

INTRODUCTION

According to the Environment Code (*Code de l'environnement*), the reports on the state of the Walloon environment must include, in addition to an analysis of the state of environmental components (air, water, soil, fauna, flora and habitats) and the pressures exerted on them, an "analysis of environmental management carried out by public authorities, companies and associations".

In previous editions ("Key Environmental Indicators for Wallonia" 2012 and Environmental Outlook for Wallonia - Digest 2014)¹, the elements of environmental management were divided into the various sections dealing with the sectors of activity or environmental components in question. In this report, they are grouped into a single section, as was the case for the "Scoreboard of the Walloon Environment 2010" (*Tableau de bord de l'environnement wallon 2010*)². This approach makes it possible to provide an overview of the efforts made to manage and improve the quality of our environment, both by public authorities in the broadest sense and by companies, associations or individuals. These efforts may be imposed by legislation, encouraged by various means (tax, subsidies, etc.) or be voluntary in nature.

The aim is not to draw up an exhaustive inventory of all the environmental management measures implemented in Wallonia. Nor is it a process for evaluating the effectiveness of the measures or policies that underpin them. These "environmental management elements" are intended to give an initial overview of the diversity, nature and extent of management measures (existing or planned), depending on the environmental component (air, water, soil, forest, biodiversity, etc.) and the actor(s) concerned (public authorities, private companies, households, communities, associations, farmers, forest managers, etc.).

The management measures included in this section take various forms (monitoring, prevention, remediation, control, enforcement, etc.) and are based on different types of tools. These can be, *inter alia*:

- regulations (European, federal, regional, etc.) and their monitoring;
- plans and programs;
- financial tools (environmental taxation, bonuses, subsidies, European funds, etc.);
- specific agreements (between Regions, Provinces and Municipalities; between sectors, etc.);
- voluntary actions (of businesses, farmers, local authorities, individuals, etc.);
- awareness-raising and information networks (regional environmental education centres, websites managed by the Public Service of Wallonia, etc.).

For greater clarity, the indicators presented here have been grouped into 5 chapters, devoted respectively to:

- measures to monitor compliance with environmental legislation ("Control");
- measures that target several sectors or environmental components ("Transversal measures");
- measures which more specifically concern a sector ("Sectoral measures");
- measures that have a direct effect on the quality of the environment ("Environmental quality management");
- the management (collection, treatment, disposal) of household and industrial waste ("Waste management").

These management measures are responses intended to bring about change in the driving forces (e.g., environmental investments and expenditures), environmental pressures (e.g., branch agreements), the state of environmental components (e.g., management of local soil pollution), or impacts on the environment (e.g., waste water treatment). Depending on the case, the indicators presented illustrate means implemented or results achieved (or expected) and can sometimes be compared with defined objectives.

^[1] SPW - DG03 - DEMNA, 2013, 2015. Previous editions can be consulted at <http://etat.environnement.wallonie.be> | ^[2] SPW - DG03 - DEMNA, 2011