

Environmental Responsibility Charter of the CEFE

Preamble

In its 2021-2026 unit project, the CEFE wished to implement a science "differently done" with the objective of "ensuring quality scientific activity while maintaining well-being at work". To do this, the laboratory has identified three targets to guide its thinking: the sustainable management of resources (including digital resources), including workspaces, the search for new forms of interaction with its partners here and there, and the need to find time for research.

Setting this objective and identifying these targets means questioning both the framework in which the CEFE's research activities are placed and the way in which they are carried out, while preserving the values of the laboratory. The increasingly obvious gap between the time frame used for funding and evaluating research, and the actual time needed for the most significant scientific advances, has direct consequences on the way we do research, by strongly constraining the implementation of practices that allow us to accomplish our public service research mission while respecting the environment.

In this context, this charter affirms the CEFE's willingness to continue to fulfil its public service research mission, while accepting its environmental responsibility.

This charter marks the first step in the CEFE's environmental policy, which goes beyond the issue of decarbonisation, so that the laboratory can control its environmental footprint and remain in control of its future development. It includes five principles and five commitments.

The five principles on which the CEFE's research activities are based:

- To respect the academic freedom of each individual through the control of research questions.
- Defend quality public research, aware of environmental issues, respectful of the women and men who carry it out.
- To implement its social responsibility with regard to environmental issues through the dissemination of research results, training and awareness-raising, and assistance in decision-making.
- Demonstrate an eco-responsible exemplarity in the dimensions of research activity mastered by the CEFE, due to the high visibility of the unit on its study objects.
- To support the parent organisations and institutions in the construction of a new operating model linking research quality and environmental responsibility.

The CEFE is committed to five transversal actions:

- Demonstrate sobriety wherever possible, using methods adapted to the type of research (theoretical, experimental, observation, simulation, scenario-based).
- Systematically seek the sustainability of investments (building, experimental infrastructure, digital technology, etc.) and equipment (computers, scientific material, consumables, etc.).
- Inform about the environmental footprint of the CEFE's activity, disseminate good practices and train CEFE members in the means of regulating it, and monitor the effect of this awareness-raising policy through the evolution of this footprint.
- Work on simplified administrative procedures with the supervisory authorities, taking into account the environmental dimension (dematerialisation, identification of eco-responsible suppliers, contracts, etc.).
- Focus the scope of this charter exclusively on professional activities with a collective commitment not to encroach on private choices.

Individual Charter of good environmental behaviour

Presentation of the charter

This charter, a code of good behaviour, helps to act on a daily basis to reduce the environmental footprint of each CEFE member in the context of their professional activity. In accordance with the regulations, it is above all a source of recommendations and ideas, some of which are applicable in everyday life. Its proposals can be enriched by the experiences and sharing of each CEFE member.

This charter was validated by the Unit Council on 7 April 2022 and is distributed to each CEFE member.

1- Waste management :

- I respect the rules of waste management and selective sorting at the CEFE, which are explained on the leaflets posted in the work spaces and on CORE (Science Autrement portal).
- I use the material recommended by the different platforms for "non unique" use when possible.
- I optimise my protocols to limit the use of single-use equipment.
- I favour the use of reusable tableware and objects when organising convivial events.
- I limit my paper printing, especially in colour, to what is strictly necessary.

2- Energy and water management:

- I make sure that the energy-consuming equipment for which I am responsible in the laboratory is switched off at night and at weekends.
- I make sure that the lights are switched off when I leave a room.
- I make sure that computers (except for calculation sessions) and screens in the room where I work are switched off at night, at weekends or when I am away.
- I make sure that the doors that keep the room warm in winter (airlocks) and cool in summer (air-conditioned corridors) are closed after I leave.
- I use the air-conditioning reasonably in the rooms where it is available and turn it off at night, at weekends or when I am away.
- I use osmosis water wisely.

3- Computer management:

- I limit my digital storage by emptying my mail bin regularly and selecting the data that needs to be archived.
- I limit the sending of attachments, especially to mailing lists, and prefer to use transfer services or deposit them on a shared space.
- I optimise my expensive calculation codes before sending them to the calculation clusters.
- I store, back up and archive data related to my research activity in an eco-responsible manner.
- I participate in the annual hardware recycling campaign organised by the IT department.

4- Sustainable mobility in the professional context

- I use walking, public transport, bicycles and carpooling whenever possible, at least for my local business trips.
- I travel by train when the journey time is less than 4 hours, which includes journeys to Paris.
- I offer my guests the train as a priority means of travel when the journey time is less than 4 hours.
- I prefer to travel by train rather than by car for trips over 300 km when it is compatible with the nature of my trip.
- I reduce my participation in conferences that require air travel.
- I restrict the number of my missions requiring long-distance flights by favouring longer stays combining fieldwork, scientific meetings, conferences, etc. whenever possible.
- I favour video-conferencing when my physical presence is not strictly necessary.
- I offer video-conferencing to participants in meetings that I organise when their physical presence is not strictly necessary or when the meeting is short.

5- My purchases:

- I give priority to suppliers who are environmentally friendly in terms of their packaging methods and, more generally, their eco-responsibility when it is known.
- I favour low energy consumption equipment.
- I try to concentrate or pool my purchases with those of other teams to limit packaging and environmental transport costs.
- I limit the purchase of new computers and monitors to what is strictly necessary, for example by increasing their useful life through an extended warranty period.
- When organising meetings or conferences, I avoid buying personalised items (such as goodies) and I favour meals made from local products.