

What's happening? How does it happen?

The ECOPAL network (Economy and Ecology Partners in Local Action) with 480 members, large companies, SMEs, associations or individuals supports and offers services to member companies, focusing its work on the implementation of the circular economy and industrial ecology, in order to lead them towards new, more environmental economic models. The two principles that guide the approach are mutualisation (the means of collection, transport and treatment are optimised thanks to a common management) and substitution (waste from one side becomes raw material for the other).

Why is this an interesting circular initiative for circular harbours?

After several years of experimentation in pooling services such as waste collection and actions such as improving area signage, ECOPAL decided in 2007 to carry out an Inventory of Industrial Material Flows (IFIM) in order to identify more broadly the potential and opportunities for synergies between companies. Today it saves 22 tons of CO2 and more than 210.00€ per year. It recycles about 250 tonnes of waste through a total of 79 collections per year. According to ecopal, their approach allows territories to :

-Increase knowledge of waste and material flows

-Develop industrial and territorial ecology in the territories

-Conserve resources on the territory

More information

Annexes

Flux ENTRANTS de votre entreprise

Désignation	Procédé	Quantité	Unité	
Eau	200400		15	salariés
Composants Associés Eau potable	Taux 100%			
Electricité	12121	1		10
Composants Associes	Taux			
Electricité	100%			
Papier				
Composants Associés	Taux			
Papier	100%			
Matériel électronique et informatique				
Composants Associés	Taux			
Matière plastique & polymère	50%			
Métal	20%			
Autre corps pur ou composé	30%			
Verre	Telesen manual	8		
Composants Associés	Taux			
Verre	100%			
Palette en bois	Sec.	2		
Composants Associés	Taux			
Bois	100%			
Plastique	and the second			1
Composants Associés	Taux			
Chlorure de polyvinyle	100%			

Inventory of Inbound and outbound flows of the company

What is the relation with the port and water?

The industrial actors are at the origin of this approach. The port as an industrial area is obviously playing a predominant role in the association.



Grouping, regional pre-treatment and national recovery of materials

What are the ambitions?

With numerous mutualisation and substitution synergies, Ecopal is now a reference for French industrial ecology projects. Since 2014, the association has been developing 4 new projects: the recovery of "refractories" identified in the region (e. g. bricks); the recovery of local fibrous materials for the benefit of local industries; the experimentation of local recovery of printing cartridges by the Combini consortium (15 manufacturers); and the expansion of the number of participating companies.

What is the relation with the city?

Ecopal is aimed at large port industrialists as well as small and medium-sized companies located in towns or even craftsmen.

Who is behind it?

Following a preliminary study conducted in Grande-Synthe to determine the interest of conducting an Industrial Ecology project in 1999, Ecopal was created in 2001. A pioneer in the circular economy, it is one of the first industrial ecology associations to appear in France. So Ecopal is a non-profit association created by and for companies in the Dunkirk basin. Nevertheless it receives financial support from public partners :

