

A Large Diversity Related to Different Legacies of the Past

➤ **Natural heritages**

Climate passed and present, soils, landforms.

➤ **Cultural heritage**

Farming practices, local breeds, specific knowledge.

➤ **Economical histories**

Local and regional trades(wine from Auvergne combined with Algerian).

➤ **Social heritage**

Common laws, property transmission law.

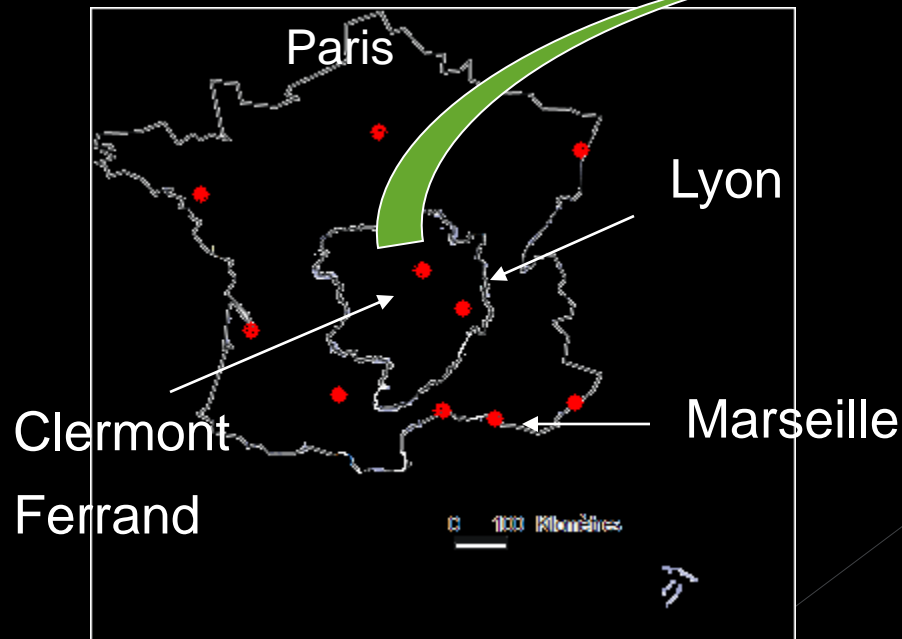
➤ **Politic influences**

Napoleon Code, taxes system from the Ancient Regime.

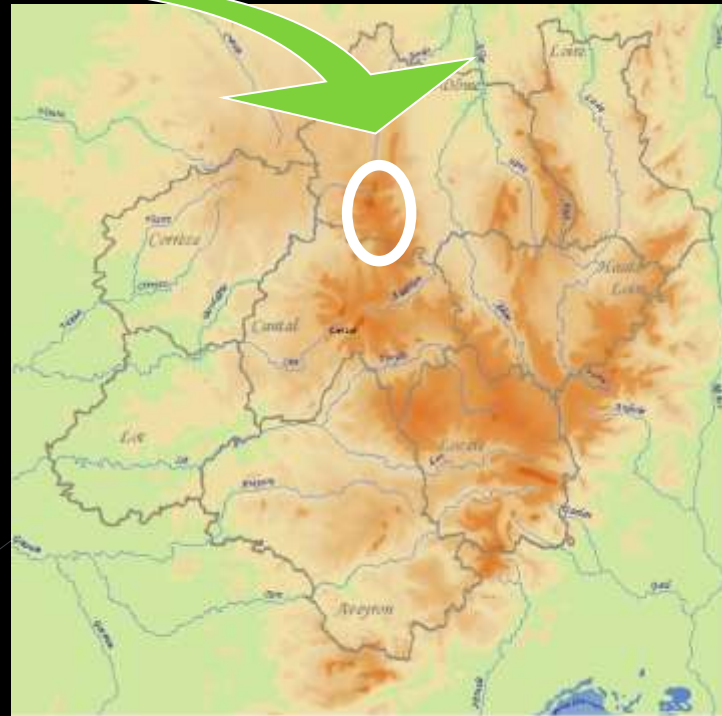
→ That contribute to create in the French landscapes a strong and shared national identity.



The Chain of Puys, in the Heart of Central Massif

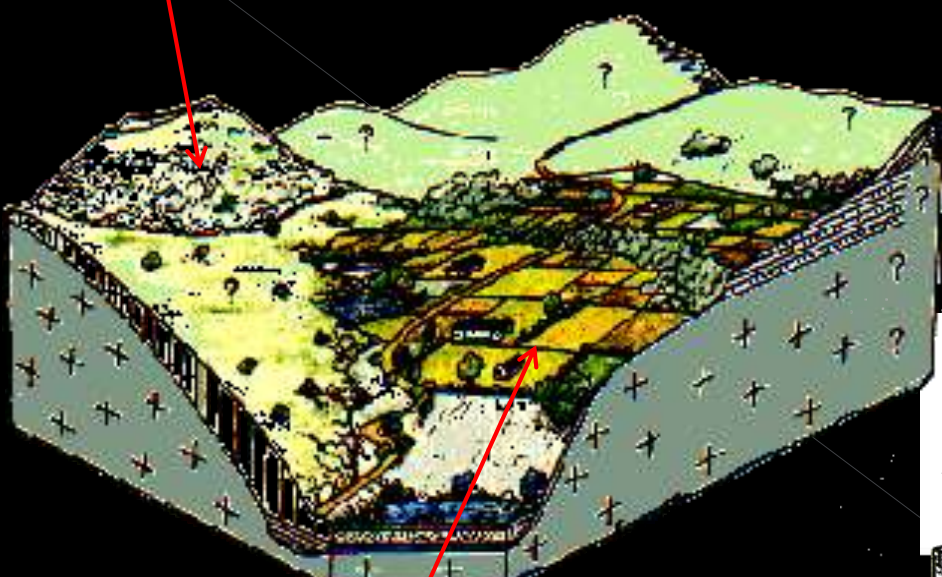


80 volcanoes on a plateau



To better understand landscapes dynamics, a necessity : the change of scale.

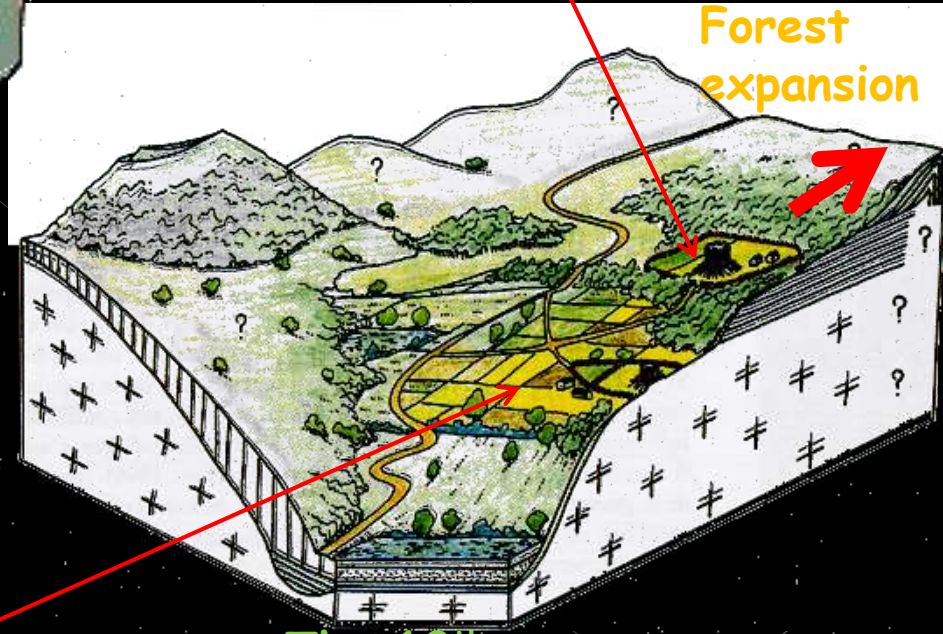
The forest barley existed → because of the agriculture spread out.



the Roman period

Geometric forms are adapted for agricultural lands.

Villages formed around castles, churches and monasteries.

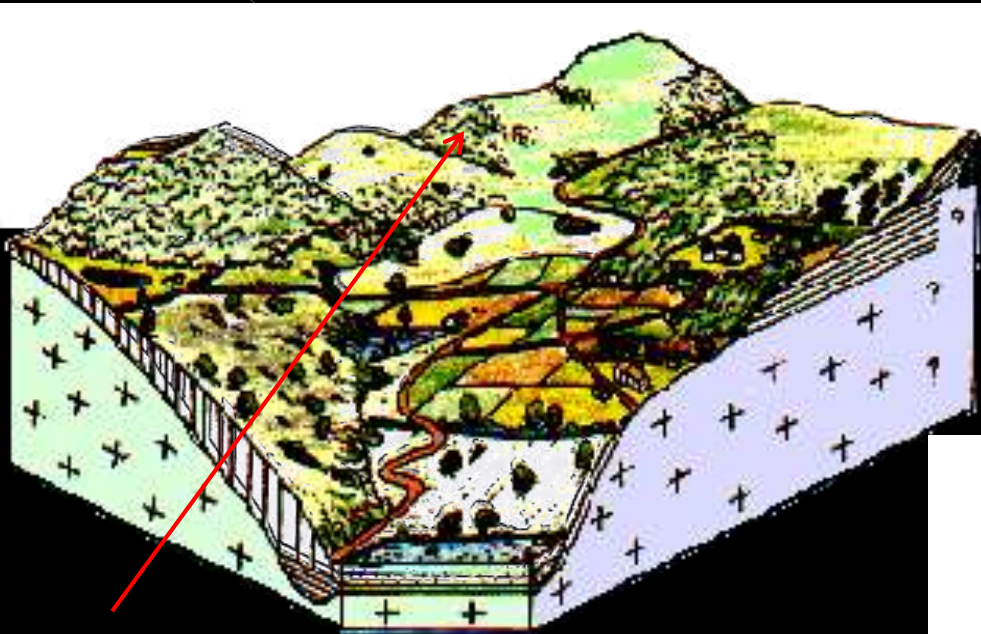


Forest expansion

The 10th century

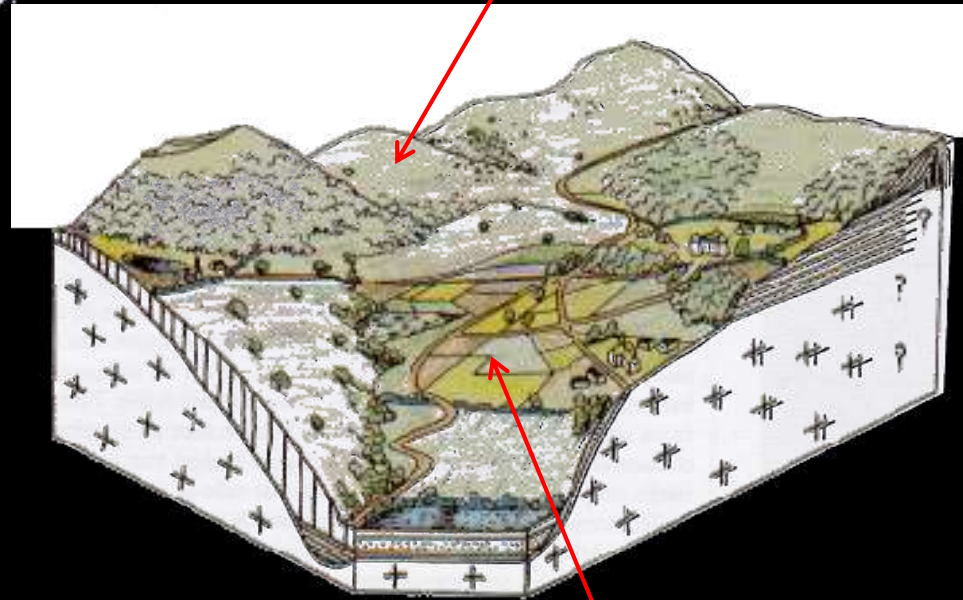
cultivated lands are concentrated around the houses, the pasture lands are further.

The 15th century



Regression of forest caused by the cutting of woods and the effect of grazing.

The end of the 17th century



the Hundred Years War and the Black Plague led to the decrease of population

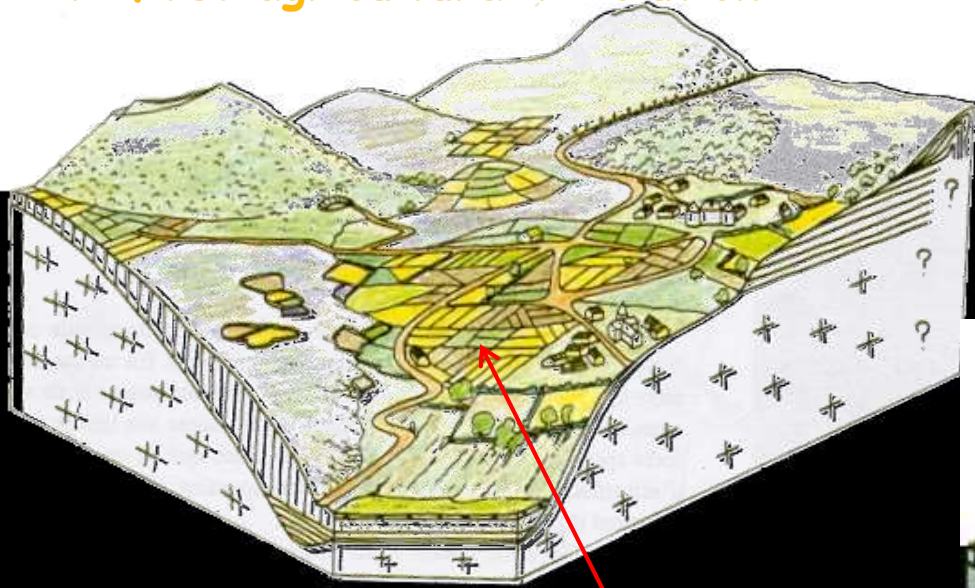
→ and reforestation took place on mountains' slopes.

Therefore the lords encourage the reinstatement of people by the authorization of collective land right.

the culture of grains took place and the grains were used to pay the land lords.

in 1830

The first agricultural revolution



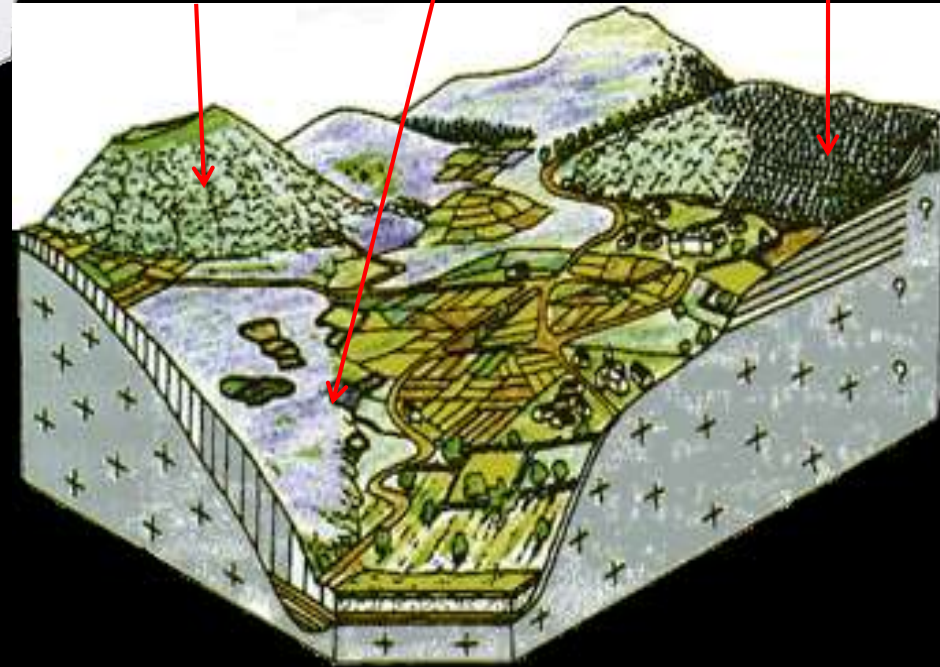
The farmers cultivated cereals near their houses, and used the communal lands for their grazing animals.

The first signs of reforestation by man after the law creation.

Cessation of cultivation in disadvantaged zones.

Development of heather.

in 1880

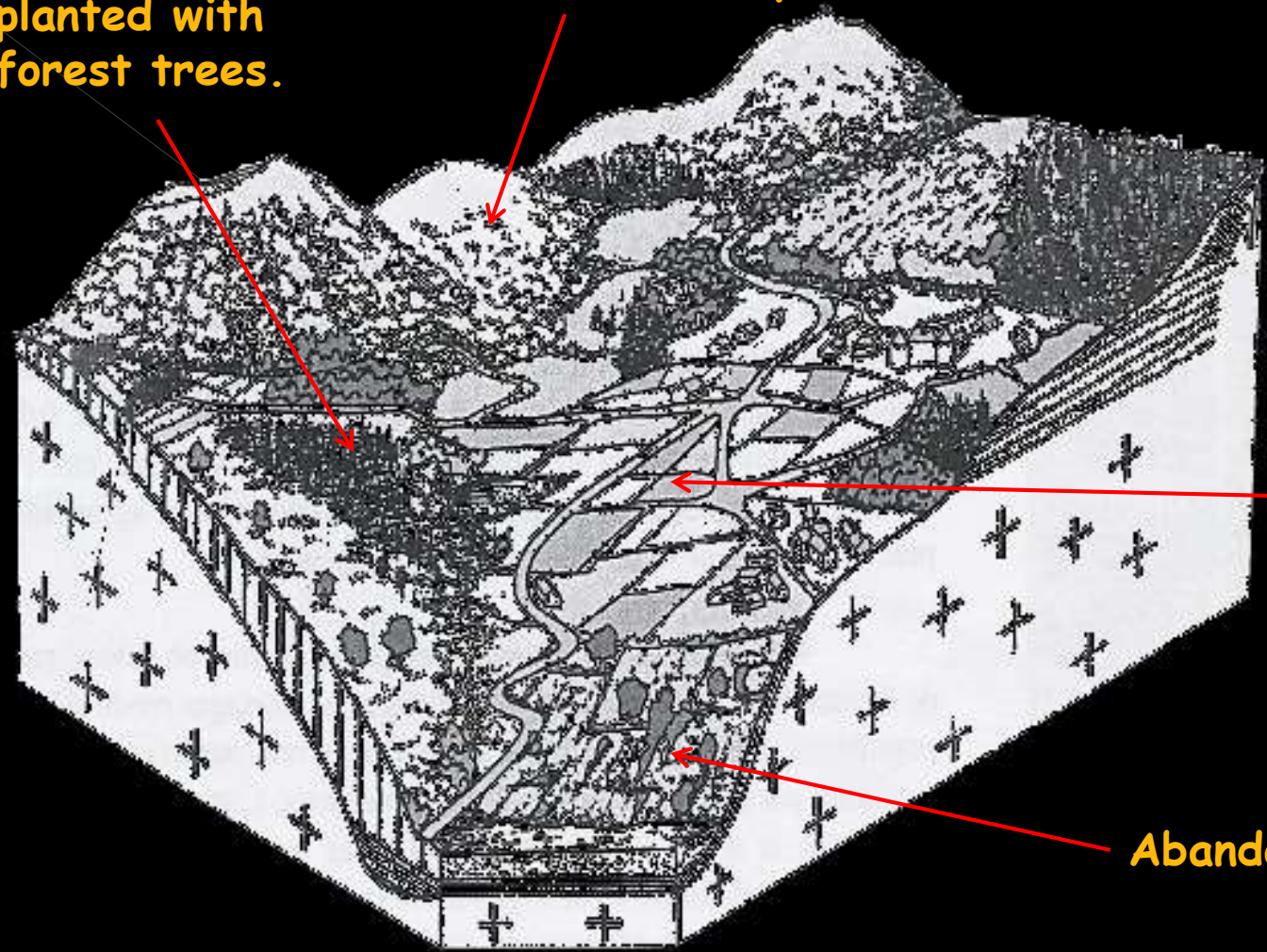


The villages which population have doubled, started to have a important rural exodus.

f. The landscape of the puy chain nowadays

abandoned lands
planted with
forest trees.

Forest development.

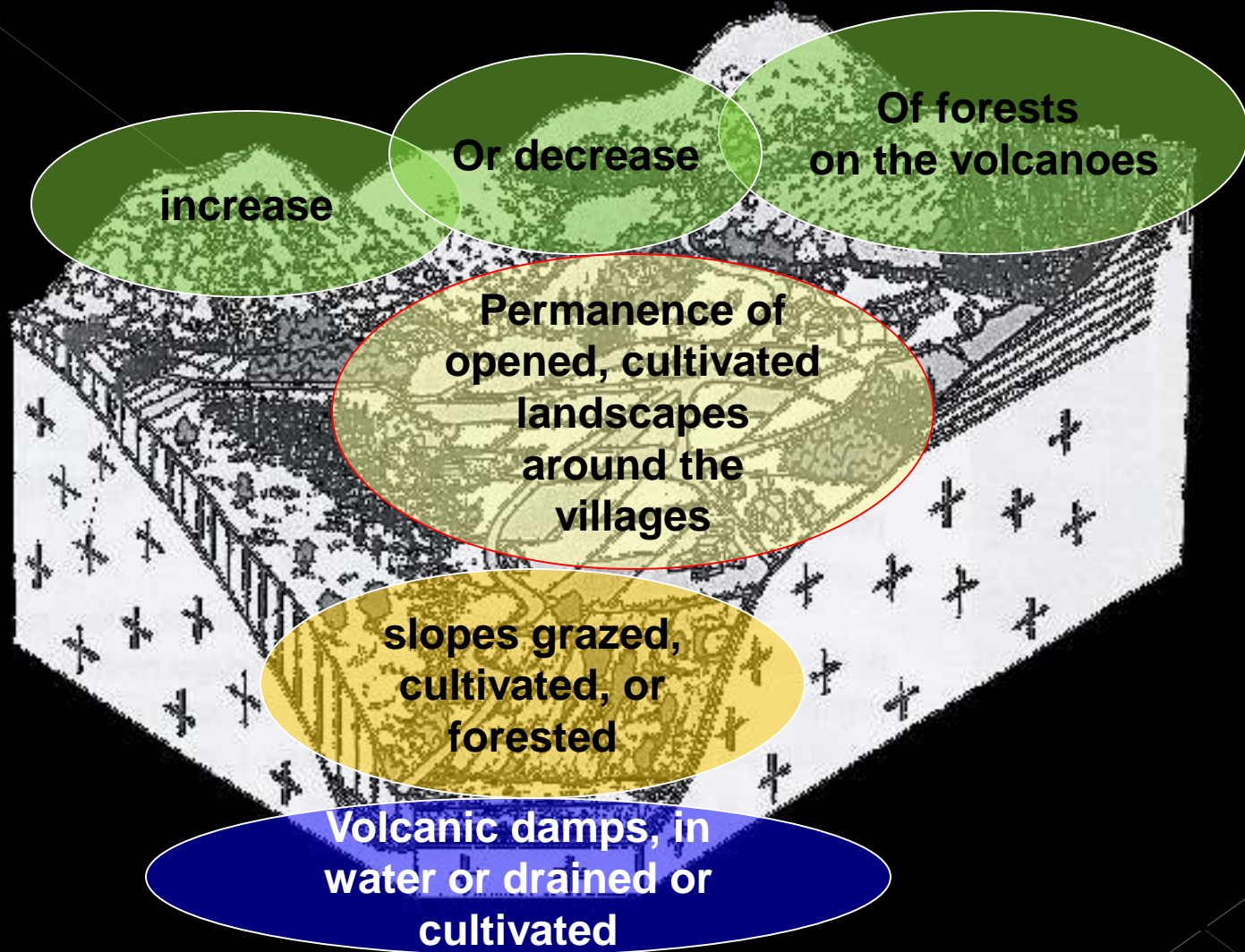


animal
raising
took the
1st place.

Abandoned lands.

In less than 30 years the landscape stability disappeared.

f. The landscape changes : the fight between farmers and foresters in a complex geomorphologic context



The Main Driving Forces for Changing the Landscapes

3 main factors:

- Type and level of **production** (cattle, sheep or cereals)
- Type of **practices** and Level of **knowledge**
- **Density of population** and **farmers**.

→related to 3 dimensions:

- **Climate** conditions (little ice age or warming)
- **Economic** situation and **trades rules**
- **Social situation** (individual or collective farming systems).

The Way Current Policies are Affecting the Future Agricultural Landscapes

- 2009: the **latest CAP**: the **price of milk is no longer** to be kept **stable**; changes are anticipated in the landscapes where livestock are raised.
 - Increase in orientation toward the **development of fuel crops**.
 - A plan was proposed by the ministry of agriculture in France called "Objectif Terres 2020" that have the idea of a an agriculture with a good economical performance and efficient ecology based on:
 1. better utility of water, and contribution in the restoration of its ecological conditions
 2. Contribution at the biodiversity enrichment
 3. Protection of agricultural soils.
- All this will have **impacts on the agricultural landscape** in France.

Strategic Analysis for the Future

STRENGTHES

- good potential of production.
- diversity of situations.
- good farmers knowledge.
- a profitable activity with a good economical and technical environment.
- a national identity on agricultural landscapes.

WEAKNESSES

- environmental impacts.
- less and less farmers with too much work.
- strong dependency from big companies.
- Contrasts between productive and poor regions.
- dependency on CAP subsidies.

OPPORTUNITIES

- a link between landscapes and tourism.
- a large demand from urban people for natural and cultivated landscapes.

THREATS

- Competition in suburbs areas.
- **Decrease of social thanks.?????**
- Evolution of CAP.
- less interest from politicians.

Strategic Analysis for the Future

A perspective :
valuation of the
high value
heritage
and multi
functional
possibilities
for French
landscapes.

Bridging the Gap?

A double risk:
Abandoned
landscapes in low
potential of
production areas /
Artificial
mono-functional
landscapes
in good conditions.

Some Propositions for the Future

More diversified agricultural economy, less dependant from traders and subsidies.

Strategies adapted to local situations.

Importance of national and regional regulations.

European context.

Better integration of ecological processes and landscape expectations in the farming systems.

Thank you for your attention

