Transboundary cooperation

No borders for air quality

As experts on air quality monitoring, the Observatories collaborate in the framework of European projects to improve knowledge, especially concerning modeling, inventories and particle measurements. Technological advances rise new questions. The experts confirm the need for a rapprochement with the actors who observe and monitor the state of play information. The implication of our territories in different cross-border projects allowed this rapprochement.

Transboundary cooperation

- INTERREG Upper Rhin programs: France, Germany, Switzerland
- INTERREG Big Region: France, Benelux
- ALCOTRA: Italian and French cooperation
- INTERREG Alpine Arc, etc.

International Research

The French Observatories Network must maintain strong interactions with the scientific world, share its expertise and promote its knowledge on an international scale. Involved in different international cooperation (visits of delegations, support of national and international programs, contributions with public or private local actors, enterprises), this also allows Atmo France to enhance and consolidate a unique expertise on the French territories.

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Atmo France Federation, French Observatories for Air Quality Monitoring

Associations Accredited by The French Ministry of Ecology
**Atmo France Federation**

The Observatories for Air Quality Monitoring are present all over the French territory (metropolitan and overseas) in a sustainable and equitable manner to monitor air quality, to forecast pollution episodes, to inventory energy consumption as well as emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases, to inform and sensitize the population and to assessing the impact of mitigation measures.

**One Observatory of Air Quality Monitoring by Administrative Territory**

Associations accredited by the French Ministry of Ecology

Neutralité et indépendance

Reliable and transparent information, homogeneous indicators throughout the national territory. 

Territorial anchoring, close to local authorities, public and private actors

Balance representative parties: French Ministry of Ecology, Communities, Enterprises, associations and qualified personalities on health & environment

Diversified financiers: French Ministry of Ecology, Communities, Enterprises via Tax on Pollution Activities

**State Partnership**

In France, air quality monitoring is mandatory and regulated by the Environmental Code. The law related to energy transition for green growth requires:

- the integration of the targets to reduce the exposure of citizens to air pollution in the objective of an energy transition;
- the acceleration of the transformation of the French car fleet towards less polluting vehicles;
- to give the possibility to the mayors to reserve the circulation to the least polluting vehicles on all or part of their commune;
- to incentivize financially the conversion of the most polluting vehicles;
- the promotion of less emitting means of transport development;
- to set national targets for reducing air pollutant emissions in the Pollutant Emission Reduction Plan.

The Observatories are the heart of the national monitoring system governed by the French Ministry of Ecology. The scientific and technical coordination is assured by the Central Air Quality Monitoring Laboratory (LCSQA). The territorial implementation is coordinated by the Observatories.

**Key figures:**

- **19** Air Quality Monitoring Observatories in France
- **1900** analysers set up and fixed
- **550** experts: engineers, technicians, communication chimistes and project managers...
- **670** measurement stations spread on all the territory

**Sources of Pollution related to natural and human activities**

State Partnership

Integrated actions on Air, Health, Climate, Energy

The privilege approach is to reconcile the issues of climate and air pollution and to avoid the negatives interactions on the same levels:

Example: For the energy and urban planning, the air quality must be take into account in the territorial coherence schemes, as well as in local town planning plans or concerted management zone regulations.

**Tools available:**

Atmo France also assists in the inclusion of the air component in the climat. The Observatories support the collectivities in their policies and actions in favor of air quality and combatting climate change.

Their expertise came through different actions:

- Expertise, diagnostic and scripting;
- Support, consultation and action prioritizing;
- Modeling and action efficiency simulation;
- Evaluation thanks to annual indicators.

**Local Authorities Partnership**