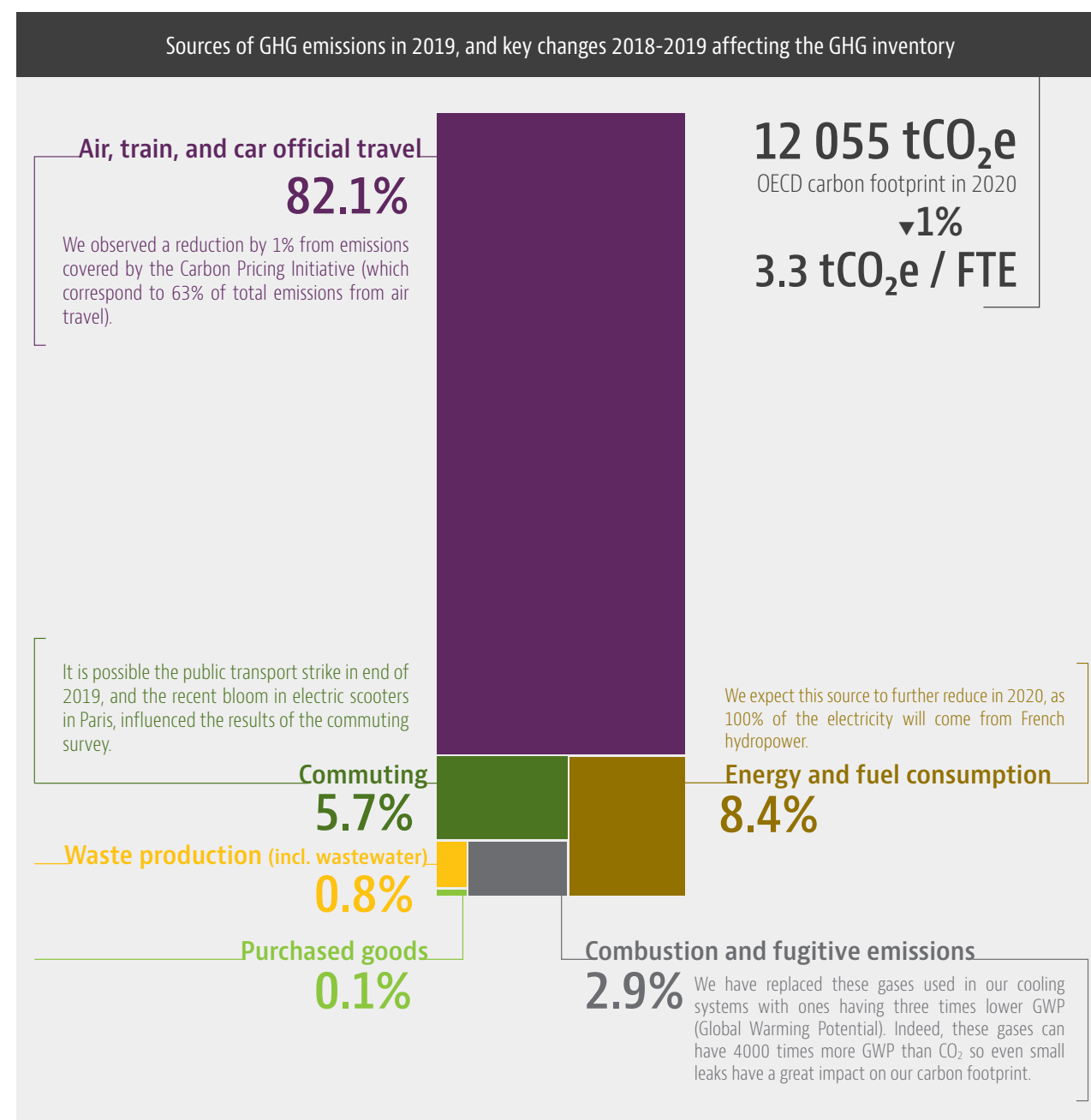
Carbon Neutrality

The OECD achieved
carbon neutrality in 2020
by monitoring, reducing
and offsetting our
emissions.

In January 2018, the Secretary-General joined the UN's "Carbon Neutral Now" initiative and pledged to achieve carbon neutrality at the OECD by 2020, a target that the Organisation has already met. This has entailed 1) monitoring and 2) reducing carbon emissions while 3) purchasing carbon credits in order to offset the remaining emissions.

► Step 1: Monitoring GHG emissions

The OECD calculates its footprint based on the GHG Protocol methodology. In 2019, OECD's carbon footprint reduced by 1% compared to 2018, reaching 12 055 tCO₂e, which is around 3.3 tCO₂e per FTE. In comparison, France's carbon footprint per inhabitant is around 7.3 tCO₂e ([OECD 2019](#)).



Focus on missions: According to the 2019 Missions Indicator Report, the OECD's system of managing missions is regularly iterated in the spirit of continuous improvement. In 2019, several practical improvements were made to the control processes. These include the development of the 'Quick Guide to Missions' to better guide travellers and administrative teams and the development of a process to more easily track cases when there are different groups of people travelling to a single country. These efforts have resulted in the reduction in overall expenditure on missions.

► Step 2: Reducing CO₂ emissions

CARBON PRICING

The Carbon Pricing initiative was introduced at the OECD in 2013. This initiative aims to compensate the environmental cost of carbon emissions and encourages management and staff to consider environmental aspects when making their travel arrangements, which could include reducing the number of staff travelling for the same mission, and selecting 'train' over 'plane'. Today most of Directorates participate in this initiative, covering half of total emissions reported in our GHG inventory.

The revenue generated from Directorates has supported investment in technologies such as remote conferencing facilities which have increasingly provided a viable alternative to travel as well as a number of other green investments.

WEB CONFERENCING

The majority of the revenues from the Carbon Pricing Initiative have been invested in remote conferencing equipment. Since 2014, the use of these facilities (in number of sessions) has increased by 85%. We expect an exponential increase in use in 2020 due to COVID-19, moving the Organisation to full teleworking and motivating the successful adoption of digital working tools.

► Step 3: Offsetting CO₂ emissions

The remaining emissions are offset through the purchase of carbon credits. In 2020, the OECD offset 100% of its GHG emissions, reaching carbon neutrality, after joining in January 2018 the UN Climate Neutral Now Initiative along with other leading organisations.

Carbon credits are purchased from third-party certified projects that help reduce, avoid or capture CO₂ emissions. Since 2018, the OECD has progressively offset its emissions by financing the Gola Rainforest Project in Sierra Leone, which reduces global carbon emissions by half a million tonnes of CO₂e annually.

DID YOU KNOW?

During Paris confinement, the OECD registered on average 180 web conferencing meetings with about 4000 participants per day.



DID YOU KNOW?

A carbon calculation tool is available to staff to calculate and offset their private footprint online. The voucher code "OECD2020" can be used to obtain a reduced price.

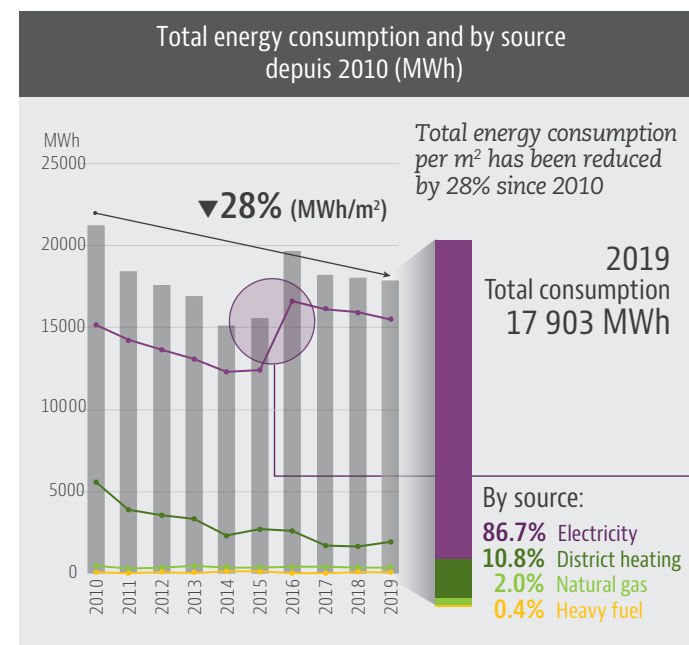


Mainstreaming biodiversity into our daily operations

The [Gola Rainforest Project](#) protects habitat for 327 bird species, 650 endemic plant species, 49 species of larger mammals and 31 fish species, 35% of which are endemic to the region. It established in 2011 the Gola Rainforest National Park, working with communities and other key stakeholders to ensure that the 70.000-hectare Park and its 70.000-hectare buffer zone are now under legal protection and threats of encroachment are minimised.

Use of Natural resources

► ENERGY



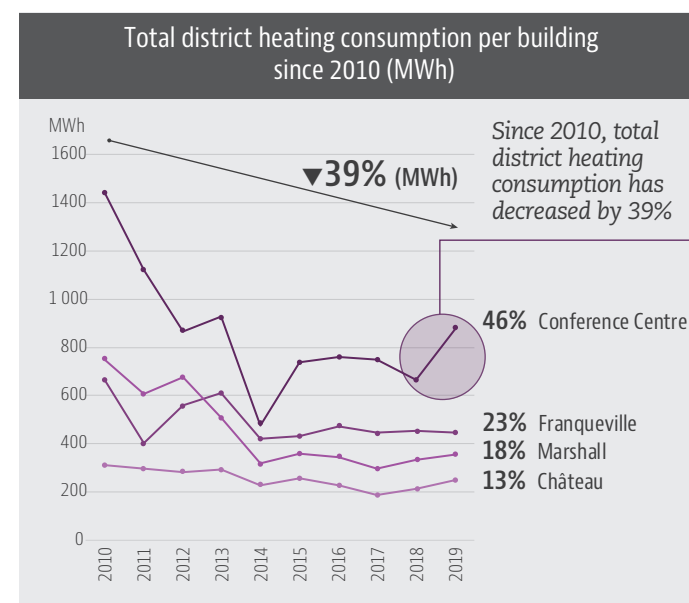
Total energy consumption includes electricity, district heating, gas and heavy fuel for emergency power supply. In 2019, electricity accounted for 87% of total energy supply.

Electricity consumption in 2019 is similar to the volume in 2010, even though total office area increased by 18%.

This is the result of successful energy management from our team in the Buildings, Logistics and Services Division.

Despite an increase in 2016, due to the move to OECD (Boulogne), total energy consumption per square meter has decreased by 28% since 2010, thanks to a sharp reduction in district heating.

In 2019, the visible increase in heating consumption in the Conference Centre is due to a change in the standard temperature of the meeting rooms in winter. Nevertheless, it does not overshadow the progress made since 2010.



DID YOU KNOW?

There are 90 meters in La Muette and OECD (Boulogne) collecting and analysing data on energy and water consumption every 10 min. Another 50 meters will be installed in 2020.

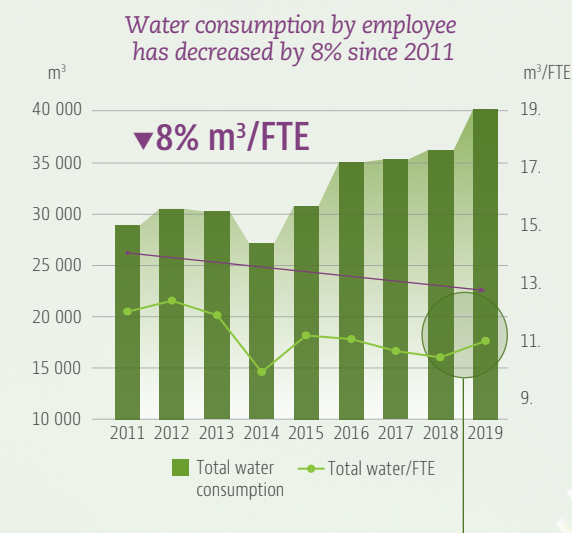


Mainstreaming biodiversity into our daily operations

The plants in our garden areas are chosen for their ability to adapt to the environment and with a view to limiting treatments to deter pests, besides for their aesthetic qualities.

► WATER

Total water consumption (m³) and water consumption per full-time equivalent (m³/FTE) since 2011



At OECD, water is used for staff and visitors' personal use, in restaurants and cafeterias, gardening, and cleaning the premises. In order to assess the water efficiency, we examine the consumption in cubic meters per full-time equivalent (m³/FTE).

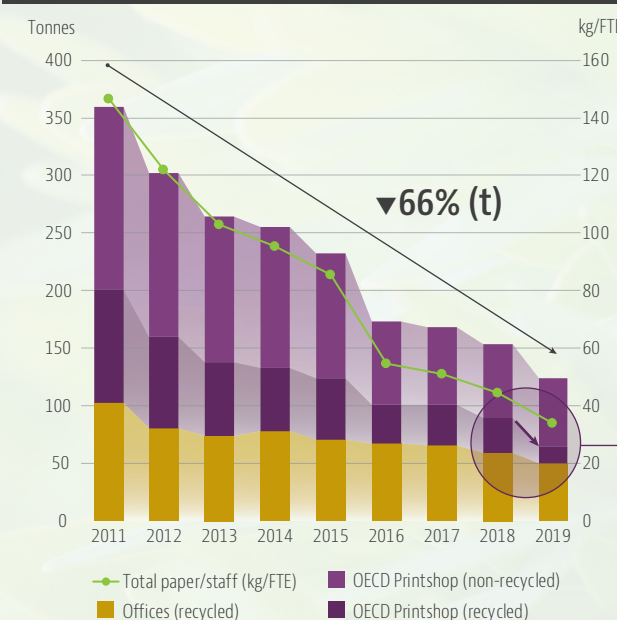
DID YOU KNOW?

The Marshall Building and OECD (Boulogne) have rainwater-harvesting systems for watering the gardens.



► PAPER

Total paper consumption per type and use and paper consumption per full-time equivalent (in kg/FTE) since 2011



Total paper consumption dropped by 66% since 2011.

In 2019, thanks to the initiative to charge for black and white as well as colour printing, the volume of printing pertaining to official documents was cut by half compared to 2018. On average, 7000 sheets of paper are still consumed per staff member per year.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Media Review and Printshop teams have been producing note books from paper waste and distributing to staff for since 2016.

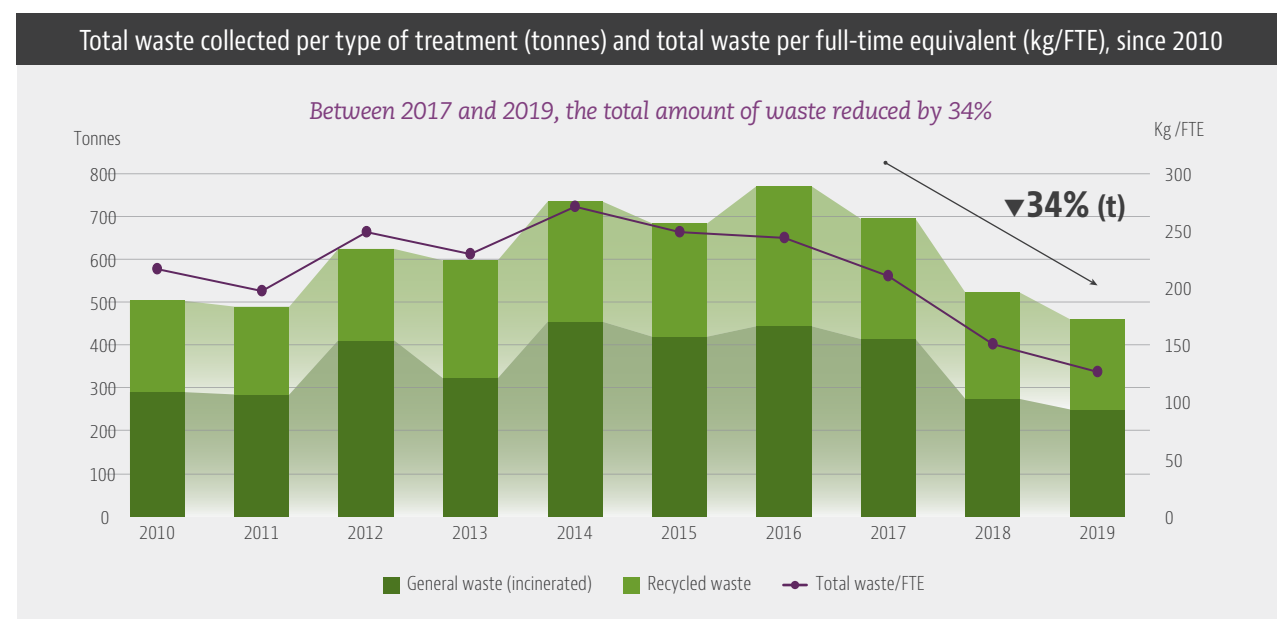


Waste

Thanks to our efforts on waste reduction, general waste volume dropped by 16% between 2018 and 2019.

In 2019, the OECD produced the equivalent of 126 kg of waste per FTE, comprising not only waste generated by staff and visitors but also activity-based waste (buildings maintenance, catering, events, IT, Printshop).

In recent years, the OECD has placed a greater emphasis on fully measuring our waste outputs. Indeed, in 2010, the OECD only collected data from general waste and paper waste. Today, almost 40 different items are monitored. Despite this change, total waste per FTE has been reduced by 40% compared to 2010.



Since 2018, the waste monitoring system has improved, and whenever possible, containers are weighted at the OECD before these are collected.

Between 2017 and 2019, the volume of general waste and paper waste, our two main sources of waste, reduced by 25% and 59% respectively. Nevertheless, as the data collection methodology for some of the waste streams changed, it is difficult to say this reduction is solely due to our continuous efforts on reducing waste.

While we focus on reducing waste – with reusable dishware, reduced packaging for lunch boxes or removing water bottles – it is also important to stop recyclables from ending up in the wrong bin.

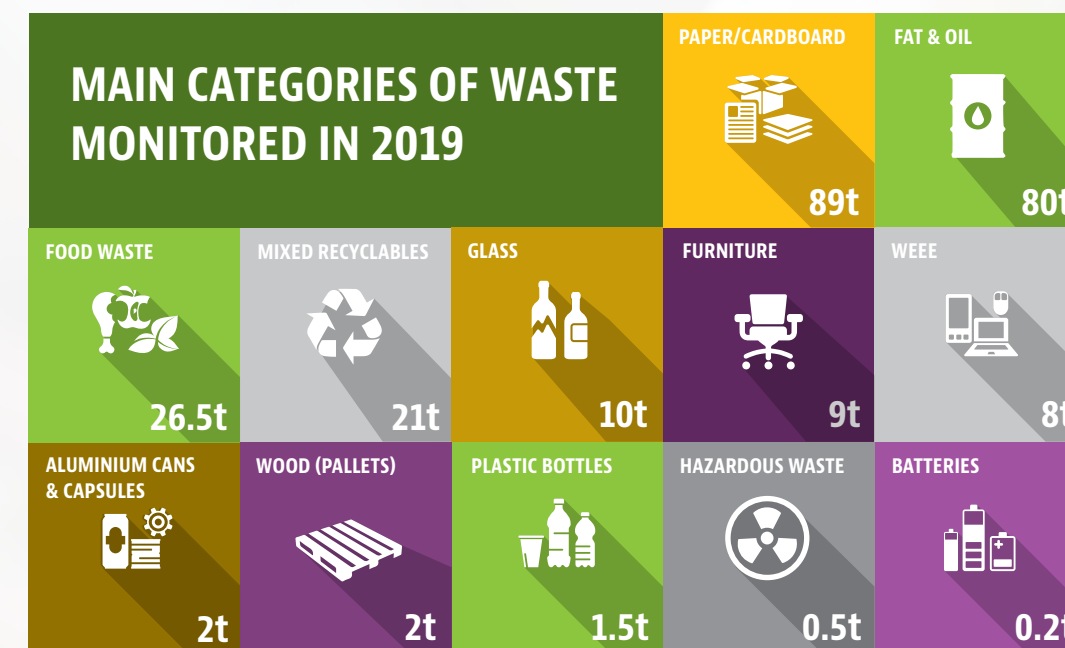
In 2019, we implemented new recycling bins and infographics, and started recycling paper cups and aluminium coffee capsules. Our teams are continually looking for new solutions to recover all of the waste produced at the OECD.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2019, following a successful pilot with the SIGMA Division evaluating the impact of removing office bins on recycling rates, the Environment Directorate decided to give up on individual bins when moving to a new location. Today, about 10% of the staff have joined the initiative.



Focus on reuse: In the 2019 call for tender for office supplies, only one candidate proposed a “take back” solution for pens. Office supply waste is difficult to recycle so we should focus on avoiding producing it. Last year, the Accounting Division recovered 100 used folders from a team moving to a new office!

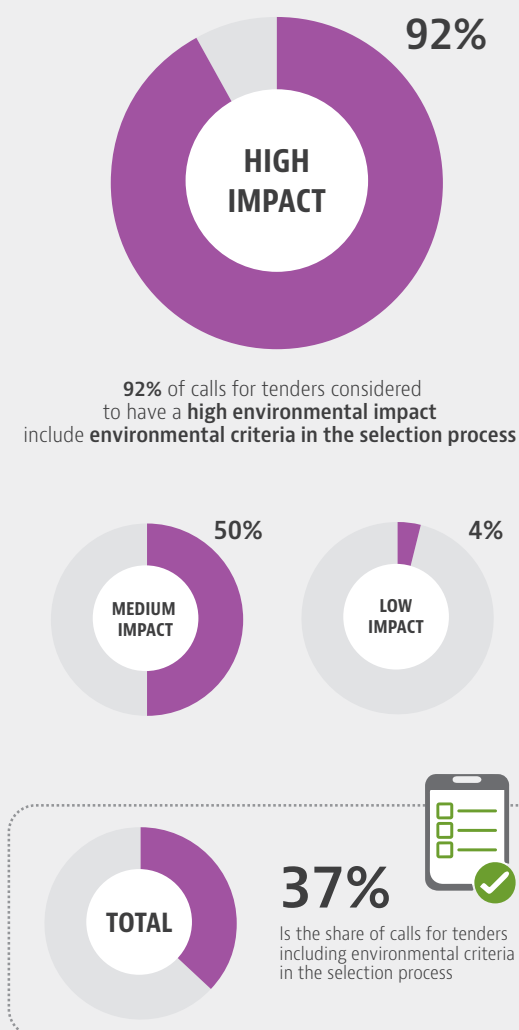


Mainstreaming biodiversity into our daily operations

What do food waste from OECD restaurants, coffee grounds from vending machines and green waste from OECD gardens have all in common? They are biologically treated and transformed into compost, which is then used as natural fertilizer. Food waste goes through anaerobic digestion, producing biogas in the process.

Procurement

Green criteria share in call for tenders
per level of environmental impact



Most of our purchases are considered to have low environmental impact because they mainly concern intellectual services.

Since 2016, the OECD has been following a Green Procurement indicator. It measures the number of calls for tenders including environmental criteria in the selection process compared to A) all tenders and to B) tenders considered to have a high environmental impact.

In 2019, all high impact calls for tenders launched by the Executive Directorate included environmental or sustainability criteria. The Corporate Procurement Group integrates OECD recommendations from the Infrastructure and Public Procurement Division and the Responsible Business Conduct Unit as far as possible in all corporate purchases.

Two important public consultations took place in 2019: Electricity supply (see chapter Carbon neutrality) and catering services.

DID YOU KNOW?

The multi-technical buildings maintenance contract includes an annual energy reduction target. If attained, the technicians working at the OECD get a bonus – not the company.



Focus on 2019 catering call for tenders:
Interview with Yann Marblez, Project Manager.

The new restaurants and cafeteria, in place since January 2020, are a great success. What are the main changes regarding environmental aspects?

There are several visible improvements such as the elimination of plastic bottles and installation of water fountains in the cafeteria areas, the reduction of food packaging and of paper receipts. On top of that, the new supplier is committed to use fresh, local, seasonal and organic products. For them, the quality of the products and a generous cuisine are main priorities.

How were staff inputs taken into account in the consultation process?

OECD management takes staff well-being seriously. Therefore, we were supported by a consultant that analysed the results from previous staff surveys, emails to the catering account and feedback from a panel including the Staff Association and staff members from both La Murette and OECD (Boulogne) sites. This panel also visited corporate restaurants to taste products from potential candidates. These inputs were translated into the terms of reference of the consultation.

How can we be sure these initiatives will be respected for the duration of the contract?

Serenest committed contractually to get the "Restaurant Vert" label, which describes several requirements regarding the origin of products, waste management but also water and energy consumption. The consultants who supported us during the consultation process developed this label and will ensure annual audits and check progress against targets for the duration of the contract.

We have seen great progress regarding environmental sustainability in the past years, but for Serenest's offer to be sustainable, staff members who had deserted the spaces because of the quality have to return and test the new restaurants.



Yann Marblez,
Head of Contracted
Services Unit

We have seen great progress regarding environmental sustainability in the past years.



Mainstreaming biodiversity into our daily operations

In 2019, the OECD signed a new contract for office paper supply. As a minimum requirement, white paper has to be certified FSC/PEFC – guaranteeing new fibres come from sustainably managed forests, which do not contribute to deforestation and destruction of natural habitat. Moreover, paper used in office printers and for official documents distribution is Ecolabel and 100% recycled – supporting the circular economy and reducing the pressure for new fibres.

Getting involved

Staff is invited to get involved by joining the Greening Network, a group of over 80 volunteers representing all Directorates that actively participate in initiatives to raise awareness among colleagues and improve the environmental performance of the Organisation.

By joining the Greening Network you will also receive exclusive information regarding Greening initiatives, you will participate in periodic meetings where you can give inputs and ideas on greening the Organisation and you will have the opportunity to participate in diversified events. In the past, members of the Network have joined tree planting events, honey sale, panel discussion on cycling events and the OECD *single-use-plastic-free* Week 2018. In 2019, we provided the network with the opportunity to follow the training for ISO 14001 Internal Auditors and contribute to the certification process of our Environmental Management System.

DID YOU KNOW?

The OECD Cycling Community was created by members of the Greening Network. Its purpose is to develop the cycling culture within the organisation and raise awareness about the great benefits of cycling.



Future projects

The OECD has come a long way since 2010. However, with the current worldwide pandemic, we will need to rethink of new ways of working and consuming, setting even bolder targets for the new decade. In particular, future greening projects will draw on insights from the behavioural sciences to design and test solutions in impactful areas such as travel and canteen services. Every staff member is invited to participate in this discussion, which is the *most important inter-generational responsibility* we have today.



Mainstreaming biodiversity into our daily operations

Between 2017 and 2019, about 400 participants joined in for sessions with our beekeeper, learning about the importance of bees to our ecosystems and how endangered the species currently are. Staff members had the opportunity to get a hands-on experience of beehive maintenance and honey harvest but also got a deeper look into a beekeeper's job, from detecting bee queens to extracting, filtering and packaging honey.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was created in 1961. Today, the mission of the OECD is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. The OECD Secretariat provides for its 37 Member countries, as well as many non-Members associated with its work, a forum in which governments can work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common problems.

Further details on this Report and its methodology, as well as primary data and their treatment, are available upon request.

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