

RTE' individual commitments to act4nature international

Supplying a continuous flow of electrical power and sitting at the heart of Europe's power system, RTE is a key player in the energy and environmental transition in France.

Since 2001, the protection of biodiversity and landscapes is the primary focus of RTE's **environmental policy**. With 90% of its facilities located in natural and agricultural settings, RTE ensures that its structures and activities blend seamlessly into the surroundings and takes concrete measures to support biodiversity. Aware of the need to scale up its efforts, RTE relies on strong partnerships to jointly develop solutions for the future with all French and European stakeholders.

In the light of these circumstances, RTE is talking to its counterparts and other energy stakeholders about subjects relating to biodiversity by sharing good practices on exchange platforms and by getting involved in scientific and technical research projects as part of international cooperation programmes (**CIGRE**, **RGI**, **IENE**, **LIFE Elia-RTE**, etc.).



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In order to continue and step up its acknowledged levels of commitment as part of the national biodiversity strategy since 2012, RTE is joining EEN (Business for Nature) - act4nature France and act4nature international in 2020, and has undertaken to:

Joint principles	Individual commitments	Objectives
1 - 2 - 5 - 6	On a pre-industrial scale, roll out a vegetation management system that supports biodiversity underneath power lines by using environmental engineering techniques and local partnerships to implement alternative solutions to rotary mowing . 48000 ha are affected, 4500 of which have been classified as high-priority (protected spaces and high upkeep costs).	2300 ha landscaped to support biodiversity in 2024.
1 - 5	Stop using phytosanitary substances to protect vegetation on all RTE sites through the use of ground covers and alternative protective solutions.	65% of substations with no phytosanitary substances in 2022, followed by 100% in 2025.
2 - 5	Keep protecting birdlife by fitting electrical infrastructure with anti-collision devices to prevent collisions and with anti-electrocution equipment. RTE is working closely with NGOs and is adapting its structures to accommodate protected species.	20 km/year of high-risk power lines fitted with anti-collision devices, 500 anti-electrocution systems installed per year.
2	Accommodate and foster biodiversity in urban settings through the implementation of biodiversity-friendly plans, by applying differentiation strategies to tertiary sites through the preferred use of «local plant» species or their equivalent.	100% of green species landscaped to support biodiversity on new sites.
1 - 9	Better understand RTE's footprint on biodiversity-positive or negative effects – by setting up research projects with scientific partners.	R&D investment of 1 million Euros/year.
8	Educate and train personnel on the challenges associated with the protection of biodiversity by expanding its range of training packages and by encouraging employees to get involved in citizen science as well as in educational events .	An increase in the number of trained employees from 100 to 140/year in 2022, followed by 150/year in 2024.
3	Establishing a set of biodiversity indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative in terms of power-line land occupation, based on RENATU • Footprint indicator characterising RTE's direct pressures on biodiversity, In order to understand the effects of actions undertaken by RTE to support biodiversity.	Both indicators established by 2021.
4	Agree on a shared «biodiversity» ambition with suppliers by jointly setting common goals to address these challenges along the entire value chain.	«Biodiversity» partnerships forged with at least thirty key suppliers by 2021.