

Pic du Midi IDA Review

October 2015 - October 2016



The year of activity presented in this document coincides with a period of transition for the Pic du Midi IDSR. We have observed very positive results and the completion of several ambitious programmes, whilst also experiencing new issues which the Pic du Midi IDSR team will have to resolve.

The Pic du Midi IDSR has indeed developed serious expertise and skills in implementing its policy for lighting which is economical and which reduces pollution. This is reflected in the increasing number of construction sites dedicated to improving public lighting not only within the IDSR zone, but now outside the designated area too. Thanks to this well-established activity, the IDSR team can now concentrate on the other levers that make up this protected area: environmental protection and tourism.

These demanding developments require more organisational, financial, and human resources. In order to meet these new challenges, since the beginning of 2016 the IDSR team has been working on constructing a new management and development strategy.

This document therefore shows the actions and results of the Pic du Midi IDSR for the year 2016, and looks into a potential, strategic component which will begin to be implemented in January 2017.

1. Actions and results within the Pic du Midi IDSR

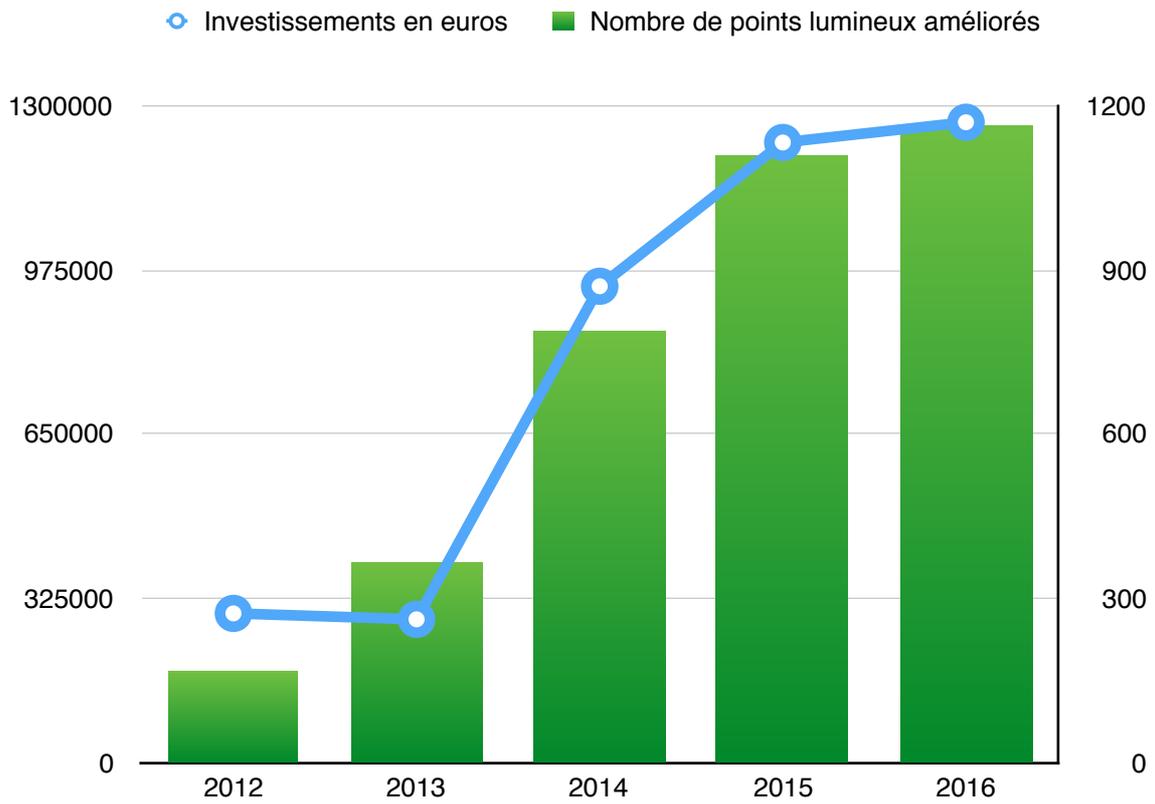
At the end of two post-label years, the actions and objectives that are the basis for the activity and specificity of the reserve continue to be implemented and reinforced.

1.1 Lighting Improvement Programme: an increase in investment and ambitious prospects

The Dark Sky Programme, supported by the SDE (Syndicat Départemental d'Énergie: Departmental Energy Federation), has been given more financial and technical help which has allowed for a significant increase in lighting improvement across the reserve. The annual renewal rate of public lighting in the IDSR has thus increased from 0.5% in 2012 to 4% in 2016.

Figures:

Year	Number of towns where public lighting has been improved (totally or partially)	Annual investment amount in euros	Number of light points improved by the IDSR Pic du Midi	Percentage of public lighting improved on the 29 825 light points managed by the SDE 65 (Departmental Energy Federation)
2012	15	294 484,00	168	0,5 %
2013	17	282 739,00	367	1,2 %
2014	27	942 992,00	790	2,6 %
2015	75	1 228 000,00	1112	3,7 %
2016	79	1 268 093,00	1163	3,9 %
TOTAL	213	4 016 308,00	3600	12 %



Images of Lighting Improvement:



New lighting in the village of Cheze



New lighting in the village of Campan

An innovation award for lighting which respects the sky and the nocturnal environment:

In November 2016, the SDE 65 received the Orquasi Award, in the “infrastructures, networks and innovation” category for their work in converting public lighting within the framework of the Pic du Midi IDSR. This trophy recognises the collective and innovative work of the SDE 65 in their project on the fight against light pollution.



Bruno Rouch, director of the SDE65 and François Fortassin, Senator of the Hautes-Pyrénées receiving the Prix Orquasi at the award ceremony.

Below is the link to the page promoting the Pic du Midi IDSR on the SDE 65 website:
<http://www.sde-65.com/reserve-internationale-ciel-etoile/>

1.2 Modernising the visiting spaces at the Pic du Midi : new organisation in order to raise awareness of the dark sky.



A starry evening on the terraces atop the Pic du Midi

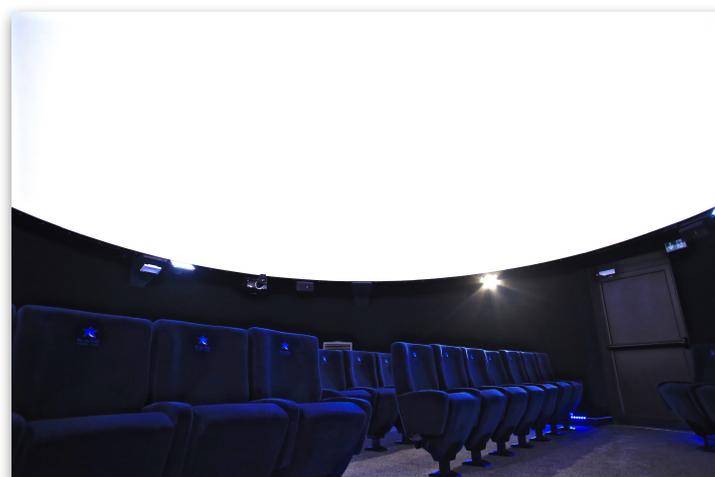
Since 2016, the Pic du Midi has taken on an ambitious investment programme in order to modernise its visiting spaces. One of the main goals of these transformations is to provide the observatory with more ways to raise awareness of the protection of the sky and nocturnal environment.

To this effect, an exhibition entitled “A Window to the Universe” was installed in the interpretation centre in May 2016. A journey amid grand spectacular images where the beautiful nocturnal celestial landscape of the Hautes-Pyrénées is revealed to all. A heritage which is protected by the Pic du Midi IDSR and valued as an unusual touristic experience across the territory. Over 120 000 visitors each year access this mediation space, which serves to increase the visibility and enhance the mission to raise awareness of our Reserve.



Images of “A Window to the Universe” at the Pic du Midi

In October 2016, the programme reached a new milestone with the inauguration of the Pic du Midi Planetarium. Installed under the oldest dome in the observatory, this venue welcomes more than 200 visitors a day and is thus a tool which is deemed to be as efficient as it is original in raising awareness of the challenges of protecting the dark sky.



Views of the new Pic du Midi Planetarium

1.3 IDSR activity and raising public awareness: success and innovation

The activity and raising awareness of the IDSR, mainly undertaken by the Pays des Vallées des Gaves, has been enhanced once more for the fifth edition of *Return to the night and the stars*.



“Permission de Minuit” programme from the Pays de Lourdes et des Vallées des Gaves

The *Return to the night and the stars* is a grouping together of technical, scientific and cultural encounters whose goal is to facilitate the appropriation of the IDSR concept created by the Pays des Vallées des Gaves in 2012. This programme targets mainly local councillors, technical service managers, local development officers... its cultural component has also allowed for raising awareness among the general public and, since 2015, amongst tourism professionals.

A varied weekly programme during the summer period has attracted several thousand people (residents and tourists), spreading ever wider the messages and values of the IDSR.

Below is a presentation of the “Permission de Minuit” programme, an adaptation for the general public of the PVLG’s activity and strategy in raising awareness of the challenges faced by the Pic du Midi IDSR.

Setting up a rich summer programme

In order to reach the double objective of raising awareness among the general public and developing local tourism, the PLVG created the **summer programme**

“Permission de Minuit” in 2014. Every year for the last three years, the PLVG have listed all the touristic offers in connection with the IDSR in a pamphlet which is widely distributed and transmitted in the local and national press - a document which also presents the IDSR and light pollution challenges.

From July to October in our valleys, fifty or so evening events are organised **to offer the locals, just as the visitors, the opportunity to experience the Magic of the Pyrenees by Night**: astronomy is of course not lacking but neither are nocturnal outings, on foot or by bike. The PVLG also organise various different events (nocturnal uphill cycling as part of the Altamonta cycling strategy, cinema-concerts under the stars in collaboration this year with La Compagnie des Musiques Téloscopiques and their T 60 show in which the music composed at the Pic du Midi gives life to the striking NASA images).



View of a “Concert under the stars”

Designing new exhibitions

“Permission de Minuit”: the exhibitions created by the PLVG are also responsible for bringing visitors in to discover the cosmos or the nocturnal celestial landscapes of our

valleys. It is the perfect occasion to let your imagination run wild or enjoy yourself whilst discovering the IDSR by means of a series of *kakemonos* and flyers provided for this purpose.

“Have you visited the Pyrenees by day? Discover them by night!” (“Vous connaissez les Pyrénées le jour, Découvrez-les la nuit») is an exhibition which was created in 2012 and which is enhanced each year by new local amateur photographs. It is now made up of thirty shots which highlight the local celestial landscapes, their purity adding to the natural beauty and richness.

“Dive into the Cosmos” (« Plongez dans le Cosmos») is an underwater, musical exhibition which was imagined in 2015 and is unique in its genre. As it is presented at the bottom of local swimming pools, we learn about our Galaxy while wearing a swimming costume, with a mask and a snorkel, weightless in the water!



Illustrations of the exhibition “Dive into the Cosmos”

Supporting educational school projects

By putting exhibitions at their disposal and by conducting school visits, the PLVG regularly works alongside educational projects in primary and secondary schools.



Raising awareness of the protection of the dark sky in schools within the Pic du Midi IDSIR.

Creating a local radio programme

The PLVG, as a partner of the associated radio station Fréquence Luz, wished to create a radio programme dedicated to the IDSIR. Thus the **Radio Programme “Under the Stars” was born in 2014**. It means that we can broadcast current IDSIR news, and astronomical news from here and from around the world. Find out more on www.frequence.luz.com

Public relations and going digital

The “Return to the night and the stars” obviously has pride of place on the PLVG’s website (www.rice.vallesdesgaves.com). In 2015, the PLVG decided to extend its communication channels by developing a **Facebook page “The Pyrenean Dark Sky” (“ciel étoilé des Pyrénées”)** and a **dedicated newsletter**, which has a database fuelled by, amongst other things, the email addresses of people who have taken part in the “Dark Sky” competition which takes place every year.

Currently the PLVG is in the process of developing two new routes **by which to discover the IDSIR digitally**. The mobile application “Heritage Walks” (“Patrimoine en Balade”), created by PETER in 2015 is going to be enhanced through three new guided walks dedicated to the nocturnal world (www.culture.valleesdesgaves.com). These are to be located in two Nordic ski resorts - real windows to the universe where the sky is clear and pure. And the circuits at the Pic du Midi, which will be online next Spring, will allow us to enjoy the nocturnal celestial heritage of our territory all season, day or night.



The application “Heritage Walks”

An innovation award given to the Pays de Lourdes et des Vallées des Gaves for its “Return to the Night and the Stars” programme

In recognition of its work, the Pays de Lourdes et Vallées des Gaves received the Territorial Innovation Trophy awarded by the National Association of Territorial and Rural Centres (l'Association nationale des Pôle Territoriaux et Ruraux).



Maryse Carrere (PLVG President), Orange Raveleau (Assistant Director), and Emmanuelle Begue (Director), receiving the Territorial Innovation Trophy at the award ceremony.

In order to find out more, refer to the application filed by the PLVG:

<http://anpp.fr/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/TIT-Transition-Lourdes.pdf>

You can also find all the activities of the PLVG in connection with the Pic du Midi IDSR on the website:

<http://www.valleesdesgaves.com/gp/RICE/147>

1.4 Monitoring and diagnosis of light pollution: completion and report of the study done by the Pays de Lourdes et des Vallées des Gaves

February 2016 saw the successful conclusion of the extensive lighting diagnosis operation which was ordered by the PLVG, carried out by the Dark Sky Lab, and covered seventy-nine towns and villages.

Beyond its diagnostic purpose, this work allowed the councillors, technicians and inhabitants to benefit from the results. It provided a tool of practical guidance and a means of raising awareness of the issues surrounding non-polluting lighting.



Lighting diagnosis delivered to all the towns and villages in the Pays de Lourdes and the Gaves Valleys

Below is a press release from the PLVG detailing the characteristics of this diagnosis.

“Concretely, it is a question of determining the light footprint of each town and graphically depicting the impact of light pollution on the environment. A technical inventory will first be made; this will allow us to complete an inventory of the existing equipment (often hitherto incomplete)

and to reference how it has been implanted on the terrain. This quantitative approach will also be accompanied by a qualitative approach, quite new and almost never taken into account to date by people working with lighting whether public or private (intrusive light, extinctions, glare, light spectrum...).

Each town and village will be examined and its light footprint evaluated, modelled and visualised using maps and photographs.

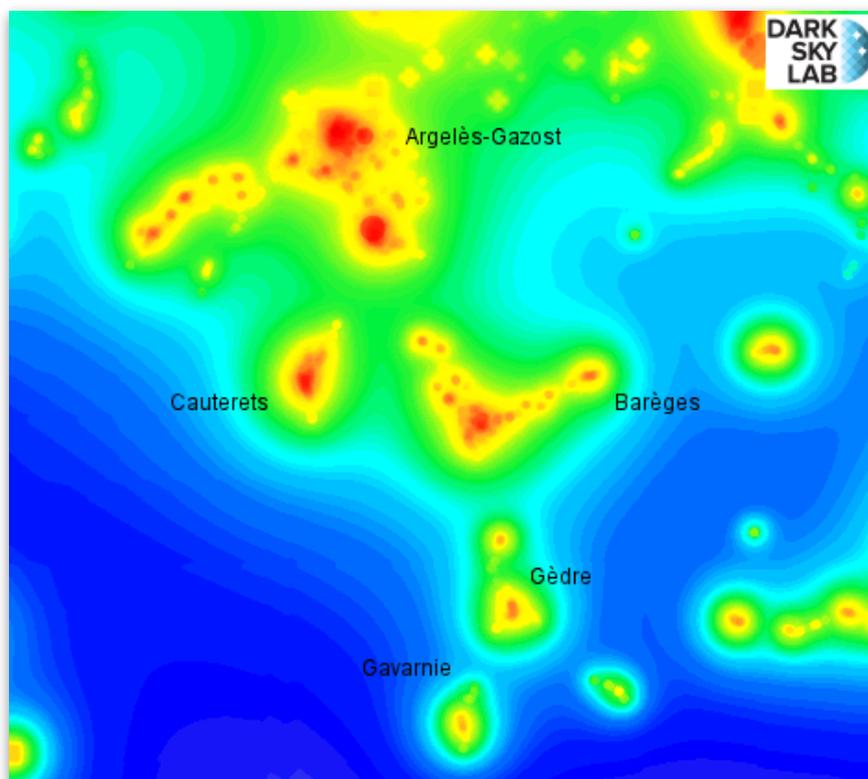
This detailed, illustrated diagnosis will allow for the proposal of recommendations on a local level in order to achieve the IDSR's objectives and perpetuate the quality of the sky in the Hautes-Pyrénées.

These recommendations will take into account the IDSR Lighting Guide, which is a durable guide since it offers general solutions and not specific ones attached to technologies.

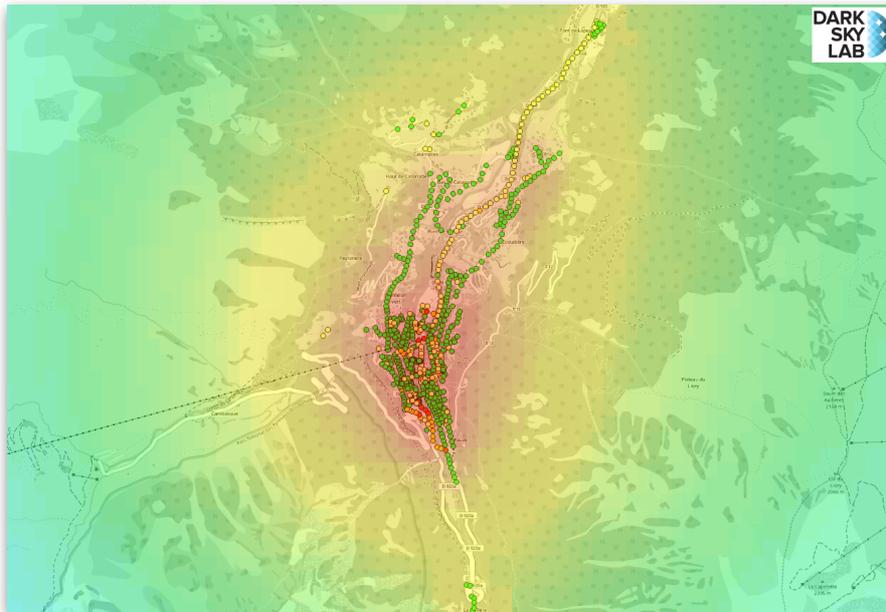
The technical objective being ultimately to control the spatial distribution of the luminous flux of public lighting to make the Pays de Lourdes and the Gaves Valleys a pilot territory in this domain and consequently decrease its energy consumption.

This work will also reduce the impact of light on the plant and wildlife environments, public health, the quality of the night sky and the astronomical activities of professionals as well as amateurs."

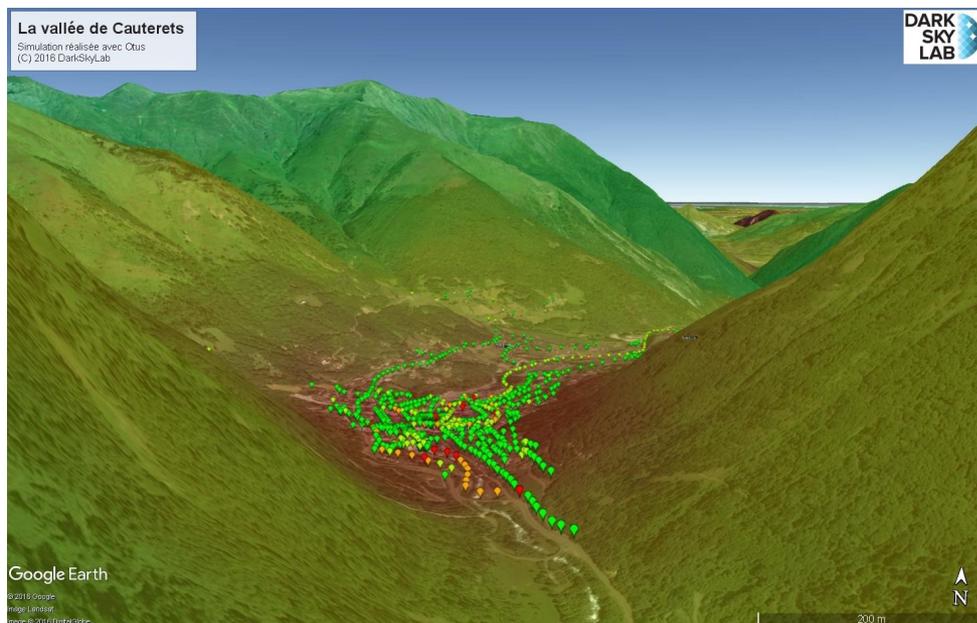
After one and a half years of analysis on the terrain, this study has provided much data and many positive results. Each town has been given a local file, a poster for public relations and finally the general study on the whole of the Pays de Lourdes and the Gaves Valleys. In terms of data, this study has provided almost five hundred cartographies together with 3D modelling, two hundred and sixty spectroscopic surveys on artificial light sources, and more than ten thousand photographs of terrain and numerical accounts of light pollution...



Modelling of light pollution in the Pays de Lourdes and the Gaves Valleys in 2016



Modelling of light pollution with geographic locations of different types of lighting points.



Display in three dimensions of the implantation of lighting points and the diffusion of halos

Below is the link to the download page of all the results produced by the DSL study:

<http://www.valleesdesgaves.com/gp/Diagnostic-eclairage/148>

Below is the first video of 3D modelling of light pollution on the territory of the Pays de Lourdes and the Gaves Valleys: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-DdO3vGsTM&feature=youtu.be>

And finally, the Dark Sky Lab website :

<http://darks skylab.com>

1.5 Protecting the nocturnal environment: the National Park take the initiative and develop the “Trame Sombre” tool

In April 2016, the Pyrenees National Park, in association with those involved in the IDSR, launched a study and development programme which will allow the establishment of ecological corridors in land-based, aquatic, and also nocturnal environments. The Dark Sky Lab Office, chosen by the Pyrenees National Park, is in charge of the first phase which involves developing a tool to protect nocturnal biodiversity, and it has been named “Trame Sombre” (dark framework).

In November 2016, the progress the study made allowed for completion of a group of initial results which form the conceptual and methodological basis for the implementation of *trame sombre*.

Below are excerpts from the latest technical committee statement.
First definition and schematisation of the dark framework:

“The Trame Sombre is a network formed of land-based, aquatic and nocturnal ecological continuities

> By definition, a “trame sombre” is thus a “trame verte et bleue” (name given to a project made up of a network of ecological corridors derived from the Grenelle Environment Act), to which we have added the element of light.



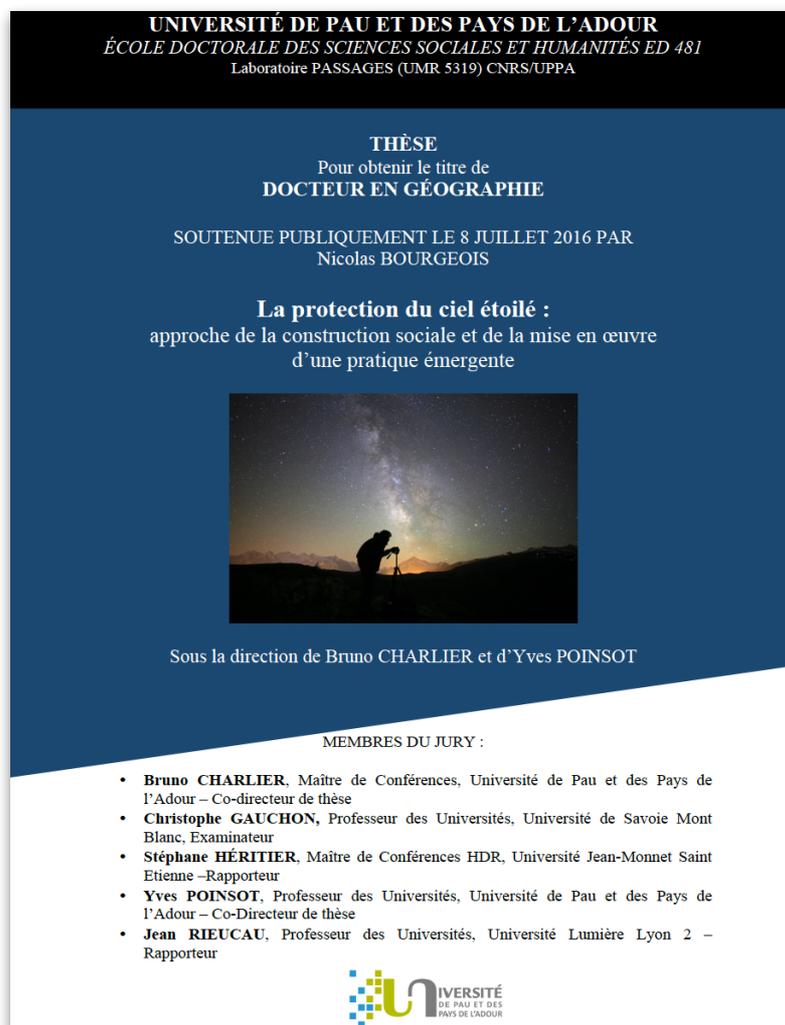
Schematisation of the tool “Trame Sombre”

Below is an article which highlights the activities in the Pyrenees National Park which protect the nocturnal environment:

<http://www.20minutes.fr/toulouse/1974099-20161204-video-pyrenees-traquent-pollution-lumineuse-rallumer-etoiles>

1.6 Research and development: presentation and publication of a PhD thesis dedicated to the evolution and implementation of dark sky protection

In July 2016, the research-action project¹ through which the Pic du Midi IDSR was created, achieved its second goal: the writing and presenting of Nicolas Bourgeois' PhD thesis entitled « *The protection of the dark sky: an approach to social construction and implementation of an emerging practice* ». This work develops and proposes new theoretical and methodological knowledge allowing the understanding of current and future challenges in the protection of the dark sky. The thesis will very soon be the object of publications and translations in order to promote its diffusion and usage.



Cover of Nicolas Bourgeois' PhD thesis entitled: "*The protection of the dark sky: an approach to social construction and implementation of an emerging practice*" (« *Protection du ciel étoilé: approche de la construction sociale et de la mise en œuvre d'une pratique émergente* »). Publicly presented on 8th July 2016.

Below is an abstract of the PhD thesis:

¹ Supported by a partnership between the Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour and the Pic du Midi.



“Before World Astronomy Year in 2009, the idea of a protected dark sky was very rarely reflected on in terms of meaning and application beyond the circle initiated by professional and amateur astronomers. However this international event suddenly broadcast the protection of the dark sky as a framework of thought and action. The content and perspectives of these thoughts and actions went so far beyond the astronomical sphere that they have become integrated in the problems relating to the environment and sustainable development.

Since then, the protection of the dark sky has gained a foothold on the public stage by being implemented from certified labels that recognise in particular dark sky parks and reserves. These certified areas have gone from two examples in 2009 to more than eighty in 2016, essentially spread across North America and Europe. The sudden development and diffusion of the protection of the dark sky serve to prove the progressive institutionalisation of this singularity.

As important participants in and observers of this reality, we were able to propose in this thesis an analysis of the social dimension of the dynamics at work in the construction of the protection of the dark sky; to understand and define this object, and on the other hand to understand the tools by which it has been created; and finally to determine the challenges and limits of its implementation.

Key words: *dark sky, sustainable development, local development, transition, environment, natural conserved spaces, label, landscape, participant, public action.”*

Below is the link to download the PhD thesis (in French):

<https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-01400971>



2. Partners and external activities

Since becoming certified in 2013, the Pic du Midi IDSR has become a national vessel for new initiatives in protecting the dark sky. The Reserve's activity and influence go far beyond the limits of its perimeter. The expertise it has developed, the results it produces, and the values it conveys thanks to the IDA label generate more and more initiatives. The Pic du Midi IDSR thus finds itself in great demand and takes advantage of this reputation to support and encourage new workers in their efforts to protect the dark sky.

2.1 The Pic du Midi IDSR, leader of new IDSR projects in France

Two new IDSR projects have become operational in 2016. At the heart of this new dynamic, the Pic du Midi IDSR holds a leading role. The expertise developed by its workers throughout the certification project, from management after receiving the certified label to diverse research work, greatly interests these future IDA candidates. Meetings and partnerships between the Pic du Midi IDSR and the future IDSR label candidates have thus been introduced and are enriching the network of people and skills involved in protecting the dark sky on a national level.

The Cévennes National Park IDSR project, towards a regional dynamic of protection of the dark sky.

In 2015, the Pic du Midi IDSR team's expertise was sought by the recently established team from the Cévennes National Park project. In much the same way as exchanges took place between the Pic du Midi and the Mont-Mégantic several years ago, the IDSR managers have contacted the new dark sky protection teams to pass on the strategies and actions which were deployed to obtain the certified label. The programme of exchange and partnership between the Cévennes and the Pic du Midi IDSR came into being after a Cévennes resident made the trip to the Pic du Midi on 16 June 2016. This is serving to strengthen the links between these two spaces in order to promote a regional dynamic of protection of the dark sky and the nocturnal environment.

Below is the link to the Cévennes National Park website:

<http://www.cevennes-parcnational.fr/fr/actualites/le-parc-national-des-cevennes-oeuvre-pour-obtenir-le-label-reserve-internationale-de-ciel>



Meeting atop the Pic du Midi between the Pic du Midi IDSR team and the Cévennes National Park IDSR project



Cartography of the IDSR within the new region Occitania : at the bottom left, the Pic du Midi IDSR, at the top on the right, the Pyrenees National Park IDSR

The Préalpes d'Azur IDSR project, anchoring the protection of the dark sky in the south of France

As it had for the Cévennes project, the Pic du Midi IDSR served as a reference for a new initiative: The Préalpes d'Azur IDSR. In October 2016, Nicolas Bourgeois, Pic du Midi IDSR project manager, met with the Préalpes d'Azur team. As part of these exchanges, an official delegation is due to come to the Hautes Pyrenees on 17th December to mark an additional step in implementing this new project.



Work meeting between the Préalpes d'Azur IDSR team and Nicolas Bourgeois, Pic du Midi IDSR project manager.

Below is a link to the Mercantour National Park website which highlights its commitment to the Pic du Midi IDSR project:

<http://www.mercantour.eu/index.php/actualites/vallee-du-haut-var-cians/1288-lancement-du-projet-de-reserve-internationale-de-ciel-etoile-ric>

2.2 RENOIR Group Research : research and development for the protection of the dark sky



Renoir Group Logo

Witness to multiple demonstrations of the protection of the dark sky on a national and international level, researchers in human sciences (geography, sociology, psychology, etc) have chosen to group together and federate within a research group entitled “RENOIR”. Their central research hypothesis is the emergence and intensification of initiatives to enhance the night and the dark sky throughout the world. This group has developed and put forward this hypothesis in a research project presented to the Midi-Pyrénées Region in 2015 entitled “Innovation by night in territory across the Midi-Pyrenees”. The RENOIR researchers called upon the support of the workers and partners of the Pic du Midi IDSR in order to confirm the interest that this topic now provokes in public action and territorial development. Their application was accepted by the Midi-Pyrenees in 2015. The grant received allowed for the setting up of post-doctoral research in geography at the University of Toulouse Jean Jaurès for a period of two years.

For the Pic du Midi IDSR team, the scientific research and production of the RENOIR group constitute a tool of partnership and reflection which is as rich as it is original.

This combination of operational and scientific activities for which the Pic du Midi IDSR is one of the main vectors, forms a unique research and development opportunity for the protection of the dark sky.

See the website: <https://renoir.hypotheses.org>

3. The Pic du Midi IDSR development and strengthening strategy

The Pic du Midi IDSR's increase in activity has forced its managers to adapt its governance and management due to the results, the activity itself, and the number of people involved. Presented here are the IDSR's new strategic and operational perspectives that are to be deployed as of January 2017.

3.1 Challenges

Last July, a scientific study and work on mapping out light pollution served to highlight the sudden and considerable decline in access to the dark sky. *Le Monde* newspaper resumed the study headlining "*1/3 of the world's population no longer have access to the Milky Way*". Beyond this observation, the article informed its readers of original areas within which measures have been taken to preserve access to the night and the stars: the dark sky reserves. In this context, these protected areas of a new kind suddenly reveal places where the quality of the nocturnal environment and landscape have become a rare luxury worldwide.

The challenge for these areas is partly continuing their programme to protect the dark sky, but also the promotion and official recognition of their actions.

This problem particularly concerns the Pic du Midi IDSR as the first initiative of its kind in France and continental Europe, and the second largest reserve in the world. The inherent possibilities of this space have already begun to express themselves, whether in terms of enhancing the reputation of the territories or the momentum of unique local development.

However, a solid structure and additional human and financial resources are needed to set up these opportunities effectively and sustainably.

The idea that the Pic du Midi IDSR can be used as a model is being broadcast more and more. Two new projects have come into being in France, in the Cévennes National Park and the Regional Natural Park in the Alpes-Maritimes. These initiatives are based on the work carried out by the Hautes-Pyrenees and promote our reserve as a reference to be followed.

The setting up of solid management and developments within the Pic du Midi IDSR will mean it keeps its leading position and increases its national influence.

Beyond the internal reorganisation of the IDSR governance, it will also be necessary to meet the fundamental limit of the protection of the dark sky: its institutional fragility. Currently this international dynamic is only ensured by certified labels which expose recognised reserves without official national recognition. As a consequence, the Pic du Midi IDSR does not exist legally or institutionally beyond the regulated elements integrated in the functioning of the protected areas that make it up. The consistency of its organisation and activity is for now ensured through agreements with partners. These worked throughout the creation of the project but now seem insufficient when faced with the challenge of long term management.

Institutional strengthening is required: this could take the form of official national recognition or specific regulations (lighting, environment).

3.2 A strategic and operational proposition for managing, developing, and presenting the Pic du Midi IDSR

In order to meet the challenges facing the IDSR and develop its potential, appropriate functioning, resources and an action plan are required.

3.2.1 Strategic approaches and objectives for the future of the Pic du Midi IDSR

The three approaches outlined below will help orientate the IDSR and will be the basis for its activities in order to understand its vocation and functions across the project area.

Institutional strengthening
Setting up active management of the IDSR via a governance of partners facilitated by a full-time assignment manager.
Official and national recognition of the IDSR status (project area; protected spaces like the National Park ; specific regulations regarding lighting and the nocturnal environment.
Strengthening the IDSR scope of activities
AImproving lighting
SMonitoring and conserving the nocturnal environment

Strengthening the IDSR scope of activities

Setting up an IDSR observatory

AIDSR activity specific to each area/ person involved

raising awareness working on public relations and education

Implementing a dark sky tourist destination in the Hautes-Pyrénées

Implementing the « Windows on the Universe » project

Developing and promoting a dark sky tourist offer

3.2.2 Functioning for the implementation of strategic approaches and objectives

Given the approaches defined for the future development of the IDSR, it seems essential to put in place a new strategy for the activity and management of this area.

Indeed, coordinating so many workers and partners, achieving objectives which cross different skills and levels of ability (territorial engineering, public relations, activities, project management, environment, and so on...) across the whole of the Hautes-Pyrenees, mean that elaborating the governance and management of the Reserve is a must.

The Pic du Midi IDSR Management Committee has decided to delegate its missions linked to activities and management to a project manager for a three year period. During this period the MANCO, while remaining the contracting authority, will be able to evaluate the skill and performance of the project manager based on the way missions assigned to him/her have been carried out.

A full-time resource person recruited by a project manager

A resource person will be recruited by the project manager as the person “*In charge of the Pic du Midi IDSR mission*”.

His or her function will be divided into two sectors of activity. The first being the Pic du Midi IDSR governance activities, and the second being the implementation of the overall objectives of strengthening and developing the project area.

The Project Manager's missions:

Missions linked to the functioning of the Pic du Midi IDSR

IDSR governance activities:

- Formalising regulations and functioning of the IDSR governance;
- Hosting and monitoring the Pic du Midi IDSR Management Committee meetings;
- Activating an operational dynamic for governance: spreading and promoting ownership of the action plan, activating the thematic working groups, monitoring activities;
- Supporting and coordinating the activities and actions of the workers and partners of the Pic du Midi IDSR;
- Researching financing opportunities;

Maintaining exchanges with the IDA and drafting the annual review of IDSR activity.

Institutional strengthening:

- Engaging the IDSR governance in the exploration and selection of possibilities for institutional strengthening of the Pic du Midi IDSR: official and national status recognition for the Pic du Midi IDSR (regional nature park, project area, etc); specific regulations on public and private lighting, protection of the nocturnal environment;
- At the end of the mission, the process of institutionalising the Pic du Midi IDSR must have been enriched, at the very least by a well-established and ongoing strategy, and at best by concrete results in terms of specific regulations, or even status recognition;

An IDSR audit entity, "observatory" style, must be set up to monitor, record and evaluate the reserve's activity. The results of these audits should support the process of institutionalising the project area.

Missions linked to the scope of the Pic du Midi IDSR activities

Supporting the workers and partners of the Pic du Midi IDSR:

- SDE 65 : implementing the DARK SKY programme (lighting improvements)
- Pyrenees National Park: study and protection of the nocturnal environment, monitoring the quality of the dark sky
- Community: local activities which enhance the Pic du Midi IDSR

Remote action areas (Greater Tarbes)

Reinforcing the communications and promotion of the Pic du Midi IDSR

- Implementing a public relations campaign in order to promote the IDSR and its activities (website, flyers, press conferences, events, and so on...)

Developing territorial marketing for the IDSR: creating gateways to the valleys, indicating the core zone, clearly marking the towns and villages within the IDSR

Promoting the Hautes-Pyrenees in "Destination Dark Sky"

- Promoting the nocturnal and celestial dimension of the Hautes Pyrenees, the quality of the landscape and environment

Encouraging and promoting local touristic offers and initiatives centred on the night and the quality of the nocturnal landscapes and environment.

A governance of workers and partners

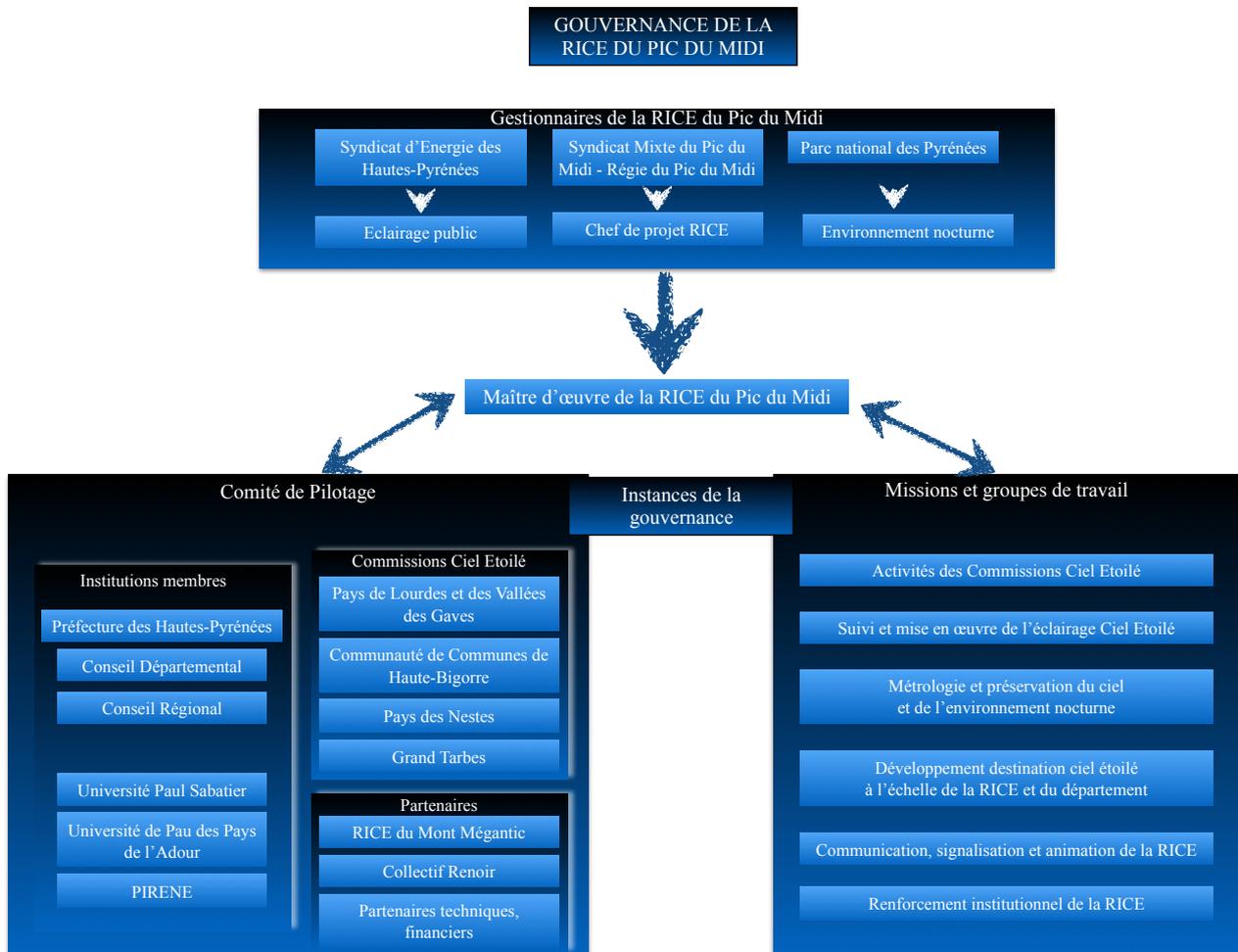


Diagram of the Pic du Midi IDSR governance



To be continue...