

# A l'école de la forêt



**A joint program between the french  
Ministry of agriculture and Ministry of  
education**

# Main goals

- **Forestry sector**  
**« communication » objective:**  
**Enhance the acknowledgment by society of the benefits that provides sustainable forest management**
- **Environmental Education objective:**
  - **Promote outdoor and concrete learning about forest in schools**
  - **Implement Forest Related EE**





# A l'école de la forêt



experience

by schools:  
*with secondary school)*

classes involved  
year



- 550 000 pupils involved in « AEF » projects

# A l'école de la forêt

- Each year, a national call for school projects is made among primary schools in Spring.
- After being selected by a regional committee, the selected projects receive:
  - the “AEF” label
  - the technical support of a forester (free)
  - a financial support
- The regional committees are composed with local representative of the forest administration and of Ministry of Education delegates  
= a 250 members' network
- The ONF (National Forest office) and the CRPF (Private Forest-Owners Center) are the main Partners of “AEF” program.



# Projects selection's criterias

## Project lets the pupils discover the:

- Forests
- Multifunctional role of forests
- Necessity of a sustainable forest management
- Wood material and its by-products
- Forest economical sector and wood industry

## Project :

- Involves the participation of a forester and/or professionals of wood
- Lasts minimum 1 year
- Is based on active discovery by pupils
- Is based on a varied partnership (local authorities, parents, EE associations, ....)



# Financial framework



## Annual grant by the Ministry of agriculture to the school projects:

- 100 000 euros

## Financing max. 50% project's budget

- Educational material, multimedia furnitures, plants, transports.....

## Are not financed:

- Equipement goods, accomodations and food costs, administrative work...



# Concrete activities

**Observe and make investigations about forests**

**Visiting a sawmill**

**Planting trees**

**Collecting seeds**

**Moulding animal footprints**

**Writing a story about forest**



# Conclusion

- **Each school project is unique and different ...but all projects have a common objective: « Learning and understanding the relationship between people and forests »**
- **A l'école de la Forêt national Program integrates « Learning about forest » in the teaching programs as environmental education for a sustainable development**  
*(defined in circular of Min.of.education, 8.07.2004)*



# Conclusion

- **The « AEF » program's efficiency is based on:**
  - **the close partnership between foresters and teachers during one school year**
  - **the technical and pedagogical support of the 250 members' network of local correspondants from forest and educationnal Administration**

# Thank you!

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