

THE UNECE CONVENTION ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS (AARHUS CONVENTION)

TASK FORCE ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION TOOLS: CASE STUDY BY FRANCE

[WEB-BASED STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT]

[\[link to the tool\]](#)

I. Description

1. Brief description:

The 2019 edition of the “national state of environment report” shows a notable turning point: In addition to structural analyzes over long periods that are traditionally displayed, a dedicated website will provide regularly updated information. The format and content of this edition have also been refined through design workshops with external users. Therefore The 2019 edition comprises 3 layers:

- a synthesis report aimed primarily at decision-makers and opinion leaders (press, associations, etc.) and intended to be published every 4 years.
- thematic focuses published regularly (about 3 / year) and addressing cross-cutting issues, such as: environment and health; natural resources ; society facing of climate change; biodiversity ...
- a website updated continuously, as a resource center at different scales: the local level (the environment near my home), the national level and the international level (international comparisons).

2. Type: [governmental, non-governmental, municipal, other]

Governmental

3. Scope: [international, sub-regional, national, local]

Mainly National (although there are also local and international layers)

4. Working language(s):

French (+ dedicated section in English)

5. Target users:

General public, scientists, industry, NGOs, all administrations and institutions

6. Starting year:

2017-2019

7. Budget and funding source:

National

8. Contact:

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II. Implementation

9. Policy, legal and institutional context:

A regular national report on the State of the environment is an European obligation and is a consequence of the Aarhus convention.

10. Partner organizations involved:

Scientific institutes involved in data provision and data assessment + dedicated divisions of the Ministry.

- **11. Stakeholders involved, their expected benefits:** see 12:

12. User needs and methods of their assessment:

Potential users and partners (scientists, industry, NGOs, public) expressed their need through dedicated “design sessions” and suggested to abandon the historical format of the "encyclopedic" report to move to a continuous process where the web will be the privileged medium.

- **13. Technology choice:**

Web platform with different formats (pdf, e-pub...)

III. Evaluation

- **14. Results:** to be performed after minimum 1 year
- **15. Efficiency gains:** to be performed after minimum 1 year
- **16. Risks:** difficulty to maintain continuously
- **17. Challenges encountered (please indicate resolved or not):**
 - Associate users in advance of the conception (solved)
 - Ensure the interaction and non-duplication with other websites that already gave environmental information
- **18. Lessons learned:**
- **19. Conditions for successful replication:**
- **20. Overall assessment of the tool:** : to be performed after minimum 1 year