



## ASSOCIATION 4D

### Debates on the Do's and Don'ts of Sustainable Development

[www.association4d.org](http://www.association4d.org)

### Promote the sustainable development from local to global

It was back in 1993, following the Rio Earth Summit, that **Association 4D** was created in order to set up a **citizen network to promote sustainable development** and to keep track of the commitments made by France as well as the other UN member States.

Association 4D encourages the **sharing of information, knowledge and experiences** through the **networking of local and global stakeholders** : public authorities, territorial communities, unions, NGOs, expert networks, research institutes, companies involved in social and environmental concern, European and international institutions. All the themes that Association 4D works on have an international dimension, but are also fully coherent with the actions undertaken at all levels of society. Indeed, 4D has always considered the territorial approach, as well as working with local citizens, essential.

According to Association 4D, sustainable development requires three fundamental references:

**Respect** of nature, the living world and human rights

**Understanding** of control, technique, non destructive behaviours, efficiency and not only monetary criteria

**Sharing** of resources, means and decision making

## Contact

### Association 4D

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## Meeting the challenge

Association 4D has an historical relation with the global scale. In 2002, the association ensured French civil society organisations coordination during Sustainable development world summit in **Johannesburg**. This **implication on the international scene** was blended together with the insight that important global commitments would not be reached without local support.

**Local approach**, together with citizens, is absolutely necessary. It is in this relation at grassroots level, as in its contact with searchers, that Association 4D drew most of its knowledge and know-how. It is firmly believed that citizen participation is absolutely necessary in any project whose aim is sustainable development. Similarly, the building of sustainable development strategies can also contribute to renovate democracy.

**Threats against humanity are a challenge to its own survival. Paradoxically, human beings have never got so much knowledge and tools to reverse and change the world, in order to reach sustainable developed civilisation.**

*4D is a founding member of Réseau Action Climat France (Climate Action Network France), is a member of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), of OECD Watch, of ANPED-The Northern Alliance for Sustainability, of the Centre for Research and Information on Development (CRID), of Coordination Sud and of International Office for Water. 4D facilitates a "network committee" which enables to work with organisations such as ECOPOLE, APDD, ASTS, Comité 21, Orée, CLER, Fondation Alles.*

**Local authorities, associations, searchers, research institutes, and a great number of individuals are among 4D's subscribers.**

## Principal themes of interest

**Sustainable urban development / Local Agenda 21**

**Climate changes / Energy**

**Local democracy / participation / citizenship**

**European and international governance**

## The activities

**Local approach and trainings:** studies and tutoring for local authorities



National Local Agenda 21 and sustainable development local practices  
**Observatory**

**4D gets involved** in France, Europe and all over the world



**Sustainable development encyclopaedia**  
Matter to think and act

**4D's debates:** a cycle of seminar-conferences: 4D's Tuesdays in Paris and Montpellier



The **René Dumont Centre**, a resource centre on environment and development