

Multifunctional forest and EUSALP: Inputs of the French Presidency

Antoine Patte (COFOR)¹ and Benjamin Einhorn (PARN)²

¹ **Union of Forest Communities in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes**, Member of EUSALP AG2 (*Economic Development*)

² **Alpine Pole for Natural Risk Prevention**, Member of EUSALP AG8 (*Risk Governance*)

French Presidency 2020-21

“Working together for a sustainable alpine region”

<https://www.alpine-region.eu/french-presidency-2020>

Co-Presidency
State/Regions:



**AGENCE
NATIONALE
DE LA COHÉSION
DES TERRITOIRES**

**RÉGION
BOURGOGNE
FRANCHE
COMTE**

La Région
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

**RÉGION
SUD**
PROVENCE
ALPES
CÔTE D'AZUR



Link with
the EC:



Link with
AlpConv:



The Task Force “*Multifunctional Forests and Sustainable Use of Timber*” (TFMFSUT) dynamics



Activity 2019 (under Italian Presidency):

HOUR of BIRTH for TF-MFSUT

2nd EUSALP Annual Forum 21st Nov. 2018, Innsbruck (A)

EUSALP “Board of Action Groups Leaders (BAGLs) 2, 6, 7, 9

Joint Workshop, “*Alpine forests seen from a multidisciplinary perspective*”



EUSALP TF-MFSUT Constitutional Meeting

25th Sept. 2019 Innsbruck (A)

Coordination Tasks:

- Mechanisms for exchanging information and for collaborating among the participating AGs.
- Project proposal for ARPAF-II -> REDIAFOR
- Cross-sectoral workshop at the 3rd EUSALP AF, 28/29 Nov. 2019 in Milan

REDIAFOR 1st INTERNATIONAL EXPERT WORKSHOP : “*Climate crisis and its effects on forest and timber value chains*”

3rd EUSALP Annual Forum, 28-29th Sept. 2019, Milano (I)



"Accelerating the overall ecological transition of the Alpine region to combat and adapt to climate change"

Developing sustainable and all-season tourism

Developing sustainable mobility and transportation solutions

Accelerating the energy transition in the Alpine region

To promote the production, processing and short-distance consumption of local Alpine products, in particular forestry and agricultural products.

Involving youth in the ecological transition, the fight against and adaptation to climate change

Preserving the biodiversity of the Alpine region and preventing natural risks

The multifunctionality of the alpine forest, a cross-cutting theme

Promote the production, processing and short-distance consumption of local products from the Alpine region, in particular agricultural and forestry products

Actions

- **To adopt a political declaration of the States and Regions of the Alpine region on Alpine biodiversity including a section on mountain forests and sustainable forestry**
- Examine the possibility of changing European public procurement regulations to encourage the local use of mountain wood from the Alpine region
- To develop territorial food approaches aimed at the local consumption of mountain food products in short circuits.

Events

- **A special event promoting the different uses of mountain forests and sustainable forestry timber value chain in Aix les Bains**
- A specific event promoting city-valley-mountain cooperation in Grenoble
- A structured and coordinated program of events in the Alpine region promoting pastoralism

The multifunctionality of the alpine forest, a cross-cutting theme

EUSALP Action Group 2 (Wood Sub-Group): Study on wood labels



- Capitalize on previous work : “Stakeholder Survey of Wood Sector >> TRIPLEWOOD Project [?] Study of wood construction regulations etc.
- Goal: to be more familiar with local wood labels, certifications, brands, .. Network
- Benchmarking - characterization: geographical criteria, wood quality, eco-model, relationship to public markets and local regulations
- common visibility at EU level : pursuit of common objectives such as the access to funds for mountain forest products (e.g. Chafea funds for agricultural mountain products)

March 25: next meeting of the EUSALP AG2 and wood subgroup (opening to new members)

Conserve biodiversity and prevent natural risks

Actions

- **Adopt a political declaration** of the States and Regions of the Alpine Region, including:
 - decides to experiment with governance mechanisms for the coordination of ecological corridors
 - **promotes the uses of mountain forests and sustainable forestry** to preserve biodiversity and prevent risks
- **Establish a network of territories involved in an integrated natural risk management approach**

Events

- The kick-off meeting of the LUIGI project on ecological continuities between urban and rural areas in Grenoble in April 2020 (delayed)
- A special event promoting the different uses of mountain forests and sustainable forestry in the Chartreuse Massif on 3-4 Sept. 2020
- **A specific event on climate change and natural risk management** in Chamonix on 30 Sept. 2020
- **An event on alpine biodiversity** on the sidelines of the IUCN World Congress in Marseille in Sept. 2021

Forest is a cross-cutting theme of the French Presidency

EUSALP Action Group 8: Objectives and activities



AG8 aims to **improve risk management and better manage climate change in the Alpine Region:**

- Inventory relevant actors and interests, map and enhance **governance structures and processes** in the policy fields of risk/hazard management and climate change adaptation
- Improve risk and adaptation governance mechanisms in the EUSALP region by enhancing, valorizing and leveraging the existing **cooperation structures**
- Identify **good practice solutions** in tackling challenges in natural hazard and climate change adaptation policy
- Promote, develop and implement local, regional and international **pilot projects and programs** based on strategic priorities, and exploring funding opportunities on both EU as well as national/regional/private levels

Key actions dealing with mountain forests:

Reports & Policy papers:

- “Dealing with Disaster Risk: **The risk governance approach** - A status quo analysis” (2019)
- “**Forest Fires in the Alps** – State of knowledge and further challenges” (2019)

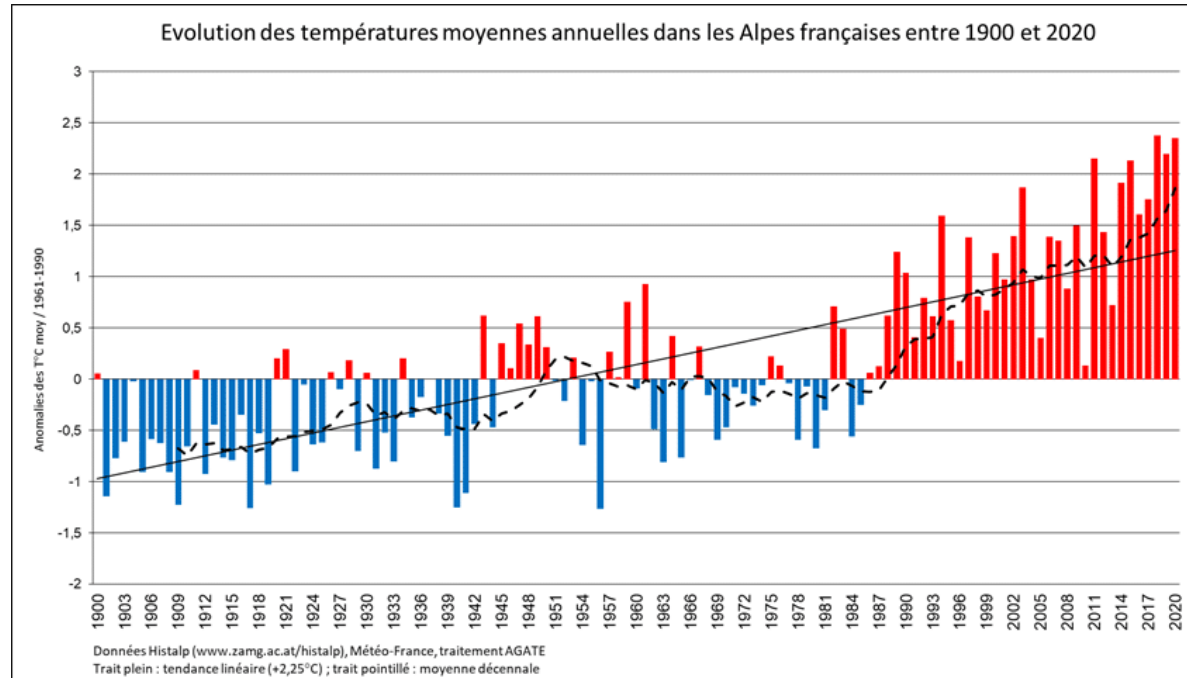
Tools:

- CAPA “**Climate Adaptation Platform for the Alps**”

International conferences:

- “Forest Summit: **Protective.Forest.Climate**”, *Innsbruck* (Oct. 2017)
- “Flood protection through **protection forests** in the Alpine Region”, *Bad Reichenhal* (Oct. 2017)
- “**Protective functions of forests** in a changing climate” with the FAO, *Innsbruck* (Oct. 2019)
- “**Climate-Risks-Energy**”, *Chamonix* (Sept.-Oct. 2020)

Climate Change and Alpine Forest



- **Warming trends 1900-2020 in the French Alps: +2.25°C**
- **Observed and expected impacts in the Alpine Region:** more heat waves, intense precipitations, forest fires, storms, landslides, pests... **an increasing pressure on mountain forest ecosystemic (protective) functions**



Mountain Forest & Climate Change 03-04 Sept. 2020, Aix les Bains

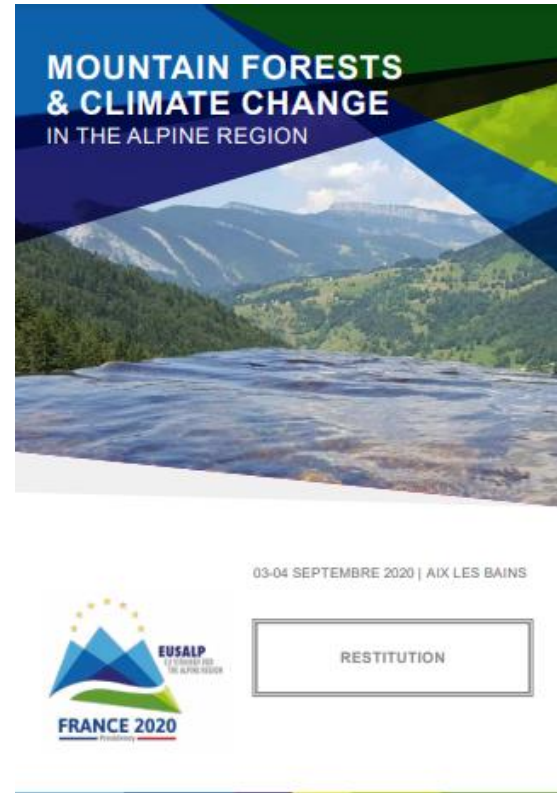
OUTPUTS

“Urgency to manage the forest in a common way. Soon the forests will be dangerous, it will be necessary to close some forests, too many trees will be dying out... it may be dangerous”

- **Sharing a definition of non-native species at the European level is important for the intelligent regeneration of stands.**
- Diversification and common sense when choosing species is crucial for a more resilient alpine forest,
- Multiply varied ways of forestry (e.g. conducting more dynamic forestry with more density, several species, etc to support local potentials ☐ Guide to adapted Forestry
- First, the adaptability of local species must be considered, and the most resistant species should be favoured during regeneration.

About Forestry adaptation & impact on biodiversity:

- **Make the Alpine Convention more flexible by establishing a doctrine on the proper use/ implantation of non-native species**



About Consequences on the processing sectors :

- **Some species are more concerned:** (spruce), new species planted but not adapted to the market.
- **Finance the prospective studies on the demand for wood construction** (e.g. high-rise projects in local wood, on the supply of local wood, the products, their availability at 5 years, **in which species, ...**)

About forest Ecosystemic services :

- **Support Research initiatives to better understand which new tree species** would be better adapted in relation to the expected targets of the forest owner/ manager

Multifunctional Alpine Forests: what uses, what conflicts?

04th EUSALP ANNUAL FORUM – 10th of December 2020 in NICE



Source: EC, 2020

Strategy's aim:

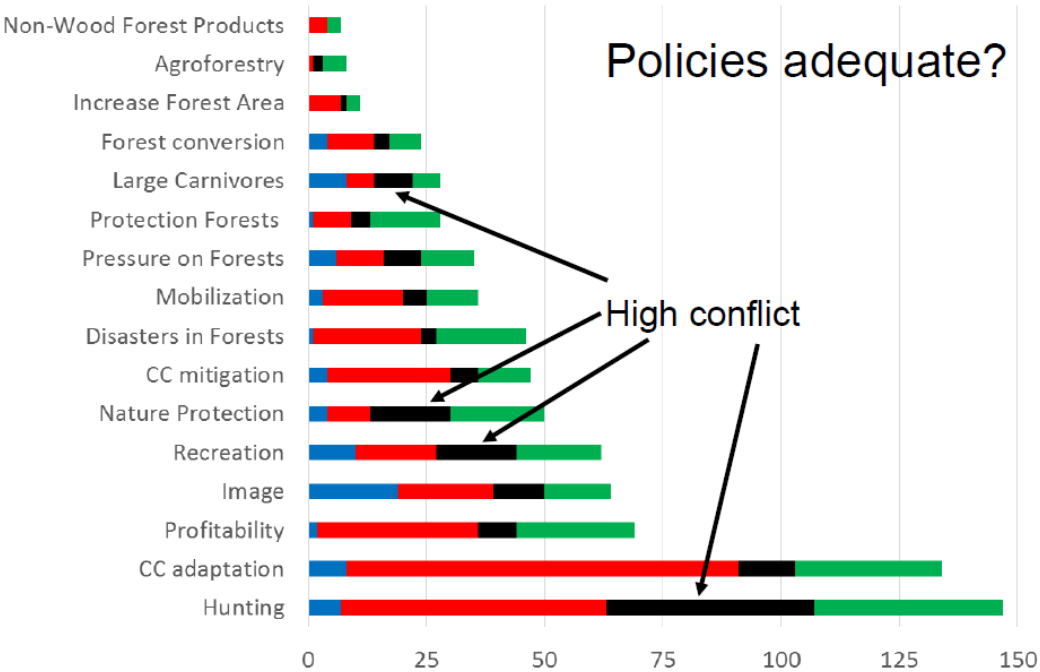
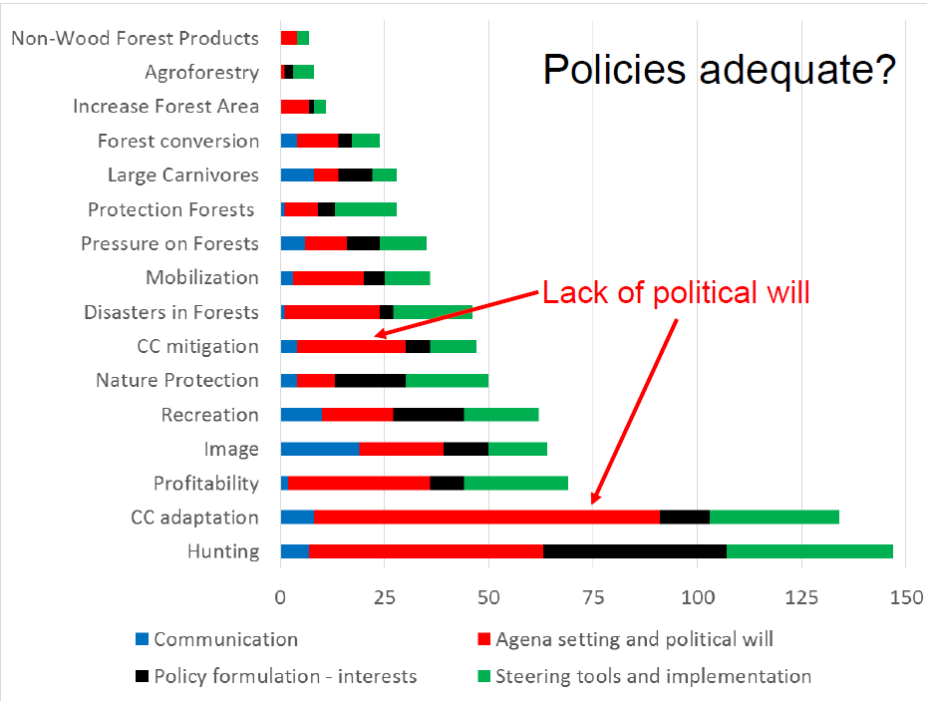
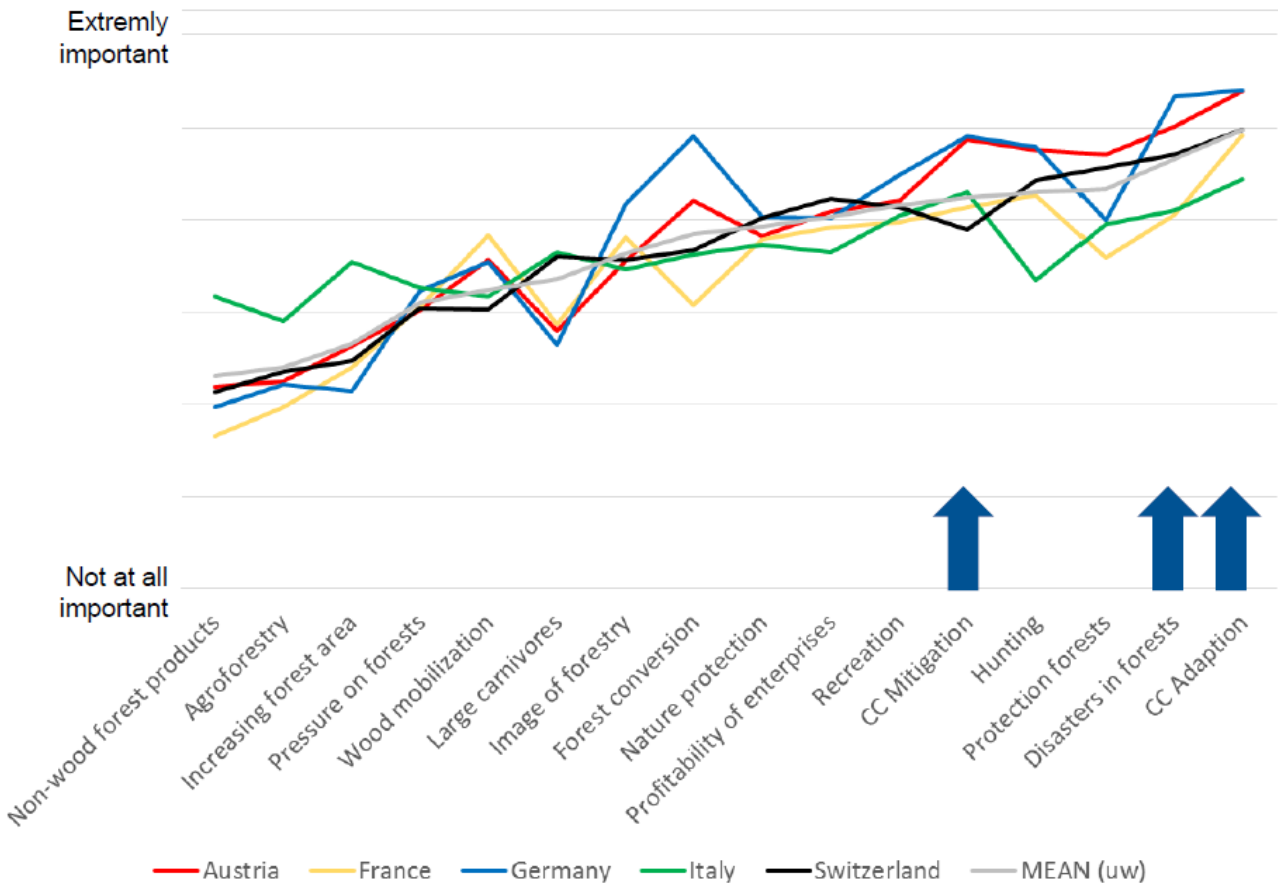
- Climate Neutrality,
 - Biodiversity Conservation,
 - Adaptation & Resilience; or to
 - Reduce Forest Fires;
- support
- Circular- & Bioeconomy, the
 - Welfare of rural areas, & the
 - Social Functions of forests.

Open Public Consultation: January 2021 – lasting 12 WEEKS

From Multifunctionality, to conflicting interests ... to Dialogue



Technical University of Munich
TUM School of Management
Chair of Forest and Environmental Policy



European Territorial Cooperation projects on NBS



Capitalization, global overview,
AG support, lobbying-Watch
(UE policies, Calls)

Project of an operational contribution :

Forests and Multifunctionality: nature-based solutions as tools for the resilience of alpine territories

- Nature Based Solution (NBS) as an operational solution to meet the global challenges of preserving biodiversity and maintaining the multifunctionality of alpine forests, in the service of territorial resilience (face to climate change).
- Capitalize on outputs generated by the Alpine Convention, by the EUSALP activities, cooperation project
- **To push a real integrated management of the forest and its multifunctionality in the territories to increase their resilience.**

Governance:

- consolidate the Task Force
- specify in the Action Groups how to better promote forests and multifunctionality,
- to support a follow-up to the REDIAFOR project, and more project about alpine forest multifunctionality.

Agenda:

- 13 January 2021 : Mountain Biodiversity Day
- *Communication for IUCN sumit sept 2021*

Finance:

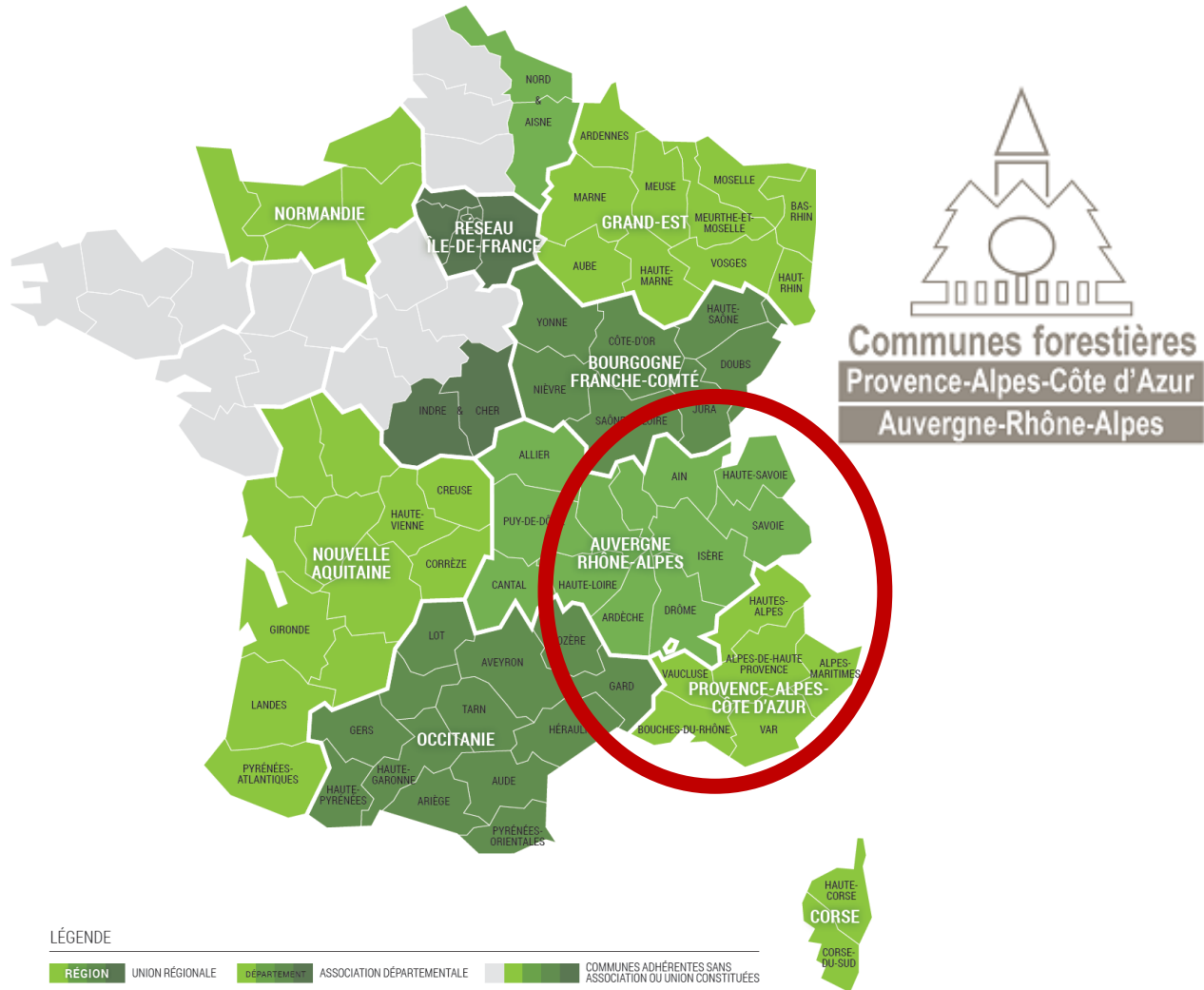
- Real Transcription of Forest Multifunctionality issues in Next Programming Period 2021-2027

Concrete implementation of dedicated projects through experimentations:

- capitalization on more integrated risk management (AlpGov 2)
- Protection Forests as real NBS

NBS dissemination networks in the French Alps

- Union of Forest Communities (COFOR)

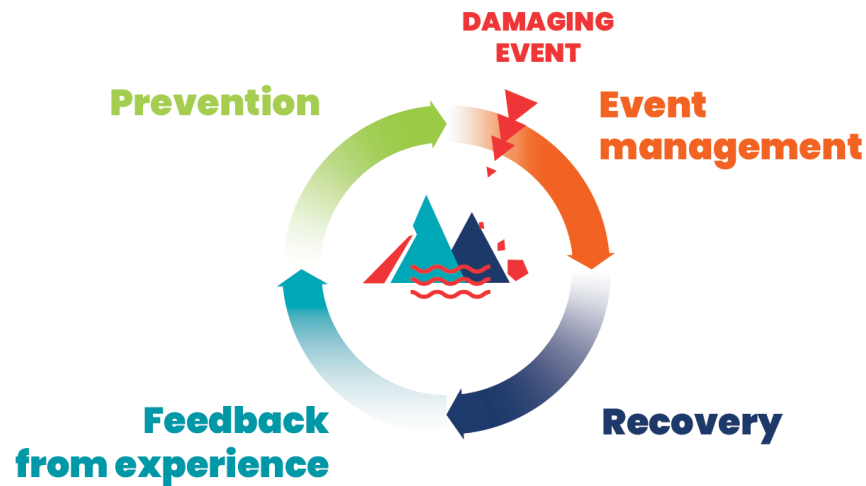


**Alpine Network of
Mountain Forest
programme 2014-2020**
<http://www.alpesboisforet.eu/>

NBS dissemination networks in the French Alps

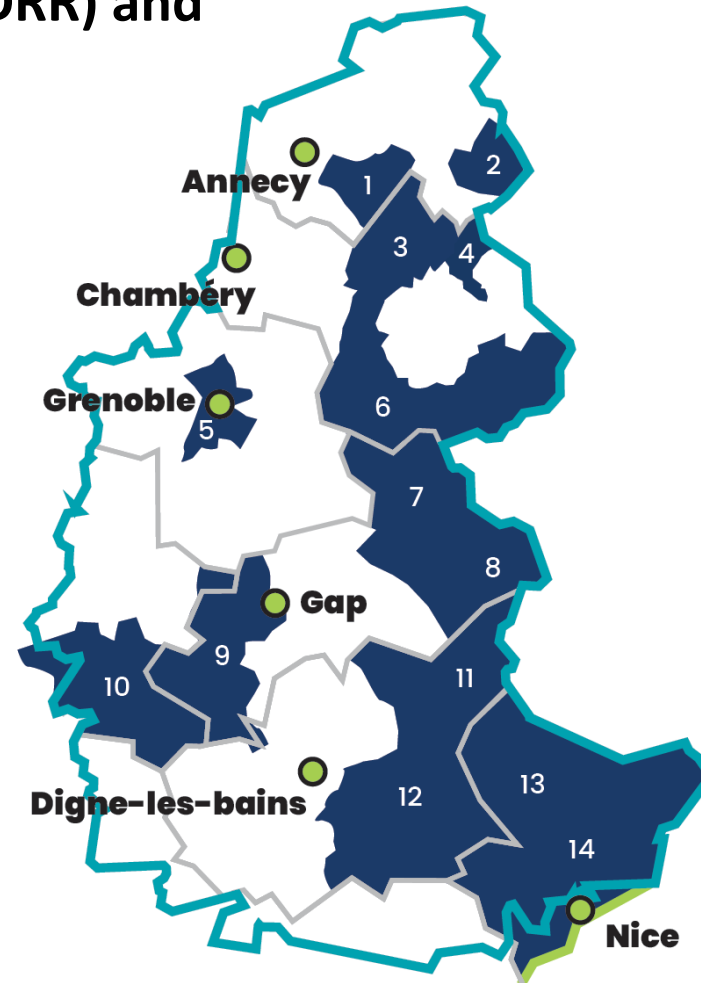
- Alpine Pole for Natural Risk Prevention (PARN)

Integrated Natural Risk Management (INRM):
a toolbox for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and
Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)



Alpine Network of INRM

<https://risknat.org/girn-inrm-alps/?lang=en>



1. CC Vallée de Thônes
2. CC Vallée de Chamonix Mont-Blanc
3. Arlysère
4. Bourg-Saint-Maurice
5. Grenoble-Alpes Métropole
6. Syndicat des Pays de Maurienne
7. PETR Briançonnais, Ecrins, Guillestrois, Queyras
8. PNR du Queyras
9. SMIGIBA (Buëch)
10. PNR Baronnies Provençales
11. CC Ubaye Serre-Ponçon
12. CC Alpes Provence Verdon
13. CC Alpes d'Azur
14. SMIAGE (Alpes Maritimes)



Pôle Alpin Risques Naturels



Pôle Alpin Risques Naturels



Thank you!



AGENCE
NATIONALE
DE LA COHÉSION
DES TERRITOIRES

RÉGION
SUD



PROVENCE
ALPES
CÔTE D'AZUR

La Région 
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes