A network of 54 natural regional Parks

- More than **4400 cities**,  
- 15 Regions (2 of which are overseas)  
- 73 « Départements » (Districts)  
- **+4,1 millions inhabitants**  
- 2 200 employees  
- **9 biosphere areas**  

- **20 RAMSAR sites**  
- **45% of forested areas**  
- **9,3 million hectares**,  
- **15% of French territory**
What is a Park?

- rural area inhabited
- a remarkable natural and landscape entity
- A strong identity

Decree establishing Regional Natural Parks - March 1, 1967
The Regions' Initiative
A ranking by the Prime Minister
The expressed will of the municipalities

- A charter (project, plan, statutes):
- PROJECT and CONTRACT for shared sustainable development
- energy transition and adaptation are included in the charter just like biodiversity
- Renewed every 15 years
- A registered trademark
What is a Park? Main goals

1. Protect landscapes and natural and cultural heritage, including through appropriate management;

2. Contribute to land use planning;

3. Contribute to economic, social, cultural development and quality of life;

4. Contribute to welcoming, educating and informing the public;

5. Carry out experimental or exemplary actions in the above-mentioned fields and contribute to research programmes. (*R333-1 code de l'environnement*)
biodiversity and energy: two transitions that complement each other

Parks in action

Always evaluate projects in the light of these challenges

Light pollution (Scarpe Escaut)
Energy wood (Avesnois)
wind power (Narbonnaise in the Mediterranean)
Photovoltaic (Quercy)
hydraulics (Grands Causses)

We must reconcile these challenges with those of the regional nature parks and propose solutions that are compatible and transferable without disrupting the economic and social model