

Wednesday  
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2021

# European Sustainable Development Week 2021



Under the theme "Daily Action", ESDW takes place from September 18 to October 8, 2021. Created in 2003, the ESDW works to raise awareness with 17 sustainable development goals for the 2030 Agenda. Conferences, educational projects, several initiatives are being organized on key themes. This year: 3,608 events in 25 countries.

## **PROTEGE: sustainable development on field**

Financed by the European Development Fund, the Oceanian Regional Project of Territories for the Sustainable Management of Ecosystems works in the European overseas countries and territories of the Pacific. In collaboration with local policies, the initiative contributes to sustainable development to better cope with climate change.



## **Biodiversity: how to preserve it?**

Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Caledonian lagoons demonstrate the success of the French Coral Reef Initiative (IFRECOR). Across the country, there are now around sixty marine protected areas. One project in particular should be highlighted: that of the creation of the Coral Sea Natural Park in 2014. As part of the "Territories of Innovations" program, New Caledonia was announced among the 24 winners, and should therefore benefit of 15 million euros for the protection of this park as part of a more general desire of the French government to protect its maritime sovereignty. Today, the waters under French jurisdiction reach 22% of the perimeter of marine protected areas. Three provinces have adopted their environmental codes, making it possible to create a unified corpus dedicated to the specificity of each territory. The province of Loyalty Islands, for example, takes into account customary law and has conferred legal personality on nature.



## **A common goal**

In January 2019, New Caledonia adopted a law providing for several deadlines to ban single-use plastics. As for renewable energies, the territory is ambitious, in particular with regard to photovoltaics, thanks to the extent of the progress made in energy storage. Authorities have indicated that 100% renewable energy production for electricity distribution would be achievable before 2030, a date set by New Caledonia's energy transition plan. Through this scheme, the congress contributes to COP 21 and the Paris Agreement. ESDW 2021 calls on all ecosystem players to unite to contribute to a more environmentally friendly future.