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# Social Housing Innovation in Lyon

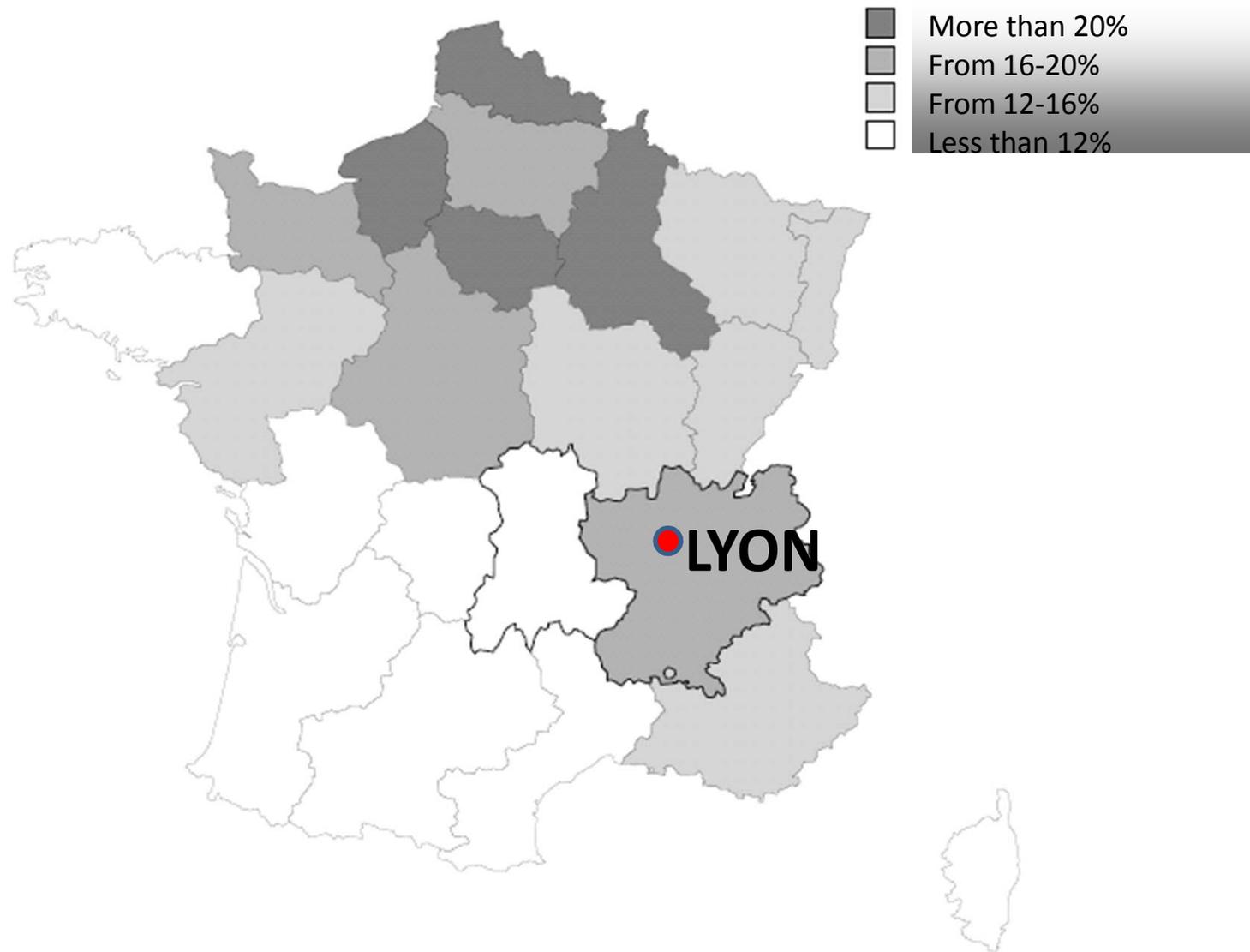
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# A Selective History

- Lyon Catholics oppressed by Rome
- A banking, printing and religious centre in mediaeval times (but religious wars)
- A centre for the silk industry from end of 16th century
- Now: chemicals, pharmaceuticals, biotech, software, financial services, tourism
- Early construction of tower blocks of social housing by Tony Garnier in the *Quartier des Etats unis* – 1938

# Lyon – Enthusiastic about social housing



# Transport Advantages



# Lyon – Lots of People to House

- Population around 1.2 million in 2004 - a growing and comparatively young population
- A history of housing labour, often immigrant labour , and receiving refugees from the Algerian war in 1958
- Enthusiastic construction in the 1960s and 70s means a large problem of repair now
- 120,000 students to house
- 124,782 social homes in 2005
- Extremely large concentration of social housing in particular areas

# Construction: Haussmanisation



# 60s and 70s: Concrete

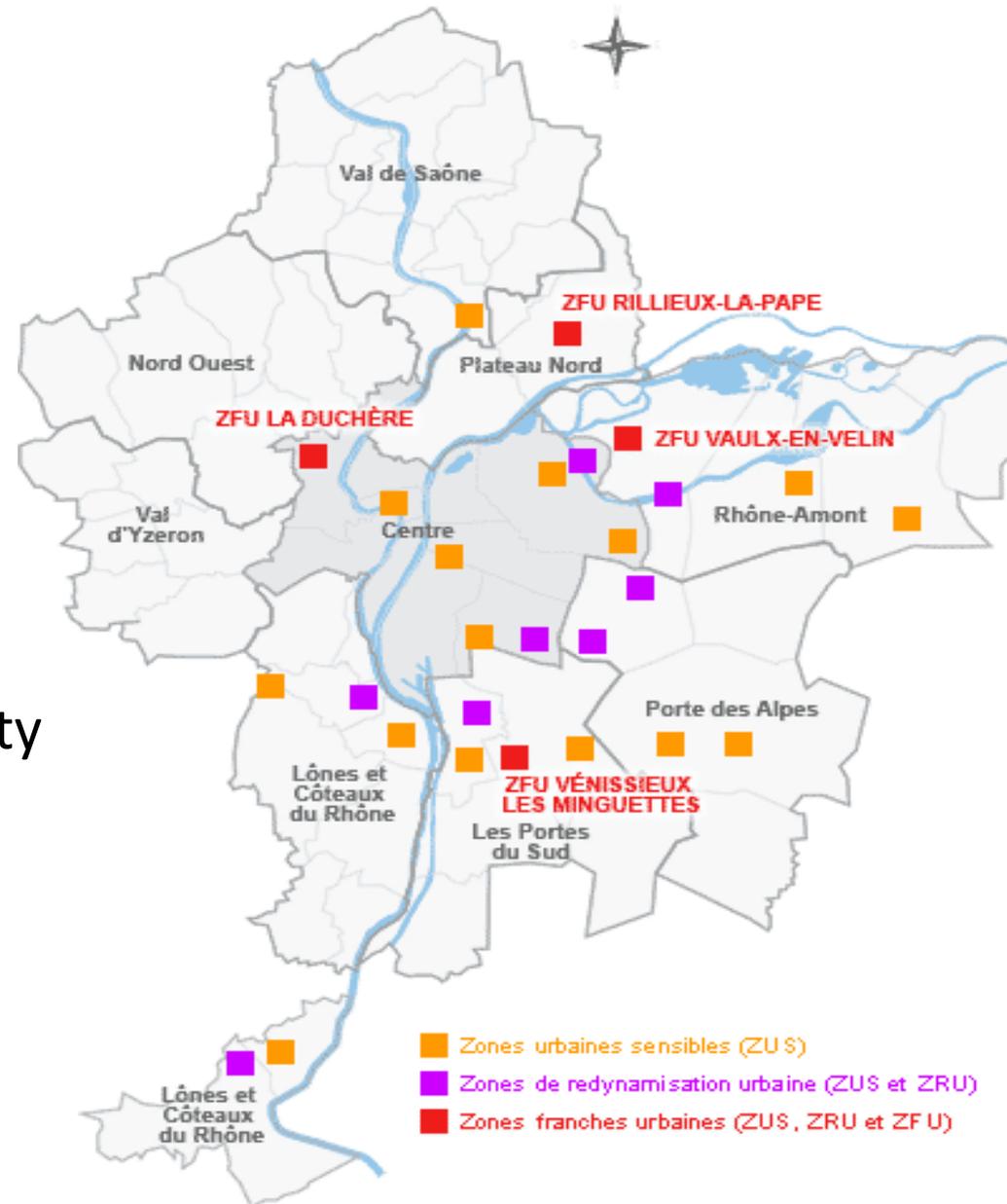


# Apparently Unpromising Multi-level Governance

## Political control in 2006

- **Region** - - - - -Left
- **Département-** - - -Right
- **Communauté** - - - - Left
- **Communes** - - - - - Varied
- **Arrondissements-** - -Varied but predominantly  
(in Lyon city) of the left

# Le Grand Lyon in 2007



Creating the city  
In the suburbs

# Special Institutions

## Communauté of le Grand Lyon

- **55 communes** and established since **1966**
- No housing duties but a major housing actor
- Provides shortfall in construction finance
- Promotes dynamic co-ordinated policy
- Allows :
  - Moving social tenants across the city for urban rehabilitation
  - Pauses in construction to allow access for the disadvantaged
  - Constantly leans on communes to facilitate other policies

# Special Institutions Helping the Disadvantaged into Social Housing

- **Le SIAL** – a dynamic prefectural stream for the disadvantaged
- **Le CIOD** – special inter-agency unit for moving families of the behaviourally challenged across town and re-housing victims of lead poisoning
- **Observatories** in *arrondissements* working with commissions to decide priority applicants
- **A single reception** for social housing applicants (normally fragmented)

# Conclusion

- This presentation starts from the assumption that, generally, the disadvantaged are poorly catered for in France
- Despite local dynamism a majority of communes can still exclude non-locals
- Lyon always investigates and innovates and French housing policy often follows
- But this means they can also be the first to make new mistakes