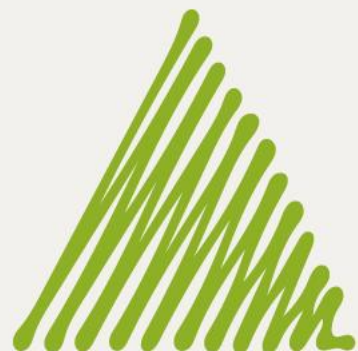


XIII European Mountain Convention

Shaping the future of mountain economies

15 - 18 October 2024 | Puigcerdà - Catalonia



SERVICE
PASTORALISME

de la Chambre régionale d'agriculture d'Occitanie



Raphaële CHARMETANT
Anne ROUQUETTE

Services élevage et pastoralisme

Chambres d'agriculture Occitanie et Pyrénées Orientales

Integrating grazing into fire risk management strategies

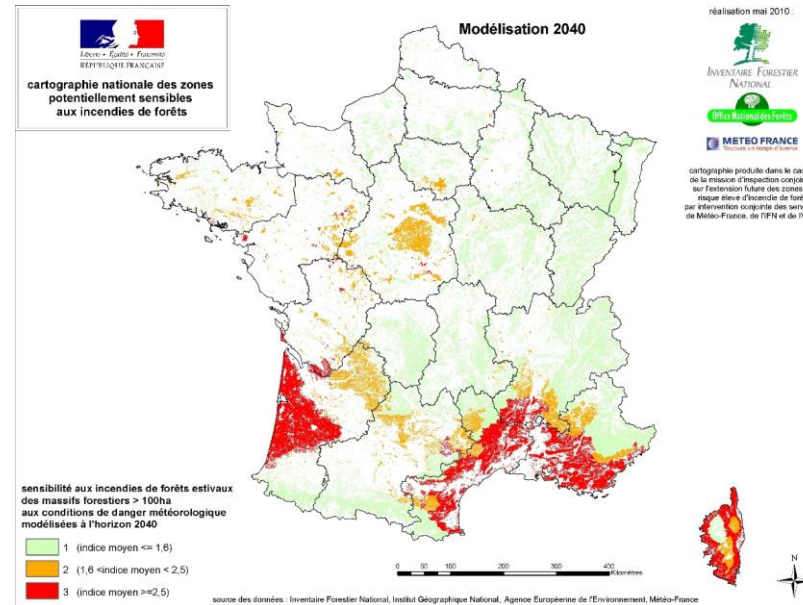
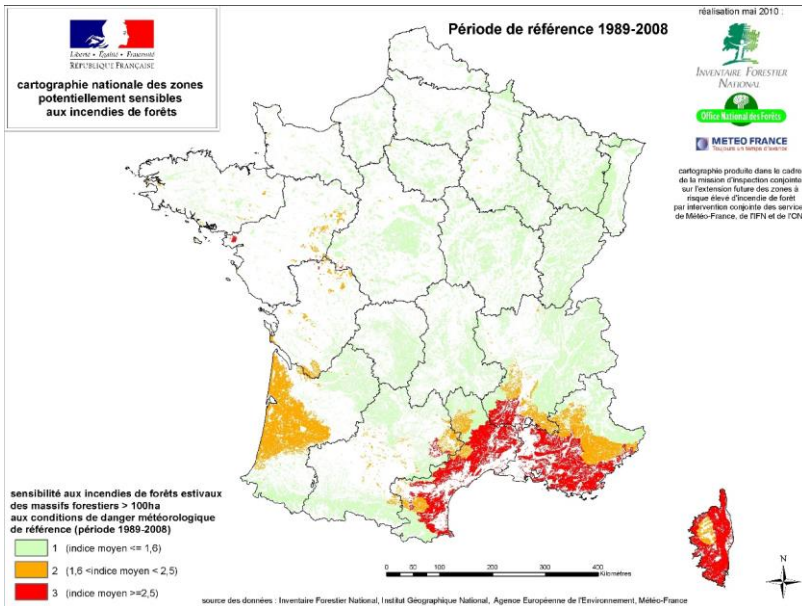
Situation in south France

raphaele.charmetant@occitanie.chambagri.fr

a.rouquette@pyrenees-orientales.chambagri.fr

FIRE RISK IN FRANCE

- Fire risks are not decreasing and climate change is increasing their scale



Wind, heat, drought, shrubs... It's paradise!



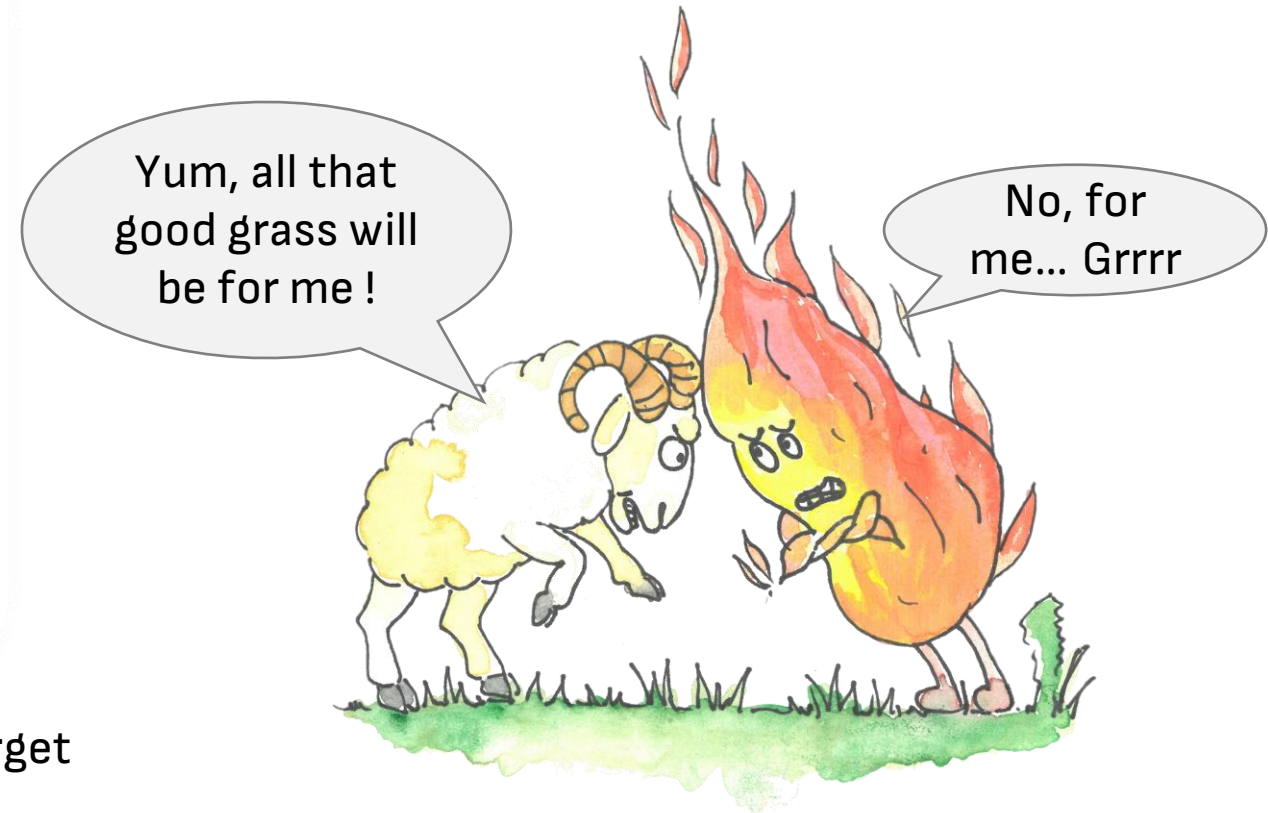
FOCUS ON MEDITERRANEAN AREAS

In the Mediterranean zone (in mainland France), nearly 10,000 sheep, cattle, goat and horse farms graze 1.4 million hectares.



But contracts are necessary to target maintenance

Pastoral livestock farming is very present in semi-natural areas and can contribute to limiting the risk.



What is a firebreak ?



Les différents dispositifs de coupure de combustible



M.Dimanche - 2007 (d'après schémas CEMAGREF & Réseau Coupures de Combustible)





© Collectivité de Corse, ODARC



© SEPO



L. Roux



A PARTNERSHIP OF OVER 30 YEARS

Creation of a "fuel cuts" network in the great south of France in 1992, contributions from all stakeholders in pastoralism, forestry, firefighting.

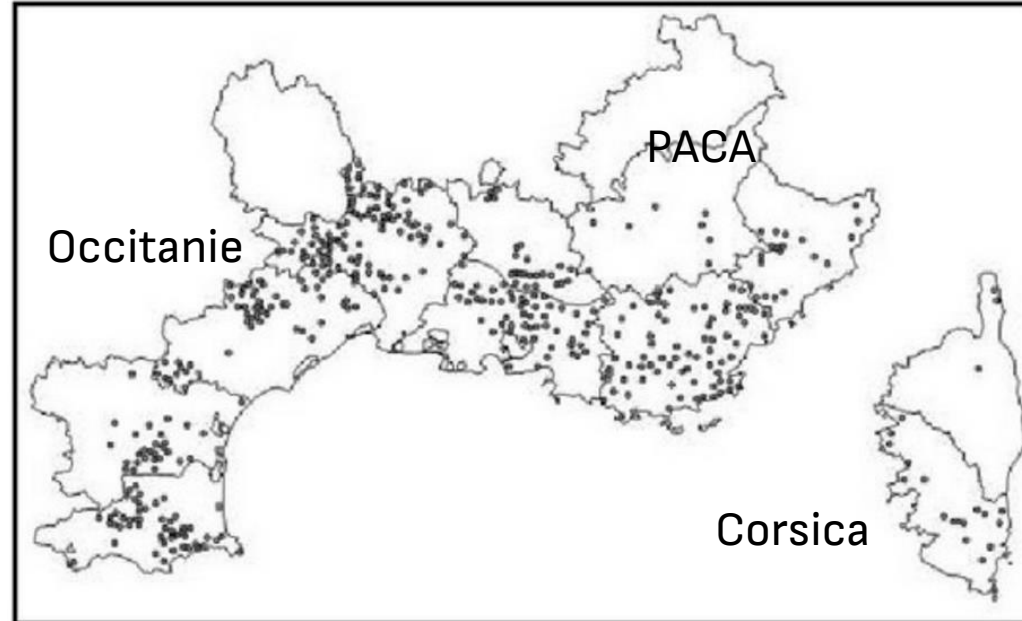
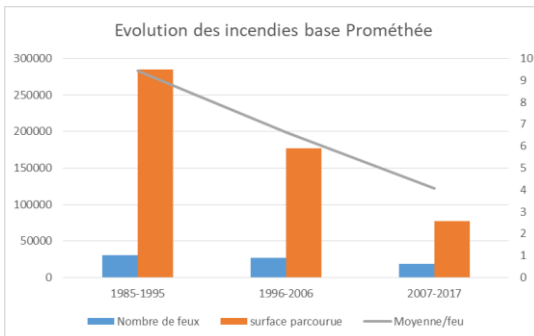
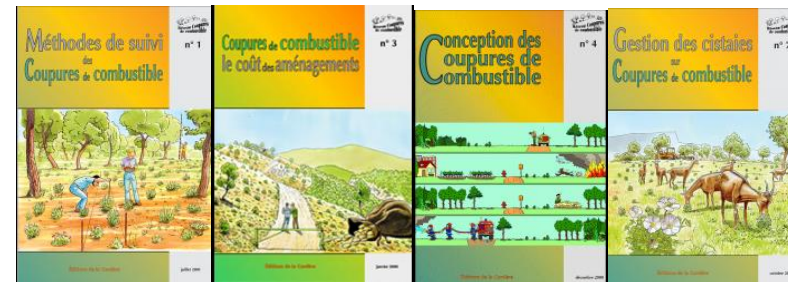


Figure 2. Localisation des coupures de combustible où le pâturage participe à l'entretien D.F.C.I. (Réseau Coupures de Combustible - 2000).



with encouraging results (90s and 2000s)



TO REMUNERATE THAT WORK : AECM CONTRACTS

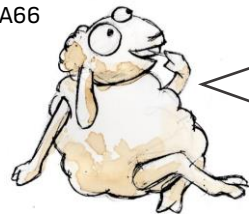


© A. ROUQUETTE / CA66

On the strategic area :

- Eat all the grass before summer (no dry grass that can burn) and the edible shrubs
- Clear the shrubs (less than 30% recovery) if necessary and if nobody else does it (depends on regions)

On the pastoral complementary area : eat the grass and edible shrubs



Hehe, I ate everything before summer!

Grunf! There's nothing left to eat in this sector!

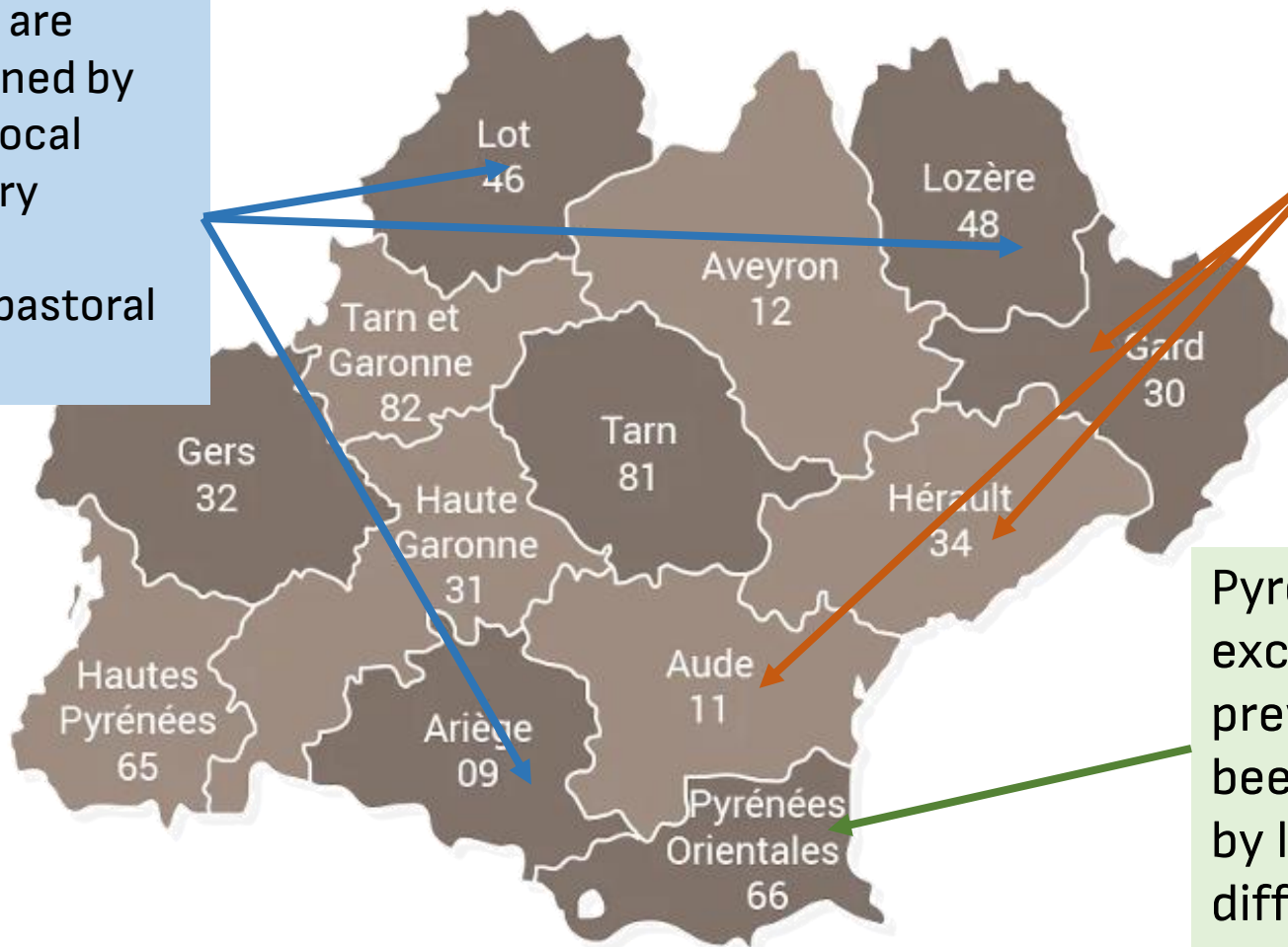


CONTRASTING SITUATIONS IN OCCITANIE

Ariège, Lot, Lozère: departments which are increasingly concerned by fire risk and where local stakeholders are very interested in the implementation of pastoral firebreaks

Gard, Hérault, Aude: a very strong mobilization in the 90s-2000s but which resisted poorly to the yo-yo effects of Agro-Environmental Measures systems. Restart from 0 in 2023!

Pyrénées-Orientales (the exception!): a pastoral fire prevention policy which has been continually supported by local actors, despite the difficulties.



IN EACH TERRITORY, PARTNERSHIPS ON FIRE PREVENTION



Anne, can you tell me how you design the contracts in the Oriental Pyrénées ?

Common base of partners in all territories where pastoral prevention measures are developed:

Administration, local authorities, State



Foresters

Firemen



Farmers and agricultural services



Actors sometimes mobilized but not always (sometimes even divergence of interest): environment (ex : natural parks) in certain Spanish regions or in PACA





what motivates breeders?



© Les productions de la main verte



Why do they need public support ?



© C DUPERRON/SEPO

*Massif des Albères
Pyrénées Orientales*



What are the constraints for them ?



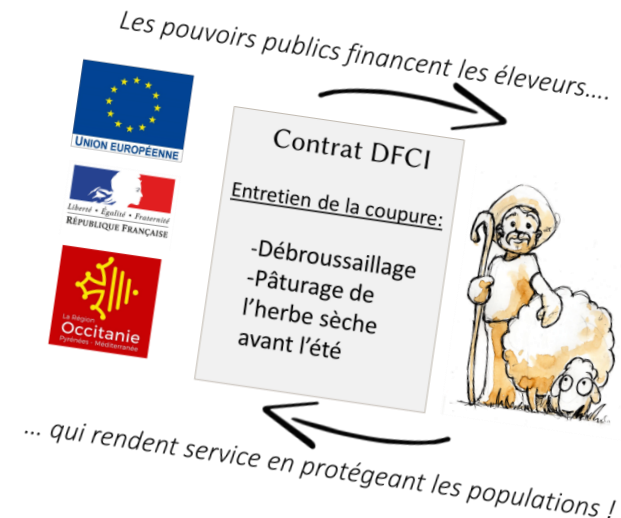
© C DUPERRON/SEPO

*Coupure de combustible pâturée Massif des Albères
Pyrénées Orientales*

SOME GENERATIONS OF AECM CONTRACTS



Agri-environmental contracts (5 years)
 Financing: CAP (2nd pillar)
 The rules change with each reform



Local operations (first experimentations):
 local specifications, local control

Regional devices

National system (catalogue of measures) with regional
 variation

No Fire prevention
 (officially) anymore

*It was more simple
 before!*

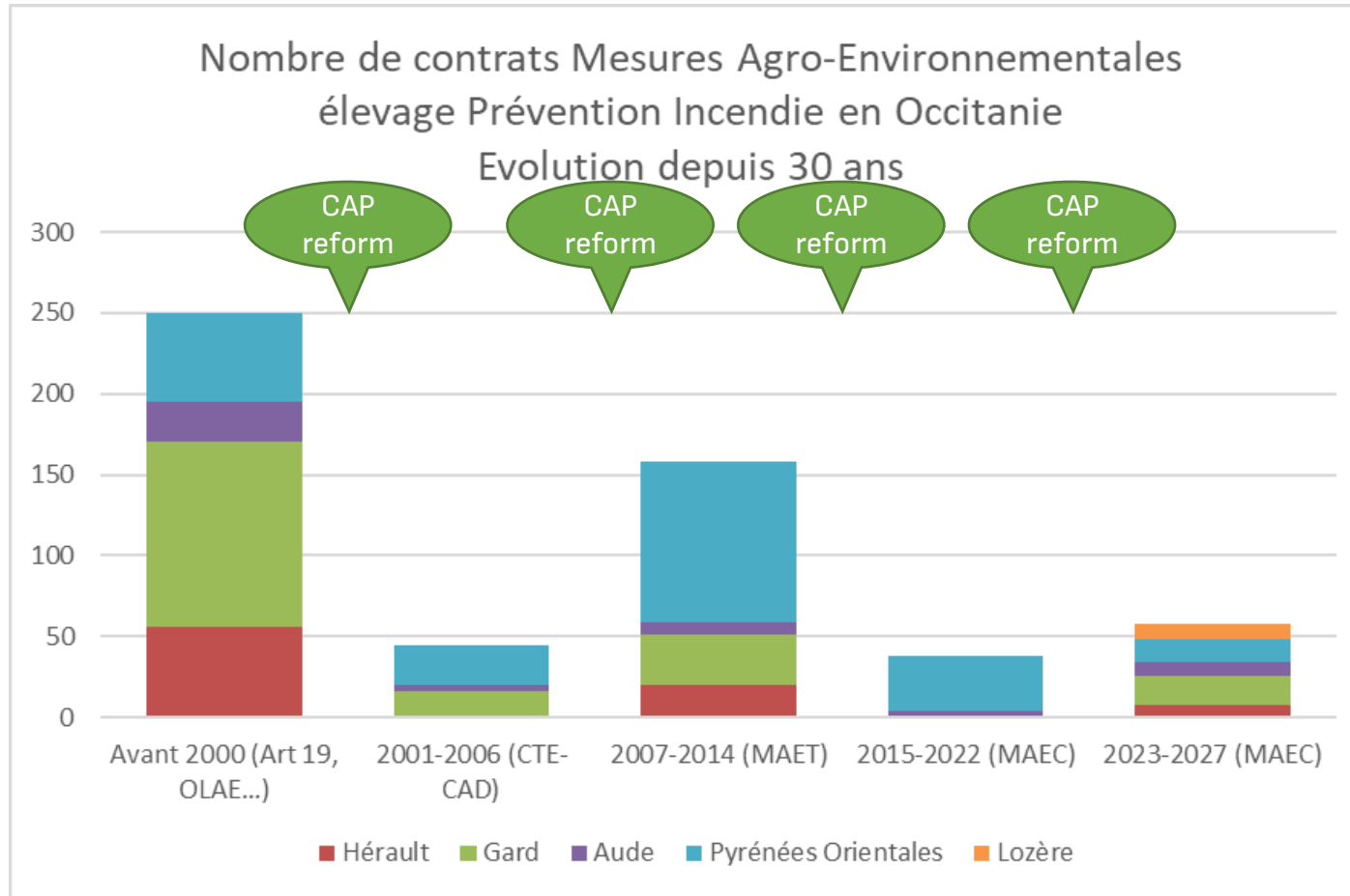


*Less and less specific specifications
 Less and less appropriate remuneration and controls
 Increasing complexity*



Weaknesses in coherent long-term funding...

A slowdown since the 2000s: refocusing of state funds on control and surveillance, less targeted and less remunerative agro-environmental measures.



Before the last CAP reform

- Audits in farms to estimate the real costs of that work
- Working groups to make propositions for the ministry
- Communication

2023-2024 Occitanie

- The right to use officially AECM for pastoral firebreaks
- Improvements in national catalog, but...
- Only 4 millions Euros for fire prevention AECM (less than 100 contracts)
- 58 farmers engaged in 2023



Other reflexions... For the future

- AECM : farmers are paid for additional costs
- Ecosystemic services payments : farmers are paid for a service



2003-24 : prefiguration study... For the future !

Today : « immature market »



Entreprises

Association



Farmers



Lessons learned & recommendations

- Key success factors

Result-based
adapted
measures

regular and
sufficient funds

Partnerships
Animation

***more political
recognition?***



Gràcies
Gracias
Thank you
Merci

