

FOUNDATION & MISSIONS

Since January 2018, **ecosystem** combines the activities of Eco-systèmes for household WEEE and Récylum for lighting equipment, professional WEEE and small fire extinguishers. **ecosystem** therefore benefits from the decade-long expertise of Eco-systèmes and Récylum in the WEEE sector.

ecosystem is a non-profit organisation accredited by the French Authorities. In accordance with French and European regulations, **ecosystem** carries out a mission of public interest, i.e. the deployment throughout France of a system for collection, depollution and recycling of household and professional WEEE, lighting equipment and small fire extinguishers.

MODEL & OBJECTIVES

Since the implementation of the WEEE Directive, **ecosystem** advocates a high value-added environmental, technological and social model. This vision contributes to the development of a particularly efficient, innovative and job-creating French circular economy. Therefore, **ecosystem** is strongly committed to developing activities to facilitate preparation for reuse.

This model also provides a framework to develop relations with producers in order to help integrate end-of-life issues in eco-design. **ecosystem** has also been leading the implementation of comprehensive controls and audits – including WEEELABEX standards and CENELEC norms – at the sites of its treatment operators to measure the quality of depollution and recycling operations.

The European WEEE Directive requires that in 2020 every take-back organisation collects the equivalent of 65% of the weight of the appliances placed on the market by its members based on the average of the 3 previous years. In 2018, **ecosystem** overall collection rate for household WEEE was 51% with more than 570,000 tonnes of household WEEE collected and the equivalent of 10.8kg/inhabitant. **ecosystem** overall collection rate for lamps was 42% with more than 49 million light bulbs collected.

COLLECTION SYSTEM

ecosystem has set services to collect WEEE among different channels:

- Retailers,
- Municipalities,
- Social economy,
- Waste management companies (scrap dealers, car shredder operators, recycling companies...),
- Professional users of professional EEE.

LEGAL BACKGROUND

The 2012/19/UE Directive published on the 24 July 2012 have been transposed into French law through a decree on the 19 August 2014. It includes obligations for:

Producers:

- To finance the take-back and the ecological treatment of WEEE according to their current market share for historical WEEE,
- To guarantee the financing of the take-back and treatment of products put on the market.

• Retailers:

- To take back household WEEE free of charge on a one-to-one basis,
- For stores with an EEE sale space superior to 400sqm, to take back very small household WEEE free of charge on a one-to-zero basis.

On a voluntary basis, local authorities and municipalities can organize a selective collection of household WEEE, lighting equipment and small fire extinguishers.

On the 1 January 2018, the accreditations of Eco-systèmes and Récylum from the French Ministry of Ecology and Solidarity Transition were transferred to **ecosystem**. The accreditations' decrees can be consulted here:

- Household WEEE
- Professional WEEE
- Lighting equipment
- Small fire extinguishers

WEEE CATEGORIES COVERED

ecosystem covers 10 categories of household equipment listed in the European Directive:

- 1. Large household appliances
- 2. Small household appliances
- 3. IT and telecommunications equipment
- 4. Consumer equipment
- 5. Lighting equipment
- 6. Electrical and electronic tools
- 7. Toys, leisure and sports equipment
- 8. Medical devices
- 9. Monitoring and control instruments
- 10. Automatic dispensers

In addition, **ecosystem** covers 7 categories of professional equipment:

- 1 & 2. Small and large equipment
- 5. Lighting equipment
- 6. Electrical and electronic tools
- 8. Medical devices
- 9. Monitoring and control instruments
- 10. Automatic dispensers

ecosystem also covers the small fire extinguishing devices under 2kg, regarding the household hazardous waste (HHW) sector.

MEMBERS

In 2018, **ecosystem** has 3,910 producer members:

- 2,096 of them operated household WEEE,
- 1,585 of them operated professional WEEE,
- 829 of them operated lighting equipment,
- 22 of them operated small fire extinguishers.

FINANCING SYSTEM

ecosystem is financed by a fee levied on producers, calculated on products put on the market. This fee is calculated in €/unit per type of product in order to cover the operational and administrative costs of the collected products. At the same time, this fee is transferred by the producers to the retailers and then by the retailers to the final customers. This contribution is visible for the customer and the amount is identical from the producer to the customer, thus guaranteeing transparency and a non-lucrative scheme.

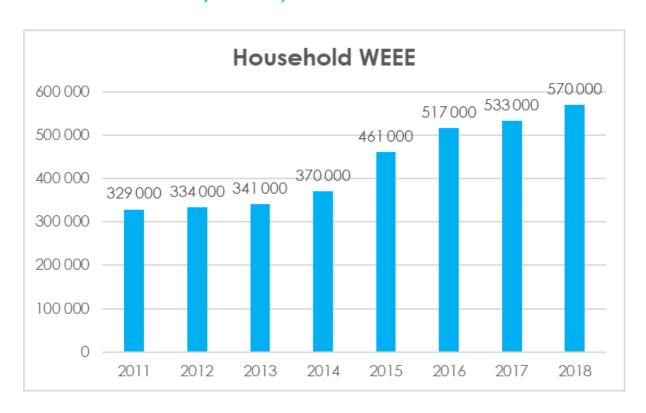
LOGISTICS & TREATMENT OPERATORS

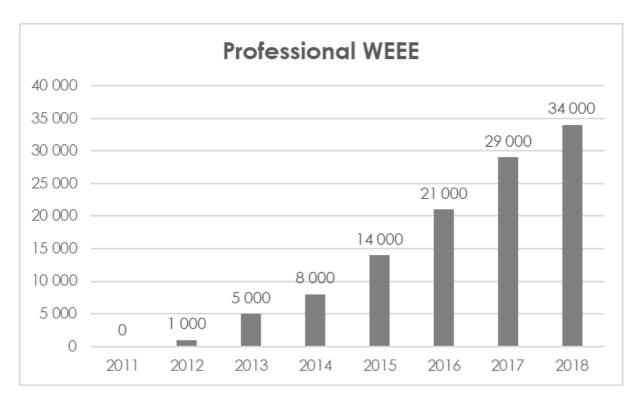
The operators are selected through call for tenders, splitted in the following different activities:

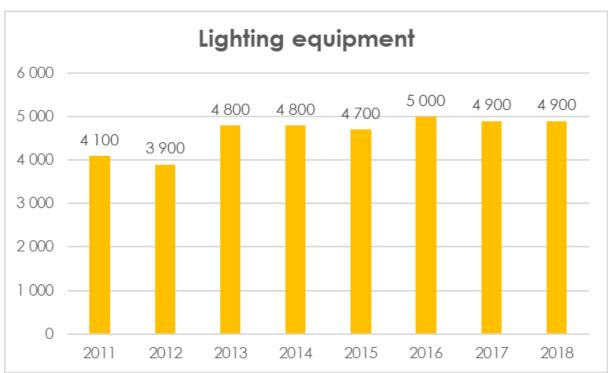
- Logistic and storage (household WEEE, professional WEEE, lamps, small fire extinguishers),
- Transport (separated per streams: LHA cold, LHA excluding cold, SHA, screens, lamps, small fire extinguishers),
- Treatment (separated per streams).

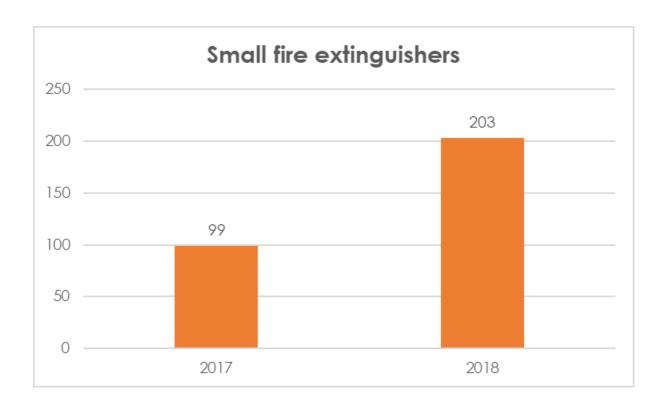
ecosystem commits to provide minimum volumes of end-of-life equipment to its operators, including a flexibility to allocate additional volume based on a cost optimisation.

AMOUNTS COLLECTED (in tonnes)









ANNUAL REPORTS

For more information about the environmental, financial and social results of **ecosystem**'s operations, you can refer to: <u>ecosystem annual report</u>

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