

« NaturAdapt,  
l'indispensable adaptation. »



## Climate change and biodiversity conservation

### Which synergies in the current legal framework of France?

Camille Chanard  
Pierre Strosser



Wednesday March 25th 2020  
Digital Sigen Seminar

## A presentation in 5 steps

1. What was the study's objective?
2. What did we do (methodology) ?
3. Which role(s) can nature play in adaptation to climate change?
4. Which added value of nature protection for climate change adaptation?
5. How to ensure nature protected areas are well considered in climate change adaptation policies?

# 1. What was our objective ?

A study carried out in the context of the NaturAdapt LIFE+ project

## **Its objectives?**

To investigate how current planning frameworks and documents consider the links between biodiversity (nature) protection & adaptation to climate change

... to better capture the role(s) protected areas could/can play in climate change adaptation strategies

## 2. What did we do?

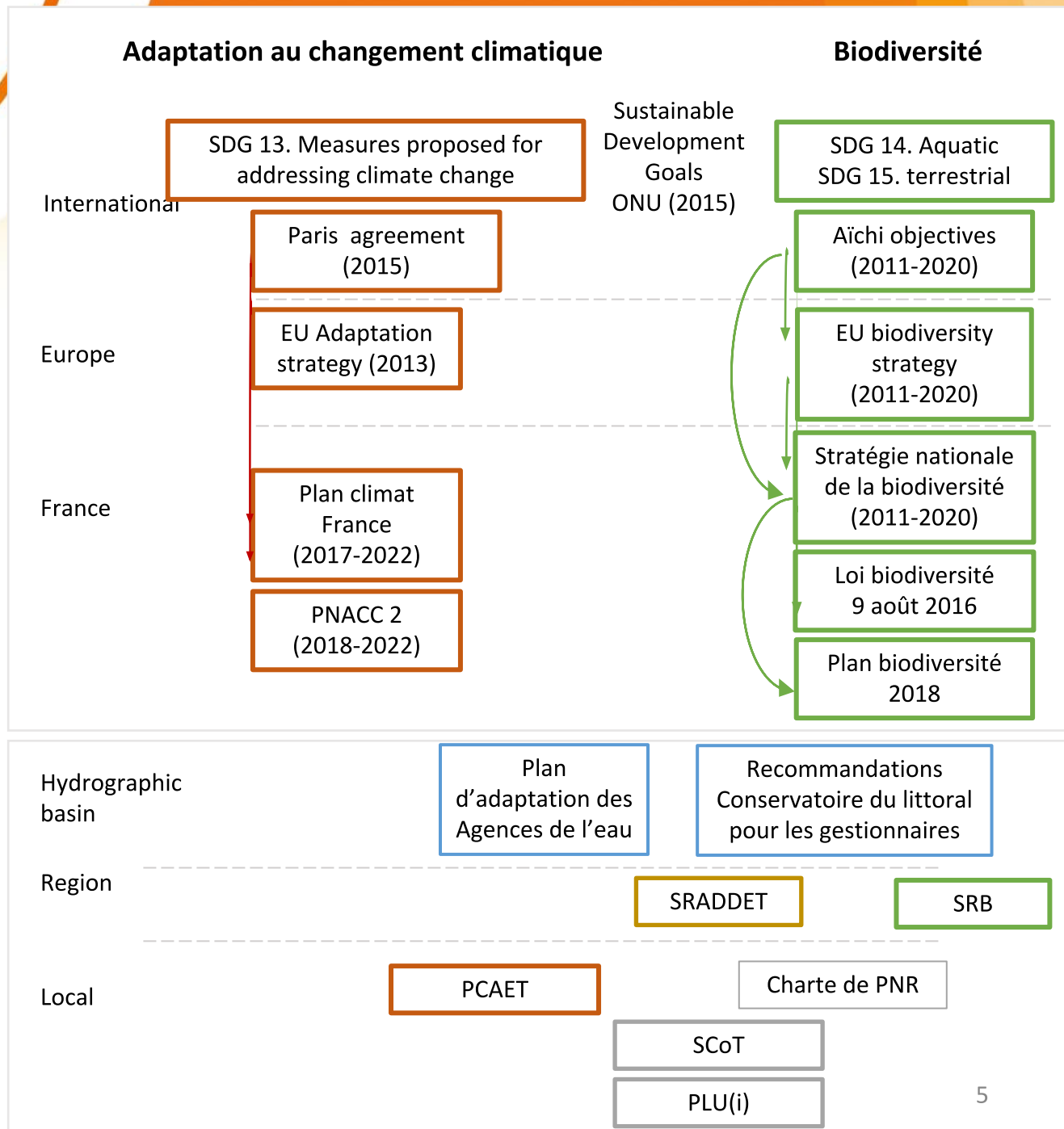
### **Review of literature/documents (30 documents):**

- Studies and synthesis documents
- Planning documents, operational programmes et pilot projects at different spatial/decision making scales

**Interviews (20 personnes)** of experts, planners, decision makers... from the local to national scales

**Workshop (35 participants)**

A shared issue critically questioned



### 3. Which role(s) can nature play in adaptation to climate change?

#### Screening planning documents

**Biodiversity focused:** : the question of adaptation to climate change is rarely addressed and developed

**Climate change focus:** references to nature (biodiversity, ecosystems...) vague and not well developed

**In both cases:** no reference to how protected areas could contribute to adaptation to climate change

### 3. Which role(s) can nature play in adaptation to climate change?

The main « bridging concepts » between nature and climate change adaptation

#### References to....

- Ecosystem fonctions
- Ecosystem services
- Nature-based solutions

*... without clearly defining in the majority of cases what these notions encompass and imply in operational terms*

*... But... time is passing fast: rapid evolution in how these concepts are considered and understood*

### 3. Which role(s) can nature play in adaptation to climate change?

#### **Examples of how nature is (explicitly or implicitly) referred to in climate change adaptation strategies**

- Stressing the importance of protecting biodiversity because of its intrinsic value
- Describing the impacts of climate change on biodiversity
- Biodiversity protection as support to climate change adaptation
- Promoting infiltration/fighting against soil artificialisation as a transversal objective



### 3. Which role(s) can nature play in adaptation to climate change?

#### **Examples of the roles nature can play in relation to climate change adaptation in land use/planning documents**

- Enhance climate mitigation and resilience (general)
- Enhance water retention and reduce flood risk
- Regional to global cooling provided by forest areas
- Mitigation of coastal submersion risk

## 4. Which added value of nature protection for climate change adaptation?

### Capacity to play different roles

- **Refuge area** : providing the right conditions for key habitats and species
- **Knowledge**: monitoring biodiversity changes along with changes in climate (observatory), helping to capture how climate change might impact biodiversity (intra-protected area heterogeneity)
- Contributing to the overall **resilience** of territories
- Contribution to **water retention**, reduction of **flood risk** and air **cooling**

\*

*\*: because of location/size: limited cooling (far from urban centers), water self-purification (not in intensive areas), and water infiltration roles...)*

## 5. How to ensure nature protected areas are well considered in climate change adaptation policies?

### To accompany NPA managers

- **Develop a common advocacy for the role of NPA in climate change adaptation** – for different scales from local (be heart from local planers and elected people) to national (get MPs understand how important nature and protection is for climate change adaptation)
- **Bring the expertise of NPA managers to planning processes at different scales** (mutualisation/common pool of knowledge at the catchment/river basin scale, region...)
- Support **share of (demonstrated) practice** on the role of NPA in climate change adaptation at different scales

## 5. How to ensure nature protected areas are well considered in climate change adaptation policies?

### **To support the explicit integration of NPA in local planning processes and documents**

- Participate in territorial planning processes to bring visibility to NPA
- Share knowledge and enhance biodiversity/nature protection literacy of local stakeholder
- Justify more resources allocated to NPA because of their contribution to the resilience of territory

## 5. How to ensure nature protected areas are well considered in climate change adaptation policies?

### Adapting protection

- **Widen the knowledge-base produced :**
  - Marginal impact of climate change (assuming constant anthropogenic pressures, providing a wider look than monitoring only « your protected species »)
  - other societal benefits nature-based solutions and protection can deliver (e.g. monitoring ecosystem services your protected area delivers)
- **Critically review Nature Protection**
  - Limited connections between NPA => limited role as wider refuge areas and connection => get connected corridors « in »
  - Or put efforts in supporting the development of adapted (land use) management for connected corridors/territories

*As the detrimental impact of climate change threatens the planet, **protected areas provide a convenient solution** to an inconvenient truth.*

***Better managed, better connected, better governed** and better financed protected areas are recognized as the key to both mitigation and adaptation responses to climate change.*

*Convention on biological diversity*

*<https://www.cbd.int/protected/overview/>*

# Thanks for your attention!

Camille Chanard & Pierre STOSSER,



Contact : [c.chanard@acteon-environment.eu](mailto:c.chanard@acteon-environment.eu) & [p.strosser@acteon-environment.eu](mailto:p.strosser@acteon-environment.eu)

Coordinateur du projet



Contact : [naturadapt-rnf@espaces-naturels.fr](mailto:naturadapt-rnf@espaces-naturels.fr) 03.80.48.91.00

Partenaires engagés dans le projet



Financeurs du projet



AGENCE FRANÇAISE  
POUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ  
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

The NaturAdapt project has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union