



**Non-polluting energy sources are a crucial challenge for tomorrow's world. Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes has been developing expertise on this issue for a long time and this has enabled the region to build up a dynamic, innovative sector.**



## SPECIFIC FEATURES AND STRENGTHS OF THE SECTOR

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is singled out for hydroelectricity, hydrogen and solar power. The development of green energy sources is longstanding in the region. **Hydroelectric power was developed in the mountain areas (in Isère and Savoie) several hundred years ago**. The possibility of producing hydroelectric power attracted companies.

In Savoie, the presence of **INES - Institut National d'Énergie Solaire (National Solar Energy Institute)** – is a driver of research and innovation in the sector. This Institute ranks among the top three world leaders in research and development on this matter.

The **Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region is a leader in green energy**, with a broad network of industrial and scientific players who cover the sector's whole value chain. All the non-polluting energy sources are represented in the region, including hydroelectricity, solar power, methanation, wind power and hydrogen.

From very small enterprises to major companies, all types of businesses belong in the region.

**Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes pools 19% of French patents for the sector.**

Several research establishments enable the region to be singled out for green energy sources.

Innovation is central to the sector in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes. For example, it is ranked #1 in France for biomethane and biogas technology building blocks in terms of numbers of companies.

Low Emission Zones (LEZs) are encouraging **new forms of mobility and innovation in terms of green energy.**

The ZEV project (Zero Emission Valley) will make the hydrogen sector an area of excellence. 20 hydrogen refuelling stations and 1,000 vehicles are to be rolled out in the territory.

In Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, several investment funds specialised in energy transition are present and support green companies.

Green initiatives are seen at every level: **over half of the region's population is committed to a "zero net energy territory" approach** (known in French as TEPOS). Voluntary pilot territories have begun a transition initiative to achieve energy balance by 2050.

The sector is also spurred on by the presence of various **clusters, laboratories and top-ranking higher education establishments known as "grandes écoles"** in the territory.

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is a region with diverse natural areas (mountains, the countryside, lakes, etc.) that are very welcoming to ecologically aware entrepreneurs.



## KEY FIGURES

### FOR THE SECTOR

- **#5 region in Europe for the sector**
- **Over 20,000 jobs**
- **19% of French patents**

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## MAIN AREAS OF ACTIVITY IN THE SECTOR

- Hydrogen
- Hydraulic equipment
- Engineering and design offices and installers
- Energy-efficient smart buildings
- Wind power
- Geothermal energy and agricultural methanation
- Concentrating solar power equipment
- Energy storage conversion
- Wood energy
- Electricity users and producers
- Solar thermal collectors
- Decarbonisation of transport

## JOBS AND TRAINING

THE SECTOR EMPLOYS MORE THAN

# 20,000 PEOPLE

**Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes has a wide range of “grandes écoles” that train future talent:** Ecole des Mines (Saint-Etienne), INSA Lyon, Grenoble INP, Polytech Annecy-Chambéry.

INES, Institut National de l’Energie Solaire, also offers training courses and debriefings for professionals.

## THE SECTOR’S ECOSYSTEM



Centre of excellence Tenerrdis brings together those involved in the sector.



**Several other centres of excellence and clusters contribute to its momentum:** Axelera, Minalogic, Eco énergies.



## COMPANIES ESTABLISHED

IN AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES



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