



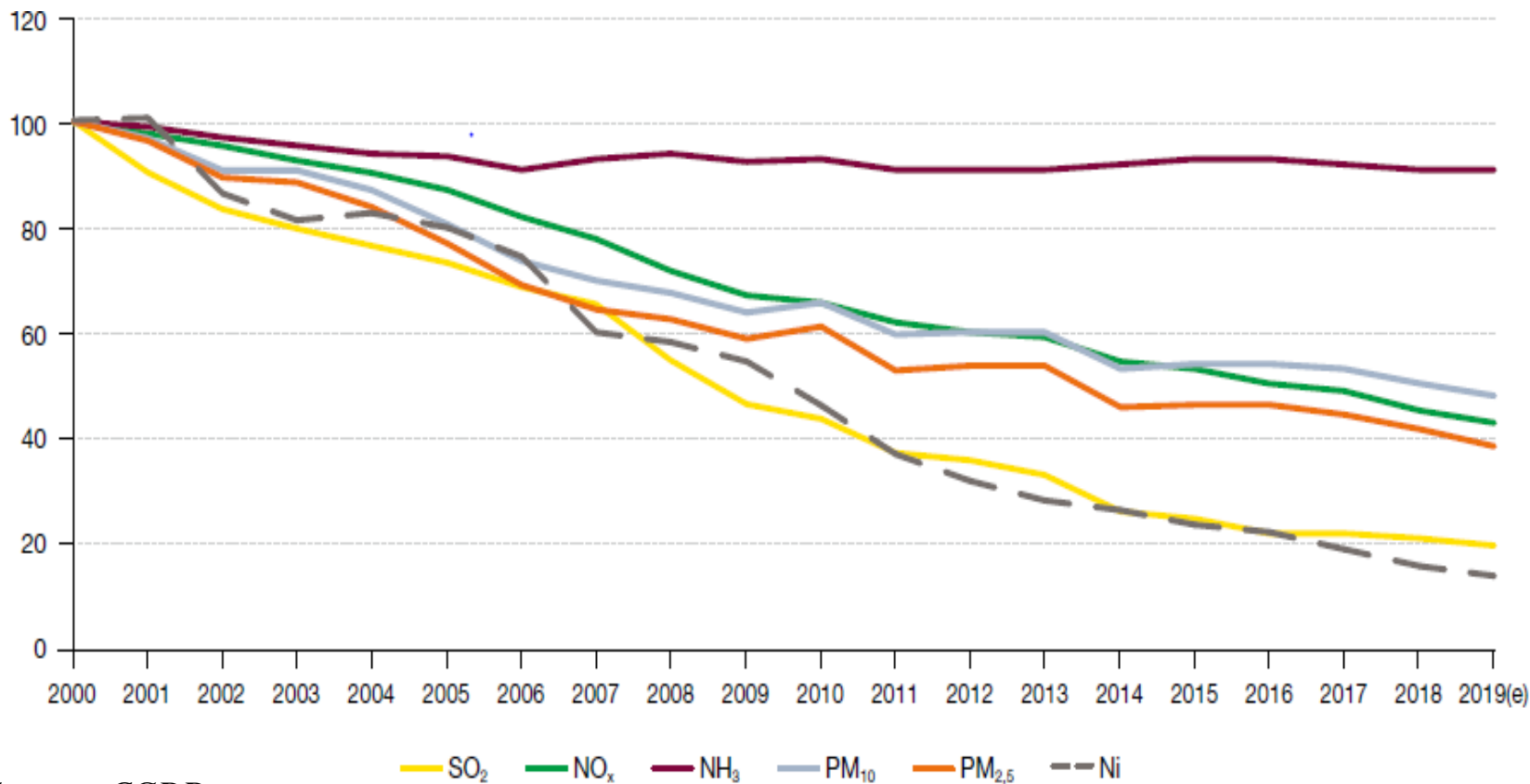
AIR QUALITY POLICIES IN FRANCE

FRENCH BOARD OF AUDIT



AN IMPROVING TREND FOR EMISSIONS...

Main regulated air pollutants emissions (2000 - 2019)

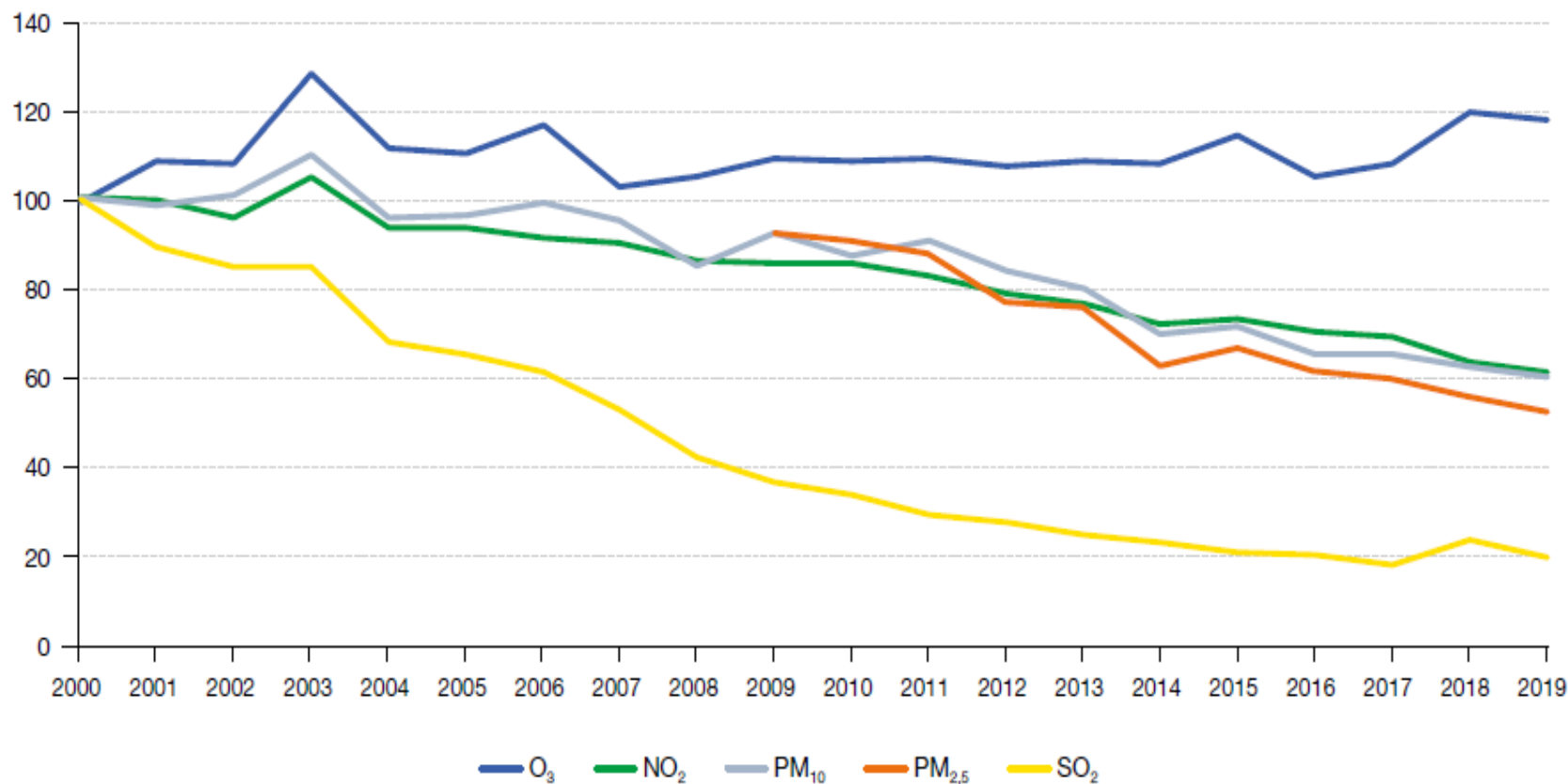


Source : CGDD



..AS WELL AS CONCENTRATIONS

Average yearly air concentrations for main air pollutants (2000 - 2019)

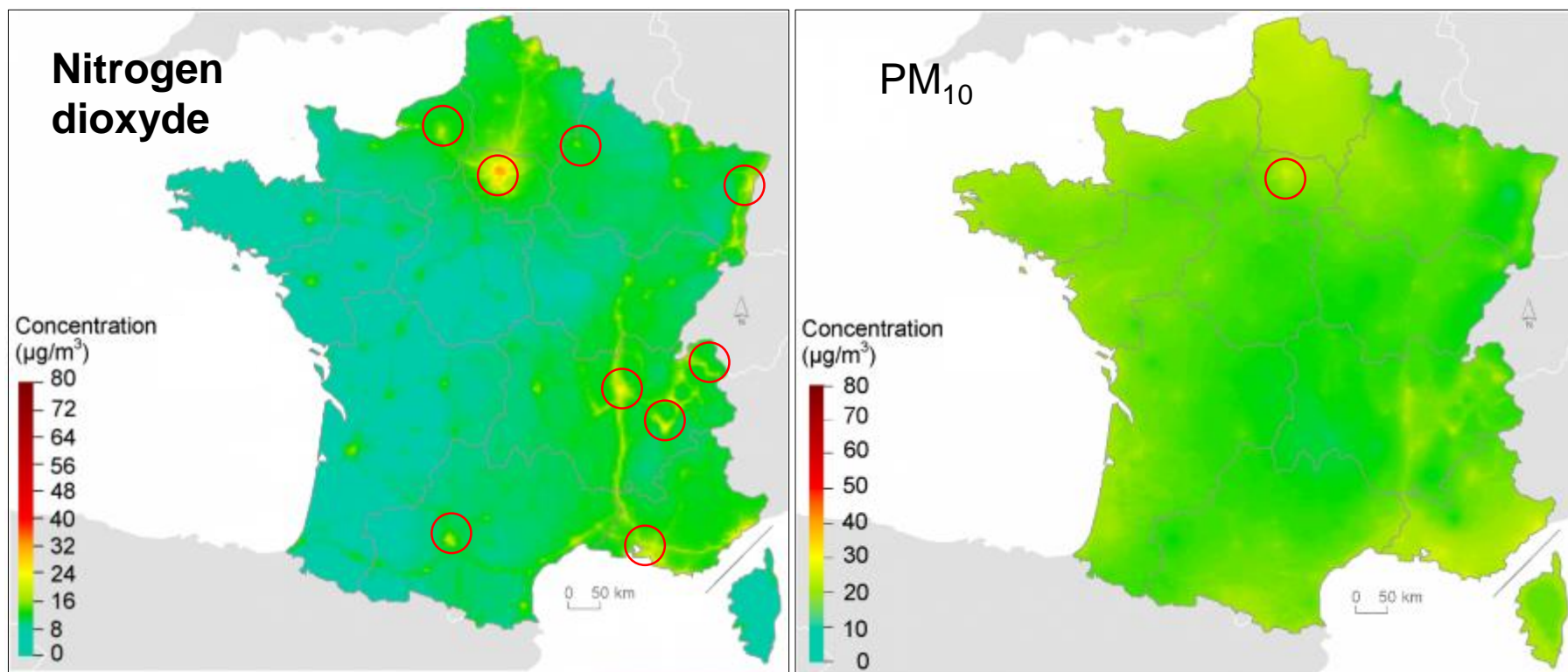


Source : CGDD



CONCENTRATION LEVELS STILL EXCEEDS LIMIT VALUES IN SEVERAL AREAS

Nitrogen dioxide and PM₁₀ concentrations (2019)



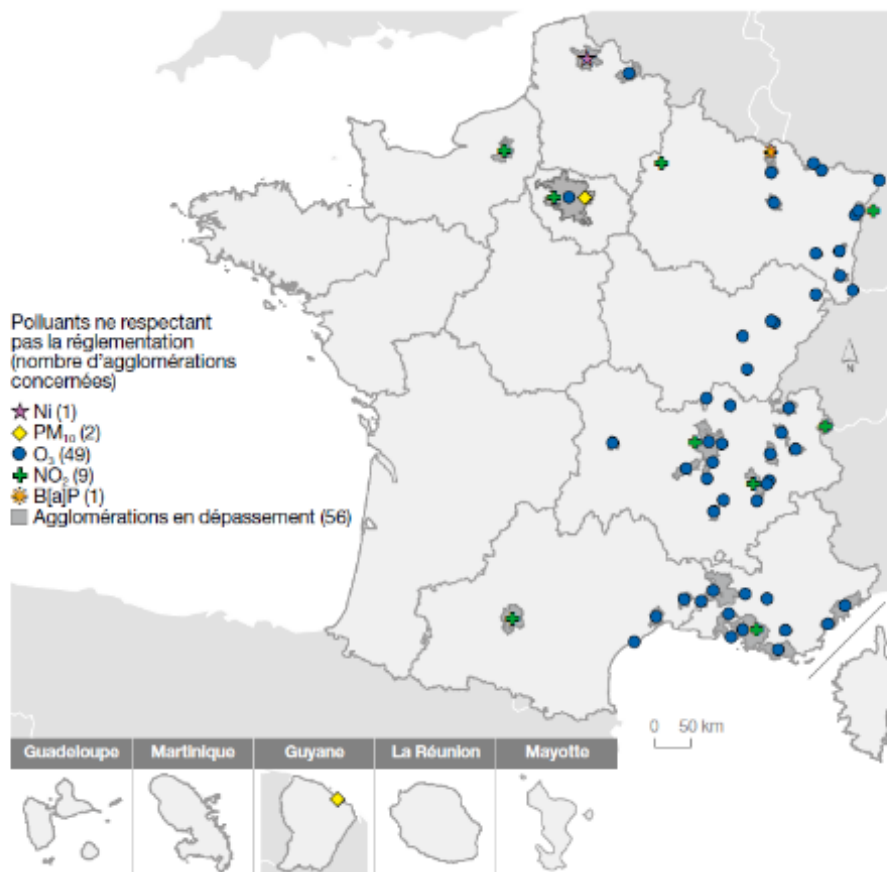
Source : PREV'AIR

○ Zones exceeding limit values (2019)



CONCENTRATION LEVELS STILL EXCEEDS LIMIT VALUES IN SEVERAL AREAS

Zones exceeding legal concentration limits for main regulated air pollutants (2019)



Source : Géod'air /
SDES, 2020



THE FRENCH BOARD OF AUDIT MAIN FINDINGS

The political framework improved since our 2015 report :

- A new national plan has been adopted (« PREPA 2 »), though its implementation remains partial
- Local plans quality improved. Local authorities involvement (mostly in transportation and urbanism) is growing and requires efficient cooperation between national and local plans.
- There is still work to do in order to establish a policy framework coherent with other environmental and economic policies.
- Several urgent measures should be implemented in the main emissions sectors.



TRANSPORTATION

- **low emission zones implementation should be accelerated**
- **Convergence of tax regimes of diesel and gasoline should be continued**
- **Consumers information on real conditions emissions of vehicles should be improved**
- **Air quality should be more efficiently addressed in subsidies for converting vehicles to clean engines**



INDUSTRY

- **Some sources of air pollutants are insufficiently regulated**
 - Diffuse and fugitive emissions
 - Degraded mode operation
- **Risk assessments sometimes omit critical substances**
- **A better cooperation between labor health services and epidemiologic services is needed**



RESIDENTIAL / TERTIARY SECTOR

- **France national strategy for low carbon carbon transition relies heavily on the development of biomass**
- **Subsidies for old heating units replacement are helpful, but not sufficient**
- **Education of biomass heater users is paramount**



AGRICULTURE

- **Until recently, Nitrogen regulation policies in agriculture focused only on water quality issues**
- **Current mitigation efforts are insufficient, and rely mainly on voluntary measures**
- **Regulation tools will be mandatory in order to achieve national objectives**
- **Permanent monitoring of pesticides in air should be implemented**



CONCLUSION

Public debate is necessary in order to achieve social acceptance of the most difficult measures

- **impact studies for plans and infrastructure projects should examine all scenarios, including the most ambitious**
- **Environmental impact of all public expenses should be systematically and properly assessed**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Source : Cour des comptes – Eve Darragon