

# Furniture elements

Furniture, seating, bedding and decorative textile items.

# **Member's Guide**



# Your commitment: the promise of new life for every object in the home

The eco-participation goes towards the costs of collecting, sorting, reusing, recycling and recovering furniture products, as well as supporting our partners in their eco-design, repair, research and development and, of course, innovation projects.

Before Ecomaison was set up, 55% of discarded furniture ended up in landfill. Since 2013, we have collected 10 million tonnes of used furniture, bedding and objects, the equivalent of 1,000 Eiffel Towers of waste!

Today, 97% of the products collected have a second life: they are reused, recycled or recovered for energy purposes. Every year, 4 million mattresses are collected and, once dismantled, the majority are recycled. With 800,000 tonnes per year, Ecomaison has become the leading supplier of recycled wood in France.

Your commitment also has a direct impact on your customers: anybody in France can drop off their used goods within 15 km of their home, thanks to a network of 8,000 collection points, including community organisations, waste collection centres and, of course, you, distributors and retailers.



reuses and recycles household items and building















**Presentation and** objectives of the sector ontents 1.1 Furniture sector \_\_\_\_\_\_p.5 1.2 Ecomaison trades and skills \_\_\_\_\_\_p.6 1.3 Key figures for 2023 \_\_\_\_\_\_p.7 1.4 Targets for 2029 \_\_\_\_\_\_p.8 **Joining Ecomaison** 3.1 Who is required to join? \_\_\_\_\_\_p.19 **3.4** What are the specific provisions for marketplaces? \_\_\_\_\_p.21

#### **Scope of the sector**

2.1 Products concerned	p.11
- Details of decorative textile items	p.13
2.2 Definition of the marketer	p.15
2.3 Geographical scope	p.17

#### **Eco-participation:** coding and display

4.1 What are the product coallication rules? p.25
4.2 How much is the eco-participation?p.24
4.3 Eco-participation scale and gridp.26
4.4 Eco-modulation p.27
<b>4.5</b> Bonuses for incorporation of recycled material $\mathbf{p.28}$
4.6 How do I display the eco-participation?p.29
4.7 Does the eco-participation concern
the after-sales service?p.30

#### **Declaration of** eco-participation

5.1 How does the declaration work?	p.32
5.2 When to declare	p.32
5.3 How to make declarations	p.36
5.4 Will my declarations be checked?	p.36
5.6 How are exports handled?	p.37

#### Other obligations and opportunities

6.1 Collection and reuse	p.39
6.2 TRIMAN sorting signs	p.43
6.3 Prevention and eco-design	p.45
6.4 Repair bonus	p.48
6.5 Rebates	p.49
6.5 Summary: the 10 points	p.49

# Presentation and objectives of the sector



# 1.1 Furniture sector

## **PRESENTATION**

### Over 10 years of collecting and recycling furniture products

For more than 10 years, the EPR¹ (Extended Producer Responsibility) sector for furniture waste (FW) has been developing the collection and recycling of this type of waste. Ecomaison, formerly known as Eco-mobilier, is a state-approved, not-for-profit eco-organisation responsible for managing the collection, sorting and processing of end-of-life furniture.

The AGEC Law<sup>2</sup> of 2020 broadened the sector's obligations and, in particular, encourages Ecomaison and its members to extend the useful life of products by developing new reuse and repair services.

In both these areas, the targets are ambitious and will require new resources to bring about changes in consumer practices. An overhaul of the collection scheme has already been launched, with shops required to take back used products from their customers from 2022 onwards. The challenge over the next few years will be to channel these products primarily to reuse.

**EPR scheme**: Extended Producer Responsibility scheme, which organises the financing of the recycling of end-of-life furniture products, see article L. 543-240 to R. 543-252 of the French Environmental Code.

<sup>2</sup>AGEC Law: French anti-waste law for a circular economy. Find out more.



# 1.2 Ecomaison trades and skills

Find out more about Ecomaison's operating model, which covers the entire end-of-life process for used products and materials. From collection to recycling of products and materials, through reuse and repair, Ecomaison optimises every stage to maximise its operational efficiency and move towards a circular economy.

Join Ecomaison to turn your waste into valuable resources and strengthen your commitment to the environment.



Find the map **here** 

# 1.3 Key figures for 2023

An eco-organisation which collects used household objects & materials

74,000 adhesion contracts

million tons of products put on the French market across our sectors

 $\begin{array}{c} 332 \\ \text{million euros of eco-participation} \\ \\ \text{including Furniture} \\ & \in 278 \text{M} \\ \\ \text{including Games and Toys} \\ & \in 30.4 \text{M} \\ \\ \text{including DIY and gardening} \\ & \in 14.7 \text{M} \end{array}$ 

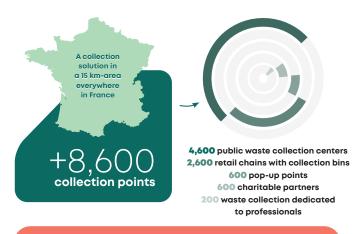
including Building Products and Materials (cat. 2)

# We prioritise reuse



600
contracts
signed with
charitable
associations

# Waste collection



## 1.6 million

tons of objects and materials collected, including
1.5 million from the furniture sector

Recycled materials & waste-toenergy



800,000 tons of wood 300,000 tons of solid recovered

**70,000** tons of scrap metal **11,000** tons of foam

10,000 tons of plastic

97%
waste recovery

47% Waste-to-energy 45% Recycling 5% Reuse

# **1.4** Targets for 2029

## Together towards zero furniture waste

Since 2012 and the creation of the furniture sector, Ecomaison has been committed to collecting and recycling household furniture: in 10 years, the landfill rate for discarded furniture has fallen from 55% to just 3%!

At the end of 2023, Ecomaison's approval as an eco-organisation for the furniture sector was renewed by the French government for the period 2024 to 2029: as the historic eco-organisation for the furniture sector, Ecomaison has been set ambitious new targets for 2029.

The specifications for approval take account of a regulatory framework extended by the AGEC Law, to ensure that eco-organisations meet the challenges of the sector: collection and recycling performance, eco-design, repair and reuse of products.

We're counting on you and all our partners to help us achieve these goals together!

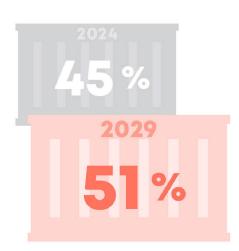
# Get kitted out to improve collection

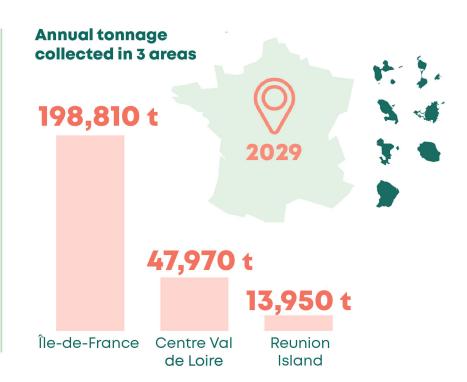
To make it easier for you to collect used products and to improve their quality, we are providing you with new containers.



#### **2029 TARGETS**

# Collection of discarded volumes





# The more you sort, the more we recycle

We are deploying two dual-stream skips at our waste collection centres to simplify the sorting and recycling of wooden furniture and other materials (foam, plastics).



#### **2029 TARGETS**







2022 760,000 t 2029 495,000 t







2022 Ot 2029 **5,400**t



2022 5,000 t 2029 **4,770** t

5,000 t

# Giving new life to furniture and bedding

By 2024, we will be working in partnership with more than **600 social and solidarity economy organisations**.



#### 2029 TARGETS

# Tonnage of used furniture

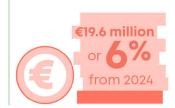
taken back by distributors to be channelled into **social reuse** each year

> 10,000 tonnes

# Proportion of collection reused



# Share of budget allocated to reuse



# Extend the life of your customers' products!

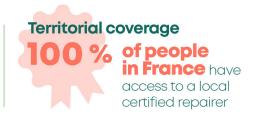
Since May 2024, people in France have been able to benefit from a Seating and Bedding Repair bonus thanks to approved repairers. And you can become one! This bonus will shortly be extended to all furniture.

#### 2029 TARGETS

**Number of repairs** 



+35%



# Scope of the sector



# 2.1 Products concerned

There are 12 categories of furniture products covered by the Extended Producer Responsibility scheme (Article R.543-340 of the <u>French Environmental Code</u>).

This applies to all furniture and furniture components, whose main function is to contribute to interior design, either by offering:

- · a seat.
- · a bed.
- storage,
- · a surface or work top,
- or by decorating walls, floors or windows with finished or semi-finished removable products made from natural or synthetic textiles,
- as well as all accessories for the above-mentioned objects, regardless of the materials they are made from.

This applies equally to residential, commercial and public premises, for products intended for adults, children and even pets.

#### The following are excluded from the scope of the regulations (non-exhaustive list):

- Luggage, suitcases, trunks;
- Pushchairs;
- Car seats, including child car seats;
- Technical aids (non-furniture medical devices);
- Non-furniture childcare products: potties, training seats;
- Decorations containing no textiles: vase or decorative frame printed on paper, for example;
- Non-removable carpets, particularly those installed in homes or offices;
- · Non-removable textile decorations: stretched canvas, fixed mosquito nets:
- · Household linen, which comes under the textile products EPR channel.
- Technical, non-decorative mats: non-slip mats, yoga mats or bath mats.
- · Undecorated panels, which come under the Building EPR channel.

# **Products concerned**

#### Specific rules for furniture incorporating electrical or electronic equipment

If an item falls **exclusively within the waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) channel**, it is excluded from the furniture products channel <u>(Article R. 543-240 of the French Environmental Code)</u>. Otherwise, the item of furniture is also included in this furniture channel.

In practice, if the primary function of a piece of furniture is to furnish, then it is part of the furniture waste channel, even if it incorporates one or more items of electrical or electronic equipment.

- · Medical beds must be declared in the WEEE channel.
- The main function of electric beds is furnishing, so the bed must be declared to Ecomaison and the motor through the WEEE channel.
- For example, certain standard electrical and electronic equipment can be incorporated into a piece of furniture without affecting its primary function:
  - A "cold block" that can be fitted in a range of cold-generating appliances, including sofas with refrigerated drawers.
  - A "lighting block" for kitchen and bathroom furniture, etc.
  - A sensor and an LED light in bedding, seating or furniture, etc.

At the time of disposal, WEEE components must be separated from the furniture and sent to the appropriate recycling facility.

#### The exclusion or inclusion of a product falls under the responsibility of the producer.

The eco-organisation only indicates products that have been identified as potentially ineligible for EPR.

For any queries regarding the scope, please contact us by email: <a href="mailto:contact@ecomaison.fr">contact@ecomaison.fr</a>.



#### Please note

Discover our tools for understanding what products are considered as furniture:

- Indicative list of products concerned
- Online tool

## **Products concerned**

#### **Furnishing and fit-out components**

The following non-exhaustive list of products is provided for guidance only. The regulatory definition based on the product's function determines how the product is assigned in the sector and category (and not the commercial name).



# Kitchen and accessories

Upper and lower kitchen units, panels and doors, tabletops and worktops, bottle racks, cutlery trays, etc.



#### **Bedding & bedrooms**

Bed bases, mattresses, beds, headboards, duvets, pillows, bed legs, bed base slats, bedside tables, storage boxes, covers, furnishing textiles, etc.



#### Storage & fit-out

Cupboards, storage units and fit-out components (custom or standard), cabinets/dressing tables, wardrobes, dressing room components, doors (sliding or standard), accessories and coverings, storage boxes and units, furnishing panels, cut-to-size coated panels made from all materials, panels, etc.



# Bathroom and accessories

Bathroom furniture, hardware and other accessories



# Hardware and accessories for furniture and bedding

Racks, brackets, knobs, door handles, wardrobe rails, rails, drawer runners, hinges, shelves, end caps, etc.



#### **Lounge & living room**

Tables, chairs, seats, sofas, cushions, bar furniture, nested tables, dressers, sideboards, etc.



Childcare

Cots, chests of drawers, high chairs, etc.



# Technical & office furnishings

Desks, chairs, drawer units, industrial lockers, visual or acoustic partitions, etc.



# Outdoor and pet furniture

Workbenches, garden tables and chairs, garden seats and sofas, camping tables and mattresses, swings, pet mattresses, cat trees, etc.



# **Decorative** textile items

See details on next page.

## **Details of**

## decorative textile items

The following non-exhaustive list of products is provided for guidance only. The regulatory definition based on the product's function determines how the product is assigned in the sector and category (and not the commercial name).

#### What does this category cover?



# Curtains and net curtains

Curtains (blackout, thermal, acoustic, sheer, mosquito net, etc.), thermal blackout linings, net curtains, tension fabrics, tapestries, wall hangings, etc.



# Functional mats and doormats

Mats (hall, stairs, non-slip, hygienic, anti-fatigue, dust-control, etc.), doormats, underlays, etc.



# Removable event carpets

Event carpets for exhibition stands or aisles, acoustic or compact carpets, etc.



#### **Textile wall frames**

Decorative hanging canvases, kakemonos, canvases, decorative paintings with frames, etc.



#### **Decorative rugs**

Rugs (high or low pile, bedside, faux fur, etc.), faux animal skin rugs, carpet rugs, etc.



#### Interior blinds

Skylight, roller, cellular, Venetian, Roman, blackout, pleated blinds, etc.



# Small decorative textile items

Macramé, hanging decorative textile items, decorative garlands, etc.



#### Hanging accessories

Rods, rings, hanging strips, rod buttons, clothes rails, corner sets, etc.



Remember to apply the eco-participation to all **small furnishing products** and **their accessories** intended for the home or garden (bathroom, kitchen, living room, bedroom, etc.), shops or public reception areas.

This also applies to **childcare** and **children's furniture** (changing tables, observation towers, bed skirts, travel cots and cododo cribs, cradles, booster seats, bed canopies, cuddly toy hammocks, toy chests, etc.) and **pet furniture** (cat trees, mattresses, cushions, hammocks, aquarium furniture not including the aquarium, etc.).

**Small storage items** are also included (coat hangers, pencil pots, utility holders, trunks, coat racks, toilet brush holders and coin boxes), as are massage tables, picnic tables and ironing boards.

# 2.2 Definition of the marketer

Marketers (i.e., "producers" under the terms of the regulations, <u>Article R. 543-240 of the French Environmental Code</u>) are natural or legal persons who, in a professional capacity:

- · manufacture in France, and/or
- import, assemble or introduce for the first time onto the national market furniture products intended to be sold or given away free of charge to the end user by any sales technique whatsoever or to be used directly in the national territory.



#### **Please note**

If products are sold under the sole brand of a retailer, **this retailer is considered a marketer.** This is the case in particular for private label brands.

#### In practice:

- Any sales contract proposed, concluded or executed in France constitutes placing on the market in France.
- Any contract proposed, concluded or executed, directly or through an agent established in France, to a buyer residing in France constitutes placing on the market in France, within the meaning of the regulations.
- In the case of distance selling and cross-border selling, the same rules apply to sellers, even those based abroad, if physical marketing takes place in France and is aimed at a consumer or end user in France. They must therefore join and pay the eco-participation to Ecomaison, in the same way as national marketers.

To comply with the regulations, the marketer must:

- join and sign the Services Contract online in our Services Area;
- **declare to Ecomaison** the quantities placed on the market each quarter or year during the previous period, and pay the resulting eco-participation.

To check if you are a marketer, please refer to the table below.

# **Definition of the marketer**

To check if you are a marketer, please refer to the table below.

LEGAL ENTITY THAT IMPORTS, OR, IN THE CASE			
ANALYSIS OF THE DIFFERENT SALES REGIMES	OF FRENCH MANUFACTURING, IS AT THE TOP OF THE SALES NETWORK	IDENTIFICATION OF THE MARKETER	
Direct sale by the manufacturer in France to the consumer	Sale by the merchant site and/or by own stores	The manufacturer or its in-store sales subsidiary if it imports the product.	
Sale by a distributor of a product from a manufacturer in France, stored and shipped to the end customer by the manufacturer	Either distributor stock is stored by the manufacturer, or ownership is transferred at the time of shipment to the consumer	The manufacturer	
Sale by the manufacturer in France to a distributor	The manufacturer is an importer or manufacturer in France and sells to a reseller, retailer, wholesaler or other	The manufacturer	
Consignment stock of products from a manufacturer in France	The manufacturer's product is on consignment sale at the distributor until sold to the consumer by the distributor.	The manufacturer	
Purchase by a distributor of products from a manufacturer within the EU invoiced from an entity outside France		The distributor, for the introduction of EU products	
Purchase and import under FOB of products from a manufacturer invoiced from an entity outside France		The distributor	
Sale by a French third-party seller of a manufacturer's products in France via a marketplace	The consumer buys, via a marketplace, a product that the manufacturer has sold in France to a third-party French seller.	The manufacturer, or its in-store sales subsidiary if it imports the product	
Sale by a French third-party seller of products introduced from the EU or imported	The consumer buys via a marketplace from a French third-party seller who has imported the product from the manufacturer or procured it outside France	The third-party seller	
Sale by a third-party seller established outside France via a marketplace	The consumer buys a product from a foreign third-party seller via a marketplace.	The third-party seller	
Sale by a manufacturer in France of products partially not intended for the French market	The manufacturer sells products to a distributor or wholesaler based in France, which itself resells partly in France and partly outside France.	The manufacturer or its in-store sales subsidiary if it imports the product, for French sales	

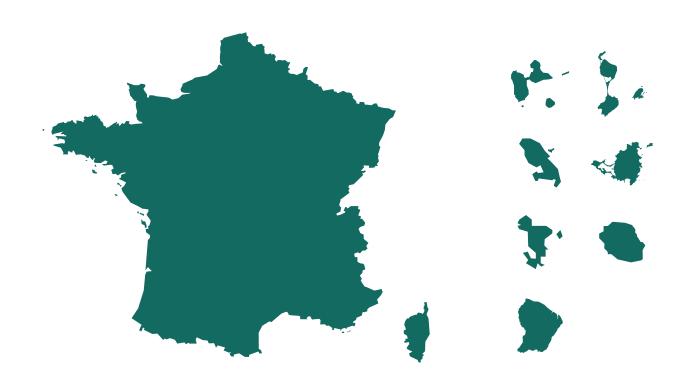


**Join us**Find all the information on our website <u>ecomaison.com</u> or write to us <u>here</u>.

# 2.3 Geographical scope

The furniture EPR channel applies to the whole of France and the following French overseas departments and regions:

- · Mainland France, including Corsica
- French Overseas Regions and Departments: Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Réunion, Mayotte
- French Overseas Territories: Saint-Martin, Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon



It does not apply to Monaco, the French Overseas territories of French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna, Saint-Barthélemy, or to exports.



## Note for French Overseas Regions, Departments and Territories

The French Overseas Territories concerned by the regulations (Martinique, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Réunion, Mayotte, Saint-Martin and Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon) **should not be considered as exports** by traders registered in mainland France, who invoice products and materials sold from mainland France to the French Overseas Regions, Departments and Territories with the eco-participation.

# Joining Ecomaison



# 3.1 Who is required to join?

Any legal entity or natural person placing furniture products on the market must join Ecomaison

#### In practice:

- A manufacturer, a retail purchasing centre or a structure that owns several sales outlets must sign a membership contract.
- **For a distribution network**, or when the same legal entity encompasses several sales outlets, it is not necessary for the sales outlets to join individually, except those acting independently as marketers.

Ecomaison gives each member a **unique identification number** certifying the conformity of their products for the furniture channel. This is mandatory and proves registration in the French national register managed by the ADEME.

The unique identification number: proof of your regulatory compliance



Once communicated by Ecomaison, the unique identification number must be included in the general terms and conditions of sale of products (GTCS), or any other contractual document. This information is intended for both private individuals and professionals.

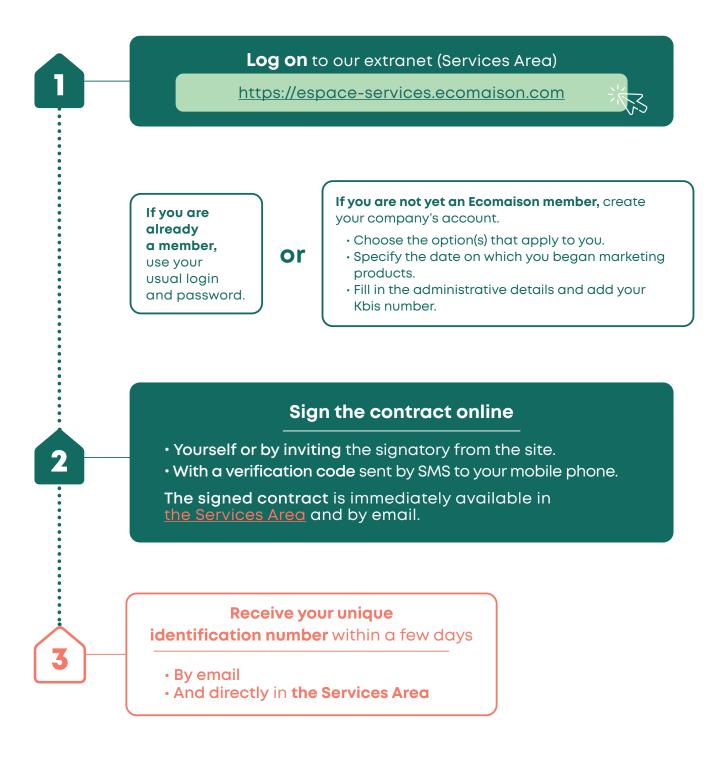
#### Please note



If you do not display the unique identification number, you risk a **fine of up** to €30.000.

The unique identification number must not be confused with the TRIMAN sorting signs (see dedicated **chapter**). These signs are not a guarantee of the marketer's compliance with the EPR system.

# 3.2 How do I join?



To prepare your membership, you must provide the following:

- the company name, legal status, share capital and SIRET number (or national identity number);
- the contact details of the legal representative authorised to conclude agreements, useful contacts in the company, in particular those responsible for declarations, invoice verification and payment to Ecomaison.

# 3.3 When to join

The EPR furniture scheme began in 2013 and was extended to decorative textile items on 1 April 2023. Compliance is therefore mandatory as of this date.

Failing this, there is a 3-year retroactive period for marketing declarations.



#### Please note

To place products on the French market, all companies must have a **unique identification number**, which they will get once they join an eco-organisation.

# 3.4 What are the specific provisions for marketplaces?

A marketplace is defined in the French Environmental Code as **an electronic interface** (marketplace, platform, portal, or similar system) **facilitating remote sales or product delivery** on behalf of a third party.

It is required to keep a register of third-party sellers (<u>Article L. 541-10-9 of the French Environmental Code</u>) with:

- The identification details of each third-party seller placing items on the market via the marketplace,
- The unique identification numbers of the third-party sellers placing items on the market,
- Their marketing data and
- The take-back procedures put in place by the third-party sellers.

Should third-party sellers not fulfil their obligations, the marketplaces themselves must **act on behalf of their third-party sellers** and submit the marketing declaration for these sellers.

When you register with Ecomaison, you must indicate this specific status.

**Please note that**, if, as a member, you are developing a marketplace, you must let us know so that we can register you as such.

# Eco-participation: coding and display



# 4.1 What are the codification rules?

Ecomaison uses an 11-digit product code.

Each product has a corresponding item code that you can use in your information systems.

The item code, or product code, enables you to apply the corresponding eco-participation scale and to declare the marketing of products subject to the EPR furniture scheme.

The product code consists of the following elements:

- The **category** corresponding to the items as shown in the previous chapter.
- The type of product that fits the category: pet furniture, inflatable mattresses, decorative ruas, etc.
- The **primary material**, which must be chosen according to the product's primary component by weight: wood, OSB, textile, etc.
- The **measurement** corresponding to the weight range of the product, its thickness or its size if the declaration is made by unit or according to the number of sets.
- The **durability** of the product over time corresponds to an evolutionary design that anticipates and allows for multiple successive uses.



# **Good to know**

- Two tools are available to help you codify your products using our nomenclature:

   An Excel file ("Product Code Generator") which can be downloaded from the ecomaison.com website in our Resource Centre under the Prices section;
  - Our online tool for generating product codes and calculating the associated eco-participation: the online product codifier.

In the event of updates to the eco-participation scale, Ecomaison will inform you within a contractually defined notice period.



• To find out more, or for help with the codification of your products, please contact us by email: contact@ecomaison.com

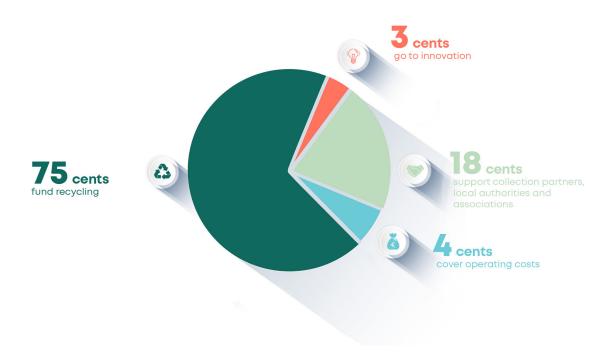
# 4.2 How much is the eco-participation?

### 4.2.1 Where does the eco-participation go to?

Each new product put on the market will finance the future need for the collection, sorting, recycling or reuse of an equivalent used product.

Thanks to this contribution, Ecomaison organises the collection of household products and materials throughout France. All eco-participations are used to cover Ecomaison's operating costs, as well as expenditure on innovation. Ecomaison is a **not-for-profit company.** 

On average, for every €1 of eco-participation paid:



Source: Ecomaison, 2022

# 4.2 How much is the eco-participation?

#### 4.2.2 How is the eco-participation calculated?

The eco-participation is set by each eco-organisation according to a scale. It sets the amount by calculating the overall cost of taking care of the product, based on various characteristics. A mattress, a large sofa, a small stool or a plastic box are not collected and recycled in the same way.

The eco-participation rates take account of the recyclability of the materials of which the products are composed, as well as how they are assembled. So the heavier and more complex a product is to recycle, the higher the eco-participation.

The eco-participation scale is calculated according to:

- The nature of the item.
- · Its weight,
- Its size and volume,
- · And the materials of which it is made.



#### **Good to know**

From 1 January 2025, eco-participations will be modulated according to the recyclability of the materials, the sustainable management of resources, the progressive design of products and the incorporation of recycled raw materials. To find out which products are eligible for eco-modulation and the corresponding Ecomaison code, see the complete grid.

### 4.2.3 Specific rules for products sold in sets

Different situations may apply to you.

#### Sets of products with a unit eco-participation

If the product is a set of products with a defined eco-participation per unit (cushions, duvets, pillows, bedding accessories, mattresses, bed bases, headboards, slatted frames, etc.), the rate for the set will be either:

- The sum of the eco-participations per unit.
- The "set of 2" or "set of 4" tariff when it exists in the Ecomaison characteristic codes, available in the product code generator.

#### Sets of products from different families

If the product is a set comprising items from different families (for example, a combination of a seat and a table, a mattress and a duvet), it should be coded as "0000000000". Its price will be equal to the sum of the eco-participations for the different items.

#### Sets of furniture or seating

If the product is a set of furniture or a set of seats with a rate based on weight bands, this rate must be determined according to the Consumer Sales Unit (CSU).

# 4.3 Eco-participation scale and grid

The current eco-participation scale for furniture and decorative textile items can be found on our website, in **the publications section**.

Ecomaison is adding new eco-modulations to its eco-participation rates, applicable from 1 January 2025, to encourage eco-design and recyclability of products.

- <u>2025 Product code generator</u>
- <u>2025 eco-participation rate structure</u>

# 4.4 Eco-modulation

In order to improve waste prevention, consumer information and eco-consumption, the fees paid by producers are modulated on the basis of criteria intrinsic to the products, in particular:

- the recyclability of the products,
- the use of renewable and certified resources,
- · longer useful life, etc.

This approach, provided for in the regulations, rewards eco-design initiatives; on the other hand, it penalises producers who deviate from this approach by encouraging them to improve their marketing.

Bonuses can be accumulated, as can penalties, but any penalty effectively prevents a product from benefiting from a bonus.



## **Good to know**

To find out more about the principle of eco-modulation and its application to the furniture scale, applicable from 1 January 2025, refer to  $\underline{\text{the}}$  eco-modulation guide.

# **Eco-modulation**

#### How much are the bonuses?

These bonuses are proportional to the weight of post-consumer recycled materials incorporated into your marketing:

Material	Bonus in € excl. tax/tonne of recycled material incorporated above the incorporation threshold	Minimum incorporation threshold
Wood	€40/t	35%
PP Polypropylene	€450/t	
HDPE High Density Polyethylene	€450/t	
ABS Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene	€450/t	
PU polyurethane foam for mechanical recycling	€450/t	65%
PU polyurethane foam for chemical recycling	€450/t	
Textiles	€500/t	

To find out more about bonuses for the incorporation of recycled materials, see <u>the eco-modulations guide.</u>

# 4.5 Bonuses for the incorporation of recycled materials

#### Who are the beneficiaries?

French manufacturers or distributors who place orders for the manufacture of furniture or decorative textile items.

#### What are the conditions?

To qualify for this bonus, you must meet 3 conditions:

- **The source**: post-consumer recycled waste, collected or supported by an approved French eco-organisation.
- Quality: absence of recycling disruptors and hazardous substances.
- Quantity: a minimum incorporation threshold must be met.

#### Instructions for use for the manufacturer or distributor

Ecomaison provides a <u>list of the Ecomaison partner companies</u> that supply materials incorporating post-consumer recycled material and that can be integrated into products, for each of the materials concerned and eligible for the scheme.

Ecomaison also offers to pay bonuses on the basis of a declaration of the actual quantities of recycled material incorporated (expressed in tonnes). The calculation will take into account the eligibility of the materials/products and the recycled content demonstrated by the supporting documents, as well as the minimum amounts and thresholds applicable.

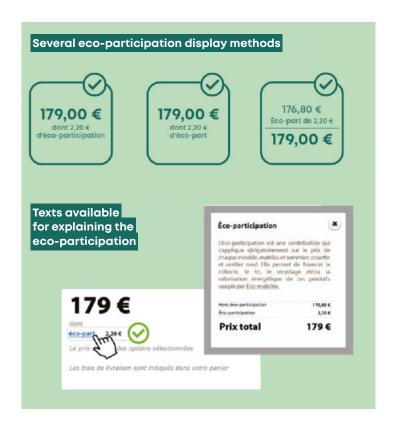
The manufacturer or distributor therefore applies to Ecomaison for a bonus for the incorporation of recycled materials at the end of the six-month period.

# 4.6 How do I display the eco-participation?

Companies that sell furniture products must display the eco-participation on their sales documents.

- For BtoB sales, the eco-participation must be shown in catalogues and on price labels, invoices or till receipts in the form of rates accompanied by explanations and/or the unit amount allocated to each product.
- For BtoC and BtoC sales, it must also be displayed **next to the total sale price of the product at the point of sale**, **on websites**, **in catalogues and on invoices**.

The terms eco-participation and eco-contribution are now part of everyday vocabulary and can be used interchangeably in your communication materials. We also recommend that you provide your customers with explanations to help them understand where this eco-participation goes to.





### **Good to know**

The obligation to display the eco-participation is defined in Article L. 541-10-21 of the French Environmental Code. Article R. 543-256-1 of the French Environmental Code provides for an administrative fine (3rd class offence, for an amount of €450) for any failure to display the eco-participation.

# 4.7 Does the eco-participation concern the after-sales service?

Any provision of a spare part to replace an item is not considered to be a marketing operation subject to the eco-participation.

On the other hand, if a product is supplied within the context of an after-sales service (whether free of charge or for consideration), an eco-participation declaration must be made.

# Declaration of eco-participation



# 5.1 How does the declaration work?

The marketing declaration corresponds to the number of units of sets, or surface area of products marketed by product code, over the period in question. It allows Ecomaison to bill companies for the eco-participation.

This declaration is also used to **send data to ADEME**, which monitors the furniture products channel within the framework of the national register of producers.

# 5.2 When to declare

The eco-participation scheme and the monitoring of marketing began on 1 May 2013 for the first categories of furniture products. The marketing of decorative textile items has been subject to declaration since 1 April 2023.

The principle of declaration is based on a system of quarterly declarations (see next chapter on the dispensation scheme), for the period in question, relating to the products placed on the market.

- Declarations will be made no later than 30 days after the start of the declaration period. The declaration date does not trigger billing and payment.
- Billing will take place upon receipt of the declaration or, at the latest, on the day after the end of the declaration period.
- · Payment must be made no later than 15 days after the declaration period has ended.

**Annual declarations are possible under certain conditions**, which are explained in the next chapter, in particular a maximum annual weight of 15 tonnes marketed.

# When to declare

#### 5.2.1 Declaration schedule

MARKETED FOR ONE YEAR "Y"	DECLARATION PERIOD	PAYMENT DATE
1st quarter, 1 January to 31 March Y	1 to 30 April	15 May
2nd quarter, from 1 April to 30 June Y	1 to 31 July	15 August
3rd quarter, from 1 July to 30 September Y	1 to 31 October	15 November
4th quarter, from 1 October to 31 December Y	1 to 31 January Y+1	15 February Y+1
Marketed for one year Y	1 to 31 January Y+1	15 February Y+1



Please note

For decorative textile items, the obligations began on 1 April 2023. You are liable for any products in this category that you have marketed since this date.

### Reminder of declaration thresholds for previous years

Furniture channel	Sales excluding VAT from marketing			Total annual eco-participation excl. VAT
	Less than €100K	Between €100K and €500K	More than €500K	More than €8,000K
Declaration procedure	Annually	Annually or quarterly	Quarterly	Quarterly

## 5.2.2 Annual or quarterly declaration procedure since **1 January 2024**

The eco-participation declaration procedure changed on 1 January 2024.

What's new? Under the regulations, the tonnage marketed will be used instead of the level of sales to distinguish between annual and quarterly declarations.

# When to declare

#### Who needs to declare annually?

Any company that has marketed less than 15 tonnes and 1,000 units, subject to the following conditions:

Marketing - MM	Less than 15 tonnes <u>AND</u> units < 2 kg	Less than 15 tonne	s <u>AND</u> units > kg	More than 15 tonnes
Simplified scale	Yes	Yes, up to 1,000 units	No, from 1,001 units	No
Declaration procedure	Annually	Annually	Quarterly	Quarterly
Type of declaration	Simplified per 10 units or per unit		Use of stand	ard unit codes

Ecomaison offers a simplified scheme to streamline the declaration process for producers marketing small quantities of products and declaring annually.

## 5.2.3 Simplified declaration dispensation scheme

#### What does Ecomaison offer?

**Eligible producers** will benefit from the simplified scheme when making their declarations.

The simplified scale may cost slightly more than the general scale, but this is offset by the speed and ease of declaration.

#### When is the declaration period?

The declaration period for members eligible for the simplified scheme begins on 1 January of year Y+1:

Period of sale	Declaration date	Payment date at the latest
1 January to 31 December Y	January Y+1	15 February Y+1

# When to declare

#### **Specific rules for marketplaces**

The dispensation scheme described in the previous section is also available to marketplaces, within the context of their declaration for their non-compliant third-party sellers.

The thresholds shown are to be applied for each third-party seller over a calendar year, even though the declaration is made quarterly.

Please note that this scheme is only available to marketplaces that provide details of products marketed by third-party sellers (unless confirmed by the public authorities).

# 5.3 How to make declarations

You declare your eco-participations in your extranet account in our **Services Area.** 

For declarations based on actual marketing figures, members can:

- either enter their marketing information by product code, line by line;
- or upload a CSV file to the **Services Area**, with the product codes and tonnes placed on the market, as follows:

ECOMAISON PRODUCT CODE 11 digits	Number of functional units (tonnes or units, depending on the codification method chosen)*	Tonnage (up to 3 decimal places)	Your references	Furniture combinations (only for the Furniture EPR)
04 024 120 940				
04 024 010 100				

For declarations made under the dispensation scheme, members must indicate the overall quantities placed on the market. As soon as these quantities exceed the predefined thresholds, a declaration based on actual figures will be requested. The procedures will be fully described in the **Services Area**, in the **FAQ** section, as well as on the **declaration page**.



#### **Please note**

Before submitting your declaration, you will need to change your declaration method in the Services Area, see the dedicated procedure.

# 5.4 Will my declarations

# be checked?

Marketers are subject to regulatory audits, the protocol for which is appended to the service contract. These audits are intended to ensure regulatory compliance of the member and equal treatment of all marketers.

# 5.5 How are exports handled?

Marketers do not declare exported products.



#### **Please note**

The Overseas Territories covered by the regulations (Martinique, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Réunion, Mayotte, Saint-Martin, and Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon) must not be considered as exports and must be the subject of a declaration, see the <u>dedicated section</u>.

# Other obligations and opportunities



## **6.1** Collection and reuse

Ecomaison supports its members in their obligation to take back furniture items free of charge from their customers, in particular:

- Through collection solutions, including containers;
- By putting recycling players in touch with its members or their logistics partners.
- · By providing them with sales training and consumer information kits;

#### 6.1.1 Take-back obligation for distributors

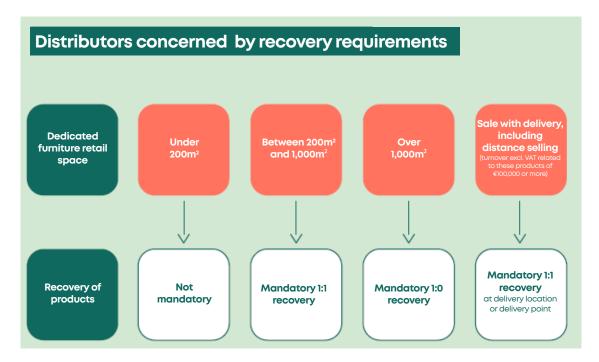
Since 1 January 2022, your customers have been able to give you their furniture items free of charge. This obligation was instituted on 1 January 2023 for decorative textile items.

This measure is one of the pillars of the fight against waste and fly-tipping, promoted by the French Anti-Waste Law for a Circular Economy (AGEC Law).

#### Who does this concern?

All distributors of furniture and decorative textiles with a sales area of more than 200 m<sup>2</sup> and/or a turnover of more than €100,000 from the delivery of furniture products.

The Law sets out various obligations, adapted to the configuration of each business.



- 1-for-1 trade-in: you take back a used product from your customer, similar to the one purchased, at the place of delivery or delivery point.
- 1-for-0 trade-in: you take back used products similar to those you sell, with no purchase conditions.

## **Collection and reuse**



#### Good to know

If a store sells products from several categories (e.g., furniture, toys, DIY products), an analysis must be carried out separately per dedicated retail space, for each category of products concerned.

#### 6.1.2 Specific rules for marketplaces

- For third-party sellers: if your annual turnover exceeds €100,000 excl. VAT per year, you must organise take-back at no cost for any customer purchasing an equivalent product from you. You must also inform the marketplace of these take-back conditions.
- For marketplaces: you must inform your customers of the possibility of free-ofcharge take-back of goods, as well as the conditions for the take-back of goods offered by the third-party seller.

#### 6.1.3 Tools to inform your customers and train your teams

Upstream, **a self-diagnosis kit** will help you identify your take-back obligations, based on your sales surface areas, the products concerned, your delivery turnover and the size of the products.

We can provide you with a range of tools to help you train your teams and ensure compliance:

- Trade-in clause, to include specific trade-in clauses in your General Terms and Conditions of Sale (GTCS),
- Communication kit for shops: memo for sales staff, posters and information for customers on trade-in,
- Educational documents for training your teams and
- **Ready-to-use texts** toupdate your tools, websites, FAQs and suggestions for publications for your social networks.

IMPORTANT: in the interests of transparency, you are obliged to inform your customers of your take-back procedure for used products before concluding any sale, whether online or in person. Class 5 penalties of up to €1,500 are provided for in the event of failure to provide information or organise take-back. For shops, you must display this information prominently on the shelves, in particular using the posters in our communication kit, and have your trade-in conditions available.



#### Good to know

For more information, to order your collection containers and communication kit, or to download the digital take-back kit, visit our dedicated page.

## **Collection and reuse**

#### 6.1.2 Collection solutions

Downstream, we supply you with containers and collection solutions. Depending on your volumes, Ecomaison can offer you several solutions.

#### How does it work?

Choose from a range of free collection services tailored to your needs: a dedicated container, access to local collection points, etc.

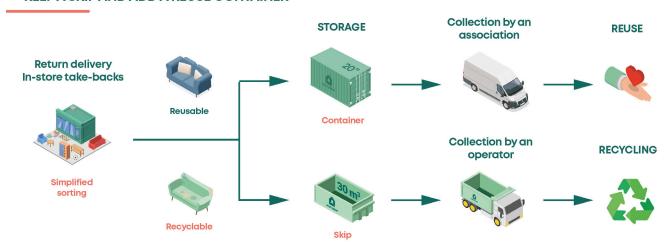


#### 6.1.3 New for 2024: reuse scheme

This year, Ecomaison is offering its members a new collection service for their used furniture, in partnership with social and charitable associations.

Depending on the collection system chosen, distributors and manufacturers may receive financial support from Ecomaison. All the information can be found on the dedicated page of our website

#### **KEEP A SKIP AND ADD A REUSE CONTAINER**



# **Collection and reuse**

#### 6.1.4 Ban on destroying unsold goods

#### Who is concerned?

Since 1 January 2022, manufacturers, distributors and marketplaces have been obliged to donate their unsold goods, in accordance with <u>Article L. 541-15-8 of the French Environmental Code</u>.



#### **Good to know**

Unsold products donated or sent for recycling must be accompanied by payment of the eco-participation to Ecomaison.



# **6.2 TRIMAN sorting signs**

**All companies placing** household products subject to the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme on the market are required to display the TRIMAN signs.

#### Where should these signs be displayed?

These signs consists of the TRIMAN logo and information on procedures for sorting or transferring waste resulting from the product, and must be provided **in close proximity to the product**:

- on the product,
- on the product's packaging,
- or in other documentation provided with the product.

Provision of information on the website remains possible, but does not replace inclusion on one of the three items mentioned above.

If the various components of the product are subject to different sorting procedures, these procedures shall be detailed for each of the components.

#### Three versions are available to suit your needs:

The choice of these signs is at the discretion of the manufacturer and depends on the type of product marketed.

The three versions are equivalent, and affixing them in close proximity to the product will ensure regulatory compliance.

#### Version for furniture specialists



A specific version for products considered to be furniture, with 3 pictograms indicating whether they should be donated to associations, taken back on delivery or sent to a waste collection centre.

#### - Version for generalists



A second general version, not specifically mentioning furniture, to be applied to other products.

#### - Version dedicated to curtains and nets



A version for curtains and nets with 4 pictograms, which also indicates that they should be taken to a textile container.

# **TRIMAN sorting signs**

#### What are the exceptions?

However, there are exceptions regarding the display of the TRIMAN logo and sorting information:

- If the surface area of the largest side of a product or its packaging is between 10 and 20 cm<sup>2</sup>: the sorting information can be provided online, but affixing of the TRIMAN logo remains mandatory.
- If the surface area of the largest side of a product or its packaging is less than 10 cm<sup>2</sup>: the TRIMAN instructions and the sorting information can be provided entirely online.

For cylindrical or spherical products or packaging, these surface areas of 10 and 20 cm<sup>2</sup> are increased to 20 and 40 cm<sup>2</sup>.

#### When should these regulations apply?

#### For furniture products, excluding decorative textile items:

From June 2023, the TRIMAN and the information must appear on all products marketed or on their packaging.

#### For decorative textile items:

From 26 August 2024, TRIMAN and the information must appear on all products marketed or on their packaging.

## 6.3 Prevention and eco-design

#### 6.3.1 Prevention and eco-design plan

"All producers are required to **draw up and implement a prevention and eco-design plan** intended to **reduce the use of non-renewable resources, increase the usage of recycled materials and enhance the recyclability of their products**".

This provision, which aims to accelerate initiatives in favour of the circular economy, is a major requirement for marketers.

You have two options for complying with your obligations.

#### 1. Drawing up of an individual prevention and eco-design plan

By selecting the individual plan, you undertake to draw up and implement a set of actions that reflect your company's eco-design strategy. This plan must include, at the very least, the eco-design factors targeted by the law.

#### 2. Affiliation to the joint prevention and eco-design plan for the channel concerned

By selecting the joint plan for the furniture channel, you undertake to take into account and implement a set of actions shared by all the players in the sector and validated by the representatives of your profession.



#### Good to know

Ecomaison has developed a number of tools to support you. On the dedicated page, you can download a template for drawing up an individual plan, a summary of the sector's prevention and eco-design plans and FAQs.

To join the joint plan or submit your individual plan, simply log on to the <u>Services Area</u>: "Draw up your prevention and eco-design plan" tab



## **Prevention and eco-design**

# 6.3.2 Consumer information and environmental claims

Displaying the environmental qualities and characteristics (Article 13 of the AGEC Law) is compulsory and should not be confused with the environmental display (Article 2 of the Climate and Resilience Act), which is voluntary but regulated until the publication of a decree specifying the timetable for application and the methods and procedures for calculation and display.

#### What does the law say?

"In order to improve consumer information, producers and importers of waste-generating products shall inform consumers, by marking, labelling, display, or any other appropriate process, of their environmental qualities and characteristics (..)".

#### What is the timetable for implementation?

The regulations provide for gradual implementation between 1 January 2023 and 1 January 2025 to allow everyone to get organised. The timetable for implementation is as follows:



Channels concerned as of 2023: Household packaging, printed paper, electrical and electronic equipment, batteries and accumulators, chemical content and containers, furniture components and textile products

These conditions are applied on the basis of the total number of products placed on the market under the Extended Producer Responsibility schemes during the last financial year. Find out more on our <u>dedicated page</u>.

#### What information must be displayed?

- The incorporation of recycled raw materials,
- The presence of hazardous substances (SVHCs),
- The recyclability of the product based on the Ecomaison calculation tool and the use of renewable resources for the building sector only.

# **Prevention and eco-design**

#### 6.3.3 "Innovation for Eco-design" programme

Discover the Ecomaison innovation programme for furniture manufacturer and distributor members. Every year, Ecomaison selects innovative eco-design solutions and presents them on Innovation Day. The Ecomaison eco-design team then supports its members in testing the feasibility of these innovative projects.

#### Meet the innovators

Every year, Ecomaison organises meetings between its members and a selection of innovators. These events provide an opportunity to (re)meet and talk to people who have developed unique and innovative solutions, which could be incorporated into eco-design projects.

#### Submit your eco-design project

Submit your eco-design project by applying to Agorize.

#### **Get support**

If your project is selected, you will benefit from our methodological and technical support for 6 months. A pilot project will enable us to study the feasibility of the project before it is launched on a larger scale. During this period, we'll help you to define and speed up your project, and gain autonomy in the eco-design process.

# **6.4 Repair Bonus scheme**

In accordance with the AGEC Law, Ecomaison has set up the Repair Bonus scheme for furniture products. This scheme is designed to encourage consumers to have their products repaired rather than disposing of them, by providing financial support that instantly reduces the costs.

#### Become a certified repairer and offer your customers a Repair Bonus.

The Seating and Bedding Repair Bonus was launched in May 2024 for:

- All fixed, mechanised or electric armchairs, all sofas, as well as all chairs, benches and stools.
- All bed bases, slatted frames and headboards.

It will gradually be extended to other product categories.

# In November 2024, the Furniture Repair Bonus was extended to cover all home and garden furniture:

- Kitchen worktops,
- Kitchen units and fittings,
- Fronts or doors in kitchens or fixtures and fittings and
- Furniture hardware and accessories.

#### Duty to inform the consumer about the Repair Fund requirement

**Since 1 July 2024,** and in accordance with Decree No. 2024-123 of 20 February 2024, distributors of furniture products have been required to inform their customers of the existence of a repair fund and the amount of the bonus.

Ecomaison can help you meet this obligation with **a dedicated digital** communication kit. The kit, available from ecomaison.com, consists of a poster and digital banners.



#### Good to know

Offer the Repair Bonus to your customers and find out how you can get involved in developing this service on our **dedicated page**.

If you have any specific questions, please contact bonus-reparation@ecomaison.com

Only repairers certified by Ecomaison will be able to pass on the repair bonus to their customers. If you are interested, submit your application online.



### 6.5 Rebates

Provided for in the sector's specifications for the new agreement from 2024 to 2029, the rebate offers the possibility of an end-of-year discount off your contribution for products that you recycle or reuse yourself.

- The rebate will benefit **members who do their own recycling**, without going through the Ecomaison circuit.
- Distributors or manufacturers who resell or donate second-hand products in dedicated outlets or on digital platforms, without going through Ecomaison partners, will be able to declare these products. They will then get discounts off their contributions.



Good to know

A rebates guide will shortly be available to all Ecomaison members.

# 6.6 Summary: the 10 key points

# for compliance

# **Ecomaison** membership

All producers and distributors of furniture products and decorative textile items are required to sign a contract with an eco-organisation in order to comply. You can sign up for the eco-participation scheme and declare the number of items placed on the market in the Services Area.

# 2 Unique identification number

This is your guarantee of regulatory compliance. Assigned once the contract has been signed with Ecomaison, it must be displayed directly in your General Terms and Conditions of Sale.

# Collection of the eco-participation

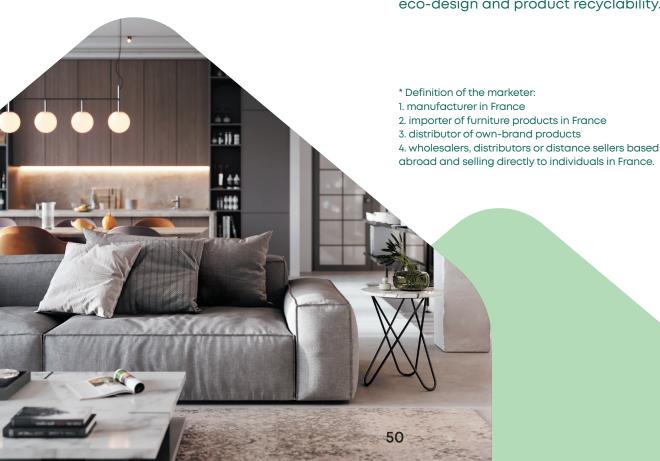
The eco-participation paid by manufacturers to Ecomaison finances the collection, reuse, repair, sorting and recycling of all used furniture in France.

The amount of the eco-participation must be shown on invoices and all other sales documents.

# Eco-participation scale

The eco-participation scale is eco-modulated to reflect the product's "circularity", and its amount varies according to the weight and recyclability of the material.

From 1 January 2025, Ecomaison is introducing new eco-modulations for its eco-participations, to promote eco-design and product recyclability.



# **5** Eco-participation declaration

Companies placing products on the market are obliged to declare their actual sales every quarter. There is, however, a dispensation scheme allowing small producers\*\* to declare annually. Eco-participation declarations are retroactive over 3 years and compulsory, even if the member has not collected eco-participations from its own customers.

# Take-back of used products

Shops must take back their customers' furniture, mattresses, textile decorations, etc. free of charge if they have more than 200 m² of sales area or from €100,000 excluding VAT for distance selling. 1-for-1 return of an equivalent product in store or on delivery. For sales areas over 1,000 m², the obligation extends to all products equivalent to those sold in the shop, with no obligation to purchase a new product. You can also donate your good-quality products to social and charitable associations.

# Display of the TRIMAN



To make it easier for consumers to understand the sorting instructions, companies are obliged to display the TRIMAN and the sorting signs provided by Ecomaison on the product, the packaging or the documents supplied with the product.

# **B** Environmental information

Producers, importers, distributors and other marketers of products worth more than €10 million and covered by one or more EPR\*\*\* schemes will gradually have to display certain information: incorporation of recycled materials, presence of hazardous substances and recyclability of products. From 1 January 2025, companies with a turnover of more than €10 million will be concerned.

# Prevention and eco-design plan

Each marketer is required to draw up this plan for a five-year period, after which it must be reviewed and a new 5-year plan drawn up. From 31 December 2023, each member must submit an individual plan or join the furniture sector plan.

# Unsold products

**Furniture retailers are banned from throwing away unsold goods** and must donate them to charities.

Discover all our solutions and services to help you achieve compliance on Ecomaison.com

<sup>\*\*</sup> Small producer: a company placing less than 15 tonnes on the market a year.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> List of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes from 2023: Household packaging, printed paper, electrical and electronic equipment, batteries and accumulators, chemical content and containers, furniture products and textiles.

Please get in touch if you have any questions: contact@ecomaison.com

Follow our latest news and events at https://ecomaison.com/en/actualites/and on our
X (formerly Twitter) and LinkedIn pages





