

**INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
IN THE RHONE-MEDITERRANEAN AND CORSICA  
BASIN**

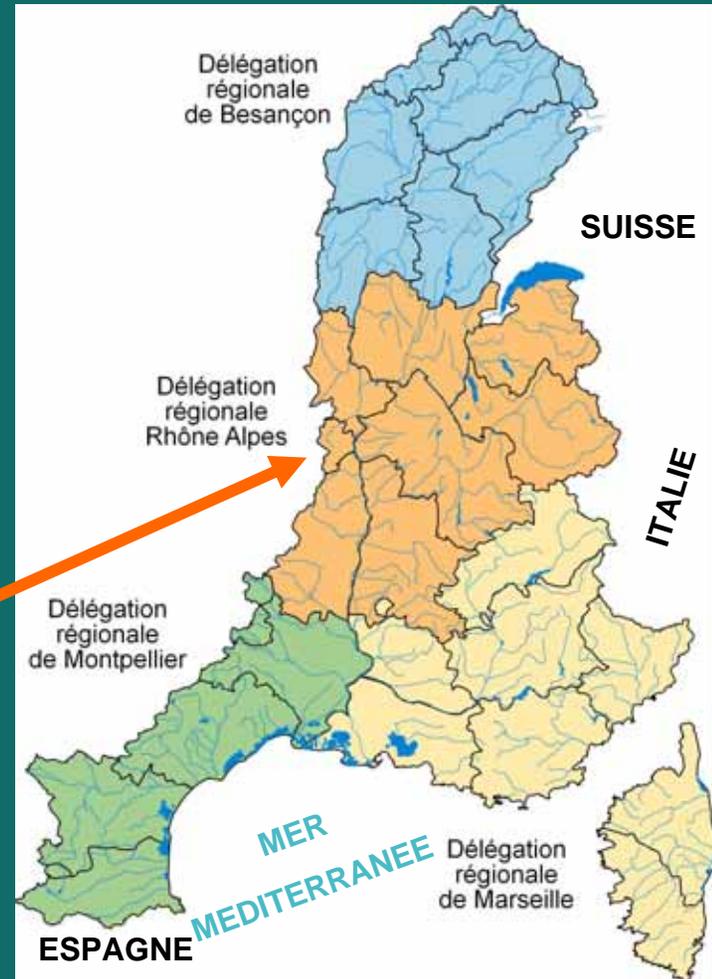
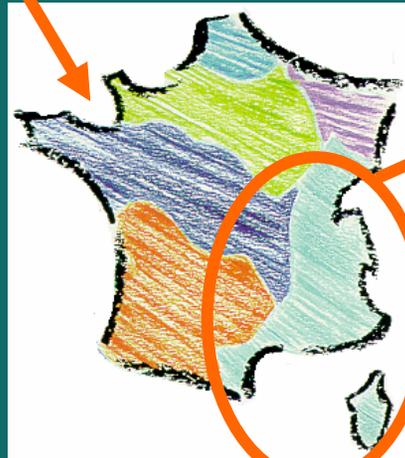
***9<sup>th</sup> Intervention Programme  
of the Water Agency  
2007 - 2012***

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Corsica Water Agency, France***



# LET'S LOOK AT SOME MAPS



# SOME HARD DATA

*The Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Basin stands for:*



**The French Mediterranean catchment area**



**135,000 km<sup>2</sup> (South-east quarter of France)**



**50% of territory in mountain area**



**14 million inhabitants**



**20% of France's industrial and agricultural activity**



**50% of France's tourism activity**

# THE PRINCIPLES



**Establishment, pursuant to a Law (1964), of a river basin management and an economic tool based on charges**



**Payment of charges  
“Polluter Pays” and “Taker Pays”**



**Allocation of financial resources to the water policy: aid**



**Definition and implementation of water policy by the stakeholders**

# ORGANISATION



## The River Basin Committee

- A kind of Water Parliament
- Votes on the charges
- Votes on policy orientations



## The Management Board of the Agency

- Votes on the intervention programme: 6 years
- Sanctions annual budgets
- Grants financial aid



## The Water Agency

- State public corporation
- Implements the budget
- Prepares decisions



# The 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME 2007-2012

## THE DESIGN PROCESS



### IN GENERAL:

- Delicate exercise in dialogue between the water stakeholders who are “ordered” to agree
- Some thirty meetings arranged around various configurations (BC, Geographic Committees, MB...)
- A state of play and a shared diagnosis on the measures to be taken
- Assess the cost of funding and the desired aid volume
- Balance expenditure with income: the charges



### FOR THE 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME:

- Economic stakeholders eager not to increase the charges
- Local communities keen to control the price of water, but also aware of the investments required
- Will to implement the European directives
- Attention paid by all to fair treatment

## **THE SOLUTIONS ADOPTED**



**Synthesis, complementary approach between thematic and territorial policies**



**Promote preventive actions**



**Reinforcement of partnerships (agreements, charters...)**



**Priority to results-oriented objectives**



**Consistent ecological taxes**



**Take into account climate developments (global warming, droughts, floods...)**

## WHAT THE 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME IMPLIES

Preserve or restore the status of the aquatic ecosystems by contributing to

- the goals of the Water Development and Management Master Plan (WDMMP) and EFD
- the implementation of national plans
- the solidarity among the stakeholders in the river basin

In the following policy areas:

- drinking water
- urban pollution
- toxic pollution
- agricultural pollution
- resource management
- wetlands
- knowledge, monitoring, and network of measures
- concerted management, solidarity
- communication and education



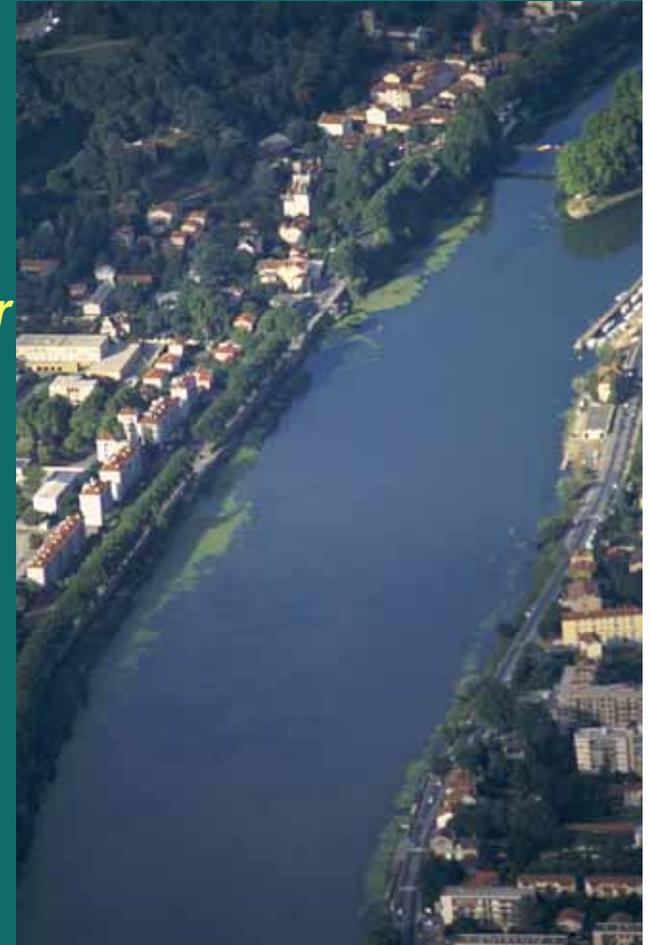
## WHAT THE 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME IMPLIES



### Intervention through charges

*These must have an impact on the behaviour of water stakeholders*

- **New charges**  
(plant protection products, obstacles in rivers...)
- **Amendments to existing charges**  
(abstraction, municipalities...)



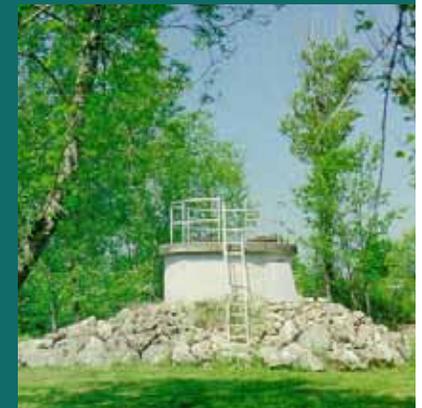
## WHAT THE 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME IMPLIES



### Intervention by means of financial aid and advice

*A few examples:*

- Compliance of sewage systems
- Restoration and reclamation of aquatic ecosystems
- Reduction of toxic and hazardous substances
- Quantitative balance between water resources



*By acting first and foremost where there is evidence of water degradation*

# THE 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME IN FIGURES

From 2007 to 2012, programme allocations total

**3,153 Million**

shared between the following policy areas:

- Fight against pollution €1,841 M
- Management of water resources and ecosystems €775 M
- Surveys, information, communication... €117 M
- Miscellaneous (fixed assets, operation, personnel...) €277 M
- Contributions to State €143 M

## THE MAIN GOALS OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME

*These goals will serve as a tool to assess the programme implementation.*

- 100% of water treatment plants
- over 2,000 EI in compliance
- 60 isolated sites where toxic waste is treated
- 10,000 ha of restored or preserved wetlands
- 20 priority areas including a plan aimed
- at reducing direct water abstraction
- 25 new contractual procedures
- implemented over priority areas
  - 5 environment education platforms
  - for sustainable development



## THE MAIN GOALS OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> PROGRAMME (continued)

- 45 initiatives aimed at reducing scattered industrial discharges
- 40 physically restored priority basins
- Resource management plans over 100% of priority areas
- Preserve strategic ground water resources for drinking water supply
- 1/3 of work aid allocated to rural municipalities earmarked for back fitting of run-down waterworks
- 100% of priority basins equipped to monitor water resources
  - 40 local management initiatives
  - 25 new contractual procedures



*This is indeed a great programme, geared for  
sustainable planning and development.*

*And now, a great deal of energy is necessary  
to implement it.*

*THANK YOU  
FOR  
YOUR  
ATTENTION*

