

A waste plan: and then what ?

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Hazardous waste: a successful regional plan

Like all French Regions, the Regional Council for the Pays de la Loire is responsible for the regional planning of elimination of hazardous waste (PREDD). It was drawn up with real determination and resulted in an innovative and challenging text which received general agreement, explains Jean-Pierre Le Scornet, vice president of the Regional Council. In structuring the PREDD, the regulatory limits were clearly laid out.

In 2009, the Regional Council for the Pays de la Loire finalized its PREDD. *“We decided to work by consulting and listening to other people from local communities, associations and industrialists ... explains Jean-Pierre Le Scornet, vice president of the Regional Council. It was a crucial choice as we wanted a common consent regarding the text submitted during 2009 for public consultation. This is why the PREDD for the Pays de la Loire region became a truly applicable and efficient tool for fieldwork.”*

The text is indeed full of information regarding the positive points (large number of treatment installations ...) but also on the negative points in the region: deposits difficultly identified, territorial knowledge deficiencies, questions on healthcare waste, roadside collections with an unbalanced carbon balance ... *“Our PREDD stipulates its precise action goals and ambitions which are, for the most part, shared. Improve knowledge, increase the treatment rate, promote trainings and prevention, increase the collective operations, and help this eco-design work ...”*



How are the roles distributed?

The quality of the text drawn up by the Pays de la Loire Region was able to mobilize their partners but could not hide certain basic problems. Essentially a specific setup is necessary to articulate the respective roles of the various players: the local communities in charge of local management (intercommunity and waste reception centres ...), the State which continues coordinating regulatory skills (supervision of waste treatment installations ...) and the professionals (companies or subsidiaries, for information and/or collections ...).

Jean-Pierre Le Scornet concludes by saying *“As we want to be responsible for our actions and as we make sustainable development a priority, we made sure this PREDD collaborative text was a success, undoubtedly the reason for its efficient operational progress”. This did not prevent us from being confronted by dysfunctions. It would be wise to question the role distribution between the State, Region, other communities, companies ... who could decrease the field plan efficiency: how to incite or oblige people, how to adapt to this or that job, how to replace the action to this or that territory ...”*