

Round - Table 5

Evaluation of the environmental impact of AECEMs

**French Ministry of Environment
Commissariat général au développement
durable**

Eco-efficiency of AEMs

Exploratory work on AEMs
designed for maintaining
biodiversity (2007-2013)

Our mission : Underpinning the environmental assessment of public policies, especially agri-environment ones

- **Expertise and methodological tools to assess environmental integration in public policies**
- **Environmental impact assessment of projects, plans and programs**

Recent works or contributions on AEMs :

- **Steering committee of the evaluation of rural development programs**
- **Follow-up works on AEMs efficiency, leaded by the Ministry of agriculture**
- **Study in progress on efficiency assessment of AEMs (2007-2013)**

Main approaches for AEMs efficiency assessment

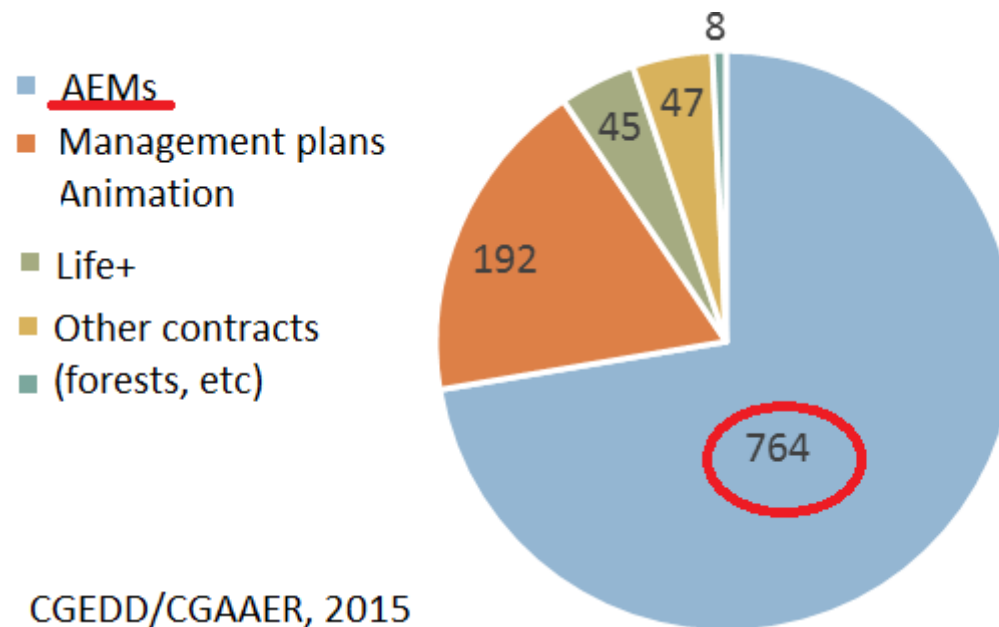
▪ Factors to assess AEMs efficiency

- The location of measures consistent to conservation stakes (targeting and territorialisation)
- Covered area in sites of interest (relevant scale of actions)
- Interaction practices and state of environment
- Contract's commitments (suitable to biodiversity stakes / acceptable by farmers / appropriate to the framework rules)

AEMs are essential to Natura policy but are they efficient ?

- Natura 2000 contracts for agriculture funded mainly by European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

AEMs represent 72 % of funds devoted to Natura 2000 policy (2007-2013)



Exploratory work on AEMs efficiency for Natura policy

▪ Do AEMs meet biodiversity conservation objectives in Natura 2000 areas ?

Indicators beyond the compulsory indicators of the Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework such as :

→ contract coverage rate and covered area

- Adequacy of the subscribed measures and the recommendations in « habitat documents » or Natura management objectives
- AEMS targeting, especially on habitats of community interest

Through data analysis, enquiries and case studies

Some provisional results

- (1) Adequacy of the subscribed measures and the recommendations in « habitat documents »

case study : Languedoc Roussillon, AEMs subscribed in agropastoral habitats

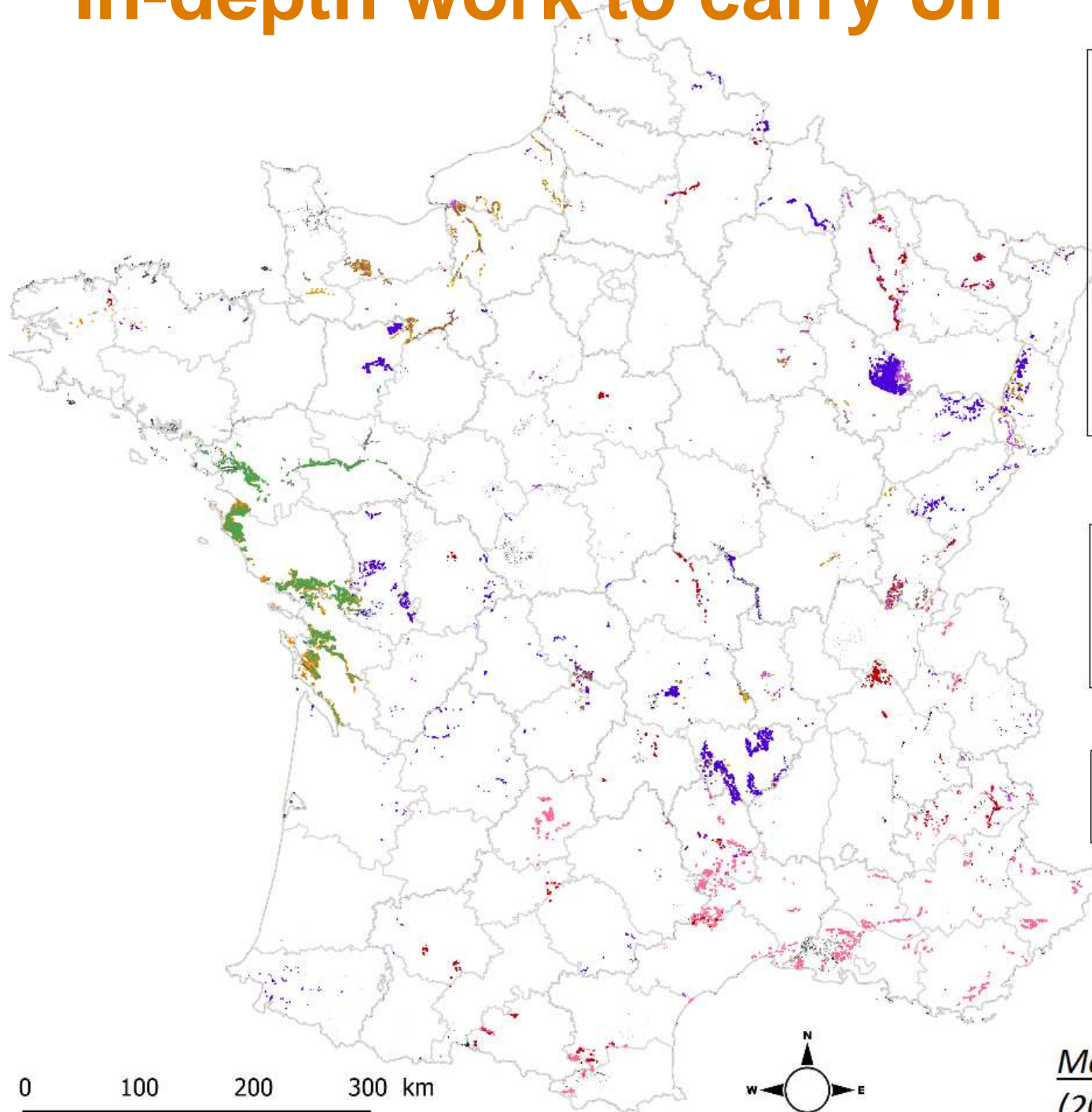
- 80 % of contracts meet recommendations
- 5 % : no data
- 15 % of contracts inappropriate

- (2) AEMS targeting, especially on habitats of community interest

case studies : AEMs subscribed in 4 regions

Area	AEMs intersecting habitats of community interest	Habitats of community interest covered by AEMs
Bretagne	73%	3%
Haute Normandie	55%	6%
Auvergne	93%	5%
PACA	79%	5%

In-depth work to carry on



Pratiques agricoles sur PP

- 15% ■ Réduction fertilisation (PP)
- 4% ■ Enreg. pratiques + réduction ferti (PP)
- 2% ■ Enreg. pratiques + réduction ferti + pression de pâturage (PP)
- 4% ■ Enreg. pratiques + suppression ferti + pression de pâturage (PP)

Enjeu spécifique espèce

- 3% ■ Enreg. pratiques + réduction ferti + retard de fauche (PP)

Pratiques agricoles sur PP "peu productives" (zones humides)

- 9% ■ Enreg. pratiques + suppression ferti + pression pâturage (PP de zones humides)
- 9% ■ Enreg. pratiques + réduction ferti + pression pâturage (PP peu prod)

Gestion pastorale en estives

- 4% ■ Enreg. pratiques + gestion pastorale (entités collectives) (PP peu prod)

■ Autres contrats MAEt

Main suscribed contracts and localization (2010)

Difficulties encountered in evaluating the AEMs

- **Data availability :**

- Environmental data (habitats of community interest mapping)
- Contract data base suited to evaluation works
- Access to contract data base / Data quality

- **Environmental impact of AEMs assessment**

- Initial state measurement and ecological monitoring of agricultural parcels
- Environmental gain assessment / proxy : record of the implementation of environment friendly practices