

SAGE, a tool for local water management

The 2025 edition

The SAGE reconciles...



DIFFERENT USES
(drinking water,
industry, agriculture...)



PROTECTION OF AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTS



SPECIFICITY OF THE TERRITORY

The role of the SAGE

The **Schéma d'aménagement et de gestion de l'eau (SAGE)** is a local planning tool, established by the 1992 Act, for the balanced and sustainable management of water resources.

The development of a SAGE

The SAGE is developed collectively by the water actors of the territory grouped together in a deliberative assembly, the Local Water Commission (Commission Locale de l'Eau, CLE).

204

Number of SAGE in France (January 2025)

50

Average number of people in a CLE in 2025

SAGE approval

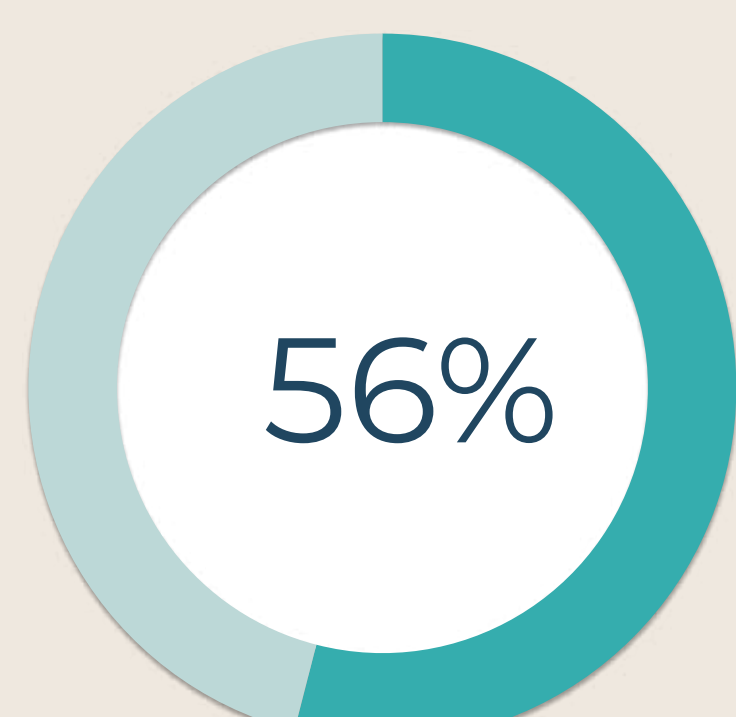
This step involves the concrete implementation of the SAGE, through the orientations and provisions it contains.

SAGE implemented

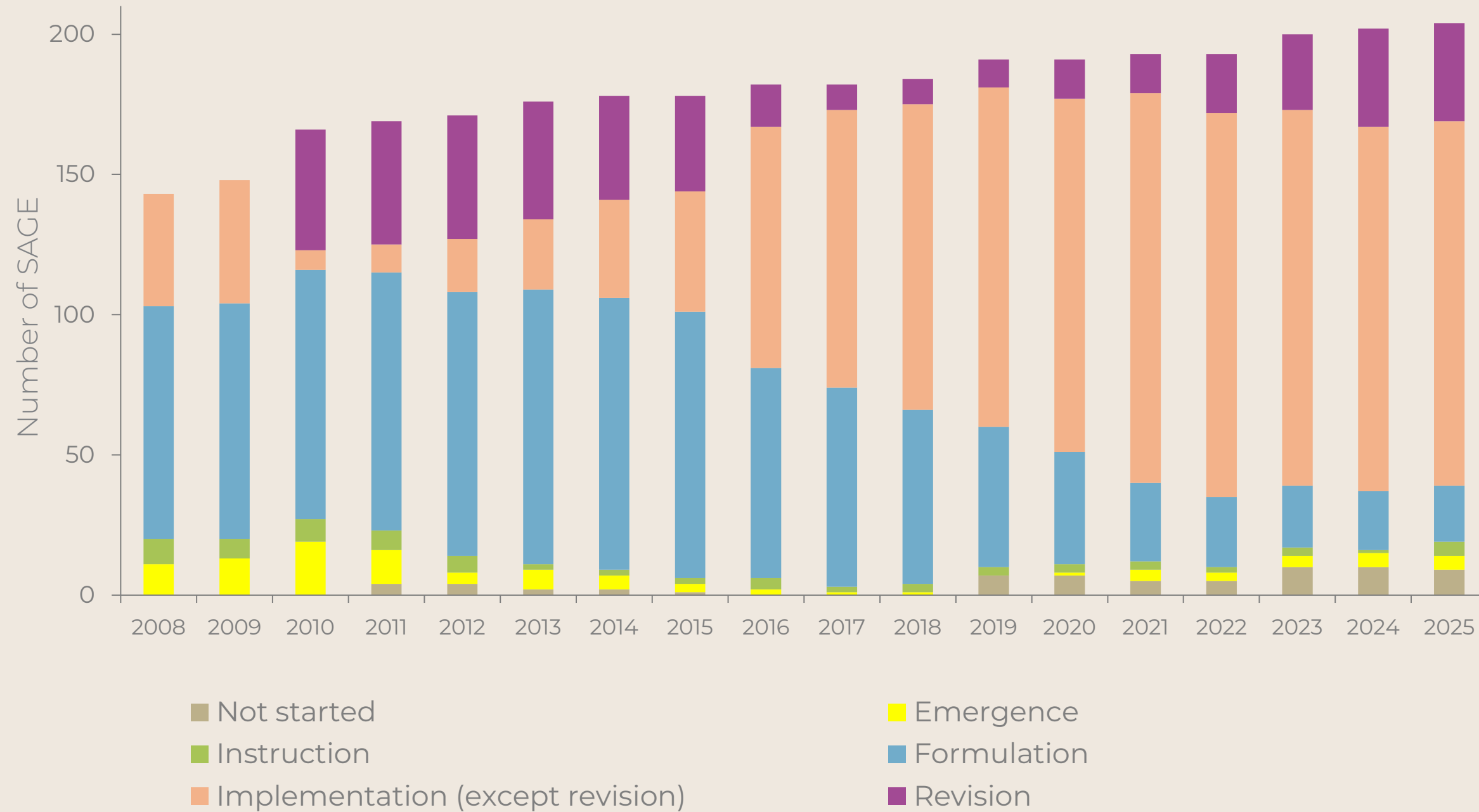
43% in 2015 vs **81% in 2025**

An increase in the number of SAGE in France

Evolution of the number of SAGE by status



OF THE TERRITORY COVERED BY A SAGE IN 2025



The steps in the life of a SAGE

NOT STARTED

- The State services identify the hydrographic units likely to be covered by a SAGE.

EMERGENCE

- A preliminary file relating to the SAGE is made ;
- The basin committee and the prefect assess the relevance of the project.



INSTRUCTION

- The perimeter boundary order is signed ;
- Some reflections about the CLE composition start.

FORMULATION

- The creation of the CLE is signed ;
- The drafting of SAGE documents begins: they are subject to a consultation and a public inquiry ;
- The documents are validated by the CLE.



IMPLEMENTATION

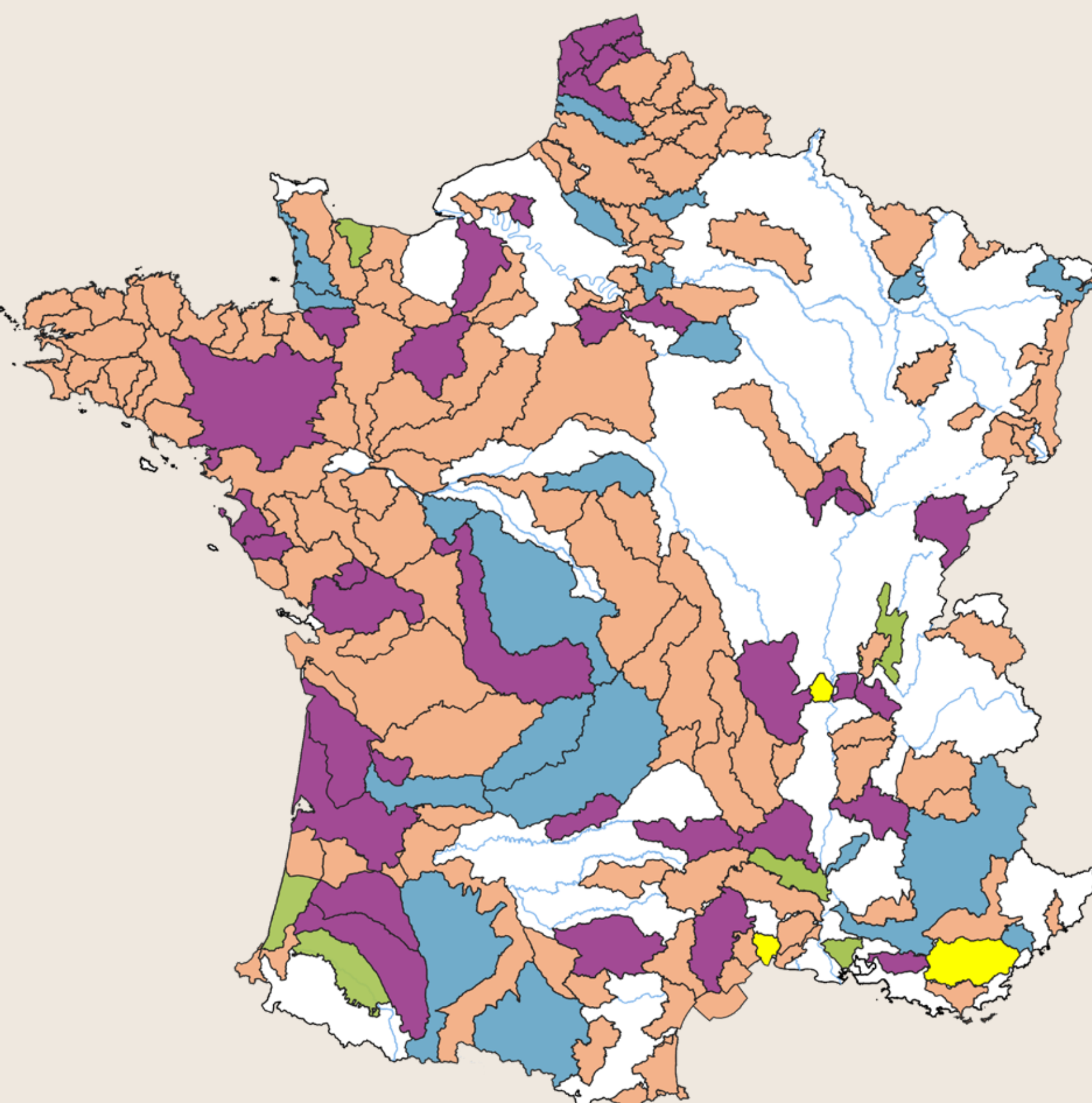
- The approval order is signed ;
- The concrete actions implementation begins on the field.

REVISION

- The SAGE may be updated when substantial changes, altering the general scheme of the document or having consequences for third parties must be made ;
- The SAGE approval order is revised and signed: it continues its "implementation".



Half of the French territory covered by the SAGE



Number of SAGE

- Not started: 9
- Emergence: 5
- Instruction: 5
- Formulation: 20
- Implementation*: 130
- Revision: 35

* Except revision

2 039 km²
Average area of a SAGE

The objective is not to cover the entire territory, but to locally use a SAGE when water conditions and pressures on aquatic environments (pollution, water withdrawals, morphological degradation) justify it.

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT

<https://www.gesteau.fr>

Source of data: Gest'eau (International Office for Water, according to SAGE coordinators, Water Agencies and Ministry of Environment). From data on January 1st 2025.

Infography produced by the International Office for Water with the financial support of the French Office for Biodiversity.