



COST ACTION FP 0703

**Echoes: Expected Climate cHange
and Options for European Silviculture**

Country Report: Major points

FRANCE

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Background

France: a **major forest country** in Europe

- 4 **biogeographical regions**
- Forest cover: 28% (15-16 Mha)
- Annual increment: $\approx 100 \text{ Mm}^3/\text{yr}$
- Carbon sink: $\approx 20 \text{ MtC}/\text{yr}$

An "original" emphasis

- **Carbon sequestration** integrated in forest policies from 1990's

Country report: major points

1. *Carbofor project (2002-2004)*

Coordinator: Denis LOUSTAU (INRA)

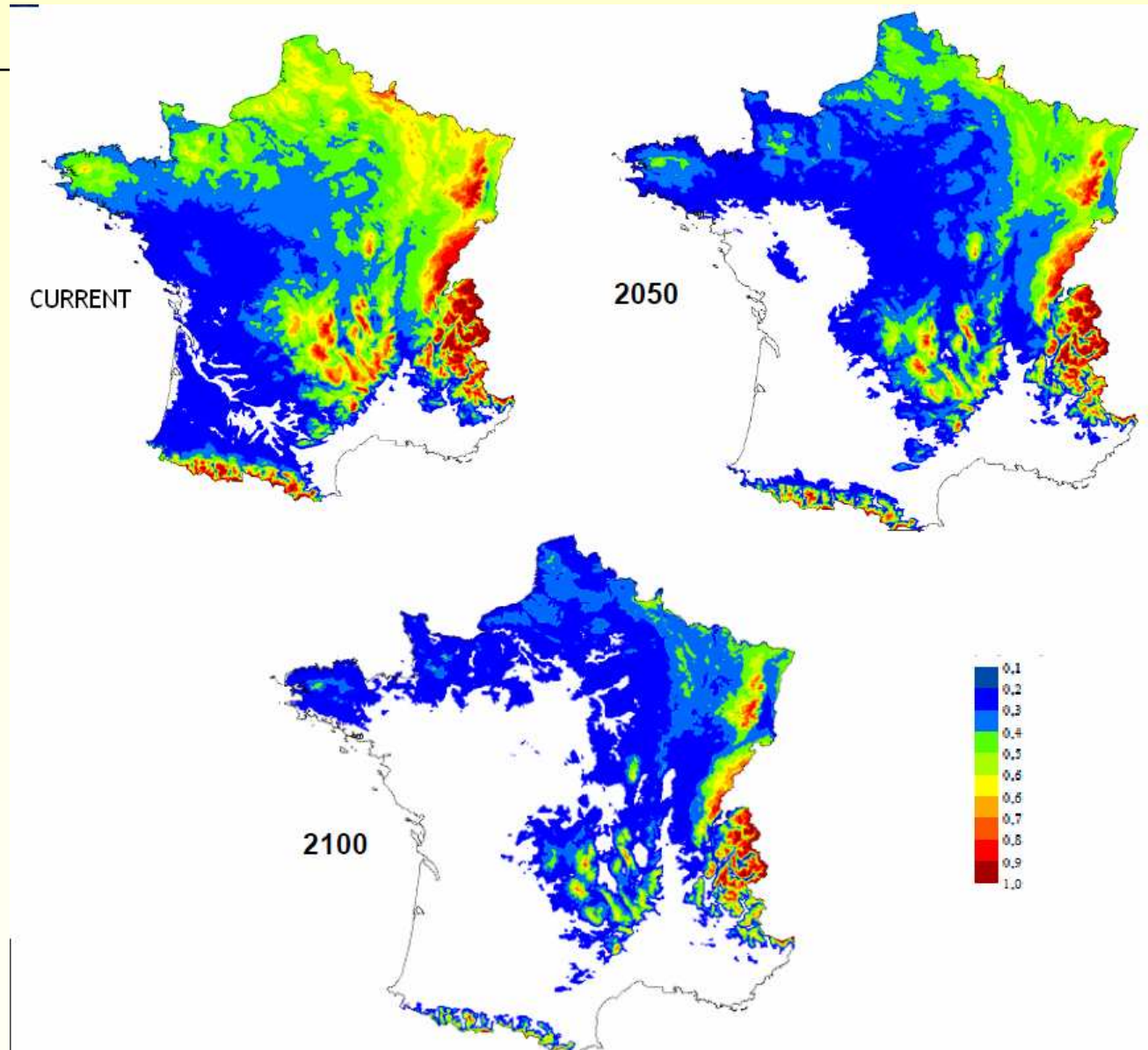
OBJECTIVE: to measure and to represent the impacts of physical, biological and anthropogenic factors on carbon balance in French forests

Key issues:

- Carbon sequestration in French forest ecosystems: carbon balance, carbon stock evaluation
- Climate and silvicultural scenarios: impacts on carbon sequestration, on forest ecosystems hydrology
- Local impact assessment / climate scenarios → Future ecological range for the French major forest species

CARBOFOR :

1 Result: Beech potential ecological range





Country report: major points

2. *Search for adaptation strategies*

Discussions in public/private forestry

Discussions at political level

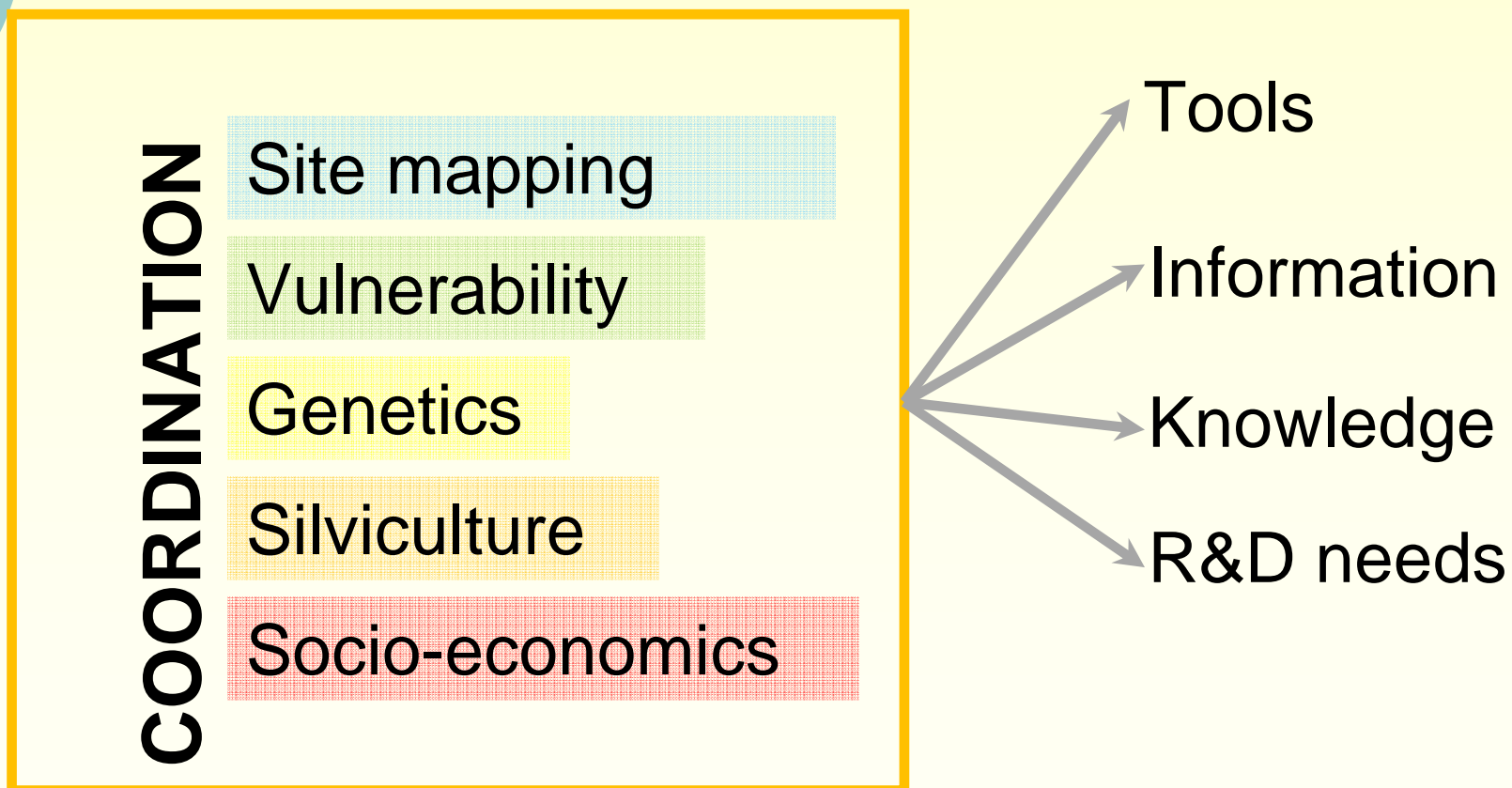
- During the participatory « Grenelle » process
- Official reports, government level
- Ex: Adaptation of French forests to climate change reports (Roman-Amat, 2007)

= **32 proposals** about forest policies, risk management, research, ...

Country report: major points

2. *Adaptation strategies: 1 example*

A Joint R&D network "Forests and Climate Change"



Country report: major points

3. Bioenergy and biodiversity

2006: a study regarding wood availability (Cemagref), especially for bioenergy

→ Lot of available wood, particularly in private forests

But... what about the biodiversity if the French wood harvest increases?

→ 1 report in progress: "Bio 2" (Biomass – Biodiversity), a scientific expertise to assess the impacts of an increased wood harvest in forests



Conclusion

- Current researches regarding impacts and adaptation with a major issue on **uncertainties and their management**
- Currently, the forestry policy is:
Harvesting more and preserve better How to implement and manage this statement?



Thank you!
