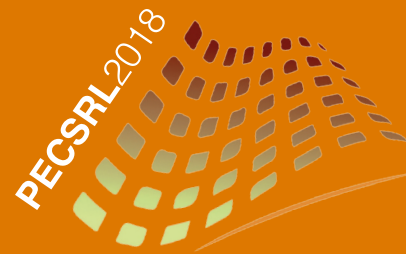


Much like its sister the Loire, whose main confluence it is, River Allier is often considered as «one of the last large wild rivers in Europe». Endowed with a very varied course over 425 km long, River Allier has indeed a very active river dynamics of its bed and a great ecological richness. This excursion will guide the visitors along three types of landscape designed by the river.



## European Landscapes for Quality of Life?

### Field Trip

## Local governance of landscape linked to agro-ecological transitions along Allier River

Field Trip # 1

**8:00** **Departure from Clermont (Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture)**

**9:00-10:30** **After the quarries, the nature!**

1

The first step is upstream, where the ecological corridor formed by Allier and its natural environment is quite under pressure from the cities nearby Clermont-Ferrand, intensive crops of Limagne and after 30 years, quarries for sand excavation. On this area, we will show the project of Ecopole : a naturalization process after quarry activities stopped, with organics and permaculture crops, and new forms of reversible landscape design and urbanism.

**10:30-12:30** **Touch and drink the river's transitions**

2

The second step concerns a transition zone with collapse basin of the Limagne plain. We will have a little stop and suggest testing directly from the spring close to the river, salt sparkling medical water of 13°C. Few minutes further this area, we will discover the landscape of Issoire basin, where industrial factories are developed along the river since the beginning of 20th centur. River technicians of Issoire riverside and researchers will give us explanations of their policy for economical and ecological transitions for this area. Lunch and games will happen into a traditional Auvergne Auberge close to Allier.

**12:30-13:45** **Lunch – Auberge du Petit Mas**

3

**14:30-15:30** **Dialogue with and by the river's landscapes**

4

On the downstream, the Gorges of Allier area, the river flows like a torrent, in the middle of a landscape of rocks, moors and forests. The last stop will be at the little village called Lavoûte-Chilhac, build above a very specific meander and into a widening zone of the valley. This area was concerned by a project of creating a new regional natural parc and the national center of the Landscape. Today these two projects are undermined but other territorial transitions happens and we will discover them.

**16:00-18:00** **Trip to Mende Mende through plateau of Ally - Mercoeur (wind farm landscape)**

5

Guide:

**Claire Planchat**

Geographer, associate researcher of UJR Territoires,  
Consultant for local development at VEDI Agency



## Local Governance of Landscape Linked to Agro-Ecological Transitions along Allier River

