

In Rouen, ANDES inaugurates a new warehouse to cope with ever-increasing numbers of beneficiaries and fragile supplies for food aid

The National Association for the Development of Solidarity Grocery Stores (ANDES), a major player in the fight against food insecurity, operates through two complementary centers: a national network of more than 500 solidarity grocery stores and five integration projects. The objective of the integration projects: to meet the growing need for food aid products while promoting a return to employment and combating food waste.

In recent months, the crises we have experienced – climatic, geopolitical, health – have not only had a significant impact on the purchasing power of the poorest, but have also weakened the functioning of food aid structures.

- **72%** of ANDES solidarity grocery stores are seeing an increase in the number of beneficiaries in 2022.
- More than **90%** of grocery stores are experiencing a weakening of their supply, particularly due to rising prices.
- More than **38%** of solidarity grocery stores have had to reduce the quantities and/or quality of foodstuffs proposed to deal with the situation.

Given this observation, and to support a rapidly growing network (now reaching more than 500 solidarity grocery stores), it is essential to develop innovative supply solutions.

To do this, **ANDES is the winner of the first "Circular Economy Impact Contract" supported by ADEME.** In the final phase of contractual negotiation, this contract aims to create 2 new integration projects. **The first opened its doors today in the Rouen wholesale market.**

The ANDES integration project in Rouen will enable **the recovery of unsold goods** from wholesalers and producers, their recovery and **their redistribution to food aid associations**, including the solidarity grocery stores of Normandy. These activities are carried out by **employees in integration**, who benefit from support with a view to returning to sustainable employment. In addition to **limiting food waste**, the integration projects help **diversify the diet of vulnerable populations**, by making fresh fruit and vegetables accessible to as many people as possible.

Objectives during the duration of the impact contract:

- Distribute at least **1,400 tonnes of fresh fruit and vegetables**, including more than 500 tonnes from fight against food waste
- Have **at least 10% of our purchases in local and/or organic products** and 10% purchased directly from producers
- Welcome and support **125 people on the integration path**

We warmly thank the Marché d'Intérêt National and the Métropole de Rouen Normandie for hosting and supporting this new ANDES integration project. We also thank all the partners for their trust and support in the realization of this project, in particular ADEME, DRAAF Normandie, DDETS, Ferrero France, Carniato, Crédit Agricole, the Peters Foundation supervised by the King Baudouin Foundation and Socaps Fund.



Ribbon cutting performed by,
from left to right:
Christophe BORDIN of Ferrero,
Noam LEANDRI of the ADEME,
Abdelkrim MARCHANI of the MIN of
Rouen,
Beatrice BAYER from Crédit Agricole,
Yann AUGER et Guillaume DUMOULIN
d'ANDES

ANDES integration projects in a few key figures:

- 5 integration projects located in Rungis, Lille, Perpignan, Marseille and Rouen
- 4,500 tonnes of food distributed in 2022, the equivalent of 9 million meals
- More than 200 employees in integration supported in 2022
- 76% of employees supported found a job or training following to their accompaniment

"Very happy with the outcome of this project which provides concrete solutions to solidarity grocery stores and food solidarity stakeholders in Normandy. It is also the beginning of a new dynamic to complete our territorial network and help as many grocery stores in our network as possible." - Yann AUGER, general manager of ANDES



Speeches and interventions by ANDES partners

The ANDES network's solidarity grocery stores are friendly and welcoming places to allow everyone to have access to a varied and quality food supply.

In solidarity grocery stores, as in a local store, beneficiaries make their purchases freely, **paying on average 80% less** than market prices. This financial contribution is one of the key elements contributing to **preserving their dignity**. Beneficiaries are also invited to participate in the operation of the grocery store as well as in the **many workshops and moments of exchange** that are organized there. More than **15,000 workshops and activities** are set up each year by the **8,000 volunteers and employees of the ANDES network**, on themes related to food, but also on health in general, well-being, culture, job search, budget management, etc. More than just stores, solidarity grocery stores therefore become **places that create connections, experiences and learning**, intended to help beneficiaries get back on their feet and regain their autonomy.

The “Circular Economy” impact contract, a new form of public-private financing serving social and environmental causes

The impact contract is a **partnership between the public and private sectors to promote the emergence of innovative social and environmental projects** that can scale up effective solutions to problems identified on the ground. Under this financing mechanism, public/private investors pre-finance the project and take the risk of failure in exchange for remuneration provided in advance in the event of success. ADEME only reimburses these investors based on the results actually obtained by the project and objectively observed by an independent evaluator. BNP Paribas supports ANDES in the structuring and negotiation of this impact contract.

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