

Biodiversity Strategy



As a recognized international operator in the field of nuclear materials, Orano delivers solutions to address present and future global energy and health challenges.

Its expertise and mastery of cutting-edge technologies enable Orano to offer its customers high value-added products and services throughout the entire fuel cycle.

Every day, the Orano group's 17,000 employees draw on their skills, unwavering dedication to safety and constant quest for innovation, to develop know-how in the transformation and control of nuclear materials, for the climate and for a healthy and resource-efficient world, now and tomorrow.

Orano, giving nuclear energy its full value.

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Energy is our future, don't waste it !





Editorial by Philippe Knoche

Chief Executive Officer of Orano

Global biodiversity loss is closely linked to the current climate crisis. An extensive impact on biodiversity leads to depletion or deprivation of many ecosystem services such as reversed carbon sequestration, reduced climate change resilience, loss of health and recreational potential.

To halt the continuous loss of biodiversity, the global community is organising to ramp up public policy at local, national and international levels. The perspectives currently emerging in terms of commitments are based on the following:

- Definition of measurable goals (comparable to those, which have been used to fight climate change), including specific biodiversity metrics (based on biodiversity footprint assessments).
- The development of “land sobriety”, which is vital to the fight against degradation of natural habitats (the primary factor in pressure on biodiversity, and one of the major causes of its erosion). This translates into the concepts of “zero land take”, and “avoid and compensate”, with the aim of achieving “zero net loss” of biodiversity,
- Strengthening of extra-financial reporting to incorporate biodiversity protection to enable investors to focus on virtuous investments and motivate industry to avoid activities with severe impacts.

In line with its commitment to climate change and aware that the preservation of biodiversity is also essential to contribute to this objective, Orano wanted to define the main lines of its strategy for taking into account the protection of biodiversity, within the framework of an approach proportionate to the issues related to its various activities.



Vision of Laurence Gazagnes

HSE Director

« 3 words to remember:
AVOID, REDUCE and finally
COMPENSATE our possible
effects on biodiversity. »

Biodiversity Strategy

Orano is a major player in the nuclear industry whose purpose is to develop know-how in the transformation and control of nuclear materials for the climate, for a healthy and for a resource-efficient world, now and tomorrow

Orano, as a responsible industrialist and aware of this issue, has started by defining in 2021 a specific biodiversity strategy for its mining activities (the most concerned by issues around biodiversity), as part of its commitment to the ICMM.

Orano decided in 2022 to extend these commitments to the group, in the form of a **biodiversity strategy based on 3 axes:**

- preserve existing biodiversity,
- live with the biodiversity present on our sites and nearby,
- promote local biodiversity, and report on our actions on the subject.

All Involved

As an Orano employee, I take ownership of this strategy :

- I can identify the location of biodiversity hotspots on my site.
- I report to my manager any anomaly that could generate a risk for the environment or biodiversity (nuisance, pollution risks, etc.)

As manager of Orano, I deploy this strategy with commitment :

- I undertake to integrate into the activities under my responsibility the issues relating to the preservation of biodiversity and more particularly (for the projects in which I participate) that the ERC sequence (Avoid, Reduce, Compensate the effects) has been applied.
- I undertake to take account of anomalies reported by an employee and, if necessary, to deploy the means at my disposal to avoid, reduce or compensate for the effects of the anomaly detected (depending on its impact).



Preserving existing biodiversity

Our commitments and priorities for action

Preserving biodiversity

COMMITMENTS AIM FOR NO NET LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY

- **At local level:** systematically implement the Avoid Reduce Compensate (ARC) approach (with priority for avoidance and mine site restoration) for our projects, irrespective of their location (in France or elsewhere, on existing sites or in off-site areas affected by Orano operations).
- **At group level:** reduce the equivalent carbon footprint of our activities by 2030, in line with the Paris Agreement.

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

For all projects at our sites :

- Apply the ARC approach by avoiding siting projects in areas with significant challenges : carry out a prior ecological assessment and avoid areas with high biodiversity as much as possible.
- If impacts are unavoidable (for example, clearing natural areas for industrial land use), adopt a compensation approach in accordance with local regulations, or apply compensation on at least a 2:1 ratio in France ("2 trees planted for every 1 tree cut down" rule).
- Assess potential impacts of activities and projects on biodiversity, and provide an explicit demonstration that there are no significant risks to fauna and flora in corresponding sections of environmental risks assessments, in compliance with applicable local regulations (at least) and taking into account best management practices.

At Orano level :

- Test a biodiversity footprint assessment tool (GBS) to regularly assess our footprint in terms of "no net loss" and identify potential improvements.
- Reduce our direct and indirect (scopes 1 and 2) greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2025, (at comparable production and on a 2015 basis.)

Living alongside biodiversity present on our sites

Our commitments and priorities for action

Living alongside biodiversity

COMMITMENTS

BE CAPABLE OF « LIVING WITH » THE BIODIVERSITY PRESENT ON OR IN THE VICINITY OF OUR SITES, BY :

- Ensuring that we know about existing biodiversity,
- Assessing conservation challenges,
- Reducing our footprint, in particular through differentiated management plans for green spaces (on the sites concerned) that include the fight against invasive species.

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

For sites in operation :

- Perform regular monitoring of local ecosystems (using standardised methods) so that recent ecological assessments (<10 years) are available.

Ensure that all environmental risk assessment updates conclude that there is no significant risk to fauna and flore. Updates may be required for modifications of existing facilities, design reviews, etc. The risk assessment updates shall be based on current flora and fauna inventories, and/or ecotoxicological studies.

- Apply customized management of green spaces present at our sites considering local biodiversity challenges (preservation of ecologically important areas, selection of species for revegetation, regulations for pesticides/herbicides application, preservation of refuge areas, etc.) and measures for invasive species control.

For sites in the post-operation phase :

- Incorporate a biodiversity component into all new restoration plans, promoting local species and varieties to support the return to a balanced state of nature.

Carry out appropriate monitoring of post-restoration activities (for example, performance of “aquatic environment” inventories for mine drainage water from former mining sites)

Manage our land and forestry assets in a rational way (following cessation of mining operations in particular).





**Promote local biodiversity,
and report on our actions
on the subject**

Our commitments and priorities for action

Valuing biodiversity

COMMITMENT

**PROMOTE ACTIONS TO ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY, IN
COLLABORATION WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS,**

REPORTING ON OUR ACTIONS,

AND RAISE AWARENESS OF ITS PROTECTION

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

- Enhance areas of remarkable biodiversity present on our sites or in the immediate vicinity: enhancement actions (protection, maintenance, restoration via ecological engineering, ...), and promote partnerships and communication actions with stakeholders (elected officials / residents / associations ...). The implementation of an Orano project on these areas of remarkable biodiversity is to be avoided but remains possible (see ERC approach), and will be the subject of targeted communication to stakeholders.
- Raise awareness of biodiversity protection among our staff (advertorials, animations, thematic days, etc.) and encourage knowledge sharing with our stakeholders.



In practice, what does this mean?

Preserving biodiversity

"Preserving" means, for example, **deciding to voluntarily exclude**, for our mines abroad, to carry out our prospecting in **areas with high biodiversity stakes** (e.g. UNESCO zones).

But it also means carrying out systematic ecological diagnoses **before any project** in areas of interest for biodiversity, such as In La Hague's site, to identify any protected species present.

And, in cases where residual impacts cannot be avoided, it is finally to be able to carry out appropriate environmental compensation actions, sometimes on a large scale, as in Kazakhstan and Mongolia where planting programs of several million trees are planned in the long term.

Living with biodiversity

"Living with" means being able to coexist with the biodiversity present on our sites or nearby. For example, it means adapting to Tricastin site our methods of managing green spaces according to local biodiversity issues, by spacing the mowing of certain lawns with specific stakes, by avoiding the cutting of cavity trees for birds, or simply by valuing the wood cut as insect hotels ...

But it is also, in our former uranium mines in France, to ensure specific monitoring of certain species that find refuge on our sites (example: Peregrine Falcon), or to leave an open space for bats when we decide to close old underground galleries.

Valuing biodiversity

Finally, "valuing and reporting" means, for example, proposing an ecological development of the former Regulation Basin in Malvézi, in partnership with a company specializing in biodiversity, or redeveloping our sites by integrating the biodiversity issue.

But it also means making our staff aware of the biodiversity present on our sites, through actions intended to raise awareness of its value, and to report on local issues and actions carried out in our relations with our stakeholders.

Examples of species present on our sites