



A brief history of Samba in France

Helsinki - June 2019

Summary

Precursors

Diffusion

Diversification

Samba network

Current state

Precursors

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Precursors (1/2)

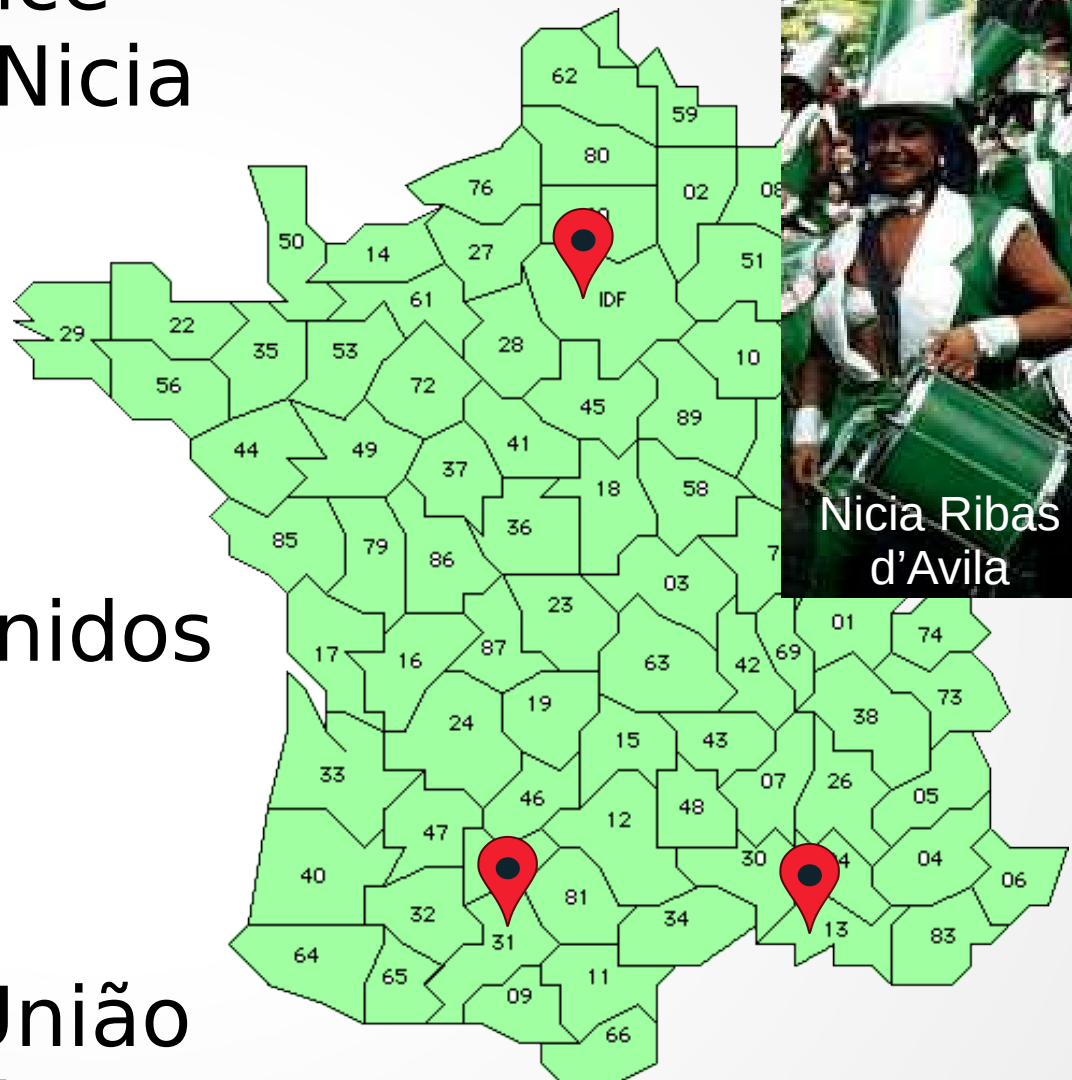
- Early 1920s: Paris – First occurrences of Samba music
- Mid 1950s: Paris – Samba music starts to influence many French artists (radio, TV shows)
- Mid 1960s: Samba and bossa nova become worldwide popular styles; French cinema popularizes samba music even more



Vinícius de Moraes
Paris, 1972

Precursors (2/2)

- 1976: Aix-en-Provence – First batucada with Nicia Ribas d'Avila as an experiment
- 1979: Paris – First bateria by Nicia
- 1985: Toulouse – "Unidos da Tia Nicia" samba school (ESUTN) is baptized by representatives of União da Ilha do Governador



Precursors

Diffusion

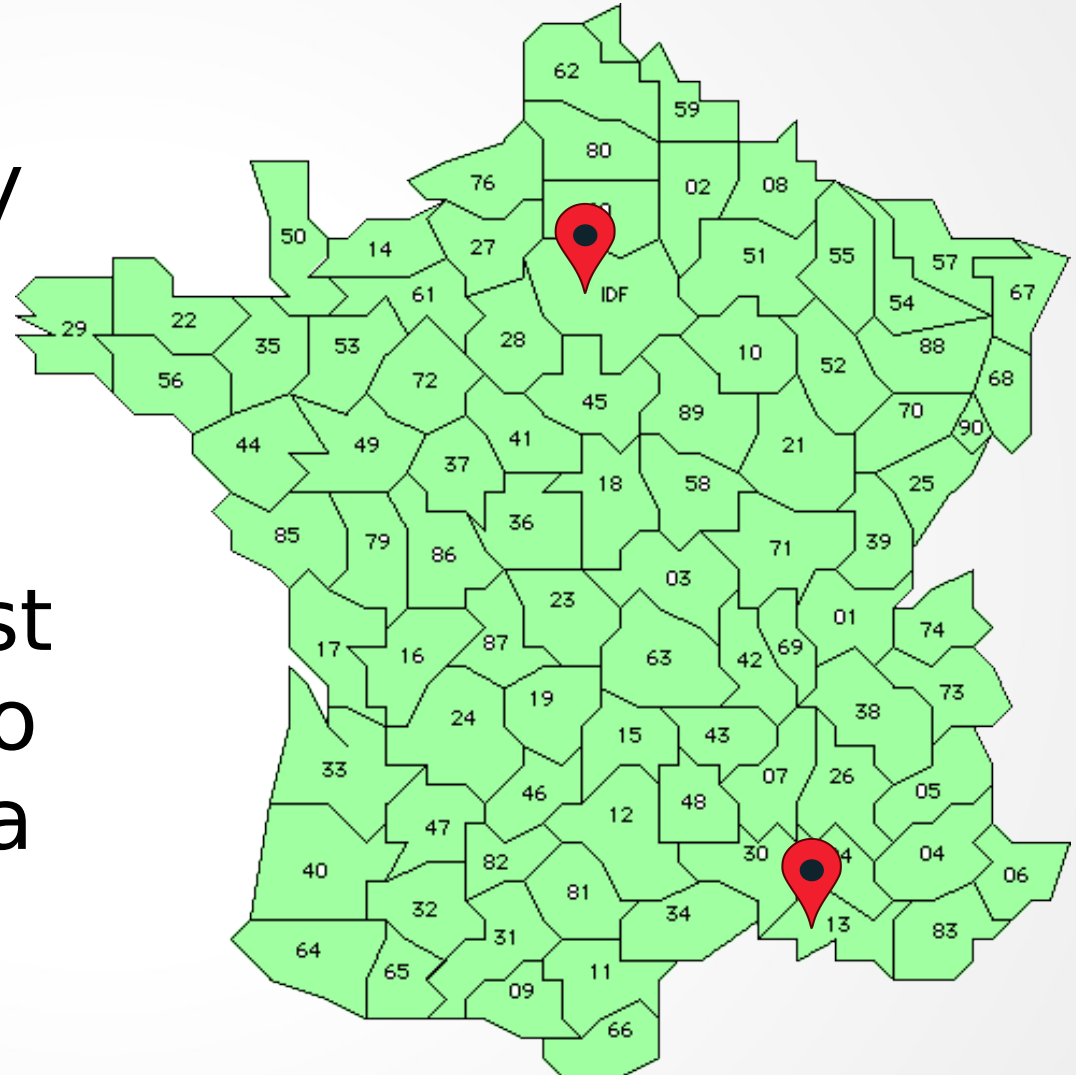
Diversification

Samba network

Current state

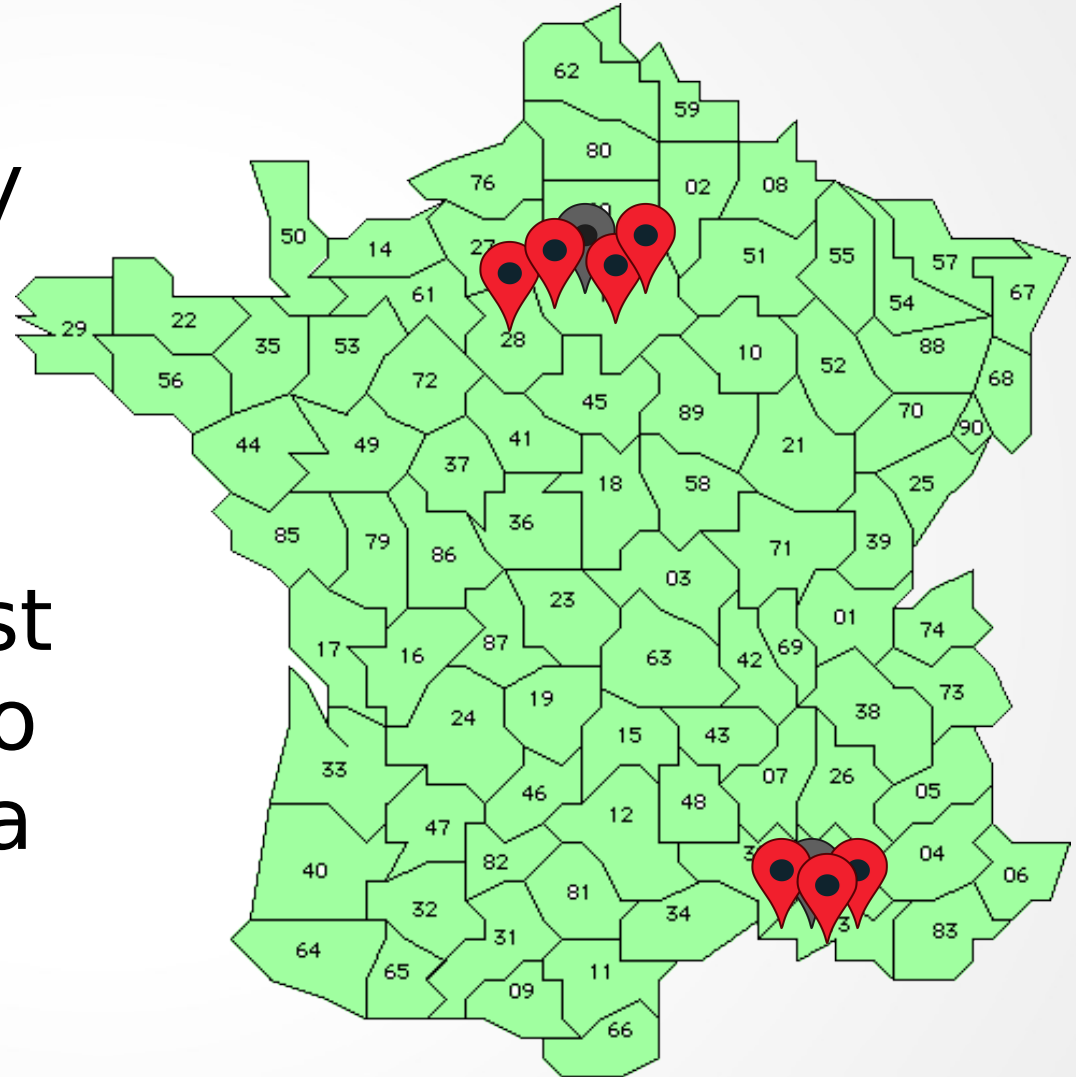
Diffusion (1/2)

- 1977-1985: First wave of samba group creations by former students of Nicia
- 1986: France is represented in First European Encontro of Samba (Uppsala – Sweden) by ESUTN



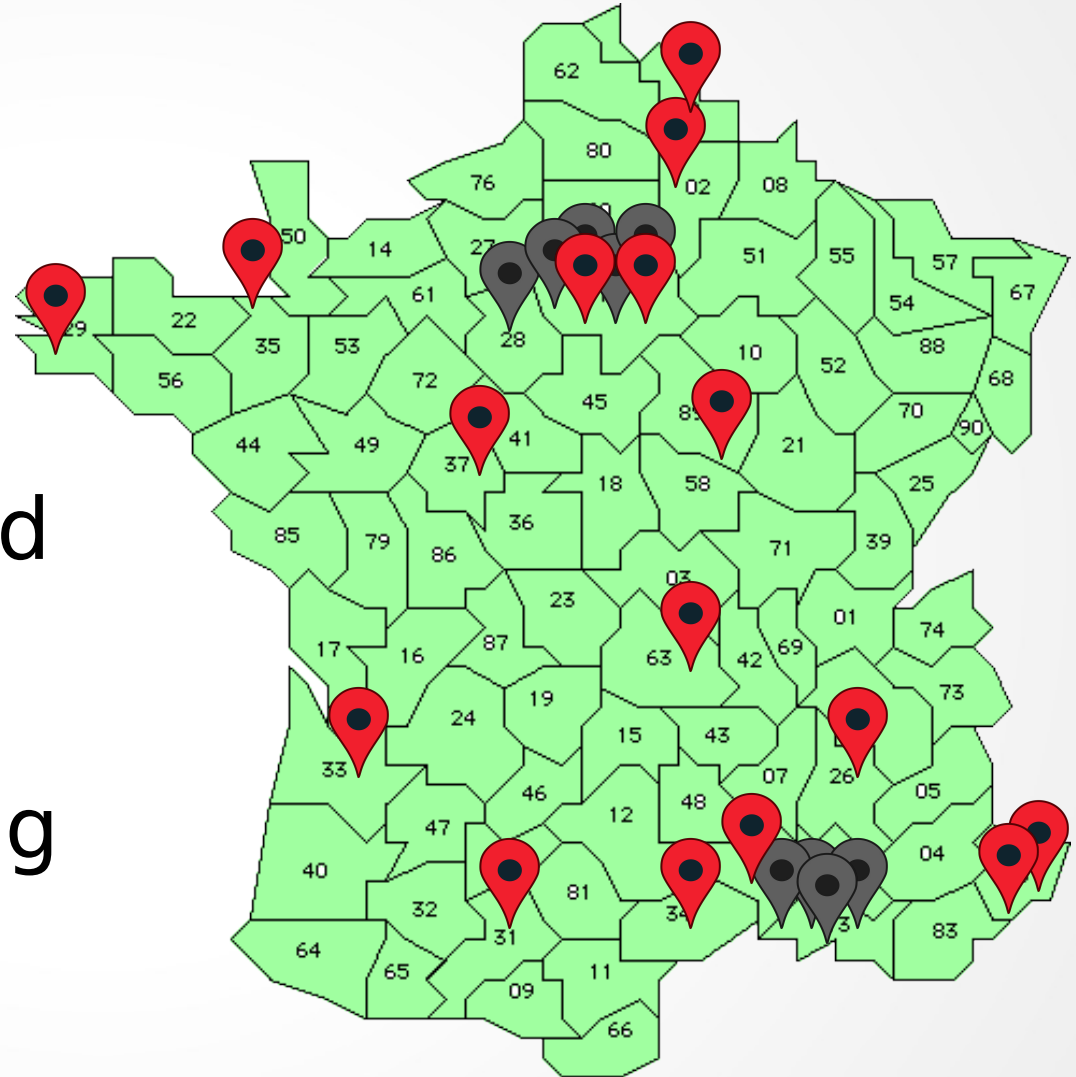
Diffusion (1/2)

- 1977-1985: First wave of samba group creations by former students of Nicia
- 1986: France is represented in First European Encontro of Samba (Uppsala - Sweden) by ESUTN



Diffusion (2/2)

- 1988-1992: Second wave of samba groups by former students of existing groups



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Diversification

- Since 1992: Continuation of samba group creations all over the country



- 1993: Samba reggae and other styles (maracatu, afoxé, etc.) begin to spread, some groups tend to specialize themselves in a given style



- Since 1999: Rodas de samba and samba dance groups start to spread, led by French and Brazilian musicians

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Samba network (1/3)

- Mid 1990s: French sambistas start going to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro, Salvador de Bahia)
- 1997: Birth of a French directory: Samba in France website (resources for sambistas) + national mailing list
- 1997: France is represented in the Samba Encontro of Goteborg (Sweden) by Samba Résille



Samba network (2/3)

- 1999: Samba Résille organises a European Encontro in Villeneuve-sur-Lot
- Mid 2000s: Brazilian mestres start to give workshops
- Since then, many local and national meetings have been happening between groups



Samba network (3/3)

- Early 2016: Samba in France launches a Youtube channel to share videos of Rio de Janeiro baterias
- Mid 2016: A Facebook group dedicated to French percussionists is created
- Early 2018: Samba in France starts its own Facebook page



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Samba meetings

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Current state (1/2)

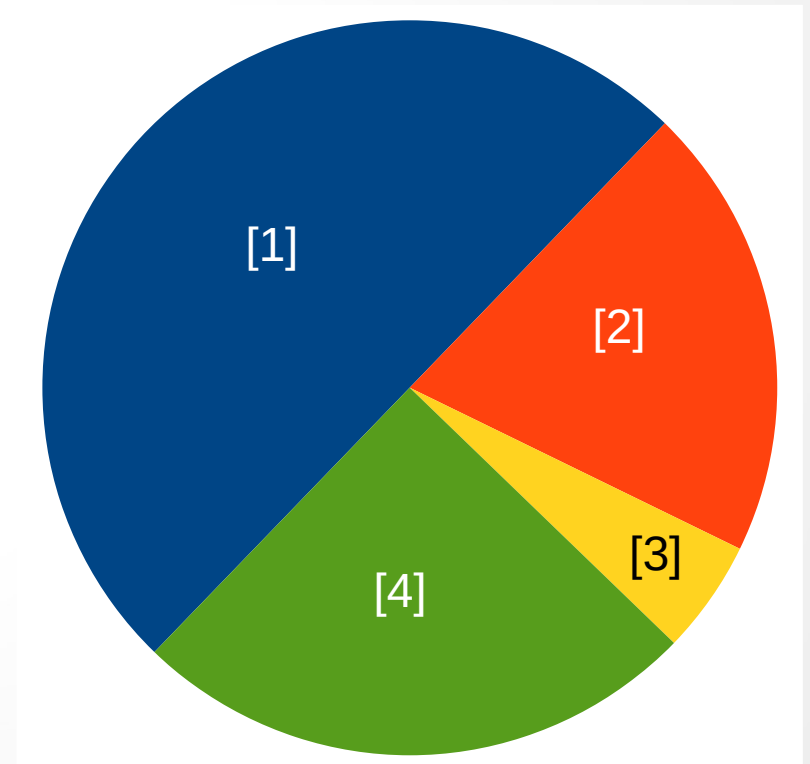
- 2019: More than 350 groups all over the country

[1] samba reggae / bloco afro: ~50 %

[2] samba carioca / pagode: ~25 %

[3] maracatu: ~5 %

[4] other styles or a mix of above styles: ~20 %



Current state (2/2)

- 2019: About 20 events, each of them involving multiple groups, happen everywhere in France each year (encontros, festivals, meetings...)



Samba in France:
<http://sambistas.online.fr>

 800+  600+

Questions?

Thank you!