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# SNCF'S INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENTS IN actanature

SNCF is a corporate citizen close to the nation's territories. Promoting biodiversity means working with regards to the environment, in synergy with the territories, and in the spirit of a better integration. With its 32,000 km of rail lines, its 100,000 hectares of property, its 3,000 train stations, and several hundred railway sites, the railway network is an intricate fabric woven over time that permeates the entire territory and therefore permanently interacts with nature.

SNCF is directly concerned by this interaction, as its activities impact biodiversity. However, its properties also offer the opportunity to shelter and preserve it. Acting in favour of biodiversity is not only a necessity, but it is also a way to strengthen the company's advantages with regards to its properties, which constitutes, in synergy with the territories, a series of opportunities for biodiversity.

This is why SNCF has committed in 2018 to further actions undertaken in previous years through the publication of the guidance document "Approach to Biodiversity" to structure these changes across the Railway Group's diverse activities.

Biodiversity plays a major role in SNCF Réseau's CSR policy: commitment n°6 of the company's strategy aims to "respect natural ecosystems as a common good." It is therefore integrated in the business strategy and in the state's performance contract (the restoration of ecological continuity) which are subject to annual reporting.

Collective engagement is fundamental: SNCF has joined numerous environmentally focused corporate partnerships, such as EpE, Orée, CILB, Comité 21, etc.

The SNCF group also finances research projects and are members of the Strategic Orientation Council (COS) for the Research Foundation for Biodiversity (FRB).

Our current commitment follows in the footsteps of past actions and increases our ambition levels to match the high stakes already affecting biodiversity in France and in the rest of the world. Therefore, our company commits to:

For its estate (railway network, brownfield sites, and buildings):

# Commitment 1

Wherever possible, transforming our infrastructure corridors into ecological corridors and contributing to the green and blue belt through an adaptive management of the lands bordering railway lines and the deployment of maintenance agreements with third parties (commitments 3, 5, 6). Number of maintenance agreements established with third parties to reopen the lands.

Already underway – ongoing action.

# Commitment 2

Restoring the environmental continuities of waterways through specific programmes or through development projects on the existing network (commitments 5, 3). Number of environmental continuities of the regained waterways out of the 110 registered on list 2. Already underway.

#### Objective:

Absorb 50% of the hydroecological discontinuities by 2025 (with the ambition to reach 100% by 2030).

#### Commitment 3

Reducing collisions with wildlife (commitment 3) through a global and concerted approach with territorial actors, by experimenting several mechanisms and sharing results and data with stakeholders.

Number of collisions by year (with impact regularity). Already underway – ongoing action.

Commitment 4

Evaluating the ecological enhancement potential of our property (commitment 4).

Number of sites studied and the surface of recovered plots. Ongoing action, started in 2 regions.

## Commitment 5

Considering vegetation in railway stations and sites differently, through the balanced management of green spaces surrounding them, to promote biodiversity (commitment 4).

% of railway stations and sites with a balanced management of its green spaces.

Already underway - ongoing action.

#### In the context of development and modernisation projects of the railway network

# Commitment 6

Reinforcing the PRO process (Prevent/Reduce/Offset) in our environmental design process for projects (commitment 5). Ensuring the lasting management of our site mitigation (with the effective implementation of the recommended measures: the introduction of a tracking system). Implementation date of the tracking system.

Already underway - ongoing action with a 2020 milestone.

#### Commitment 7

Guaranteeing the use of 100% of certified woods for our railway sleepers (bought in and outside France) through the search for and the control of environmentally responsible wood providers (commitment 4).

% use of certified wood/partnerships with wood providers. Achieved in 2018, need to maintain.

# Commitment 8

Reinforcing controls for the implementation of recommendations for the preservation of biodiversity as imposed by benchmarks in the context of construction sites. Already underway – ongoing action.

## Based on the collective value of the group

## Commitment 9

Reinforce the trainings and awareness campaigns specific to biodiversity as applied to the different professions of the group (commitment 8).

Number of measures and number of agents sensitised. Already underway – ongoing action.

#### Commitment 10

Contribute to knowledge through the promotion of tools for participative science for citizen-employees in collaboration with environmental non-profit organisations (commitment 8). Number of awareness measures/Number of participants for the tools developed by LPO. Already underway – ongoing action.

#### Commitment 11

Contribute to the fight against invasive plants to protect biodiversity and the health of our residents and agents (commitments 4, 5).

Number (and extent) of sites undergoing actions.

Already underway – ongoing action.

## Commitment 12

Integrate skills-based sponsorship for the protection of the environment in the SNCF Foundation's missions, with a focus on biodiversity (commitments 8). Number of offered and completed assignments. Action started second semester 2018 – ongoing action.

#### With key stakeholders and peer networks

#### Commitment 13

Continue the existing partnerships with actors in biodiversity, in addition to maintaining a privileged dialogue with the non-profit world (commitments 2, 9). Number of partnerships / partnership contributions. Already underway – ongoing action.

#### Commitment 14

Leverage investors to incite them to make responsible investments (Green bonds) (commitments 3, 11). Amounts of Green bonds - climate/biodiversity (annual reporting). Started in 2017 for €2.65 billion. Procedure renewed in following years.

# Commitment 15

Pursue our commitment to research on biodiversity through cooperation with the Research Foundation for Biodiversity (FRB) and the ITTECOP research programme and implement the obtained results (commitments 2). Budget dedicated to research.

Already underway - renewed yearly.



Riprap fishway at sill level under the Vidoule Bridge in Gallargues le Montueux

