

## **LEADER FRANCE**

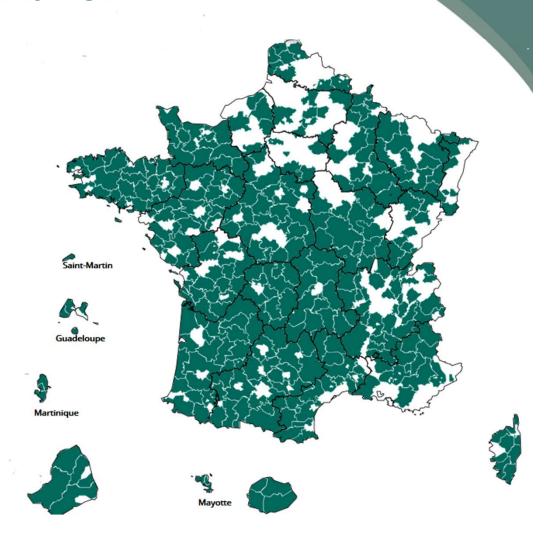
## Implementation of LEADER in France





# Implementation of LEADER in brief

- ➤ 5th generation of LEADER in France, ie € 1,691,000,000 of European funds invested in rural areas since 1990.
- ➤ Evolution from 40 to 340 rural territories engaged, ie 97 departments, 26,800 municipalities and 28 million inhabitants concerned.
- ≥ 2014-2020 allocation: € 687 million from the EAFRD, representing an allocation per territory of 1.5 to 2 million in addition to national public counterparts.



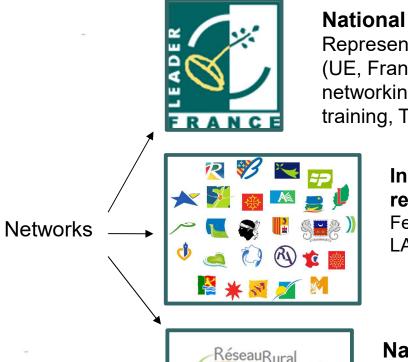


### **Actors in France 2014-2020**



Paying agency





Representation (UE, France), networking, training, TNC

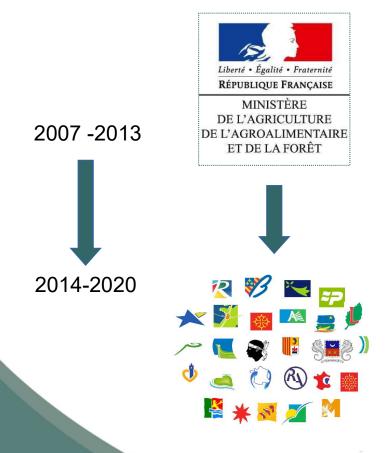
> In some regions Federations of **LAGs**

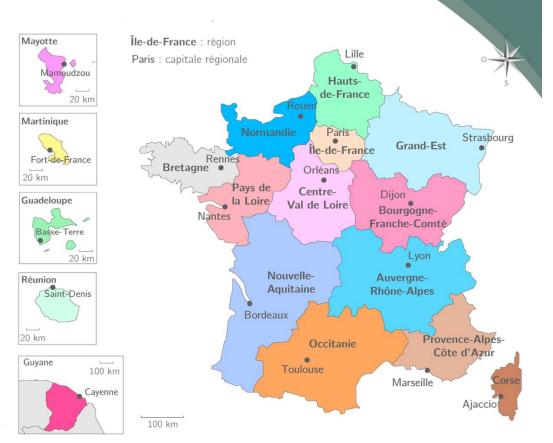


**National** Animation, evaluation



## **Managing authority**







# Leader France National network of LAG

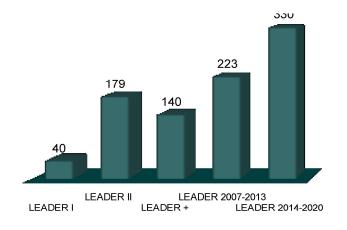


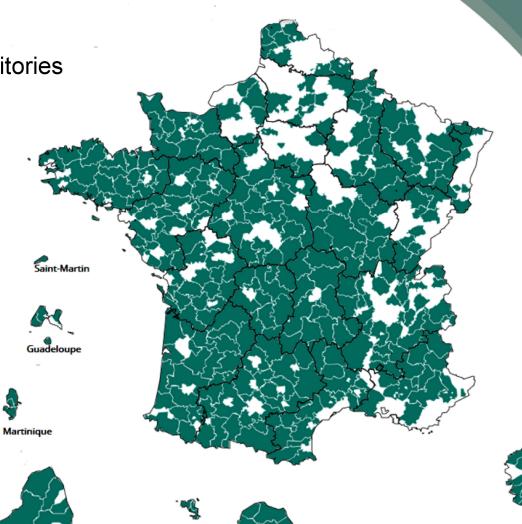
- Only dedicated network to defend the fundamentals of LEADER and the most efficient management of the program.
- Recognized partner who intervenes to relay the difficulties of the territories but also to value their successes and defend the place of rural development in European policies
- Member of many national and European authorities dedicated to LEADER but also of valorization of the rurality.
- ➤ Representing the 340 rural territories involved in the LEADER approach to programming 2014-2020.
- Main objectives: Represent and support LAGs in the implementation of the program and highlight their successes and good practices / Defend the place of rural development in European policies.



## **Local Action Groups**

Evolution from 40 to 340 rural territories engaged. (plus 23 Fisheries LAGs)







### **Local Action Groups**

#### **Composition of a French LAG**

**President** 

**Project Manager** 

Administrative Manager

#### 1 Programming Committee

Approves the strategy
Assesses projects
Votes funding

#### Supporting structure:

- > Regional nature parks (6%)
- > Community of communes (36 %)
- ➤ Pole of rural territories (43 %)
- ➤ Association (15%)
- + 10 000 members of programmin commitee



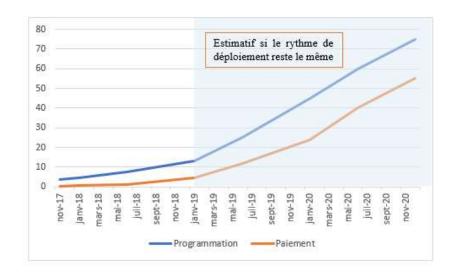
## LEADER 2014 – 2020 State of implementation

2018 marked the effective start of LEADER programming in France, far behind most European countries.

- Blocked due to administrative blockages during the processing of grant application files and feeling of disinterest from Managing Authorities
- Rescue Plan launched by Leader France to save funds and unlock the situation

To March 18, 2019:

- 5,45 % paid
- 17,93 % contracted



But French LAGs have the possibility to schedule projects until December 31, 2022 and to pay until 2023.



## **LEADER FRANCE**

# Implementation of LEADER cooperation in France





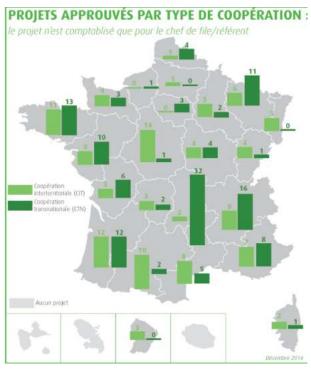
# Cooperation in France Summary of the last period

- ➤196 projects «De l'idée au projet» (From the idea to the project)
- ➤ 256 cooperation projects including 119 interterritorial cooperation projects and 137 transnational projects
- ➤97 % of the 222 LAGs were involved in a cooperation project.
- ➤ 22 countries involved, especially Italy, Spain, Romania, Finland, Poland, Belgium
- ➤ A few non EU countries : Switzerland, USA, Marocco, Montenegro

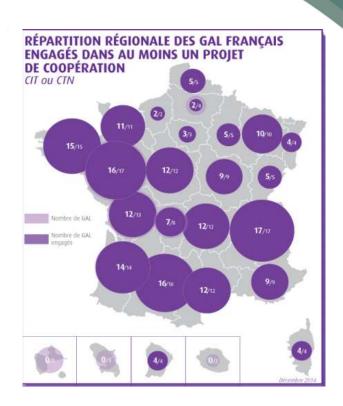




### **Cooperation in France 2007-2013**



Approved projects:
Light green ITC
Deep green TNC



Regional distribution of LAGs involved in at least one cooperation project



## Cooperation in France 2014 -2020 Main principles of implementation

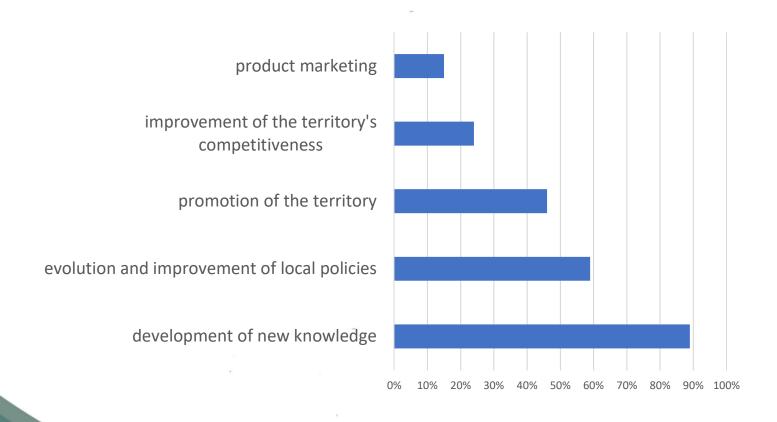
- Same rules as for LEADER 2007-2013 : cooperation is part of the LAG's strategy
- ▶ Part of their LEADER budget allocated to the cooperation of 5% / 78% of the LAGs do not have a public co-financing envelope in return for the EAFRD dedicated to cooperation



- > Regional calls for projects are implemented only in one rural development programme
- ➤ 10 regions out 22 provide support through a Regional Rural Network
- 63% of the LAGs did not carry out a cooperation project on this programming



## Cooperation in France 2014 -2020 What's French LAGs want?





## Cooperation in France 2014 -2020 What's French LAGs want?

- Tourism
- Local products
- Culture and Cultural heritage
- Local energy production / renewable energies
- Basic services
- Territory development
- Natural environment & Resources / Landscape

