

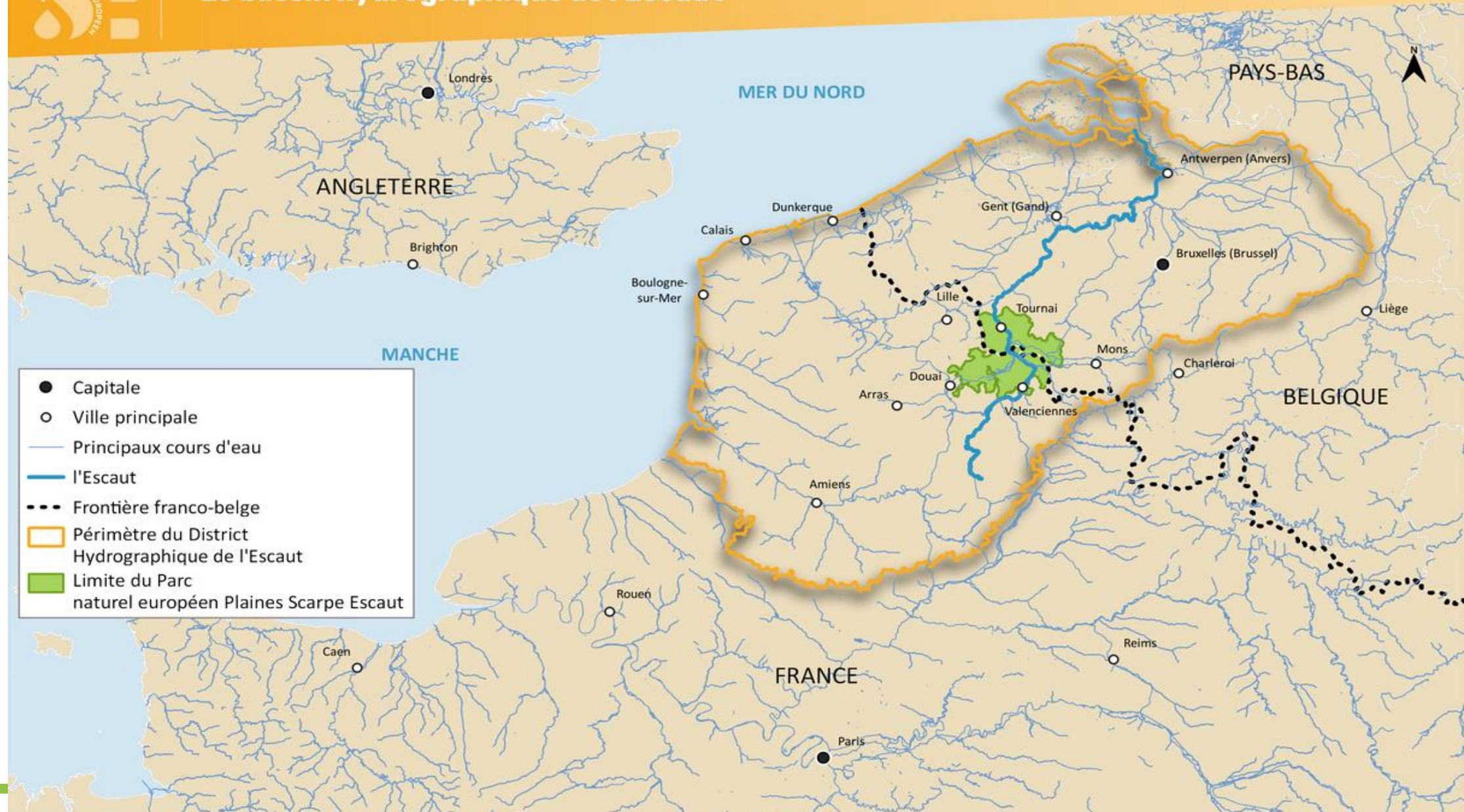
Life Natur'Adapt Methodology applied to Scarpe Escaut Plains Nature Park (FR/BE)

Thursday 6th of October, 2022

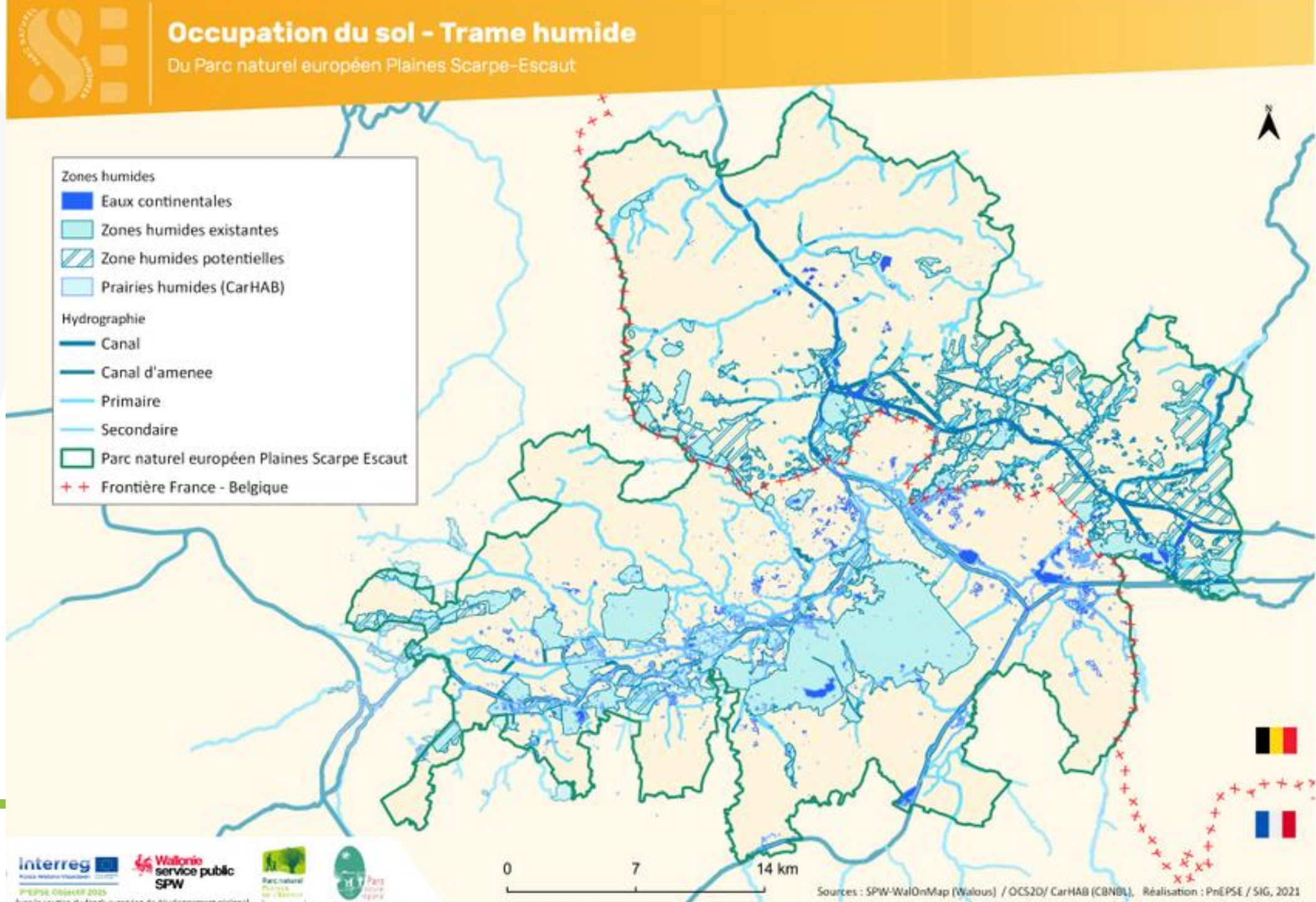
EUROPARC Conference
Argelès-sur-Mer



1- Presentation of the area and climate change challenges



- The same watershed
- The same pool of life
- 127 villages
- 950 km² (i.e. 485 (FR) and 465 (BE))
- 292,000 inhabitants (190,000 (FR) + 102,000 (BE))





Aeshne Isocele



Crested newt



Field frog



Marsh hottonies

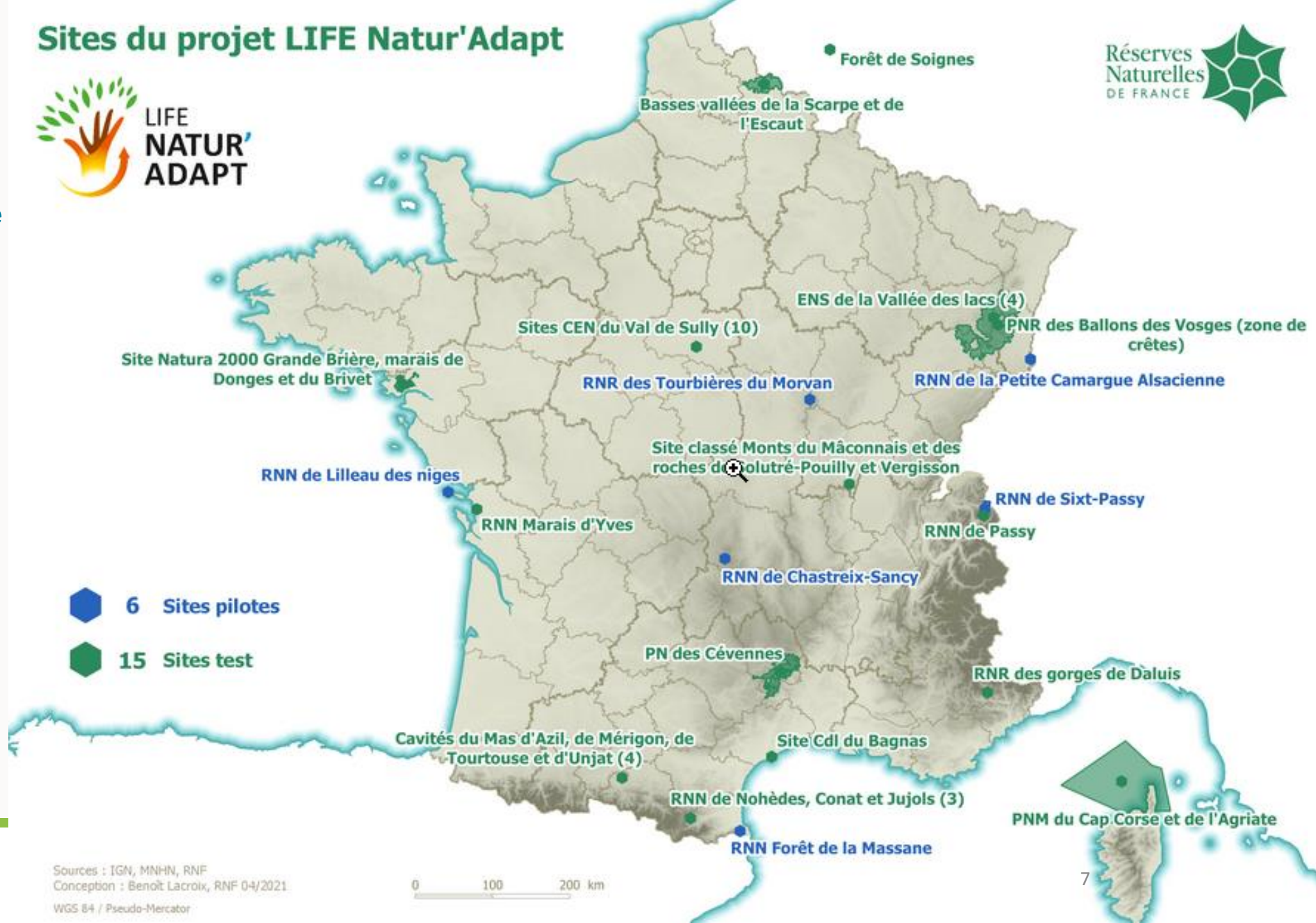


Sphagnum

2- Few general information about Natur'Adapt methodology

- LIFE project (2018–2023) which aims to include the issue of adaptation to climate change into the management of European protected areas.
- Coordinated by France Natural Areas (RNF), and several technical partners including Europarc.
- Internal project team 3 agents (BE) 5 agents (FR).
- One method: a vulnerability analysis + an adaptation plan.

Sites du projet LIFE Natur'Adapt



Vulnerability analysis and prospective analysis



The objectives of drafting this « climate story/ narrative » is to:

- See to what extent **wetlands in the transboundary territory are vulnerable to climate change** and integrate this data into environmental management
- Define **the impact of this vulnerability** on the emblematic fauna and flora species and on the ecosystem services (modifications, accentuation, regression)
- **Take into account non-climatic pressures**, which have an impact on natural environments, in a territorial, transversal and sectoral approach
- **Define management orientations, practices and uses...** for the maintenance of emblematic natural environments

3- How are we applying this methodology to our area?



Studying the vulnerability of ecosystem services provided by wetlands in relation to climate change

Category	Definition	Examples
Support	Necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training ground • nutrient cycles • Primary production
Supply	Products obtained from ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and water • Fuel • woods and Fiber • Genetic resources
Regulation	Benefits accruing to the regulation of ecosystem processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate regulation • Regulation of diseases • Water regulation
Cultural	Intangible benefits obtained from ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiritual and Religious • Recreation and ecotourism • Aesthetic

Studying the vulnerability of ecosystem services provided by wetlands in relation to climate change



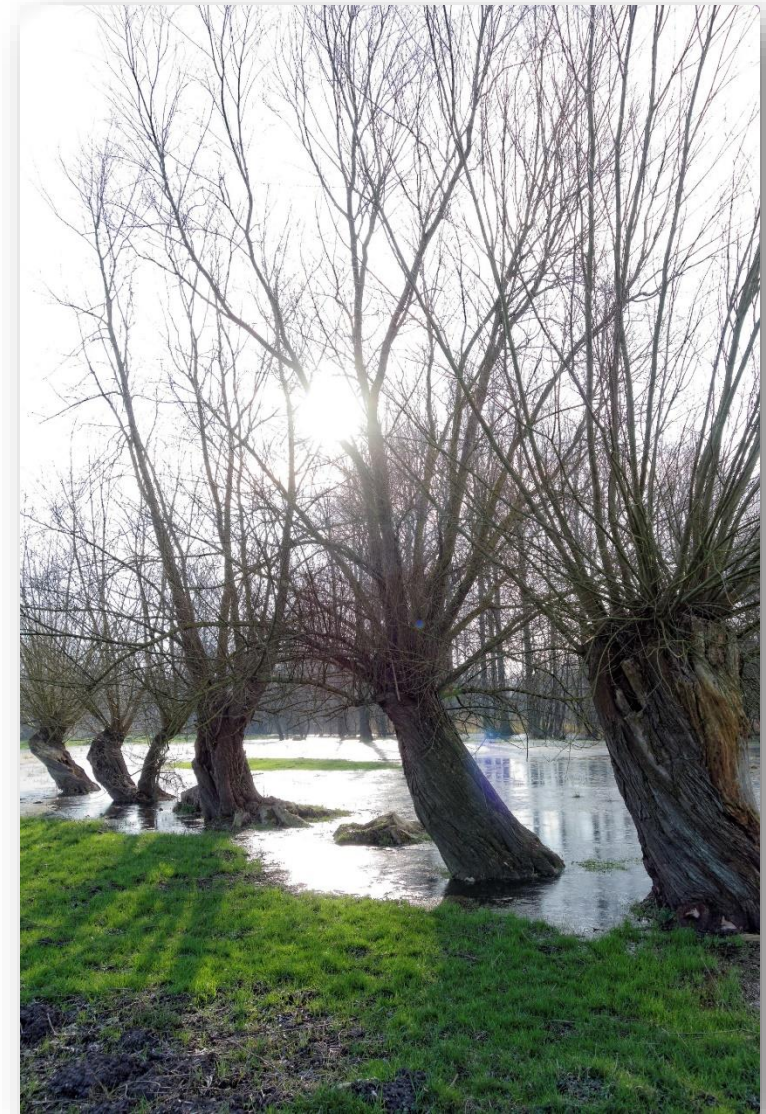
- Past time analysis: Global rise of temperatures since 1980s
- Prospective analysis in 50, 100 and 200 years: irregularity and intensity of precipitations
- Expected impacts :
 - *Modification of the precocity of vegetation recoveries,
 - *Increase of evapotranspiration, risk of competition in the access for water and tendency to gradually dry up environments,
 - *Increase discharge of groundwater,
 - *Modification of species distribution areas,
 - *Disappearance of local species and competition with invasive species,
 - *Risk of forest dieback
 - *Risk of new bacteria

The vulnerability analysis shows a sensitivity and fragility of wet environments linked to climate change



		Vulnerability to climate change
Areas Typology	Rainforest	Highly vulnerable
	Monospecific afforestation	Highly vulnerable
	Wet meadow	Very Highly vulnerable
	Pond	vulnerable
	Mining collapse ponds and ponds	Highly vulnerable
	Marsh, bog, reed bed	Very Highly vulnerable
	Wet wasteland	Highly vulnerable

Time to protect our wetlands!



4- How the cross-border cooperation is helping?

The role of the EGTC European Nature Park of Scarpe-Escaut Plains



The adaptation plan relays recommendations regarding 4 main issues concerning cross-border cooperation:

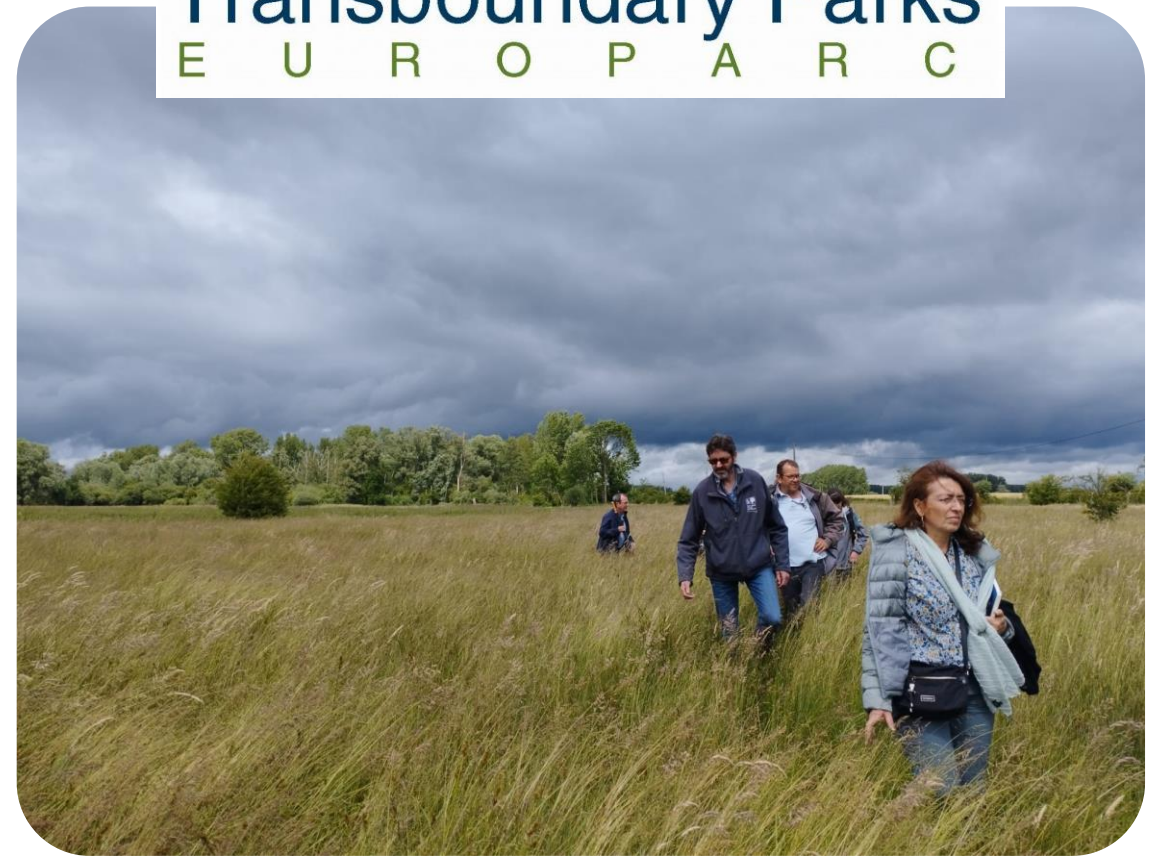
- Water management
- Natural risk management
- Ecological continuities
- Funding opportunities

The role of the EGTC European Nature Park of Scarpe-Escaut Plains



Making territory's issues heard by global institutions

The study provides concrete evidence of the issues at stake. It must feed the debates at regional, national and European level.



**Thanks for
your
attention !**

