



MODULE 16

The impact of digital technology on the environment



Digital technology now accounts for 4% of greenhouse gases emitted each year, so the impact is huge! It is important to know how to protect our planet and reduce our digital pollution.

But don't panic, thanks to this module you will discover the good reflexes that you can adopt and manage your equipment as best as possible.

1 Good habits

In this chapter you will discover:

- The impact of chargers that stay plugged in
- The environmental impact of emails
- The importance of cleaning your mailbox
- The importance of limiting open tabs
- Why turn off your devices
- The environmental impact of the cloud



Discover the [explanatory sheet 1](#)

2 Waste management and recycling

In this chapter you will discover:

- The different stages of recycling management
- Classification of digital waste



Discover the [explanatory sheet 2](#)

DIFFICULTY



REQUIREMENTS

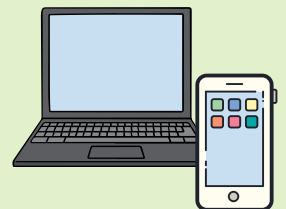
None!

DURATION



15 min

HARDWARE



Nothing more than your device to view the documents and an internet connection

Practice!

Reducing digital pollution (and pollution in general!) means first buying less, buying better! Here is a little test to see if it is necessary for you to make a purchase or not, you can use it whenever you want!



[Take the test!](#)

The environmental impact of digital technology and your profession



Here are some situations from your daily life where this module could be useful to you:

Be attentive to the environmental impact of your online actions

Have you received a phone or have access to an email account through your work? The good habits suggested in chapter 2 allow you to implement simple actions to protect the environment. Unplugging chargers, turning off your devices instead of putting them on standby, are all actions that will reduce the environmental impact of digital technology. Don't hesitate to share these tips with the supported people and raise their awareness of this issue.

Understanding digital device recycling

A faulty or broken digital device should not be thrown in the trash like that, sorting rules must be respected. Thanks to this module, you will be able to understand these rules and how digital device recycling works in order to make the right choices when the time comes.

Offer reconditioning

Sometimes your beneficiaries would like to buy a device but the price can be very high. By understanding what a refurbished device is and looking at the different options and guarantees with the supported people, you can help them make safe and environmentally friendly purchasing choices.

To go further...

Want to know more about online scams?

Here is a compilation of resources to help you delve deeper into this module!

- "And nobody cares"



[Watch the video](#)

- "Digital pollution - MInute MAJ"



[Watch the video](#)

- White paper of the European TEDDA project - p33



[View PDF](#)

- The carbon footprint of digital technology represented 3 to 4% of global GHG emissions in 2022, source ADEME



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- 5 tips to reduce your digital footprint, UNICEF



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- The entry into force of the sustainability index in France in 2024



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