



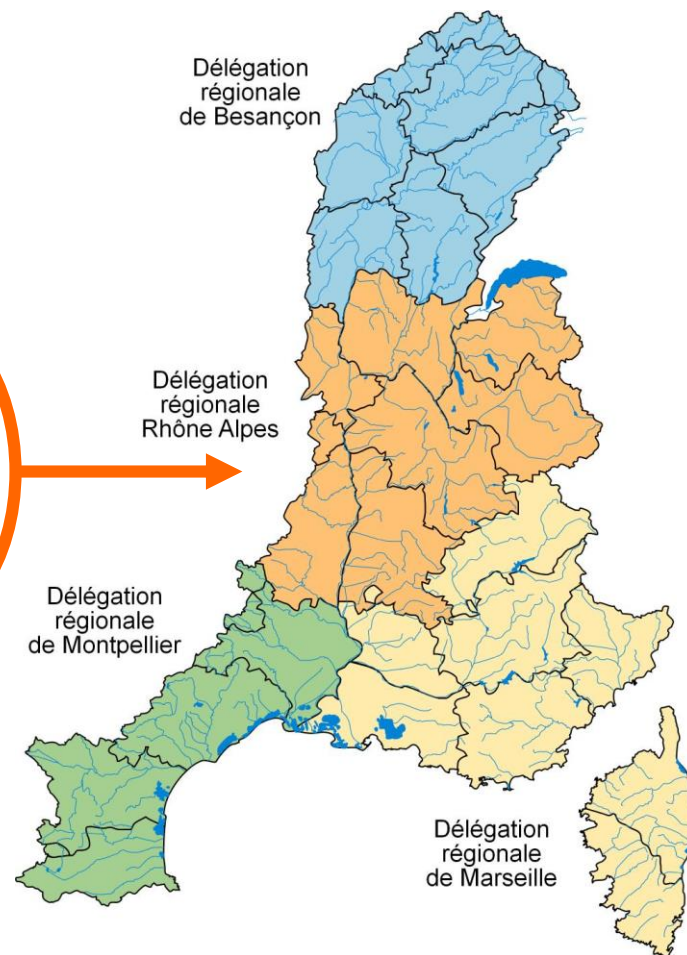
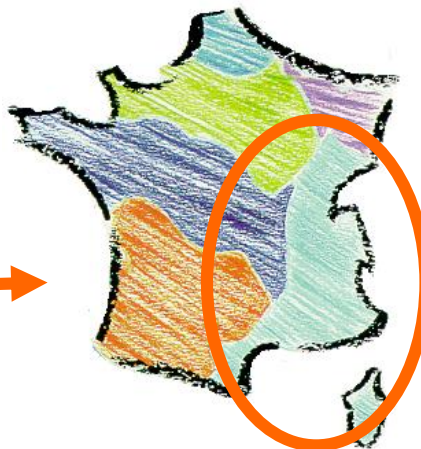
French water integrated basin management

THE RHÔNE MEDITERRANEAN CORSICA WATER AGENCY

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(Lyon – France)

May, 2017



 **LES
AGENCES
DE L'EAU**

ÉTABLISSEMENTS PUBLICS DU MINISTÈRE
EN CHARGE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE



**SAUVONS
L'EAU!**

French water policy (I)

1964 – First Water Law

- Decentralized and concerted management
- Creation of Water agencies and their basin committees

1992 – Water as « common heritage of the Nation »

- Creation of planning tools : SDAGE (Masterplan for Water Development and Management)

2000 – European framework directive on water

- Objective for good status 2015, 2021, 2027

2006 – Law on water and aquatic environments

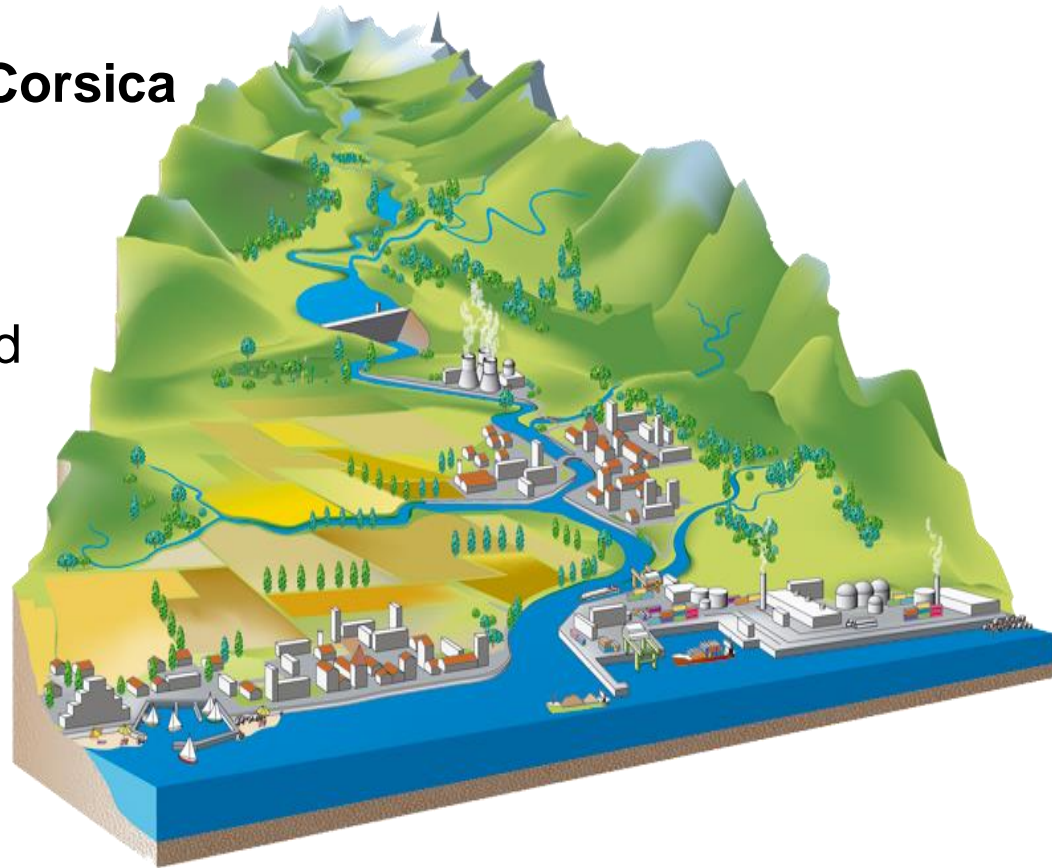
- Strengthen basin committees role and reform taxes

2009 – Grenelle laws

- Strengthen environmental goals of the 2006 law

The Rhône Mediterranean Corsica Water Agency

- **Two watersheds:**
 - Rhône Mediterranean and Corsica**
- 14 million inhabitants,
- 25% of French territory,
- 20% of national agriculture and industry,
- 13 000 km of rivers ,
- The Rhône, 1st French river:
 - 1700 m³/s at the river mouth
- 350 employees,
- 4 local subdivisions,
- Budget: 500 M€ per year in average.



Ensure a public service mission :

- A public institution of the **Ministry of ecology**.
- Main goal: achieve **good chemical and ecological status for all** surface, ground and coastal waters (EU Water Framework Directive from 2000).
- An economic system which **collects taxes and provides funds for actions** that preserve water resources and aquatic bodies.
- **Geographical boundaries**: Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica watersheds.
- A water stakeholders community, a shared challenge: **save water!**

An economic system

The water agency

collects

taxes

**In compliance with the
« polluter pays » principle**

- Pollution
- Withdrawals
- Others (fishing, protection products, obstacles, storage)

The water agency

pay

aid

to basin stakeholders to:

- Fight against pollution
- Protect and manage water resources
- Enhance water resources knowledge
- Studies, constructions, sensitization

Why seek to achieve good water status?

Healthy wetlands provide sustainable services:

- **Human health** : drinking water, fishing and shellfish aquaculture, bathing
- **Flooding risks** : an operational river reduces flooding risks
- **Biodiversity**
- **Economic activities**
 - Good water for industries, tourism, agriculture
 - Employments that can not be outsourced

Why seeking to achieve good water status?

Healthy waters make territories more attractive



Nice Harbour



Bénit Lake



Thau lagoon

The agency and its ruling committees

Within the national and european legal framework, the water agency executes through its program, guidelines set by its basins committees



The agency is administered by an executive board.

The Agency and Basin's Ruling Authorities

Basin committees

- Design Water Development and Management Master Plan (SDAGE)
- Give an opinion on tax rates and the agency program, voted by the executive board
- Give an opinion on river contracts Water Development and Management Plan (SAGE) (perimeters and guidelines)

Executive board

- Votes tax rates and the agency program, after the basin committees gave their opinion
- Administers the agency
- Grants aid to basins stakeholders

The Agency and Basin's Ruling Authorities

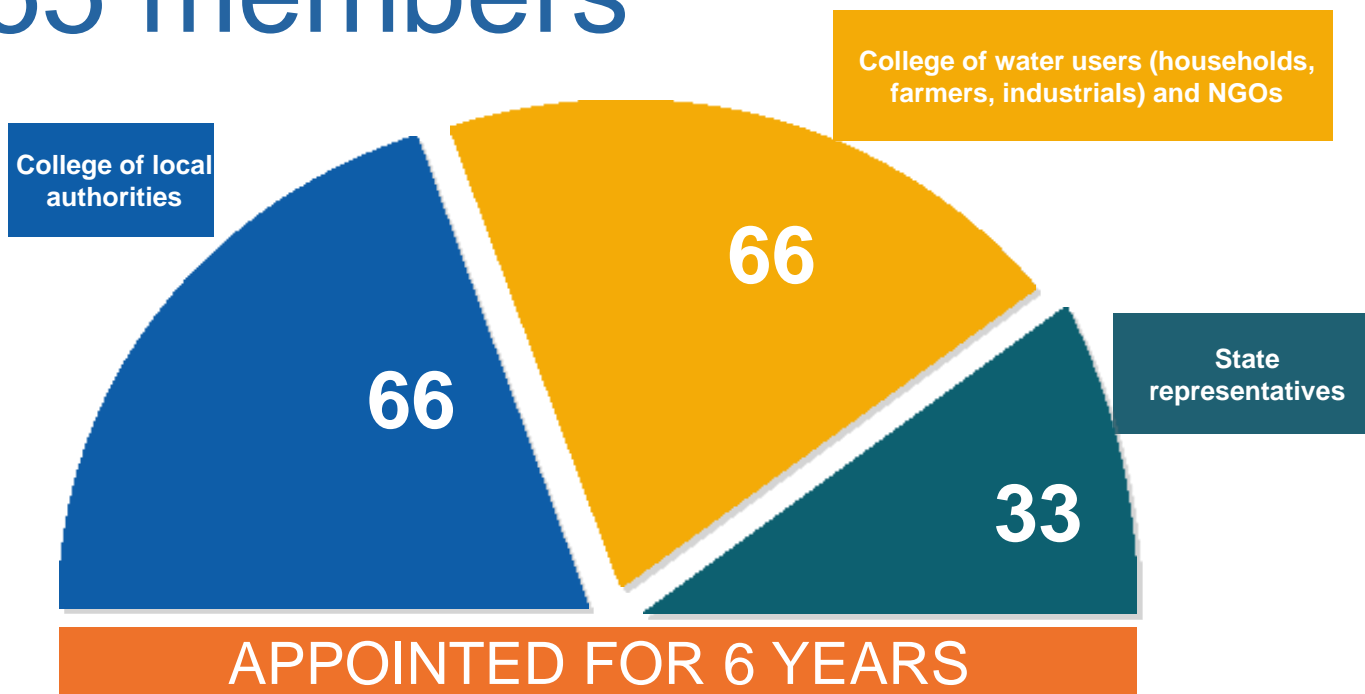
Rhône-Mediterranean Basin Committee – “The Water Parliament”

165 members



MICHEL DANTIN

President of Rhône-Mediterranean
Basin Committee



The Agency and Basin's Ruling Authorities

Corsica Basin Committee

40 members



Gilles SIMEONI

President of Corsica Basin's
Committee

APPOINTED FOR 6 YEARS

16

College of local
authorities

16

College of water users

8

College of representatives of socio-
professional and skilled people



Including the Corsica Prefect
(official State representative)

+ 3 State appointed members

The Agency and Basin's Ruling Authorities

The agency's executive board

37 members



Michel Delpuech

Executive Board President
(appointed by the State)

33

- Members coming from the RM basin committee
 - 11 : local authorities
 - 11 : State
 - 11 : users

3

- Members coming from the Corsican basin committee

1

- Representative of the agency employees

Other basins committees

Basin committee Working Groups (1)

- **Basin committee Bureau :**
 - Prepare committee's meetings
 - Animates and orientates other body's works
- **Agreement Committee :**
 - Grants approval for environmental contracts
 - Accredits projects of reglementary flooding action plans
 - Gives an opinion on SAGE perimeters and guidelines
- **Basin aquatic environment commission (CRMNA)**
 - Advisory role on SDAGE guidelines regarding aquatic environments protection rôle

Other basin committees

Basin committee Working Groups (2)

■ **Scientific council**

- Provide a scientific viewpoint in order to prepare some basin committee decisions

■ **Geographical commissions**

- Members of basin committee and local stakeholders
- A place of concertation strongly anchored in the localities

■ **Territorial basin commissions**

- Members of basin committee
- Bridging place for local SDAGE implementation

Implementation at different geographical scales

- **Regions**

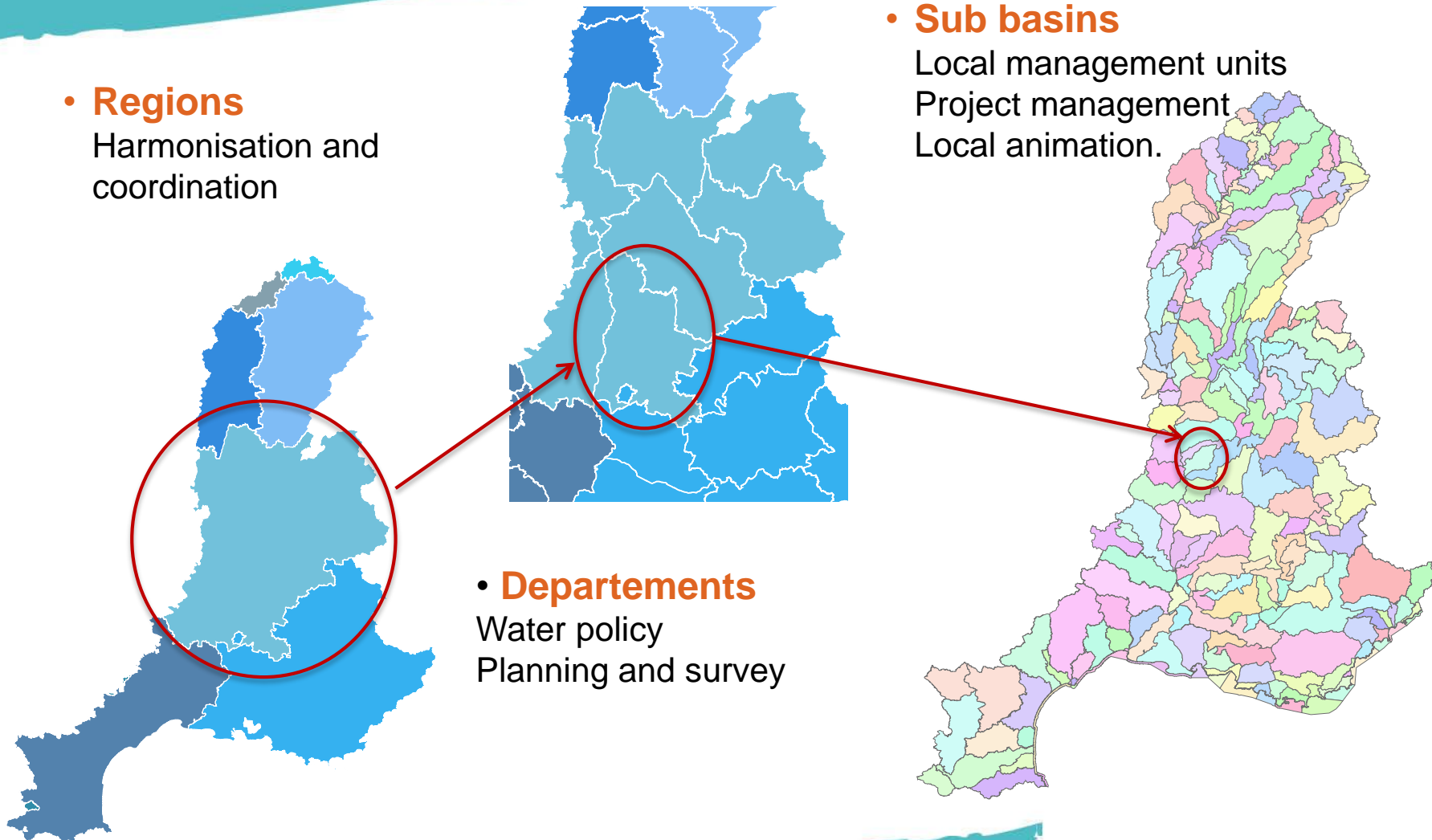
Harmonisation and coordination

- **Sub basins**

Local management units
Project management
Local animation.

- **Departements**

Water policy
Planning and survey



The Rhône-Mediterranean Water Development and Management Master Plan SDAGE (2013 – 2018)

The SDAGE is set up to achieve
european environmental objectives of
« good status » for water

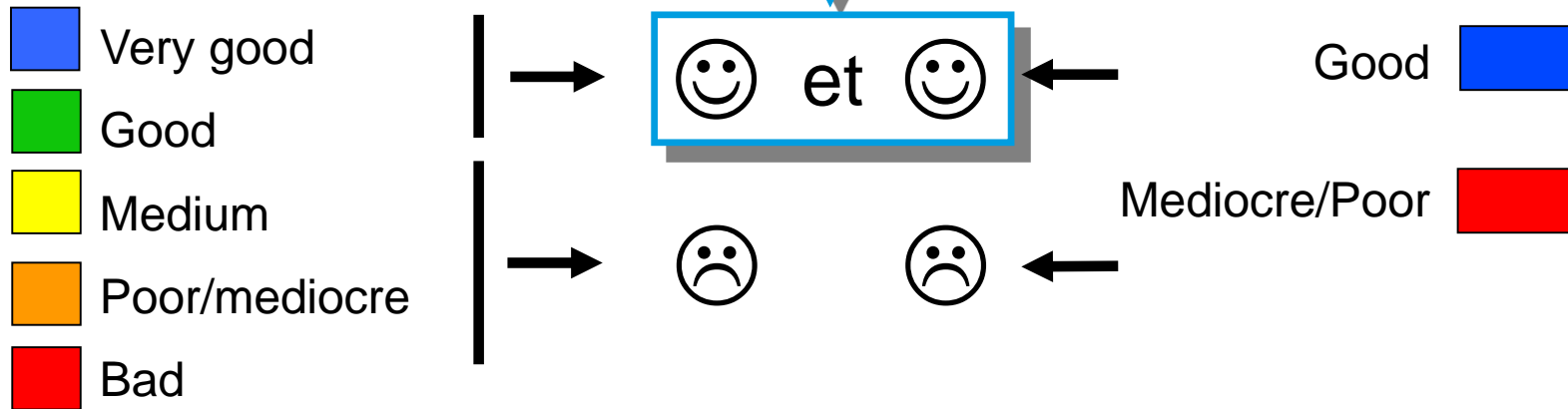
Environmental targets



The notion of good status (surface water)

Ecological status
(biology, physic-chemical)

Chemical status
(Environmental quality standards)



A status assessed in relation to reference conditions (very good)
European inter-calibration exercises

RMC agency's main documents



Management Plan (SDAGE)

- ✓ Fundamental guidelines
- ✓ Goals for water bodies



Programme of measures

- ✓ Basic measures
- ✓ Additional measures



Supporting Material

- ✓ Abstract of monitoring programme
- ✓ Reference conditions
- ✓ Register of protected areas...



Environmental Assessment

- ✓ Analysis of SDAGE effects on environment
- ✓ Mitigation and supporting means/actions

➔ Data available at: www.rhone-mediterranee.eaufrance.fr

The legal scope of SDAGE and SAGE

Environmental and urbanism regulation codes :

- ☐ Administrative decisions in the field of water,
- ☐ SCOT, PLU, communal maps,
- ☐ Classified Industrial installations,
- ☐ Departmental plans for rocks, gravels and sands exploitations.

➡ Must be compatible with the SDAGE and the SAGE

Management Plan (SDAGE): fundamental guidelines and provisions

9 fundamental guidelines

OF 0 – Adaptation to Climate change

OF1 – Prevention before curation

OF2 – No degradation

OF3 – Social and Economical vision

OF4 – Local management

OF5 – reduce pollutants, Toxics priority

OF6 - Functional environments

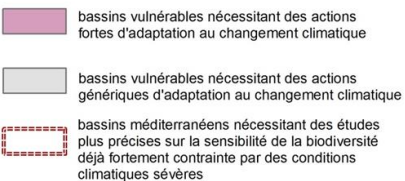
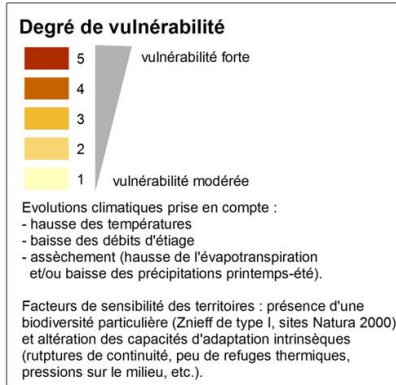
OF7 – Shared ressources

OF8 – Floods management

**Shared reading
table on the basin**

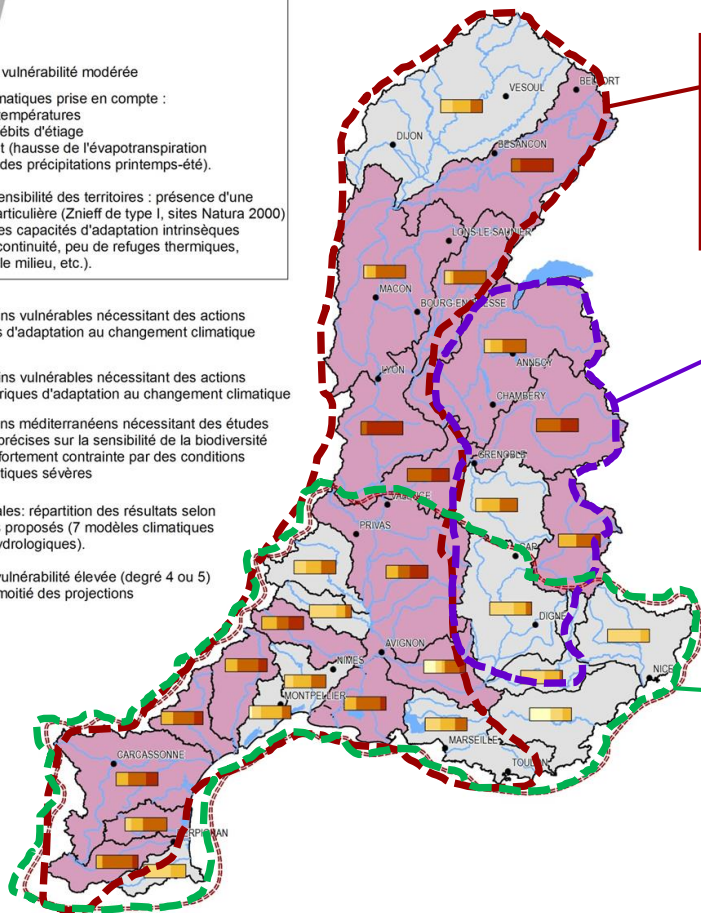
Basin Climate Change adaptation plan

Vulnerability maps



Barres horizontales: répartition des résultats selon les 14 scénarios proposés (7 modèles climatiques et 2 modèles hydrologiques).

Fond de carte: vulnérabilité élevée (degré 4 ou 5) pour plus de la moitié des projections



Exposure = increase in T° and ETP, drop in rainfall and low flow levels.

Sensitivity = engineered stretches and ZNIEFF 1 surfaces

- The Doubs, Saone, mid-Rhone, Languedoc coasts: sensitive due to the physical alteration of waterways.
→ restoring the hydromorphology.

- Mountain sectors: vulnerability of remarkable wetlands
→ Conservation of wetlands

- Mediterranean sectors: sensitivity under strong pressure due to already severe climate conditions
→ Specific studies

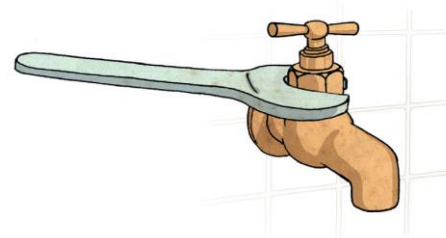
Basin Climate Change adaptation plan

Ready-to-use adaptation measures for 3 topics



Retaining water in the territories

Fighting waste by 2030



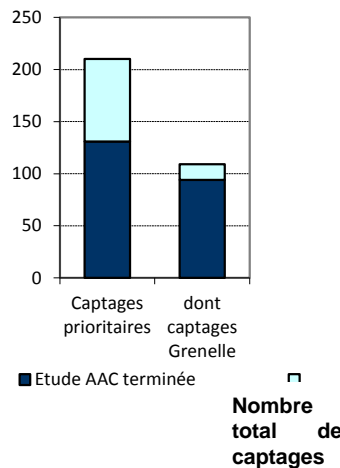
Giving river back the space to function properly

Follow-up: the SDAGE's Scoreboard

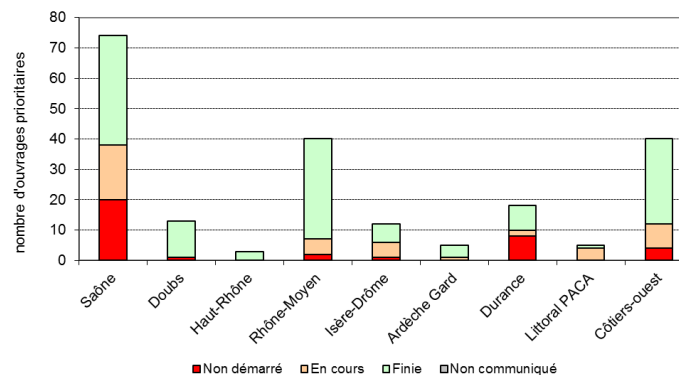
- Indicators updated every 3 years

Example : priority water catchments

Avancement des études de délimitation de l'aire d'alimentation



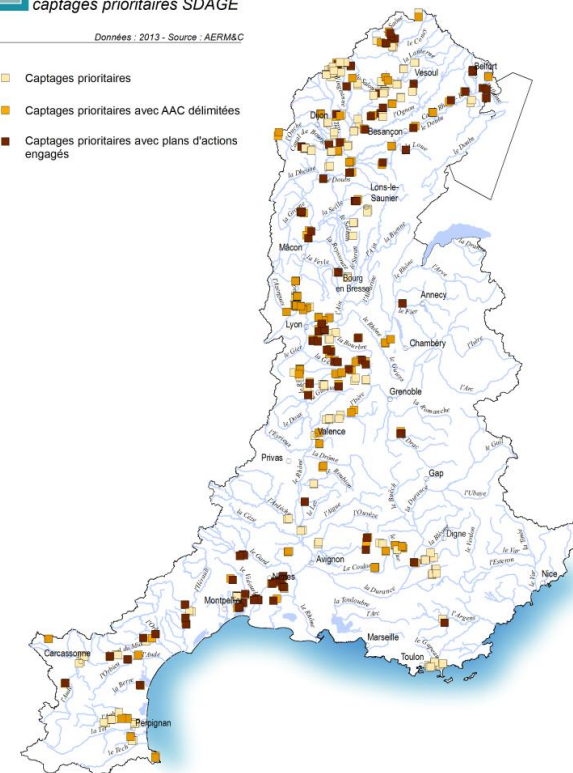
Avancement de l'étude de délimitation de l'AAC par commission territoriale de bassin



Démarches de restauration de la qualité de l'eau des captages prioritaires SDAGE

Données : 2013 - Source : AERM&C

- Captages prioritaires
- Captages prioritaires avec AAC délimitées
- Captages prioritaires avec plans d'actions engagés



Rhone-Mediterranean basin

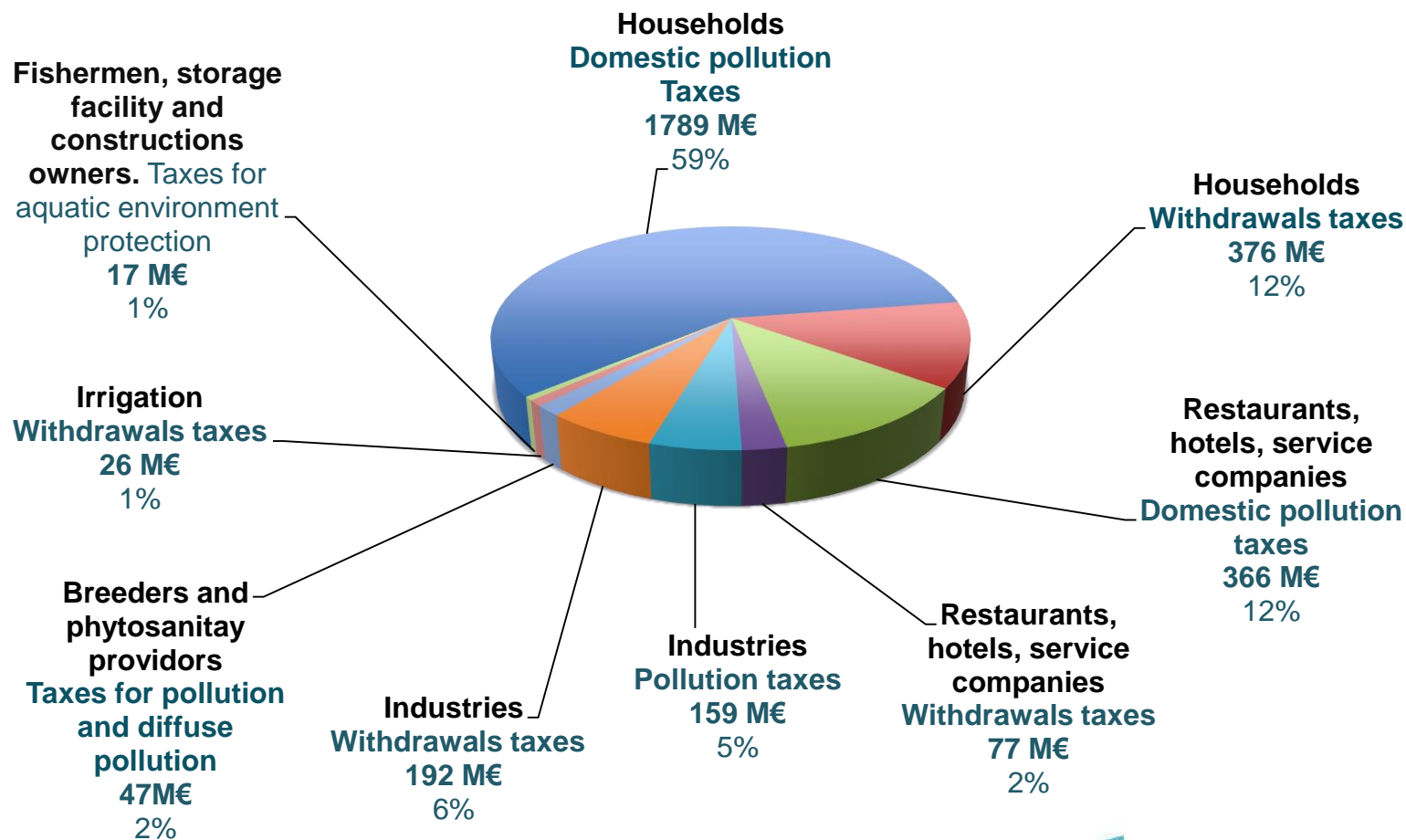
Basin Territorial Commission (region or department level)

Point (or sub-basin or water body)



THE 10th PROGRAM GUIDELINES (2013 – 2018)

Origin of taxes (millions of euro)



3 main issues

💧 Save and share water

- 40 % of RMC basin suffers from water scarcity
- Population growth and climate change will aggravate this situation.



→346 M€ to act on this topic

3 main issues

- 💧 **Save and share water**
- 💧 **Protect water and health**
 - Give priority to medium wastewater treatment plant's compliance (between 2 000 and 15 000 population equivalent).
 - Protect catchment area from pesticide and fight against industrial micropollutants

→ **257 M€ to act on these issues, with 183 M€ dedicated to fight agricultural pollution**



214 catchment areas to protect

3 Main issues

- 💧 Save and share water
- 💧 Protect water and health
- 💧 **Restore aquatic environments**
 - 2/3 of rivers in a bad state suffers from severe physical degradations disrupting fish life

→ 414 M€ to act on this matter



600 constructions
100 km of river
10 000 ha
wetlands to restore

Support rural communities and water heritage management

- More than 50M€ dedicated to rural communities per year
- Sustainable management of water and sanitation public services :
 - Support to patrimony inventories, planning of evolution of services and administrative borders, water pricing...
 - Keeping of bonuses related to WWTP performance.





**The French water agency ensure
the integrated water basin management.**

**The water agency collect taxes
as polluter/payer mechanism.**

**The water agency give subsidies
to develop the rivers quality, water and sanitation.**

Merci de votre attention!