



ASSEMBLÉE
NATIONALE
DU QUÉBEC



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

>>>> 2019_2023



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National Assembly Reprography and Printing Division

ISBN 978-2-550-85986-4

Legal deposit – Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, 2019

Legal deposit – Library and Archives Canada, 2019



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A message from the president

I am proud to present the National Assembly of Québec's 2019–2023 Sustainable Development Plan. As Québec's foremost institution, we have developed this institutional plan as a means to renew and update our commitment to sustainable development and to demonstrate our intention to adopt best practices in this area.

Commitment is at the heart of the Plan. It appeals to our collective sense of responsibility. The actions proposed will have a positive impact if each and every one of us, parliamentarians and personnel alike, acts in an environmentally responsible manner to effect positive change for the environment.

I am counting on the collaboration of all my fellow MNAs, in particular the members of the committee composed of elected representatives from all political parties, to help us attain our objectives and further enhance the Plan in coming years. This is how we intend to abide by the principles inherent in sustainable development—principles that will provide the framework for all our actions.



François Paradis
President of the National Assembly

A message from the secretary general

Like the President, I am pleased and proud to introduce the National Assembly of Québec's 2019–2023 Sustainable Development Plan. Building on the National Assembly administration's 2019–2023 Strategic Plan, this document illustrates our commitment to enhancing the Assembly's governance while respecting sustainable development's intrinsic values.

The Plan sets out a framework for integrating sustainable development principles into all our actions, in particular into our practices regarding management, planning, procurement, the organization of activities and travel planning.

I would like to conclude by expressing my sincere thanks to the committee formed of administrative personnel who developed this ambitious, coherent plan inspiring us to take action together. I am counting on all committee members to act as catalysts for change among their peers. I would also like to invite all personnel to become involved in this process so that our flagship institution can take concrete action that will serve as an inspiration for all of Québec.



Michel Bonsaint
Secretary General of the National Assembly

Background

The National Assembly's 2019–2023 Sustainable Development Plan defines the Assembly's commitment to adopting environmentally responsible practices in its various spheres of activity. The Plan is an extension of the administration's strategic guidelines aimed at ensuring sustainable development is given greater consideration in the organization's decision-making processes. The actions to be taken fall into three main areas of intervention:

**01 Well-being
at work**

**02 Institutional
visibility**

**03 Environmentally
responsible
management**

The actions the organization intends to implement over the next four years take into account the National Assembly's special status as the seat of Québec's legislative power: its position as an institution open to the public; its mission of promoting democracy and educating the public about democratic life; the administrative support it provides to parliamentarians in all their functions; the services it offers in riding offices throughout Québec; its management, maintenance and modernization of the Assembly's heritage buildings; and the presence of the Assembly's library, gift shop, restaurants, etc.

In keeping with the Assembly's ongoing commitment to improvement, the objective of the Plan is to develop decision-making tools to incorporate sustainable development principles into the decision-making processes. Implementing these tools will enable the Assembly to evaluate its performance in specific action areas and measure the results over time.

Implementation and follow-up

The 2019–2023 Sustainable Development Plan will serve as the basis for the National Assembly's actions over the coming years. To ensure the Plan continues to evolve, a multi-party advisory committee of MNAs has been formed. The committee's mandate is to monitor the Plan's implementation and make recommendations with a view to defining best practices for MNAs in all the different aspects of their work, including in their home ridings.

The committee of administrative personnel that developed the Plan is charged with supervising its implementation in the various administrative units and ensuring it becomes a vital part of the Assembly's day-to-day operations.

Definition and principles

> Definition

“Sustainable development” means development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

It is based on a long-term approach which takes into account the inextricable nature of the **environmental, social and economic** dimensions of development activities.

Sustainable Development Act (CQLR, chapter D-8.1.1, s. 2)

> Principles of sustainable development¹

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Health and quality of life | 9. Prevention |
| 2. Social equity and solidarity | 10. Precaution |
| 3. Environmental protection | 11. Protection of cultural heritage |
| 4. Economic efficiency | 12. Biodiversity preservation |
| 5. Participation and commitment | 13. Respect for ecosystem support capacity |
| 6. Access to knowledge | 14. Responsible production and consumption |
| 7. Subsidiarity | 15. Polluter pays |
| 8. Inter-governmental partnership and cooperation | 16. Internalization of costs |

Sustainable Development Act (CQLR, chapter D-8.1.1, s. 6)

¹ See definitions in the Schedule.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

PLAN >>>> 2019_2023

1. WELL-BEING AT WORK		2. INSTITUTIONAL VISIBILITY		3. ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT	
1.1	> Provide parliamentarians and National Assembly personnel with a work environment consistent with the principles of sustainable development	2.1	> Preserve and promote heritage and support artistic creation	> Foster environmentally responsible consumption of goods and services	> Contribute to efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
	1.1.1 Integrate sustainable development criteria into infrastructure development, repair and maintenance projects		2.1.1 Establish a conservation and restoration program for heritage objects and archives	3.1.1 Implement a responsible purchasing policy	3.3.1 Produce inventories of the Assembly's GHG emissions
	1.1.2 Set up outdoor spaces for the use of personnel		2.1.2 Showcase Québec art and handicrafts in the Assembly's gift shop	3.1.2 Include sustainable development criteria in calls for tenders and mutual agreement contracts	3.3.2 Implement a residual materials management plan
1.2	1.1.3 Design a green management guide for riding offices		2.1.3 Establish an arts and culture showcase program	3.1.3 Adopt an environmentally responsible approach to the planning of institutional activities	3.3.3 Offset GHG emissions linked to parliamentary travel and interparliamentary missions
	> Foster employee engagement at work and strengthen the sense of belonging to the National Assembly	2.2	> Make the workings of democratic institutions better known	3.1.4 Feature a daily vegetarian menu at the Café du Parlement	
	1.2.1 Periodically hold institutional activities aimed at improving the dissemination of information		2.2.1 Set up a digital visit for people visiting Parliament on their own	> Diversify and adapt technology with a view to responsible use	
1.3	1.2.2 Develop an employee recognition program		2.2.2 Set up a youth day camp on citizenship	3.2.1 Ensure optimal management of computer equipment (computers and printers)	
	> Implement practices fostering individual and collective commitment to sustainable development		2.2.3 Offer continuing education for teachers	3.2.2 Set up a web conferencing service	
	1.3.1 Provide awareness-raising and educational activities to promote sustainable development			3.2.3 Develop a mobile application for institutional activities	
	1.3.2 Carry out a project fostering sustainable development in each administrative unit				



01 Well-being at work

The National Assembly is committed to providing a healthy living environment for all persons within its walls and has made well-being at work the core of its strategic action. To that end, it is focusing on actions that further one of the aims of sustainable development: improving the quality of life. The objective of these actions is to positively impact the physical work environment as well as employees' engagement, commitment and sense of belonging to the Assembly.

Objective 1.1 > Provide parliamentarians and National Assembly personnel with a work environment consistent with the principles of sustainable development

The parliamentary precinct includes buildings, land, walkways, statues and monuments that, together, form a national heritage site whose management and use come under the National Assembly's authority. A number of projects carried out in recent years reflect the Assembly's commitment to taking sustainable development principles into account when making improvements to the work environment. The new reception pavilion is a green building designed to comply with LEED certification requirements, while renovations to the ground floor of the André-Laurendeau building drew on the latest work environment design trends. The National Assembly will build on this experience to ensure that future projects are increasingly environmentally responsible. It will also use its expertise to suggest ways for parliamentarians to integrate sustainable practices into the management of their riding offices.

Action 1.1.1 > Integrate sustainable development criteria into infrastructure development, repair and maintenance projects

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Social
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Health and quality of life
- > Responsible production and consumption
- > Prevention

Indicator

Implementation of tool

Target

2021-2022

When undertaking infrastructure development, repair and maintenance projects, the National Assembly will take into consideration the best practices for reducing any negative environmental and social impacts usually associated with such projects. The Assembly seeks to implement measures that positively impact the health and quality of life of the people working within the parliamentary precinct. To that end, it will design a decision-support tool to help ensure sustainable development principles are integrated at each step of a project: design, construction and use. For each type of project, the decision-support tool will help determine the ecological criteria to be evaluated: material composition and source, equipment energy efficiency, water consumption reduction, etc.

Action 1.1.2 > Set up outdoor spaces for the use of personnel

Dimensions

- > Social
- > Environmental

Principle

- > Health and quality of life

Indicator

Availability of space

Target

A space available by summer 2019

The second phase of the National Assembly's infrastructure improvement project provides not only for improved security measures along the outer perimeter, but also for the redevelopment of the grounds. The Assembly will set up an outdoor space where personnel can eat, relax and get together for social and cultural activities. Bicycle racks will also be installed in a secure area. Until the work has been completed, personnel will have access to a temporary area designed and operated by National Assembly personnel.

Action 1.1.3 > Design a green management guide for riding offices

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Social
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Access to knowledge
- > Health and quality of life
- > Responsible production and consumption
- > Prevention

Indicator

Tabling of guide

Target

2021-2022

The National Assembly intends not only to implement more sustainable practices on Parliament Hill, but also to provide parliamentarians and their staff with the tools they need to integrate sustainable development principles into the running of their riding offices and activities. To that end, the Assembly will develop a good practices guide adapted to a range of environments and covering such topics as green office management, efficient residual materials management, eco-friendly events planning and sustainable mobility.

Objective 1.2 > Foster employee engagement at work and strengthen the sense of belonging to the National Assembly

Employee engagement is a key concern for the National Assembly, as it is for most organizations; it enhances team cohesion and increases the personnel's participation in efforts to achieve common goals. Having made employee engagement one of its main strategic considerations, the Assembly is proposing actions in two areas of vital importance for improving and maintaining a good work atmosphere: communication and recognition. The goal is to reinforce employees' sense of belonging to their institution through actions which call for the collaboration, participation and commitment of all.

Action 1.2.1 > Periodically hold institutional activities aimed at improving the dissemination of information

Dimension

> Social

Principles

- > Access to knowledge
- > Participation and commitment

Indicator

Number of activities per year

Target

Two activities per year beginning in 2019-2020

The National Assembly's work teams develop and carry out many ambitious projects. To satisfy the personnel's need to be better informed of such projects and of the Assembly's guidelines and decisions, managerial staff are committed to holding two activities per year for the purpose of sharing information. These activities may take various forms—visits to administrative units by senior administrative personnel, meetings with all personnel, etc.—depending on the context. The purpose of such activities is to share information more broadly in order to encourage everyone to get behind the various institutional projects. This action will be a component of the in-house communications strategy currently being developed.

Action 1.2.2 > Develop an employee recognition program

Dimension

> Social

Principles

- > Health and quality of life
- > Participation and commitment

Indicator

Implementation of program

Target

2021-2022

Recognition is a decisive factor in fostering employee engagement and well-being at work. The National Assembly intends to design a recognition program that will strengthen the institution's people-oriented culture. The program will propose guidelines for recognition practices in order to make work more meaningful and promote employees' sense of belonging to the Assembly. Different components of the program will be developed over time to give both managers and personnel the tools they need, including a good practices guide as well as training and awareness-raising activities, while existing actions will be reviewed and improved.

Objective 1.3 > Implement practices fostering individual and collective commitment to sustainable development

As ongoing improvement is part and parcel of sustainable development, the National Assembly is counting on the individual and collective participation and commitment of parliamentarians and their staff, as well as administrative personnel, to institute further changes. Well aware of the current interest in sustainable development and of the efforts many people are already making, the Assembly will be leaving room for individual initiatives. It is counting on the ripple effect to mobilize work teams to work together on collective green initiatives. By providing learning opportunities and making sure that success stories are shared with all, it will be possible to enrich the practices of the organization as a whole.

Action 1.3.1 > Provide awareness-raising and educational activities to promote sustainable development

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Social
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Access to knowledge
- > Participation and commitment

Indicator

Number of activities per year

Target

Two activities per year beginning in 2019-2020

To encourage adherence to the Sustainable Development Plan and ensure its success, the organization has mandated the administrative committee that designed the Plan with organizing awareness-raising and educational activities. These will take place throughout the Plan's implementation phase. They will be aimed at fostering environmentally responsible behaviours and will give people opportunities to come together and exchange ideas.

The committee will be inviting all personnel to propose activities on themes of interest and to become involved in their implementation.

Action 1.3.2 > Carry out a project fostering sustainable development in each administrative unit

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Social
- > Environmental

Principle

- > Participation and commitment

Indicator

Number of projects carried out by 2023

Target

One project per administrative unit by 2023

In order to achieve a broad consensus and define a framework of actions for the organization as a whole, the action plan was developed with the collaboration of administrative personnel from across the various sectors of the Assembly. All personnel will have the opportunity to take part in this ongoing process by launching sustainable development projects in each administrative unit, making it possible for each sector to carry out actions.

Work teams may choose to propose projects related to their unit's mandate or to address some other concern. The Assembly hopes this approach will engage personnel and stimulate interest in sustainable development.

02 Institutional visibility

As Québec's foremost institution, the National Assembly places great importance on knowledge retention and transfer, two essential social components of sustainable development. The Assembly highlights the expressions of Québec culture, art, know-how and heritage found within its walls and strives to preserve them for future generations. In keeping with its desire to become ever more open to the public, the Assembly offers a variety of educational activities on the workings of democratic institutions. These are intended to stimulate citizen engagement and participation, and to prepare the younger generation to take its rightful place in public debate.

Objective 2.1 ➤ Preserve and promote heritage and support artistic creation

Steeped in history, the National Assembly has a duty to protect and showcase its architectural, movable and documentary heritage. At the same time, it must ensure it continues to evolve in step with the rest of society. These two complementary dimensions have been included in various actions the Assembly has taken over the years. In 2009, a program was set up to restore rare and precious books in order to preserve them and present them to the public at exhibitions held at the National Assembly and various museums. In 2018, the Library basement was renovated to create a new conservation space for the collection. During construction of the new and resolutely modern reception pavilion, the Assembly invited a Québec artist to produce an original work of art for the pavilion. Further actions are planned to showcase Québec's heritage along with contemporary art and handicrafts.

Action 2.1.1 > Establish a conservation and restoration program for heritage objects and archives

Dimension

➤ Social

Principle

➤ Protection of cultural heritage

Indicator

State of completion of annual planning

Target

100% completion of annual planning by 2019-2020

A program similar to the restoration program for rare and precious books will be set up for heritage objects and certain archival records kept at the National Assembly Library. These objects and archives bear witness to the evolution of the workings of the Assembly. The Assembly will establish an annual restoration schedule for them and ensure they are conserved under optimal conditions so they can be enjoyed by present and future generations.

Action 2.1.2 > Showcase Québec art and handicrafts in the Assembly's gift shop

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Social

Principles

- > Protection of cultural heritage
- > Responsible production and consumption

Indicator

Percentage of inventory consisting of Québec-made products

Target

75% by 2022-2023

The Assembly's new gift shop, La Boutique, opened its doors in 2019 at the same time as the reception pavilion. With the inauguration of the gift shop, the National Assembly has been able to continue its efforts of the past few years to increase the number of Québec-made products on offer. At the same time, it has taken the further step of adopting the mission of showcasing Québec creations and products distinguished by their originality and quality.

In 2018, a call went out across Québec for artists, craftspersons and producers interested in partnering with the gift shop. In addition to supporting artistic creation and encouraging the purchasing of local products, this initiative provides a showcase for Québec creations and talent. The gift shop intends to increase its supply of Québec-made products from 56% to 75% by 2023.

Action 2.1.3 > Establish an arts and culture showcase program

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Social

Principles

- > Protection of cultural heritage
- > Access to knowledge

Indicator

State of completion of the annual program

Target

100% completion of the program by 2020-2021

The Parliament Building is visited daily by the public and hosts numerous activities and ceremonies. The National Assembly intends to take advantage of this to showcase Québec arts and culture by displaying works of art in various public and official spaces. Contemporary creations by emerging artists representing the manifold faces of Québec will be featured next to the historical works by renowned artists that already adorn the premises.

To that end, the Assembly will draw up a policy determining guidelines and conditions for the implementation of an arts and culture showcase program. It will create and implement an annual program of exhibitions to support emerging artists by giving them visibility.

Objective 2.2 ➤ Make the workings of democratic institutions better known

Promoting democracy and the workings of democratic institutions is at the heart of the National Assembly administration's mission. Over the years, a range of initiatives have been introduced to help citizens of all ages better understand democratic life in Québec, such as guided tours, mock parliaments, school visits by parliamentarians, the "Par ici la démocratie" website, student internships and the parliamentary page program. The reception pavilion, which features an entirely redesigned interactive educational exhibit on democracy and the role of the Assembly and parliamentarians, offers a whole new approach to citizenship education.

Action 2.2.1 ➤ Set up a digital visit for people visiting Parliament on their own

Dimension

➤ Social

Principles

- Access to knowledge
- Social equity and solidarity

Indicator

Number of visits to the mobile website

Target

To be determined in 2020-2021 after the first year of implementation

In conjunction with the opening of the reception pavilion, the National Assembly is developing a user-friendly tool for people visiting Parliament on their own. The tool will take the form of a digital visit which the visitors will be able to access via Wi-Fi through their mobile devices. Visitors will be able to wander on their own through the areas open to the public, guided by a site map or their own interests. The content will be offered in French and English in a variety of media: audio, text, video and photographs.

Distinct from the guided tour, the digital visit is a flexible formula that makes it possible to appeal to more people as it gives them access to pertinent information based on their preferences.

Action 2.2.2 ➤ Set up a youth day camp on citizenship

Dimension

➤ Social

Principles

- Access to knowledge
- Social equity and solidarity
- Participation and commitment

Indicator

Operational day camp

Target

Day camp in operation as of summer 2020

While the reception pavilion boasts a number of multi-purpose spaces suitable for school groups visiting Parliament, the National Assembly also wants to use its facilities to broaden the range of educational offerings for young persons aged eight to fifteen by organizing a summer day camp on citizenship. Awareness-raising activities on citizenship, democracy, civic engagement and leadership will allow young people to explore their ability to effect change in a less conventional environment than is usual at the Assembly.

In welcoming young people outside the context of school, the Assembly is pursuing its commitment to raising awareness of democratic life. Its goal is to help form citizens who are better informed, more engaged and more strongly attached to their democratic institutions.

Action 2.2.3 > Offer continuing education for teachers

Dimension

- > Social

Principles

- > Access to knowledge
- > Social equity and solidarity
- > Participation and commitment

Indicator

Delivery of activity

Target

First annual seminar in 2019-2020

To bridge the gap between the Parliament Building activities for school-aged young people and the citizenship education provided in educational establishments, the National Assembly will offer training for elementary, secondary and CEGEP teachers beginning in fall 2019.

By means of an annual seminar, the Assembly will help teachers improve their knowledge and understanding of the democratic process and the rules of Parliament. The aim is to provide them with the tools they need to, in turn, pass this knowledge and understanding onto their students, thus permitting the National Assembly to develop new ways of reaching young people throughout Québec.

03 Environmentally responsible management

The National Assembly administration is committed to constantly improving its performance and strengthening its governance. It will be reviewing some of its decision-making processes and management practices with a view to integrating sustainable development principles. The Assembly intends to adopt measures promoting the informed consumption of goods and services, to use technology to foster sustainable development, and to contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions throughout all its activities.

Objective 3.1 ➤ Foster environmentally responsible consumption of goods and services

In the past ten years, the National Assembly has taken steps to change certain consumption behaviours and practices and to make more eco-friendly choices. Paper-, water- and energy-saving measures have gradually been implemented. Two guides have been produced on the integration of environmentally responsible practices into the work environment and the Assembly's activities. The Assembly has also carried out a number of projects not often seen at parliamentary institutions. For example, a vegetable garden in front of the Parliament Building supplies produce to the Assembly's restaurants. The parliamentary precinct has its own beehives, installed on the roof of the Jean-Antoine-Panet building, which produce honey that is sold in the Assembly's gift shop and used at Le Parlementaire restaurant. Both projects were carried out in collaboration with partners specializing in urban agriculture.

Goods and services consumption remains a critical concern, and the Assembly, like any other organization, must continue to be on the lookout for innovative practices in order to limit the environmental impact of its activities as much as possible. Through the actions proposed below, the Assembly intends to systematically integrate sustainable development principles into its consumption practices.

Action 3.1.1 > Implement a responsible purchasing policy

Dimensions

- Economic
- Environmental

Principles

- Responsible production and consumption
- Environmental protection

Indicator

Tabling of the policy

Target

2020-2021

The Assembly will establish a responsible purchasing policy to govern purchases of goods and services made on its behalf. It will gradually modify its practices to take sustainable development principles into account in its acquisition and leasing processes. The Assembly will establish institutional guidelines and purchasing criteria and adopt a management framework in order to encourage suppliers and service providers who adopt ethical behaviours and whose processes and products comply with environmental criteria. This will enable it to make informed choices with full transparency and to be certain it has consistent practices. The policy will be implemented before actions 3.1.2 and 3.1.3 are carried out. The Assembly will also ensure that the policy's implementation is evaluated.

Action 3.1.2 > Include sustainable development criteria in calls for tenders and mutual agreement contracts

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Responsible production and consumption
- > Environmental protection

Indicator

Annual percentage of calls for tenders that include environmentally responsible criteria

Target

25% beginning in 2021-2022

Once its responsible purchasing policy is tabled, the Assembly will take the first step in increasing the proportion of its acquisitions that are environmentally responsible. It will include sustainable development criteria in certain calls for tenders and mutual agreement contracts, which will allow it to encourage suppliers and service providers with ethical and environmentally-friendly practices.

Action 3.1.3 > Adopt an environmentally responsible approach to the planning of institutional activities

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Responsible production and consumption
- > Environmental protection

Indicator

Implementation of tool

Target

2021-2022

Each year, numerous institutional and protocol activities are held at the National Assembly. By reason of their nature and the large number of people attending these events, the quantities of residual materials and GHG emissions produced are considerable. The Assembly wishes to develop an analytical tool with which to systematically evaluate these activities, beginning at the planning stage, in order to reduce their environmental impact. By taking sustainability criteria into account in all the various areas concerned (transportation, food, lodging, procurement, communications, etc.), the Assembly will be able to make the best possible choices adapted to the context, and plan more environmentally responsible activities.



Action 3.1.4 > Feature a daily vegetarian menu at the Café du Parlement

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Responsible production and consumption
- > Environmental protection
- > Health and quality of life

Indicator

Number of vegetarian dishes per day

Target

One dish per day beginning in September 2019

There are a number of ways for the Assembly to innovate and adopt good practices with regard to its restaurant services. In addition to buying local whenever possible and sparing no effort to showcase Québec's regional products, for the past few years Le Parlementaire restaurant has featured vegetarian dishes on its menu. The Café du Parlement is now following suit by including at least one vegetarian option on its daily menu. This will enable the Café to respond to a growing demand, attract a new clientele and encourage more people to discover the virtues of a vegetarian diet.

Objective 3.2 > Diversify and adapt technology with a view to responsible use

By virtue of its growing use and presence in all spheres of activity, technology is an essential tool for sustainable development as long as we consider its use carefully and ensure that the ways in which we use it are consistent with the values we wish to promote. At the National Assembly, the use of mobile equipment and the development of various platforms have helped considerably reduce paper consumption while, at the same time, improving access to information for parliamentarians, personnel and the public. Compelling examples are the Greffier website for parliamentary committees, the paperless meeting sites for Assembly authorities, and the immediate Internet publication of documents tabled in the Assembly. In addition, the use of video conferencing in committee meetings and of online consultations has resulted in broader public access to parliamentary proceedings.

The Assembly will continue its digital transformation in order to help parliamentarians perform their duties and to open up new means of communication with the public, while at the same time ensuring its computer equipment is managed wisely.

Action 3.2.1 > Ensure optimal management of computer equipment (computers and printers)

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Environmental

Principle

- > Responsible production and consumption

Indicator

Progress of the review

Target

Review concluded in 2022-2023

The National Assembly operates a large fleet of computer equipment for parliamentarians, their staff and the administrative personnel, both on Parliament Hill and in the ridings. In the interest of continuous improvement, the Assembly intends to review all its practices in order to improve the way it manages the equipment, particularly as regards equipment life-cycle management.

The Assembly wants to avoid maintaining outdated printers. It will be standardizing the printer models in order to limit the purchase of a wide range of different products. In addition to facilitating maintenance and repair, this consolidation of the printer fleet will make it possible to generate printer usage reports.

The ultimate aim of this measure is to redefine the criteria for the deployment of new and used computer equipment. The goal is to better meet the needs of each individual as practices evolve and, eventually, to create a paperless work environment.

The repurposing of computer equipment continues to feature among the Assembly's good environmental practices. Some of the equipment it disposes of goes to OPEQ (Ordinateurs pour les écoles du Québec), which reconditions donated equipment and distributes it to educational institutions.

Action 3.2.2 > Set up a web conferencing service

Dimensions

- > Social
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Access to knowledge
- > Environmental protection

Indicator

Progress with implementation

Target

Complete implementation in 2021-2022

To increase mobility and collaborative undertakings, the Assembly will make web conferencing available to parliamentarians, their staff, and the administrative

personnel. This will make it possible to plan, organize and conduct virtual meetings, training sessions and presentations for people in diverse locations. Rooms will be equipped with audiovisual equipment for web conferencing and document projection. This measure is designed to reduce the amount of travel generated by the Assembly's multifaceted mission. It will permit the Assembly both to limit its GHG emissions and to promote the paperless office concept.

The idea is to facilitate communication between parliamentarians, their staff and the public, who are often separated by great distances. The Assembly also intends to update the distance education offer for personnel in the ridings, primarily through web conferencing.

Action 3.2.3 > Develop a mobile application for institutional activities

Dimensions

- > Social
- > Environmental

Principles

- > Principles
- > Responsible production and consumption

Indicator

Implementation of application

Target

2021-2022

The Assembly will adopt an environmentally responsible approach to event organization. A mobile application will be developed for participants, especially for activities involving foreign delegations and interparliamentary organizations. The application will provide information about the activity, such as the program, logistical information and supporting documents relating to topics on the agenda. The result will be a change in the way information is transmitted and a reduction in the quantity of printed documents. The application may also eventually be used for other types of activities as well.

Objective 3.3 > Contribute to efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

Like a growing number of organizations, the National Assembly is concerned about the GHG emissions generated by its activities, particularly emissions linked to transportation. The Assembly maintains relations with a broad network of partner parliaments and interparliamentary organizations, which entails travel to meetings every year, mostly by air. In addition, the parliamentarians, who represent ridings from all over Québec, must travel to the Parliament Building every week when the Assembly is sitting. They must also frequently travel within their ridings, some of which are very large, and this is mostly done by car. To reduce the environmental impact of its activities, the Assembly is proposing a series of actions designed to calculate, reduce and offset its GHG emissions.

Action 3.3.1 > Produce inventories of the Assembly's GHG emissions

Dimension

- > Environmental

Principles

- > Prevention
- > Environmental protection

Indicator

Number of inventories carried out

Target

One per year beginning in 2019–2020

In order for the Assembly to implement effective, precisely-targeted actions, it is essential that it have an accurate picture of its GHG emissions. The Assembly intends to use a GHG calculator specifically designed for its activities to annually inventory and calculate its emissions related to transportation, buildings and residual materials. The results of these annual inventories will be used to determine optimal emission reduction measures and evaluate their effectiveness. They will also be used to calculate the quantity of GHG emissions that must be offset in order for the Assembly to be carbon neutral.

Action 3.3.2 > Implement a residual materials management plan

Dimensions

- > Economic
- > Environmentale

Principles

- > Responsible production and consumption
- > Environmental protection

Indicator

Implementation of the plan

Target

2020-2021

Efficient residual materials management is one way organizations can reduce their GHG emissions. In 2011, the National Assembly carried out a characterization study of the residual materials generated on its premises.

It then set up sorting stations for the materials (garbage, recycling, and compost) on every floor of every building in the parliamentary precinct. In addition, the use of plastic water bottles and straws was discontinued by the Assembly's Restaurants Service, and biodegradable or recyclable containers and utensils were adopted for occasions when reusable equivalents cannot be used. A second characterization study will be carried out to assess the Assembly's performance to date and draw up a residual materials management plan. The latter will serve to determine specific, consistent, concerted actions to be taken based on the principles of reduce, reuse, reclaim, recycle and safe disposal. The objective is not only to reduce the quantity of waste generated by the Assembly's activities and to raise awareness among parliamentarians, their staff, and the administrative personnel, but also to reduce the Assembly's GHG emissions.

Action 3.3.3 > Offset GHG emissions linked to parliamentary travel and interparliamentary missions

Dimension

- > Environmental

Principles

- > Environmental protection
- > Polluter pays

Indicator

Percentage of GHG emissions offset each year

Target

To be determined

A pilot inventory conducted for 2017–2018 showed that transportation generated the large majority of the National Assembly's GHG emissions. Although the

data collection process still needs fine-tuning, it is clear that interparliamentary missions accounted for almost half the emissions inventoried; the next highest figure was attributable to parliamentarians' weekly travels between their ridings and the Parliament Building.

To reduce the carbon footprint in these two main areas, the National Assembly intends to work with all parliamentarians to offset the annual GHG emissions. To that end, it will purchase carbon credits from qualified agencies specialized in GHG reduction or capture. It may also promote educational projects aimed at limiting GHG emissions at their source. Emission reduction measures will be applied wherever possible.

With this action, the Assembly is playing an active part in the fight against climate change.

Schedule – The Principles of Sustainable Development

1. **Health and quality of life:** People, human health and improved quality of life are at the centre of sustainable development concerns. People are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.
2. **Social equity and solidarity:** Development must be undertaken in a spirit of intra- and inter-generational equity and social ethics and solidarity.
3. **Environmental protection:** To achieve sustainable development, environmental protection must constitute an integral part of the development process.
4. **Economic efficiency:** The economy of Québec and its regions must be effective, geared toward innovation and economic prosperity that is conducive to social progress and respectful of the environment.
5. **Participation and commitment:** The participation and commitment of citizens and citizens' groups are needed to define a concerted vision of development and to ensure its environmental, social and economic sustainability.
6. **Access to knowledge:** Measures favourable to education, access to information and research must be encouraged in order to stimulate innovation, raise awareness and ensure effective participation of the public in the implementation of sustainable development.
7. **Subsidiarity:** Powers and responsibilities must be delegated to the appropriate level of authority. Decision-making centres should be adequately distributed and as close as possible to the citizens and communities concerned.
8. **Inter-governmental partnership and cooperation:** Governments must collaborate to ensure that development is sustainable from an environmental, social and economic standpoint. The external impact of actions in a given territory must be taken into consideration.
9. **Prevention:** In the presence of a known risk, preventive, mitigating and corrective actions must be taken, with priority given to actions at the source.
10. **Precaution:** When there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty must not be used as a reason for postponing the adoption of effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.
11. **Protection of cultural heritage:** The cultural heritage, made up of property, sites, landscapes, traditions and knowledge, reflects the identity of a society. It passes on the values of a society from generation to generation, and the preservation of this heritage fosters the sustainability of development. Cultural heritage components must be identified, protected and enhanced, taking their intrinsic rarity and fragility into account.
12. **Biodiversity preservation:** Biological diversity offers incalculable advantages and must be preserved for the benefit of present and future generations. The protection of species, ecosystems and the natural processes that maintain life is essential if quality of human life is to be maintained.
13. **Respect for ecosystem support capacity:** Human activities must be respectful of the support capacity of ecosystems and ensure the perennality of ecosystems.
14. **Responsible production and consumption:** Production and consumption patterns must be changed in order to make production and consumption more viable and more socially and environmentally responsible, in particular through an ecoefficient approach that avoids waste and optimizes the use of resources.
15. **Polluter pays:** Those who generate pollution or whose actions otherwise degrade the environment must bear their share of the cost of measures to prevent, reduce, control and mitigate environmental damage.
16. **Internalization of costs:** The value of goods and services must reflect all the costs they generate for society during their whole life cycle, from their design to their final consumption and their disposal.

Sustainable Development Act (CQLR, chapter D-8.1.1, s. 6)

