Certain wastes have been listed as having a major impact on both sides of the Pyrenees - animal fats and residues of lindane; a pesticide banned in 2009 by the Stockholm Convention considered to be a persistent organic pollutant and stored in Huesca. Currently, the treatment of fatty waste is responsible for a significant emission of carbon dioxide (associated with its combustion). Yet, the storage of lindane and its derivatives in the Pyrenees also represents a major challenge in terms of environmental protection given its toxicity and its persistence (100 years). Therefore, the upgrading of these wastes represents a current challenge for sustainable development.

TRIPyr is an inter-regional European project aimed at improving the treatment, management and upgrading of industrial wastes. To achieve this goal, the project relies on a circular economy concept in which the waste generated is used as raw material, for the production of high value-added products used in the material sector or fine chemical and medicinal chemical sectors. For this, the technological objectives of the project include the development of catalytic processes at the laboratory scale and then the validation of these methods on a pilot scale for their industrialization, on the basis of sustainable chemistry. Its purpose is to contribute to the protection of the environment by promoting the life cycle of waste and toxic products, and boosting the economy of the trans-Pyrenean regions.

"The recovery of industrial wastes represents a current challenge for sustainable development"