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## **Growing RDF market in France**

**France has decided to set up heating plants for the thermal recovery of refuse-derived fuels. Six projects with a gross heat production of more than 150 MW are already being funded. Further funding rounds are in preparation.**

The law on the "Energy transition for a green economy", adopted in summer 2015, has redefined the importance of thermal waste recovery in France.

Above all, the energetic utilization of refuse-derived fuels (RDF) is to become a mainstay of French waste management. At the same time, the generation of energy from waste plays a key role in achieving a higher market share of renewable energies.

Up to now, RDF have been used exclusively in the cement industry as an alternative to fossil fuels. The capacities of these cement kilns, however, are by no means sufficient for the planned growth. On the whole, the thermal utilization of RDF in France is expected to rise by more than 2 million tonnes per year by 2025. RDF power plants or heating plants have not been operational in France so far.

The focus of the new policy is, in particular, on non-recyclable sorting residues from mechanical-biological plants (MBTs) as well as from sorting plants for dry materials from household collection and commercial & industrial (C&I) waste.

The increase in the thermal utilization of RDF is mainly promoted through dedicated auctions for RDF power plants within the framework of the French renewable energy policy. Other funding pools, for example within the framework of the so-called "Heat Fund", are also available.

Six RDF projects with a gross heat production of more than 150 MW are already being supported, with further invitations to tender to follow in the coming months. Altogether, there are currently around 700 MBTs or sorting plants which are recognized as potential RDF producers. Further investments in plant assets are expected in the future as material recycling in France is also being expanded.

Against this background, ecoprogram has investigated the market for RDF in France in detail. The market report "The market for refuse-derived fuels in France" is now available for ordering from [www.ecoprogram.de](http://www.ecoprogram.de).

As a recognized industry insider, the Cologne-based consulting company ecoprogram guides domestic and foreign customers on implementation-oriented management questions in environmental and energy technologies. The focus of ecoprogram is on strategy consulting, market and competitor analysis as well as multi-client studies.