

ECODESIGN

GRI Standards :

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The ecodesign concept is an approach that aim to improve the environmental performance of a product or service at design stages, throughout its whole Life Cycle. It is based on a holistic approach who consider:

- All steps of the Life Cycle (Raw materials, Manufacturing, Packaging, Distribution, Use, End of Life)
- Multi-criteria indicators (Climate change, Ecosystems, Resources, Water, Human health)
- Reduction of the Environmental impacts in a global perspective

Sanofi believes that implementing projects to promote Ecodesign principles can foster innovation, reduce costs and decrease the environmental impact of its activities while developing the social dimension of its projects.

Fully integrated in our “Planet Mobilization” roadmap and one of our Corporate Social Responsibility flagships, Ecodesign principles span all aspects of our environmental strategy. It also contributes to the Circular Economy principles of the European Union and the Sustainable Development Goals n°12 of the United Nations.

Many projects are already implemented with this mindset such as improving our supply chain sustainability, fostering a responsible consumption of raw materials, energy, or water for manufacturing activities, or promoting a responsible use of medicines by patients.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. BACKGROUND	3
2. ACTIONS	3
2.1. Defining Sanofi’s environmental roadmap	3
2.2. Implementing a sustainable supply chain	4
2.3. Limiting the environmental impact of our medicines	4
2.4. Industrial and territorial ecology: sharing resources with local communities	4
2.5. Encouraging the responsible use of our medicines	5
2.6. Reusing and recovering raw materials such as solvents and water	5

1. BACKGROUND

Sanofi believes that implementing projects to promote Ecodesign principles can foster innovation, reduce costs and decrease the environmental impact of its activities.

This is a great challenge for the pharmaceutical sector since medicines and vaccines are not ordinary goods; they must meet many different regulatory requirements to guarantee the quality of each unit sold. Marketing authorization for medicines and vaccines requires the approval of the Health authorities for manufacturing procedures with regards to quality, as well as strict safety standards for active ingredients, excipients, medical devices and packaging materials.

The Health authorities must also approve any significant change in the processes, substances or materials used to manufacture a drug or vaccine, including the environmental risk assessment. Sanofi integrates environmental aspects when developing and manufacturing medicines.

Ecodesigning medicinal products implies to address many challenges. However, Sanofi strongly believes that this is part of the responsibility of a healthcare company to ensure the best environmental profile of products for the patients and the planet.

Thanks to the many case-by-case initiatives implemented worldwide as part of our environmental strategy, Sanofi already complies with many of the Ecodesign principles such as:

- A sustainable supply chain
- Encouraging industrial and territorial ecology to optimize resources management in collaboration with several local economic partners
- Responsible consumption by promoting better use of our products including the proper disposal of our products after use by patients
- Reuse, Reduce & Recycle

In addition, Sanofi is involved in many associations in our industry to develop solutions that respect the principles of Ecodesign & circular economy and to share practices with our stakeholders.

2. ACTIONS

2.1. Defining Sanofi's environmental roadmap

	Our objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">Eco-design all our new products by 2025100% blister-free vaccines by 2027Eco-design top selling products by 2030	Global Performance 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Vaccine's packaging designed by replacing PVC-Alu-blister by a simple card boxLife Cycle Assessment performed on medicines and medical devices
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In 2015, Sanofi set out to define a new and ambitious environmental strategy across its entire value chain by deploying the "Planet Mobilization" program.

The objective was to define a roadmap to better integrate the environmental management system into the company's decision-making process, especially by considering Ecodesign as a major component of our environmental and economic approach.

This project has received the support of the company's senior management and is organized around numerous workshops to bring together the expertise of many internal and external stakeholders. This initiative aims to make Sanofi a leader of environmental management within the pharmaceutical industry by 2025.

2.2. Implementing a sustainable supply chain

Sanofi's transportation strategy is to guarantee the continuous supply of drugs and vaccines to our patients without any disruption. In order to minimize its environmental footprint, Sanofi's Transportation Department has already engaged actions with the following approaches:

- Choose sea instead of air transportation for long-distance shipments.
- Increase the level of occupancy for truck and sea containers.
- Develop railway transportation.
- Consolidate flows and mutualize transport to reduce the number of trucks on the road.

Opportunities and examples of sustainable supply chain for raw materials and finished goods are presented in the Transporting Medicines and Vaccines factsheet.

2.3. Limiting the environmental impact of our medicines

In order to better understand the environmental impact of medicines, Sanofi conducts life cycle analysis on key products, develops tools and performance indicators. This approach allows us to be more efficient on action plans.

It is crucial that these improvements take place at the earliest stages of designing manufacturing processes, as it is often difficult to change them later on.

Since 2013, Sanofi has developed an internal standard to guide teams when choosing solvents based on the following principles:

- Select the least toxic solvents
- Reduce the amount of solvents used
- Encourage the use of recycled solvents when possible

Opportunities and examples of ecodesign in chemistry are presented in the Green Chemistry factsheet.

In addition, Sanofi strives to reduce the consumption of packaging materials for many of its products. Studies are performed in order to limit the size of packaging, which reduces the amount of cardboard, PVC and aluminum consumed. This helps to increase the number of boxes transported per pallet and optimizes the occupation of the selected means of transport (trucks, river barges, etc.). Opportunities and examples of ecodesign in packaging are presented in the Responsible Packaging factsheet.

2.4. Industrial and territorial ecology: sharing resources with local communities

Sanofi promotes local economic development by encouraging the sharing of infrastructures that are necessary for the manufacture of vaccines and drugs, and by promoting projects to share materials with local economic players.

At Val De Reuil, Veolia received a green light beginning of 2020 to build a biomass combustion unit for the industrial platform. This plant will use wood-waste to produce a decarbonized steam. This steam will be used by three different industrials.

At Aramon (Gard), after the phase-out of a fossil-fuel electrical power plant, a cluster “Clean Tech Valley” has been created with EDF, SANOFI, ADEME. A wide 4 MW photovoltaic solar plant has been signed.

2.5. Encouraging the responsible use of our medicines

Many initiatives have been developed to raise awareness among citizens about the proper use of medicines as part of responsible consumption in order to ensure patient safety, to limit wastes and to reduce emissions of pharmaceutical residues to the environment.

These actions are complemented by an active support to take-back programs to ensure a proper disposal of unused medicines in many countries in Europe, Asia, North America and South America.

More information is available in the Pharmaceutical in the Environment factsheet.

2.6. Reusing and recovering raw materials such as solvents and water

A significant proportion of Sanofi industrial waste (45%) is recycled, representing 110 000 tons in 2020.

In each of our facilities, Sanofi also systematically collects and sorts many types of waste (excluding industrial waste) such as batteries, paper, plastic, ink cartridges, catering waste, etc., for recycling or recovery by local waste management services.

Opportunities of waste and wastewater recycling are presented in the Waste Management and the Water Resource Management factsheets.

For more information, see in our [Document Center](#):

- Waste Management factsheet
- A Responsible and Sustainable Chemistry factsheet
- Carbon Footprint (scope 1, 2 &3) factsheet
- Water Stewardship factsheet
- Pharmaceuticals in the Environment factsheet
- Responsible Packaging factsheet
- Transporting Medicines and Vaccines factsheet