



France

France leads a proactive policy in the field of environment and sustainable development for several years. Two factors underscore this commitment: *The implementation of a National Strategy for Sustainable Development* and *The Constitutional Law on the Environment Charter*.

The **National Strategy for Sustainable Development (NSSD)** was established in June 2003. This strategy includes a specific action plan for the integration of environmental issues and the principles of sustainable development throughout the process of education and training. As a first step, high priority was given to spreading environmental education for sustainable development to all schools in the country. This initiative had reached all French schools in the beginning of September 2005 after a trial year in 85 schools. Following this, NSSD, France drew up a national regulatory text to generalize Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to all citizens, in formal, informal and non-formal forms. This is in the form of an agreement partnership signed between the French State, public institutions, local authorities, associations and businesses.

The Constitutional Law on the Environment Charter was adopted on March 1, 2005. The French Constitution has been revised to introduce, after human rights and economic and social rights, a third generation of law that relates to the environment. As stated by the former President Jacques Chirac: "By adopting the Constitutional Charter of the environment, France, faithful to its vocation, it demonstrates to assume its responsibilities towards future generations and offers other nations a response requirement, modernity and confidence. " Sustainable development, education and training are incorporated within this law.

Specific sources have been allocated to the implementation of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) with the appointment of the head of the Decade, the creation of a National Committee, a website and allocation for specific funds.