

PANO

2018 | AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT GROUP

RAMA

#WorldInCommon





A world in common

AFD is the leading actor in France's development policy. We commit to projects that genuinely improve the everyday lives of people, both in developing and emerging countries and in the French overseas territories. We operate in a number of sectors—energy, health, biodiversity, water, digital technologies, training—to assist with the transition towards a safer, more equitable and more sustainable world: a world in common.

Our action is fully in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through its network of 85 agencies, AFD operates in 110 countries, where it is currently financing, supervising and supporting over 3,600 development projects.

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“Playing a pioneering role for the climate”

Laurence Tubiana, Chair of AFD Board of Directors

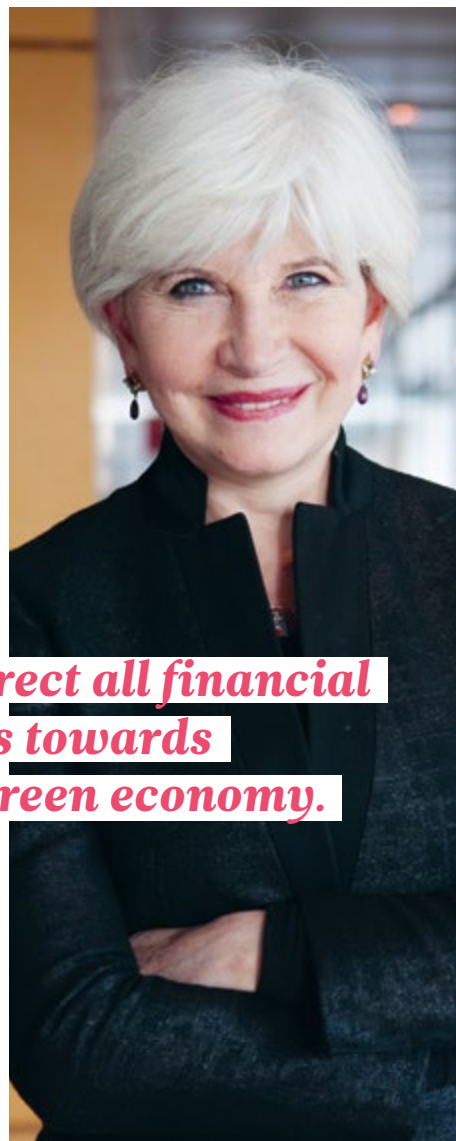
The One Planet Summit in December 2017 was a key moment for renewing the collective mobilization for the environment, two years after the historic Paris Climate Agreement and the US withdrawal. For AFD, which was actively involved in its preparation, this summit provided the opportunity to set out a strong doctrine: to build a development finance agency 100% aligned with the Paris Agreement.

Implementing the objectives of the Paris Agreement and limiting the increase in temperatures means setting out on a path to development that supports new energy resources, promotes environmentally-friendly agriculture, reinvents cities and revisits consumption patterns. It also means redirecting all the financial flows towards the green economy and sustainable development.

This involves an upheaval which development finance agencies around the world are still far from taking on board. For most of these institutions, the Paris Agreement has not—for the time being—resulted in an extensive redirection

of their portfolio of activities. By making this radical choice, AFD is playing a pioneering role and can, for example, advocate for climate action that rises to the challenges.

This choice requires revisiting all our sectoral policies and our portfolio of actions. This is a major challenge which AFD needs to address alongside all its private, public, local and international partners: a 360-degree vision of collective action, with climate protection as a categorical imperative. ♦



“Redirect all financial flows towards the green economy.”

“A stronger AFD”

Rémy Rioux, AFD CEO

Take action and build: this is what we have accomplished in recent months, a period in which we have built a stronger, more active and more effective AFD. In line with the Government’s commitment to strengthening France’s development assistance and increasing its influence, we have developed an ambitious new Strategic Orientation Plan. We have also marked a crucial milestone in our growth: with €10.4 billion of commitments in 2017, AFD has increased its activity by €1 million over this period, as was the case in the previous year.

Beyond figures, several remarkable successes should be highlighted. Our non-sovereign activity and our commitments in Africa—in the context of our “All Africa” strategy—have experienced exceptional growth. There has also been an increase in our grant operations and in our recent activity in the field of governance. At the same time, we are working on enhancing transparency in all our actions.

In addition, by taking over the Chair of IDFC, we have committed to strengthening this club of 23 major national development banks with a unique capacity for action, particularly on the climate issue.

**“The bilateral
platform for France’s
development policy.”**



Finally, with Proparco—our private sector financing arm, which is also experiencing strong growth—and soon with Expertise France, we are underscoring our ambition to become the bilateral platform for France’s development policy. We are working to support men and women like Jai Singh, Hadidja Saidi, Kan Nang, Abou Ouattara and others whose portraits you will discover when you read this 2018 Overview. ♦

A platform



for development

STRATEGY

AFD reached a record level of commitments in 2017—a crucial milestone in its history. Our Group has adopted an ambitious Strategic Orientation Plan for 2018–2022 and is more committed to development than ever.

Access to energy, education, environmental protection, food security, gender equality... The Sustainable Development Goals, pursued by AFD and the international community and reaffirmed in Paris during the One Planet Summit, are ambitious. These interdependent goals require us to take crosscutting action. This is what we are doing in developing countries, emerging countries and in the French overseas territories, with the support of the French: 70% of French people are in favor of our action (AFD-IPSOS, 2017).

After 77 years of commitment on every continent, the ambition of AFD Group today is to

meet the request of the French Government and become the bilateral platform for France's development policy. This platform will be not only for financing, but also for partnerships, expertise and innovation to meet the needs of our partners, with ever-increasing effectiveness. The platform shall respect the uniqueness of each country, speed up collective action and support all the solutions that contribute to building a world in common.

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A record level *of activity*

In 2017, AFD's activity reached a record €10.4 billion in commitments. Our Group is driven by strong political support and is actively committed to the implementation of France's development policy.

AFD's growth is continuing. In 2017, our activity surpassed the symbolic €10-billion mark for the first time, in its support for over 750 projects. This growth has been steady for several years and is made possible by both the national and international context and the consistency of our commitments.

On par with French objectives

France's objective is to earmark 0.55% of Gross National Income (GNI) to development assistance by 2022. This goal was set forth by the President of the Republic following his election in May 2017,

and confirmed by the last meeting of the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (CICID). This has resulted in a real increase in the resources allocated to AFD by the Government, and they will continue to rise: in 2019 we will be entrusted with €1 billion in additional credit in the form of grants.

The priorities set out by the French Government guide AFD's Strategic Orientation Plan for 2018-2022: to strengthen education, promote gender equality, fight climate change and support the private sector. The Government has thereby confirmed AFD's role as the bilateral platform for France's development policy.



€10.4 BN

**Volume of AFD Group's
commitments in 2017**

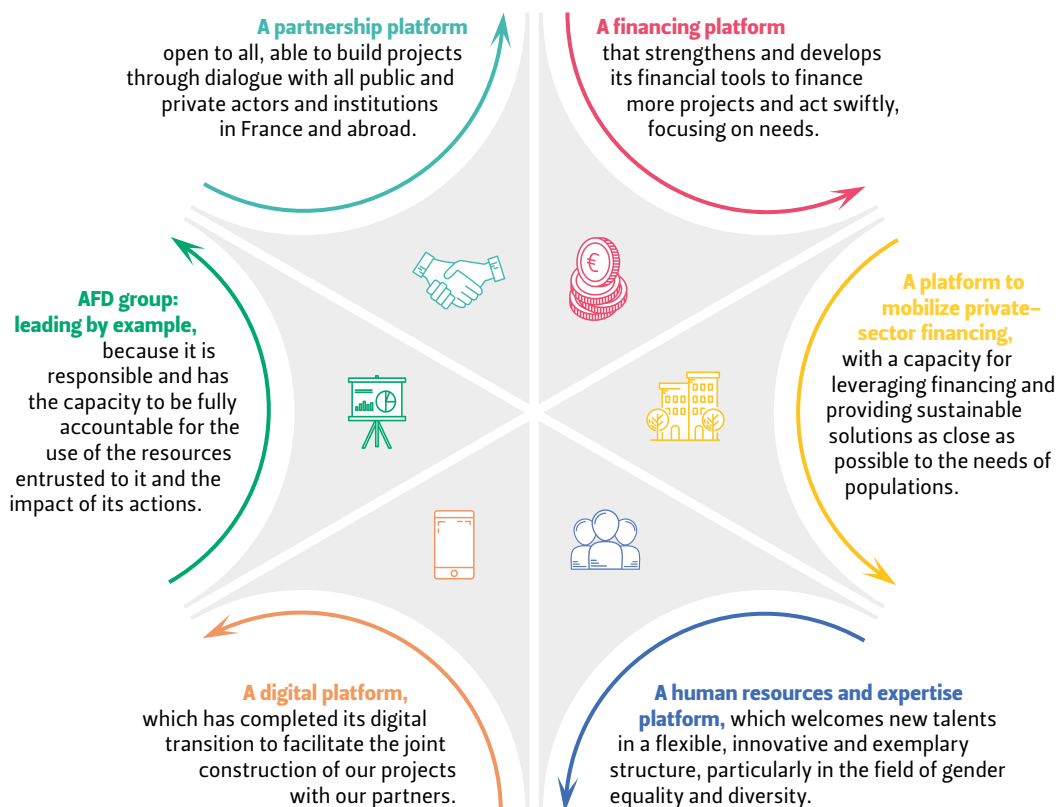


AFD platform



Our Strategic Orientation Plan for 2018–2022 sets ambitious objectives. AFD group has become the inclusive and open bilateral platform for France's development policy, with the aim of building new solutions and addressing new challenges.

Mauritius. The Medine sugar refinery has reduced its annual CO₂ emissions by 14,000 tons thanks to AFD's SUNREF green finance program.

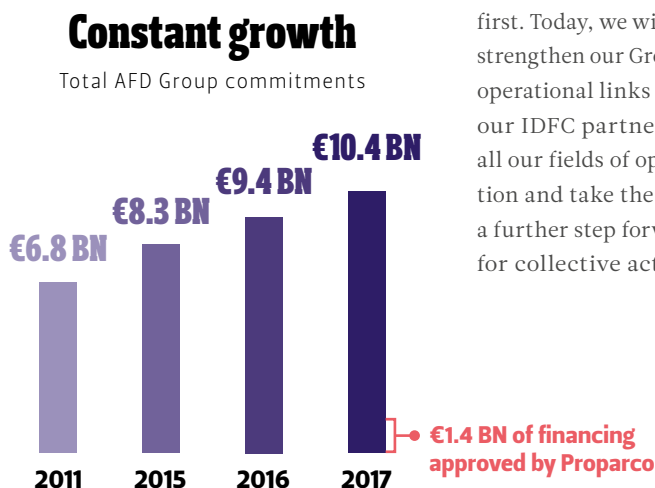


A key actor for a world in common

Following the US withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, international mobilization for the climate was revived during the One Planet Summit organized in Paris. France has confirmed its position as a leader in the fight against climate change. Its commitments require a strong contribution from our Group. At the same time, the European development system is being restructured and strengthened following the uncertainties generated by Brexit. AFD group is contributing to ongoing reflection to allow France to play a pivotal role in this development.

AFD's role on the international scene has also been strengthened since it took over the Chair of the International Development Finance Club (IDFC) in October 2017. This club of the largest national and regional development banks is the world's leading development financier. In 2017, it committed over US\$800 billion for development projects. In December 2017, under the impetus of Rémy Rioux, the 23 members of IDFC pledged to align their financing with

the Paris Agreement: a first. Today, we wish to strengthen our Group's operational links with our IDFC partners in all our fields of operation and take the club a further step forward for collective action.



New countries and fields of action

In July 2018, the Minister of Foreign Affairs announced it was giving AFD a mandate authorizing it to operate in a new country, Albania. In the battle against climate change, the Pacific region is benefiting from an unprecedented initiative, "Adaptation-biodiversity for the Pacific". Gambia and Liberia have joined the 17 countries which are already priorities for France's development assistance and will soon be host to projects led by our Group.

A range of financing for cultural and creative industries will also be developed, and we will be implementing the "Sport and Development" Initiative. Finally, AFD is now responsible for monitoring the Interministerial Action Plan on International Migrations. This plan aims to work on the root causes of irregular migration, support regular migration and assist refugees and internally displaced persons.

AFD is committed



100% Paris Agreement

AFD has become the first development agency to set out 100% of its financing on low-carbon and resilient development trajectories, in line with the Paris Agreement.



100% social link

We fight against inequalities and have made the preservation of social ties a prerequisite for our action.



3D development thinking

We work with actors in diplomacy, defense and development, as there can be no sustainable development without peace and security.



Non sovereign first

We encourage all actors of society to invest in the future for sustainable and shared prosperity.



Partnership by design

We open all of our projects to French and European partners and promote the sharing of skills and experience.

A comprehensive range of solutions

AFD is a group that now offers its partners a comprehensive range of solutions. Our institutional dialogue and support for public policies are carried out in conjunction with our commitment to meeting the needs for financing and assistance of private actors. These ambitions underscore the importance of our subsidiary Proparco, the gateway for our private sector clients in our partner countries.

The integration of Expertise France into AFD group is in line with this same

approach to strengthening and expanding the solutions we offer our partners in developing countries. Expertise France is a key actor in technical assistance and capacity building. Its integration will allow the group to offer a comprehensive range of financial solutions and expert services.

“
An exciting path has been mapped out for our collective action.

Rémy Rioux, Chief Executive Officer – AFD group

In 2019, with Expertise France and Proparco, we will form a strong partnership-based group, unparalleled in the sphere of international cooperation and development assistance. ♦

Closely focused

on needs

Each territory has specific needs. To provide the best possible response to them, we offer our partners differentiated solutions.

Building on our network of 85 agencies, we operate in 110 countries on every continent, as well as in the French overseas territories. Our method is based on staying in touch with needs, joint construction, dialogue and capacity building.

Considering Africa as a whole

AFD is the first non-African development institution to consider Africa as a whole, by endeavoring to fully understand the development and integration rationales of each of its subregions. Our strategy fully recognizes the emergence of the continent which, through its combined wealth and population, already rivals India. We devote special attention to the Sahel region and Mediterranean region.

Dialogue with emerging countries

We operate in emerging countries in a reciprocal way, sharing models and experiences. From Latin America to Asia, and including the Caribbean and Middle East, AFD group provides support to the demand for improved quality of life. It also promotes local innovations that contribute to building low-carbon development models.

The French overseas territories, bridges between France and the world

The French overseas territories span three oceans: Atlantic, Pacific and Indian. This means that France has the second-largest maritime domain in the world and therefore a crucial responsibility in the preservation of ecosystems and the development of island and maritime territories. Our strategy: assist each overseas territory with its sustainable development plan and develop regional approaches with its neighbors.



110

countries of operation

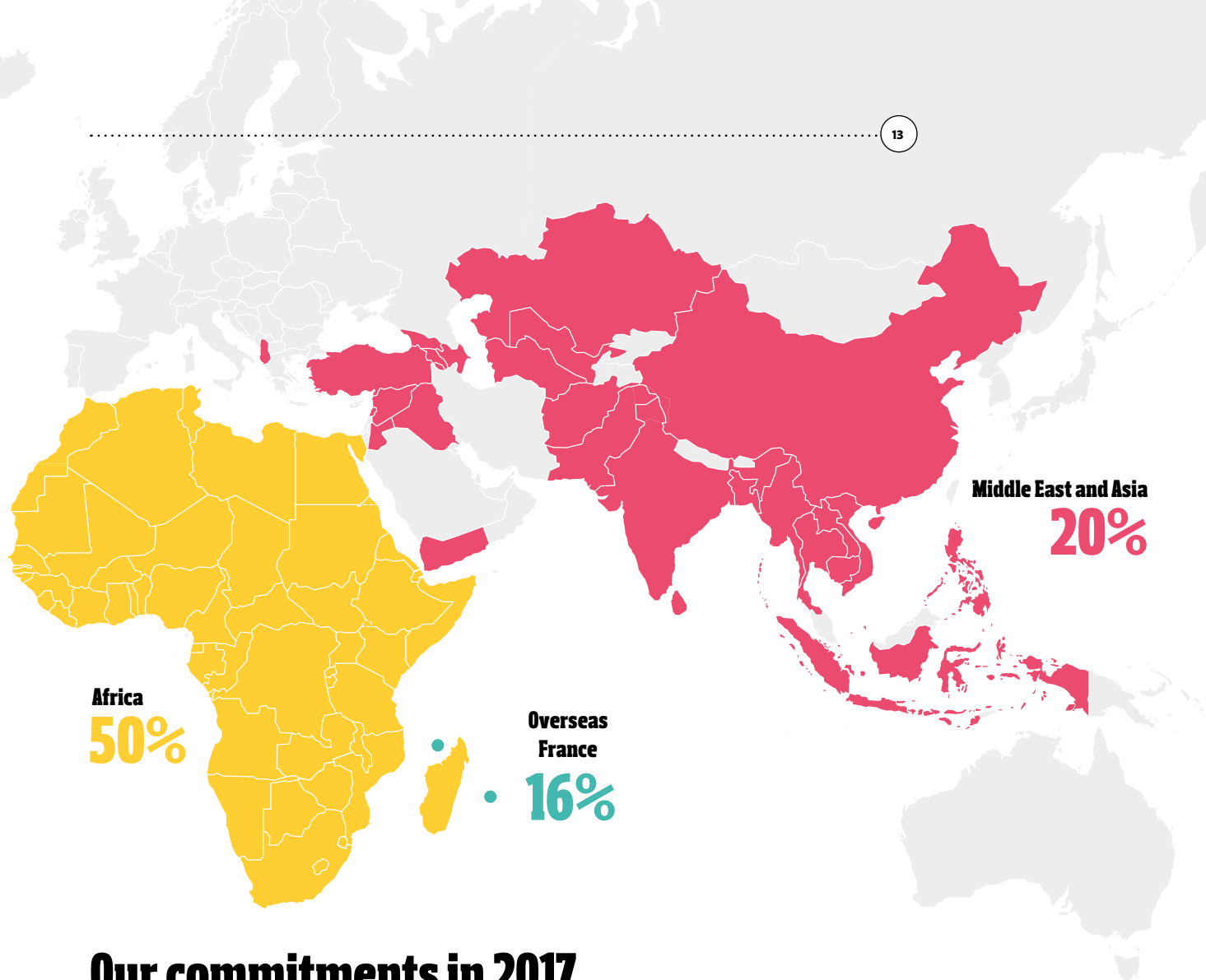


3,600

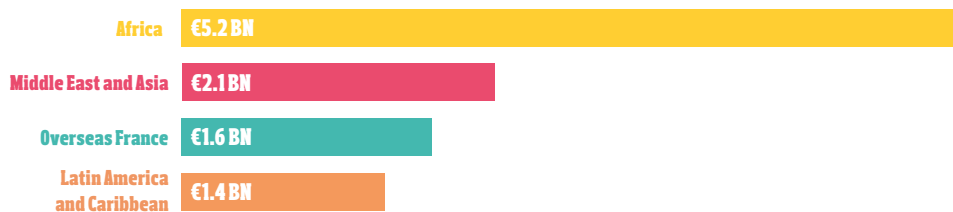
projects supported

Latin America and Caribbean

13%



Our commitments in 2017



+ €1.3 BN in Africa

Africa is the priority for AFD group. It accounts for half of our volume of activity and 80% of our overall financial effort. In 2017, our commitments on the continent rose by 15% and exceeded €5 billion. This growth is exceptional given the difficult macroeconomic context wherein many African countries are affected by the commodities crisis.



Brazil. Visit to the construction site of the Santa Catarina sanitation plant, built with AFD's support.

Customized financing

The financial tools we mobilize vary depending on the specificities and level of development of each geographical area. In the least developed countries, we mainly operate via grants and loans with very low rates. In middle-income countries, we lend on favorable terms and emphasize cooperation on common issues. In emerging countries, we allocate loans on market terms to fight against climate change and promote people- and environment-friendly growth. Finally, in the French overseas territories, we help define new economic models by financing the investments of local authorities and supporting the growth and competitiveness of the private sector.

Support for all actors

Our financing is implemented by a wide range of actors: States, but also local authorities, public and private enterprises,

banks and microfinance institutions, investment funds, regional organizations, universities, NGOs, associations and foundations.

Each project is selected for its viability and its relevance to the development strategy of the beneficiary country. We are responsive to officials and contracting authorities throughout the project cycle to ensure that appropriate means and financial instruments are implemented.

A partnership-based approach

AFD is stepping up its partnerships with other international, regional and national financial institutions. This partnership-based approach is essential to the effectiveness of our action. It allows us to channel towards priority countries all those who can provide the resources, expertise, as well as capacities for action and for financing high-impact projects. ◆

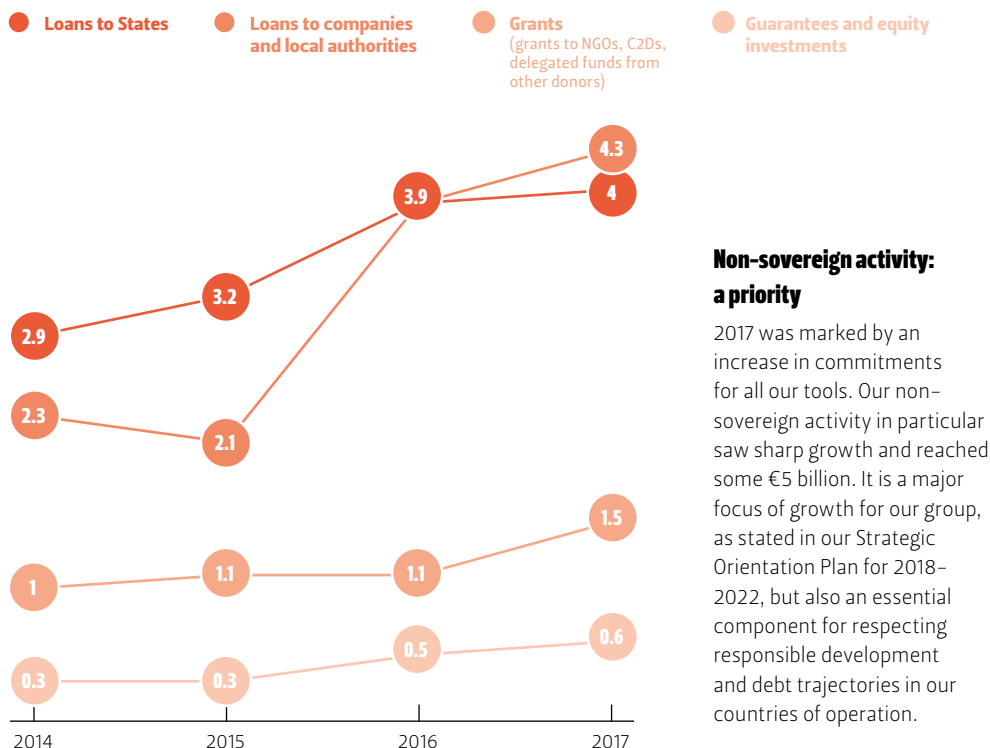


750

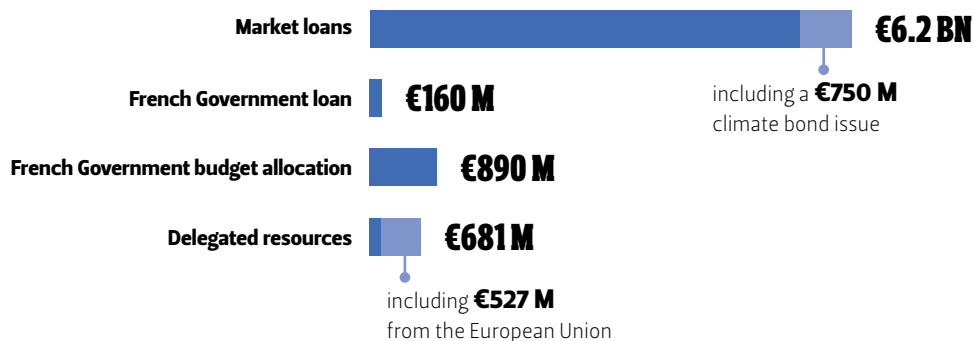
new development
projects in
all sectors in 2017

Our commitments by financial tool

In billions of euros



Where did our resources come from in 2017?



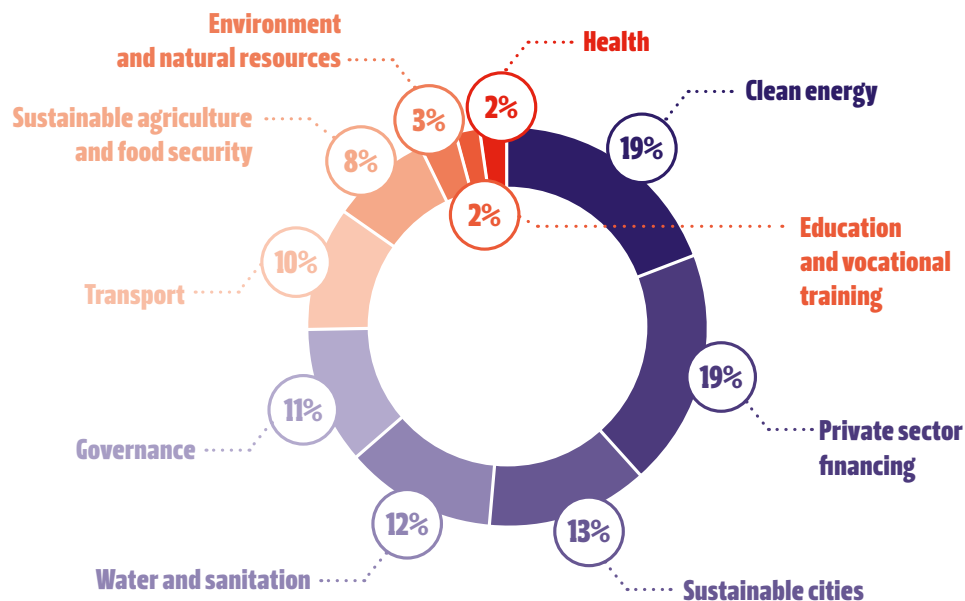
Extended

fields of action

Energy, transport, agriculture, health, training...
3,600 projects are currently being supported and financed by AFD. Their point in common is that they make a real contribution to fairer and more sustainable development.

Our operations by sector in 2017

**Always more
for the climate**



AFD finances and supports development projects in all sectors: to promote sustainable and shared growth, to make a real improvement in the daily lives of people, to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and to limit global warming to two degrees.

| Climate as the guiding principle

The fight against climate change is deeply intertwined with poverty reduction: the impacts of climate change are even more violent when populations are vulnerable. AFD is one of the main international donors working on this issue and the first development agency to define itself as “100% Paris Agreement” compatible. In 2016, we made a commitment for 50% of the projects we finance to have a direct positive impact on the climate. Today, we are taking things further by ensuring that every project we support takes part in the low-carbon trajectory of the country in question.

| Governance: a core development issue

Competence for governance was transferred to AFD by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2016. It is a pillar of development: only efficient, transparent and inclusive institutions can build effective public services and provide quality basic services. In two years, we have shown that AFD has been successful in taking up this new mandate: commitments in this field stood at over €900 million in 2017. ♦

Our impacts in the field

Outcomes of projects supported in 2017

396,000
girls go to school



822,000
people benefit from sustainable access to drinking water

365,000
people have access to electricity



16 M
hectares of natural spaces protected or restored

+ €1 BN invested
by SMEs/microenterprises in sustainable growth



In the field

FOCUS REPORTS

AFD group currently provides support to 3,600 development projects. These initiatives are being implemented in over 110 countries and in the French overseas territories. They are contributing to building a safer and more sustainable world—a world which leaves no one behind.

MEXICO

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Mexico's pioneering planters

FRENCH GUIANA

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Drinking tap water at long last

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deforestation

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Greener nights in
Jodhpur

ENERGY

Greener nights in



The rapidly developing city of Jodhpur has completely overhauled its urban lighting system, to reduce its energy footprint. This ambitious policy is also transforming the daily lives of residents.

A lightbulb can make a big difference. When a city develops, its energy needs grow along with it, the extension of the urban lighting network included. The result: increasing pressure on the environment, public finances and household incomes.

In the state of Rajasthan, in northwest India, the municipality of Jodhpur decided to optimize its street lighting. Today, LED technologies are one of the most efficient and affordable ways to meet this objective. That's why the city now

uses LED bulbs, which are brighter and less energy-consuming.

This has enabled the city to halve its energy bill for lighting. There has also been a marked improvement in living conditions for residents: women feel safer in public spaces, roads are safer and street vendors have new

trade opportunities... All residents can now also enjoy the city at night.



59,000

**low-energy lightbulbs installed
in Jodhpur since 2015**

Innovative economic model

In India, despite huge energy-saving potential, most industries, companies and cities



1.14 M

inhabitants

in Jodhpur, the second largest city in the state of Rajasthan

45%

Share of coal

in India's energy mix

Jodhpur



“*In Jodhpur, the fight against climate change is making a real improvement to the daily lives of residents.*”

Kedar Sawant, Project Officer
at AFD's agency in India (New Delhi)

find it hard to implement large-scale energy efficiency projects. The reason? A lack of technical capacity and very scarce sources of financing.

In Jodhpur, the transition to low-energy lightbulbs was made possible through AFD's support to Energy Efficiency Services Limited. This public enterprise is an Energy Service Company (ESCO). It bears the investment costs, handles the maintenance of the new low-energy systems and is paid back via the energy savings.

This “ESCO model” system of financing energy efficiency projects eliminates the financial and technological risks for cities, thereby facilitating their decision to switch to more energy-efficient systems.

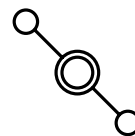
Nationwide energy savings

AFD's aim in supporting Energy Efficiency Services Limited is to demonstrate the economic relevance of the ESCO model and to promote its development in India. The sharing



of expertise and experience is also a core component of this partnership (via a study visit to France, meetings between experts from the two countries, etc.).

There is a need to rethink street lighting at the national level, as the country's energy consumption has more than doubled since 1990. India now ranks as the third largest energy consumer in the world, behind China



20,000

equivalent
tons of CO₂
saved every year



Thanks to the lighting system set up with AFD's support, the streets of Jodhpur are better lit, benefiting everyone.

and the USA. Its energy mix is still largely based on coal.

The 2010 adoption of a proactive strategy to reduce energy reflects the Indian Government's decision to take action to reduce the environmental and economic costs of the country's development. This national initiative is paving the way for a number of local transitions, as in Jodhpur. ♦



€50 M

lent by AFD to promote
energy savings in Indian cities

**With the lighting,
Basanti and her
children feel safe**

The improvement in lighting makes women and children feel safer. Basanti, photographed at dusk here, has been living in the Adarsh Colony neighborhood for years and finds that life has been different there since the street lighting was changed.

“

We can now go and sit outside every evening and stay there to talk and drink tea. The children love to play outside, and we can now let them play because we know they're safe. The lights used to go off all the time. We don't have this problem anymore.





Mohammed's stall steps out of the shadows

Mohammed (left, foreground) has seen real improvement for his small business in the Kheme ka Kua neighborhood.

“

I've become more visible thanks to the new street lighting. Young children and women come to my stall even in the evening, which wasn't the case before.



Good for Jai's business

Jai Singh (standing, in check shirt) owns a tea stall on Pal Road, a main road in Jodhpur.

“

We've always been very popular with our customers in this neighborhood, but the installation of new streetlights has allowed us to develop our sales.





Maintenance team in the spotlight

Kapil (first on left) is an electrical engineer. He has been working for Energy Efficiency Services Limited for two years. It's his team of 20 people who, day and night, handle the maintenance of the public lighting facilities.

“Maintenance is essential, so that people can feel the immediate benefits of the project. We respond quickly to requests to ensure that the residents of Jodhpur constantly benefit from better lighting.”



BASIC EDUCATION

WHEN GIRLS head to school

An increasing number of children are now spared the long hours of walking to get to school, thanks to the primary and middle schools opened in rural areas in Côte d'Ivoire. Having schools nearby is essential for the schooling of children, especially girls.



FOCUS

23 M

Population
of Côte d'Ivoire

42%

of the population
is under 15

4%

of girls
from poor rural
families make it through
middle school

In rural areas in Côte d'Ivoire, the quest for knowledge often starts with a long journey. And not just in the figurative sense: in the Korhogo region, in the far north of the country, some students walk for up to 15 km every morning to get to school. But schools have recently started springing up in the region. This is changing daily lives radically, especially for girls, who in rural areas are the most likely ones to drop out of school.

Opportunity to learn

"Later on, I want to become President of the Republic!". If Rachelle Yéo can dream of governing Côte d'Ivoire one day, it's because she is able to study without being exhausted beforehand: her school is no longer a six-kilometer walk from her home. Lataha

Middle School opened in 2016. Students from neighboring villages, like Rachelle, used to go to Korhogo Middle School and they used to walk several kilometers every morning. "I now walk for ten minutes and arrive at school in good shape to attend classes in the right conditions," says the teenager.

As well as reducing distances, the new school reassures parents. "They don't worry so much, especially for their daughters. The city has a reputation of being dangerous for them: school-age pregnancies, bad company and so on," points out Lathe Sabro, the school principal.

Two years ago, he enrolled Katchiéné, who became pregnant at 13. It was impossible for the young mother to go to school in Korhogo every day. The opening of the middle school in



Lataha meant she did not have to drop out of school. *“Going to school will ensure me a job and independence,”* says the young girl. She is now the eighth-best student in her class of 43 children. Katchiéné is in the 8th grade and dreams of becoming an English teacher.

From a very early age

South of Korhogo, in Lofinekaha, it’s a primary school which has



€100.3 M

allocated by AFD for basic education in Côte d’Ivoire

opened. Its principal, Fatogama Ouattara, is delighted: 135 girls and 113 boys are enrolled. For him, it proves that mentalities are changing: *“Parents have accepted the idea that a girl must be in school and not at home or given in marriage, as they used to think.”*

Siriki Silué, a father of two girls, confirms this impression: *“We’re pleased to have a place where our children learn how to read and*

At the Lataha Middle School, Rachelle, Katchiéné and their classmates study in better conditions, as is the case for the 110,000 children enrolled in school every year thanks to the Education C2D.



“Primary and middle schools in rural areas provide an effective response to the inadequate school enrollment among girls.”

Bruno Leclerc, Director of AFD's agency in Côte d'Ivoire (Abidjan)

write. This is an advantage in the education of our children, especially for our girls.” One of Siriki’s daughters is in nursery school: he proudly proclaims that “twelve of the twenty children are girls.” He hopes that this will become the standard ratio nationwide.

Education for all girls and boys

In Côte d'Ivoire, few inequalities are as glaring as those affecting the education of girls. Only 4% of girls from poor families in rural areas can hope to reach 9th grade, compared to 75% of well-off urban boys.

To secure a future for all the country’s young people, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire has made education for all girls and boys a priority, with a focus on rural areas. This includes construction of schools, opening of classes, staff training... For young girls and their classmates, the “path to knowledge” must from now on be simply a metaphor. ♦



Providing girls with access to school brings many benefits: decline in the number of children per woman and in infant mortality.



Promoting reform

AFD is supporting the Ivorian Government's education plan via the Youth Challenge program, which it has been implementing since 2013. It's financing the construction and equipping of schools, as well as staff training, in the context of a Debt Reduction-Development Contract (C2D)*.

Lataha middle and Lofinekaha primary schools were built during the first C2D education project, which enabled the building of 116 primary and 40 middle schools, as well as training for 10,000 teachers and 15,000 principals. The second C2D education project, with the creation of 200 middle schools, is now under way. It will lead to the availability of 92,000 places in middle schools and 20,000 places in primary schools.

* The C2D allows a country's debt to be converted into aid: each repayment made is paid back to the country by France in the form of a grant to finance development programs.



MICROCREDIT

New horizons *for fishermen*

In Mayotte, one of the poorest regions in the European Union, marine resources represent a real opportunity for residents. ADIE, a microcredit association, is helping fishermen set up their business.



FOCUS

26%
Unemployment
rate
in Mayotte

56%
of new
entrepreneurs
are women

There is no question of improvising when it comes to becoming a professional fisherman. While the waters of Mayotte's lagoon have plenty of fish, it's difficult to turn this into a trade for local fishermen, who are often without resources and unfamiliar with French and European regulations. Many of them have been able to set up their own businesses, buy and equip boats, and even create jobs in their villages, thanks to support from the Association for the Right to Economic Initiative (ADIE). This is a lifeline for these women and men from the west coast of the island, who can provide a better life for their families.

Microcredits to stay afloat

The unemployment rate has reached record levels in Mayotte, at around 26%. This is almost triple the rate in mainland France. The local economic base, for its part, focuses on informal business activities with low added value. This is an unfavorable economic context for all those entering the labor market. Women and young people bear the brunt of this. Many people in Mayotte see entrepreneurship as a solution to pull through, but they have little access to banking services. Microcredit institutions offer them an alternative to finance their activity.



An increasing number of fishermen in Mayotte are abandoning the traditional outrigger canoes for more modern boats.

“In ADIE, AFD has found the ideal partner to move toward a greener and more inclusive future.”

Yves Rajat, Director of AFD's agency in Mayotte (Mamoudzou)

ADIE is one of these institutions. By means of microcredit and its accompanying support, this non-profit organization helps recipients of minimum welfare benefits, the unemployed, and all those without access to the traditional banking system to create their own jobs. In Mayotte, ADIE's activity takes on its full meaning: a quarter of people in Mayotte supported by the association were minimum social benefit recipients when they set up their business, two-thirds had no qualifications, and 90% were living under the poverty

line. Two years after they were set up, 80% of the assisted businesses are sustainable—an exceptional rate. These economic dynamics trigger a virtuous circle: an average of 1.25 jobs are created for each funded business. The average household income of the entrepreneurs has also substantially increased, to around €1,660 per month.

More environmentally-friendly fishing

Mayotte's lagoon is a real biodiversity haven. The island consequently benefits from aid from the French central government and the

European Union to develop and promote good environmental practices. Fishermen who

want to equip their boats with more recent, less polluting and more energy-efficient engines can request financing. Up to 30% of the new engines are financed by public aid, with the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) contributing half. Nine fishermen benefited from this subsidy in 2017, and around ten applications are being examined in 2018. This is meaningful aid, especially for young people who take over the traditional family business and want to modernize fishing practices. The sea and ADIE open up new horizons for them. ♦



€45 M

.....
**injected into
 the local economy
 by ADIE in 20 years**

Supporting Mayotte's entrepreneurs from A to Z

AFD is the main partner of ADIE's branch in Mayotte. In 2017, AFD granted the branch €3 million in multi-year financing to support entrepreneurship. But their cooperation doesn't stop there: AFD is cofinancing ADIE MicroBusiness, a training center to professionalize microentrepreneurs.

AFD also works directly with small-scale entrepreneurs. It facilitates their access to bank credit by guaranteeing their loans via the agriculture-fisheries guarantee fund. In 2018, it's also supporting the development of retail outlets for seafood products by prefinancing a State subsidy for the Petite-Terre Association of Municipalities.

PROFILE

Colo, from difficulties to solutions

Colo Brahime, who is in his late fifties, says *“Fishing allows me to do two things: sell fish, but also feed my family.”* Jobless, he turned to the sea to regain hope. A loan of €10,000 from ADIE enabled him to buy a boat and start fishing. ADIE also helped him bring his application into compliance, so that he could work in keeping with regulations.

A few months later, his engine was stolen and his boat damaged. He needed to call on the microcredit institution again. He hopes to replace the stolen engine and buy a trailer so he can protect his boat, and even buy another boat.

In the meantime, Colo fishes on boats lent by friends, as fishermen in Mayotte help one another. This means that his wife can continue to sell his catch at her small shop. There, she can store the fish in a refrigerator, which was also financed by ADIE. The fisherman looks out to sea with a smile and says, *“Today, I have hope for the future.”*



60

**fishermen supported
in Mayotte in 2017**



**PROFILE**

Issoufi, a new-generation fisherman

“This will all be gone by 2021,” asserts Issoufi Bali-Ousseni as he makes a gesture to brush aside the traditional wooden outrigger canoes on the beach in Sada. Issoufi, age 30 with a fishing diploma he obtained in mainland France, is well aware of the changes taking place on his native island... and he definitely intends to make a positive contribution to them! With a convincing loan application in hand, he turned to ADIE and borrowed €6,000 of the €15,000 he needed to buy a boat. He will also put a roof on it *“to stay in the shade,”* he points out, as he has no intention of baking in the sun all day like his father and uncle did for years.

There are an increasing number of available tools on the island for entrepreneurs who must get to grips with administrative procedures: *“In addition to ADIE, I’ve asked for aid from the Management Advisory Center, a local consulting firm and the Departmental Council,”* explains the fisherman. He is also seeking other sources of financing to develop his activity and open a fishmonger’s in Chiconi Village. Indeed, Issoufi is ambitious: *“I’m not going to stop at this small boat.”*

PROFILE

Hadidja, a woman in a man's world

"It's difficult being a woman in this environment," admits Hadidja Saidi, the manager of a fishing company with several employees. *"My employees are sometimes disrespectful toward me and don't take my advice because I'm a woman,"* she adds. Women traditionally fish in Mayotte, but they do not manage companies.

Hadidja rapidly developed her business thanks to the ADIE office in Chiconi. She borrowed almost €10,000 to finance the purchase of engines and the means to protect her boats from theft. After nearly 30 years in business, Hadidja today employs six people and has two boats, which catch between 50 and 100 kilos of fish depending on the days and seasons. Hadidja and her employees carry out virtuous fishing, so as not to deplete the resources which provide them with a livelihood, and they take care not to catch fish in coral areas.

One of her children graduated from the island's maritime training school. She hopes he will be eligible for further financial aid to develop the business that pulled her family out of poverty. For the time being, Hadidja devotes the bulk of her profits to financing the studies of her four other children in mainland France.





Drinking WATER AND SANITATION tap water *at long last*


In Favard village, in French Guiana, a treatment plant now supplies drinking water to residents all year round. This is providing hygiene and comfort to over 30 families, while developing ecotourism services that benefit all.

Favard, 30 km south of Cayenne. In this Amerindian village along the River Oyack, life follows the incoming and outgoing flows of canoes. A spring located less than 2 km away long supplied residents with water. However, its water was untreated and regularly posed health problems.

A crucial project

It was the death of a newborn child in 2002 that prompted village leaders to demand drinking water from the Centre Littoral

Urban Community, which consequently decided to provide financing to secure and upgrade water production in Favard. This has now been done: a small treatment unit was commissioned in September 2016 to treat the spring water. It can purify up to 1,000 liters of water an hour. Its storage tank has a capacity of 6 m³ and is connected to 690 meters of pipes which supply homes.

All the machinery is installed in a container. Inside, there is exactly the same system as in a conventional treatment unit. 



15%
of the population
lacks access to drinking
water in French Guiana

165
people
live in Favard village

45 minutes
by car
from Favard to the
nearest city



*I'm there every day, ready
to react if there's a problem
or a part to replace.*



Francky Joan,
27, manages the Favard
treatment plant.



CUBU 204765
22G1

MAX. GROSS 10.480 MGS
67.200 LBS

TARE 2.030 MGS
4.480 LBS

NET 28.450 MGS
62.720 LBS

CU 240 112 T/M
1.119 T/MT

Other projects in the pipeline

For Favard, the projects don't stop there. After drinking water, the village is planning to tackle problems of wastewater disposal and waste collection. It's also working on connecting homes to the electricity grid. Only a few homes currently have solar panels or a generator to run their refrigerators and lights.

This installation is unique in French Guiana. It has been set up thanks to a €200,000 subsidized loan allocated to the Urban Community by AFD. It eventually may be possible to replicate the system in other villages in French Guiana.



The station is equipped with a 6-m³ tank (in gray on the right). A study is under way on the installation of an additional 15-m³ tank to supply the population with drinking water for 48 hours in the event the station breaks down.

Daily lives completely changed

The villagers no longer need to filter water during the rainy season, go to the river to wash dishes or shower, or buy liters of mineral water for drinking or cooking. *“This is enormous progress for the community and for life in the village,”* sums up Jean Lucas, chairperson of the association Walyku, which includes all the village residents.



€200,000

lent by AFD for drinking water production in the village

For Patricia Rosemon, age 20 and a mother of two children, life has changed: *“It’s important to have drinking water for my children, especially for their health.”* The young woman now has access to running water, but she is careful: *“We now have to pay for the water we use. It has made us save water.”*

Francky Joan, 27, is the grandson of the village’s traditional chief. He manages the plant. *“It’s a small facility, but it’s wonderful!”*, he says enthusiastically. *“It really has changed the lives of everyone in the village. AFD and the Urban Community paid for everything,*

and the price of water per m³ is the same as everywhere else in the department.” Another benefit of the project: as the water is billed to residents, they have proof of residency. *“It was a big problem in the village, especially to get a telephone subscription or receive welfare.”*

An opportunity for tourism

For nearly four years now, the community of Favard has been working on an ecotourism project, which aims to let people discover the Amerindian culture, traditions and know-how. Here again, the installation of the treatment unit is good news: as Jean Lucas explains, *“We can welcome people and offer them drinking water. This really helps the development of our project!”* ♦



1,000 liters

of water treated per hour

“The project ensures access to quality drinking water for the Amerindian village of Favard.

Faustine Faure, Civic Service Volunteer at AFD agency in French Guiana (Cayenne)



VOCATIONAL TRAINING

LEARNING

a trade... and how to live together

Every evening, in a technical school in the suburbs of Beirut, vocational training is given to Lebanese citizens and Syrian refugees. It's a way both to learn a trade and to open up to others.


FOCUS

1M
Syrians

are currently refugees
in Lebanon

58%
of them

live on less than US
\$2.87 a day

The trainees at this center in Dekouané, near Beirut, are attentive and studious. They look like ordinary students. But here, where vocational training is given to young adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable, the classes are not like elsewhere: they have as many Lebanese youth as Syrian refugees.

| An economic and social emergency

Electricity, plumbing, painting... Since it opened in 2017, the Dekouané center has been offering training in the form of short courses and certificate courses that help young people acquire the skills sought by businesses and

find a job more easily. These programs have been developed by the European Institute for Cooperation and Development (IECD), a French NGO, and its Lebanese partner Semeurs d'Avenir, with financial support from AFD.

While the objective is of course economic, it's also social and political. Lebanon and its 6 million inhabitants are currently hosting about 1 million Syrian refugees. Most of these latter live in the country's poorest regions. While they were welcomed with open arms when the Syrian conflict broke out in 2011, their presence now places a burden on host communities, which are worried about their own access to employment and basic services.



Promoting dialogue between Lebanese and Syrians

At the Dekouané center, the trainers don't just pass on know-how. They're also a vehicle for dialogue between Lebanese and Syrian communities.

Jihad el-Khatib, 36, teaches technical maintenance for air conditioning units. He has been working at the center since it was set up. For many, he's both a big brother and a friend. He's there with a listening ear for his students, helps them in



70

**teachers trained
to prepare youth
for trades in strong
demand**

the event of difficulty... and encourages them to understand each other. *"Often in class, Lebanese students complain about the Syrian refugees recruited on the black market in Lebanon,"* he explains. *"I tell them: 'If you yourselves had to leave your country, you'd be willing to do any job at any price.' I also tell them that one day the refugees will*

inevitably return to their country and that we Lebanese will go work in their country to rebuild Syria, as a huge labor force will be required." ♦

Some are Lebanese, others are Syrian. At the Dekouané training center, in the east of Beirut, youth whose circumstances makes them vulnerable meet up every day to build their future.

PROFILE

“We’re human beings above all”

Ammar el-Jassem, 23

Ammar is Syrian. He arrived in Lebanon four years ago, at age 19. He’s currently an apartment building caretaker in Antoura, in the northern suburb of Beirut. To make a better

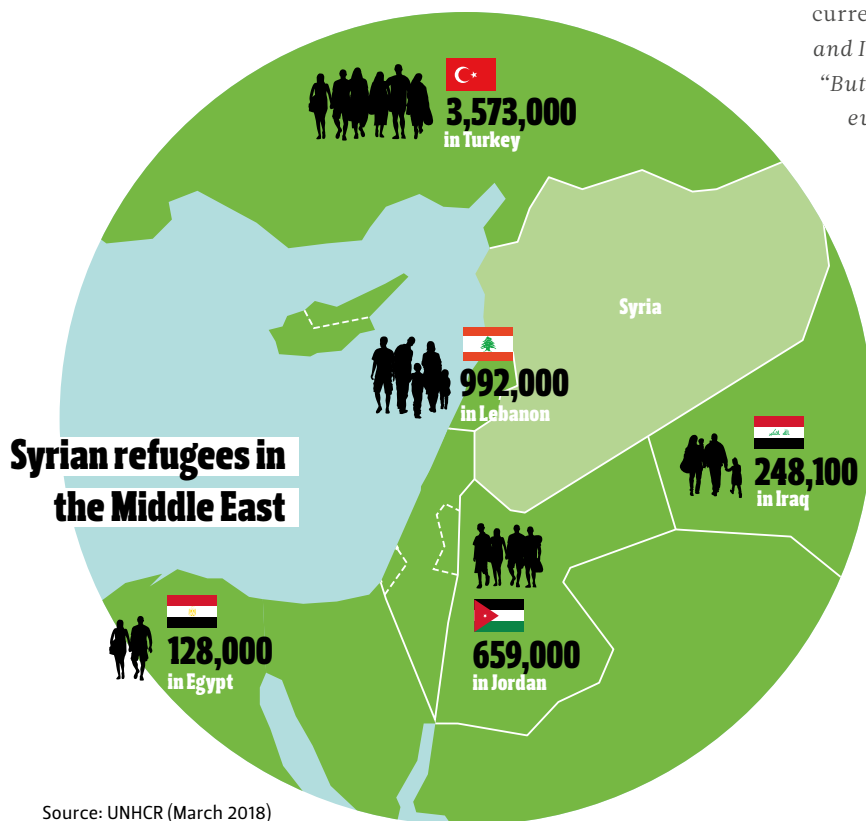
living, he is following technical training in electricity given by IECD. He heard about the course from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Another life in Lebanon

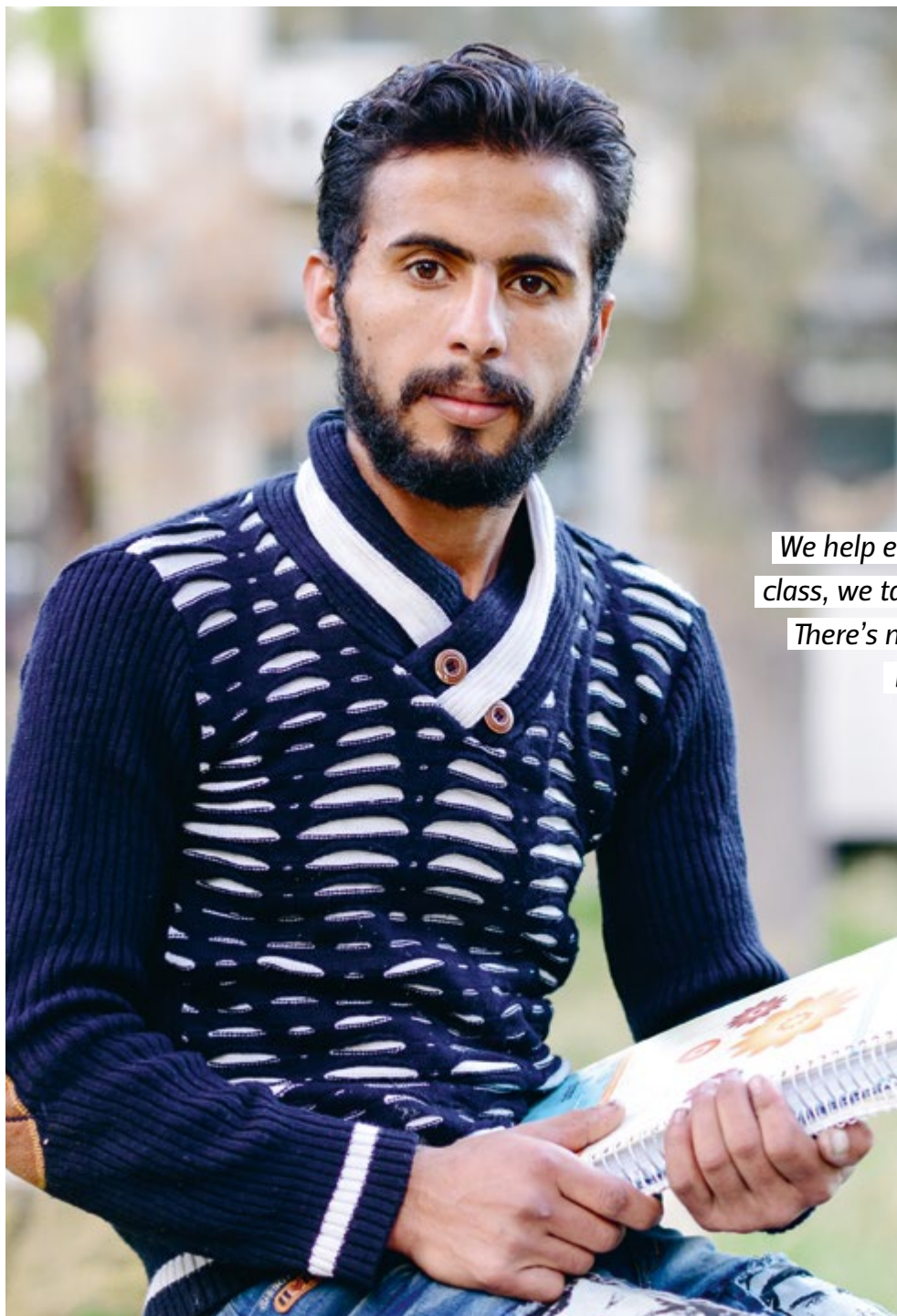
When he was a child, Ammar dreamed of becoming a geographer. But, in 2014, his life was turned upside down. “It was in June,” he remembers. Adnaniye, the village where he grew up with his 12 brothers and sisters, near Raqqa, fell to the Islamic State group. Ammar was forced to flee to Lebanon. When he arrived, he decided to study geography at university. But he very soon had to drop out, as he couldn’t continue to pay his tuition fees. Tears come to his eyes when he talks about his current job: “My family owns a lot of land, and I’ve become a caretaker,” he says sadly. “But all work is valuable work, and I need every cent to survive.”

Become a geographer one day...

Ammar’s dream? To return to Syria to see his family again, go back to university, and finally become a geographer. In the meantime, the young man is gradually finding his place in Lebanese society. When he talks about the integration of Syrians in Lebanon, he looks at his classmate, Rana: “I often hear that Lebanese people and the refugees can’t live together. Look at us, we’re friends. We are human beings above all.”



Source: UNHCR (March 2018)

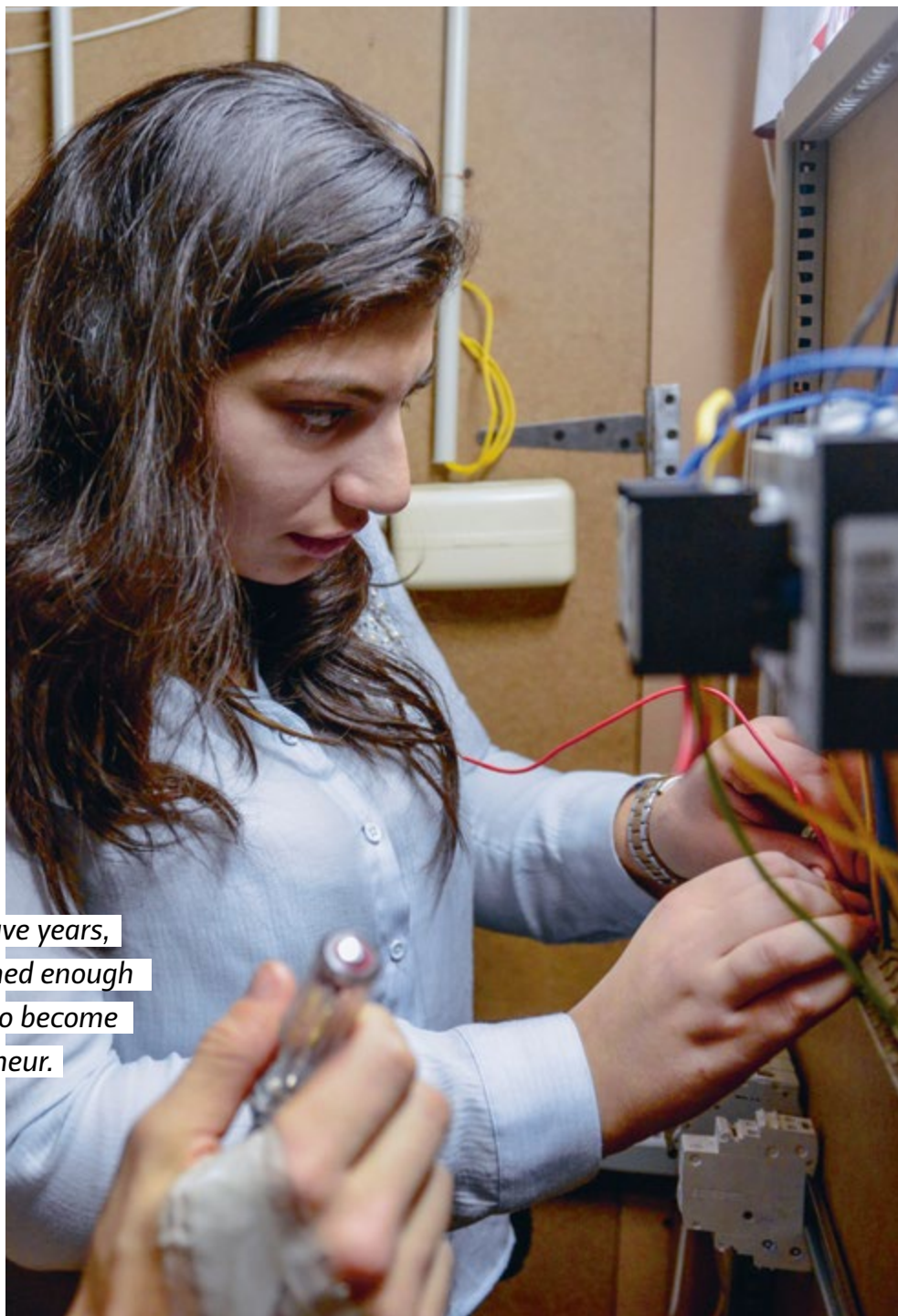


”

*We help each other in
class, we talk together.
There's no difference
between us.*

“

*In the next five years,
I'll have gained enough
experience to become
an entrepreneur.*



PROFILE

“I will fight to maintain this friendship”

Rana Elias, 22

Rana is Lebanese. She's an accountant but dreams of setting up her own business one day, a decoration or electricity business. To make this project happen, like her Syrian friend Ammar, she is following technical training in electricity. She's the only woman taking this course.



500

**Lebanese and Syrian
students trained
every year**

Budding entrepreneur

Just like many Lebanese people who struggle to make ends meet, Rana did one training course after another. “I originally obtained a technical diploma in decoration, but I also have a technical diploma in accounting,” she explains. To develop professionally, the

young woman once thought about training in interior design at university. But she very soon had to abandon her project as she could not afford it: “I arrived in this center to see what was on offer. As I work in a shop which sells lighting and electrical items, I opted for this course. Since then, I feel that I’ve become more important in the company.”



€5 M

**invested by AFD
to support training
for young adults
in Lebanon**

A committed young woman

Like Ammar, Rana lives in the northern suburb of Beirut. When she talks about how the Lebanese perceive Syrians, she laments the fact that many of her compatriots blame the refugees for everything. “In our training center, we’re protected. Friendships between Syrians and Lebanese people are accepted,” says the future business woman. “This is unfortunately not the case when we leave here, but I will fight to maintain my friendship with Ammar.”



HERITAGE

The faces

of the medina

The medinas of Tunis, Kairouan, Sousse and Sfax have just been renovated. They now provide better living conditions for residents and renewed appeal for tourists. These benefits have been immortalized by the Tunisian photographer Wassim Ghoulani.



FOCUS

14%
of jobs

are tourism-related
in Tunisia

170,000
people

live in the medinas of
Tunis, Kairouan, Sousse
and Sfax

They have been restored to their former glory. Between 2014 and 2016, the medinas of Tunis, Kairouan, Sousse and Sfax were partially restored with support from AFD and the European Union.

Visible and dangerous electric cables, crumbling facades and stagnant water after heavy rains are now all a thing of the past. Thanks to the renovation work, these famous places from Tunisian history are today experiencing a new lease on life. The result: a better quality of life for residents, but also new economic and tourism opportunities for these medinas, three of which

(Tunis, Kairouan and Sousse) are already listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Immortalizing the pride of residents

To publicize this success, AFD came up with the idea of a photographic project on the four medinas. The photographer Wassim Ghoulani, founder of Maison de l'Image, produced the report by going out to meet residents and to collect their stories. His photos have been displayed in the medinas concerned and have also been the focus of an exhibition at the Institut Français in Tunisia. The photos are like a mirror of smiles captured in the renovated alleys. ♦



No one can deny the changes this project has brought about and the problems it has solved. I hope it will be extended to other neighborhoods.

Brahim Dakhlaoui, Medina of Tunis



“

I was born in the medina. I hope from the bottom of my heart that this project will encourage young people to come back and live here.

Hédi Khlif, Medina of Sfax

”

I'm really pleased I don't have to see the cables any more. They caused a lot of accidents in the past. Our neighborhood has become very beautiful.

Rachida Rzem, Medina of Sousse



4

**Tunisian medinas
renovated in Tunis,
Kairouan, Sousse
and Sfax**

“

*The project has given the medina a new face.
It made it possible to repair and showcase the
facades of houses.*

Olfa Ben Ghanem, Medina of Kairouan



€5.50 M

.....
**allocated by
AFD to support
the renovation
of the medinas**
.....





”
*For me, it's one of the best projects carried out
in the medina. We all agree that it has given
our neighborhood a new face.*

Ali “El Najjar”, Medina of Tunis



Nationwide impetus

The pilot refurbishment of the medinas of Tunis, Kairouan, Sousse and Sfax reached completion in late 2016. An evaluation has analyzed the impacts that operations targeted on infrastructure have had in the center of urban areas of major importance, in terms of heritage, social well-being, the economy and tourism.

A collective success

The first finding: the works have improved not only the quality of the public space (roads, facades), but also the perception that users have of their neighborhoods.

The project has also mobilized a wide range of stakeholders, sometimes with diverging interests: municipalities, the Agency for Urban Renovation and Rehabilitation (ARRU) as the delegated contracting authority, associations for the conservation of the medina, and civil society. A concerted approach with residents has been implemented.

Enhanced know-how

The project has been implemented in a pragmatic way and has developed stakeholders' know-how in these heritage areas. It has allowed ARRU to adapt the tools for its operations and capitalize on the experience gained.

The Tunisian Government has decided to continue to renovate the country's medinas through a national program. As with the four pioneering medinas, the work will aim to sustainably improve people's quality of life and strengthen the appeal of these magical places to tourists.

“

***This project
has highlighted
the exceptional potential
of Tunisian medinas.***

Jérémie Daussin-Charpantier, Deputy Director of AFD's agency in Tunisia (Tunis)

”
*At first, we were against the renovation work.
 We're grateful to the officials who managed
 to convince us. This project has made
 our street and our house look great.*

Choubeila Ben Othmane, Medina of Sousse



WHAT TO READ AND WATCH

The Tunisians,
 a photographic series
 by Wassim Ghazlani,
 accessible on Facebook

Faces of the Medina,
 a web documentary by
 AFD, available at
visagesdelamedina.com



EMPLOYMENT

MEXICO'S

pioneering planters

In southeastern Mexico, the oil crisis has plunged an entire region into unprecedented social crisis. Trees—at the heart of a strategy that is both profitable and sustainable—may now become the new green gold of the state of Tabasco.

The majestic silhouette of a centenarian tree marks the entrance to this verdant sanctuary. It is a Ceiba pentandra or kapok, the most sacred of

trees for the Maya. Like countless other plant species, it flourishes on the soil of Tabasco.

It is here, 700 kilometers from Mexico City, that Proteak, Mexico's leading agroforestry company, has established its tree nursery. Thousands of eucalyptus saplings are carefully tended by some fifty employees, most of whom are women. *"This work requires a great deal*

of sensitivity," explains Ana Lorenza, a shy smile spreading across her face. Ana, age 27, was born and raised in the area. *"I live in a nearby village. A lot of us have found work at the tree nursery."*



US\$28 M

**mobilized by Proparco,
AFD's private sector
financing subsidiary,
to support Proteak**

She has an important role in the company, being responsible for weeding, watering and transplanting many of the young saplings that are destined to become the forests of the future. With her first child on the way, this represents job security. Above all, it means she can plan for the future with confidence, knowing that she will be able to provide for her family. ▴



- 68%

Fall in revenues
related to Mexico's oil
exports since 2011

800

direct jobs
have been created by
Proteak since it was
set up in 2001



In the state of Tabasco, employment used to be synonymous with the oil industry. Today, this young eucalyptus shoot represents the region's future.



10,000 ha

.....
**of eucalyptus and teak
 planted over the next
 ten years**

A new era for the region

For decades, Tabasco focused entirely on oil exploitation. At the time, it was nicknamed the “Texas of Mexico”. The oil industry provided jobs left, right and center and made this state in southeast Mexico one of the most prosperous in the country. But this golden age did not last. Tabasco was devastated by the oil crisis in the twenty-tens, which caused an unprecedented social crisis. Hundreds of thousands of families found themselves destitute overnight.

Every evening, when Ana Lorenza goes back to her village by bus, an abandoned factory reminds her of the glorious oil past of the region. But she especially sees thousands of trees go by: forests newly planted by Proteak, which suggest a brighter future for the residents of Tabasco.

Nurseries with thousands of hectares of teak and eucalyptus plantations, along with the timber treatment and processing plant: Proteak’s establishment in Tabasco has created

some 800 stable jobs. A risky gamble given the economic situation of the region.

Seedling today, tree tomorrow

“At first, many politicians and bankers thought we were crazy”, laughs Gastón Mauvezin, Chief Executive Officer of Proteak. “The first investors to join us were friends and acquaintances. They did it first and foremost for the sake of the environment and the local communities who benefit from this work. Not for a profit motive. They simply thought: ‘Later on, my children or my grandchildren will probably be proud of me’,” he continues.

However, thanks to the talent of these young entrepreneurs, the plantations swiftly became profitable, and larger investors wanted to be part of the adventure. The company grew and became structured, always with the same values: responsible and sustainable entrepreneurship. “A new concept in Mexico,” points out Gastón Mauvezin.

“
**We are pioneers.
 We are educating
 the generations
 which will
 build the future
 of Mexico.**

Omar Nacif, Director of Industrial
Activity at Proteak

What is carbon credit?

Carbon credit came into being in 1997 with the signing of the Kyoto Protocol. It is a financial tool which measures greenhouse gas emissions. A carbon credit corresponds to a ton of CO₂ not emitted. In the case of Proteak, the millions of trees planted over the last few decades have generated 250,000 carbon credits. That means 250,000 tons of CO₂ have been absorbed by the forests in Tabasco. Proteak can sell these carbon credits to companies which emit large quantities of greenhouse gases.



Over the past twenty years, Proteak has planted 20,000 hectares of teak and eucalyptus in the state of Tabasco. 4,000 of them are set aside for environmental conservation and are not exploited at all.

Long-term vision

Proteak's approach goes beyond job creation. It's all about coming up with an economic model in line with the environmental challenges facing the planet... and especially Mexico. Tabasco suffered from massive deforestation during the second half of the 20th century. Forest clearance was an active state policy and at the time was seen as a step forward. Since the early two-thousands, Proteak has replanted some 20,000 hectares, thereby generating 250,000 carbon credits. A first in Mexico.



10

**schools are
partners of Proteak
in the state
of Tabasco**

"Each time we plant a tree, it's by definition a long-term vision. It's an investment which goes beyond current economic conditions. We are the exact opposite of what the oil industry represented here. In fact, we invest in fundamentals, values which are not about to change and which can get through political and economic crises," Gastón Mauvezin is proud to say.

Proteak's teams have revitalized the region thanks to their innovative vision. They have also managed to rebound on the ruins of an economic model which relied on oil, to once again sow seeds of hope in Tabasco. ♦





*It's extremely important
for us to have
good relations with
local communities.*



Kristina Diaz,
a Proteak employee,
gives out snacks in
a primary school in
Tabasco. Schools
are strategic places
for sensitizing the
new generations
to environmental
conservation.



EDUCATION

SENTENCED

to a second chance

In Colombia, convicted minors can hope for a better future thanks to an adapted school curriculum and day-to-day support. An alternative to prison made possible by the committed work of associations.

I used to think that we were alone in life. I now know that my teachers are there to help me.” Brayan Felipe Campos Alvarado was expelled from school when he was 8. He grew up among the gangs of street children in Bogotá. But today, he is studying for his high-school diploma.

Brayan, as other minors convicted by Colombian courts, had the opportunity of returning to school rather than being sentenced to imprisonment. Every week, he goes to the Amigó Soacha Club to study for

his exams. This association, which is located in an underprivileged neighborhood on the outskirts of Bogotá, takes in around 100 adolescents with difficult life stories.

For a childhood not spent behind bars

“At first, they arrive full of anger,” says a psychologist from the association. “But when they understand that here we’re going to help them make progress, everything becomes possible.” The young people gradually catch up with their studies thanks to an intensive



14

Age of criminal responsibility in Colombia

173,000

adolescents
went through Colombia's criminal justice system in 2014



Manual work is a key component of the training given by the Amigó Soacha Club. Activities like woodwork and jewelry-making help young people build their self-confidence and find their way.

“**These adolescents
were supposed
to be in prison,
but are today
graduates!**”

Lionel Goujon, Deputy Director of AFD's agency
in Colombia (Bogotá)

program specially designed for them. The best among them will subsequently be able to enroll at Uniminuto, a partner university of the association, or follow a course given by Colombia's National Vocational Training Agency.

In the meantime, everyone benefits from personalized coaching to help them build their confidence and find their way. “*These adolescents need to feel important again,*” explains a teacher. “*This is the only way to make them decide to change their lives.*” The teachers are specially trained for this type of situation. They develop courses tailored to the level of each student and motivate them on a daily basis.



€100,000

**mobilized by AFD
for sending convicted minors
in Colombia to school**



Strengthening human resources

The courses offered at the Amigó Club are designed by the Youth Training and Promotion Center (CENFOR), which is specialized in adapted school curricula and recognized by the Colombian Ministry of Education. Its teachers work at the association thanks to support from the International Catholic Child Bureau (BICE). This NGO is supported by AFD and works so that minors are not systematically shut up in prisons if they commit an offense or a crime.



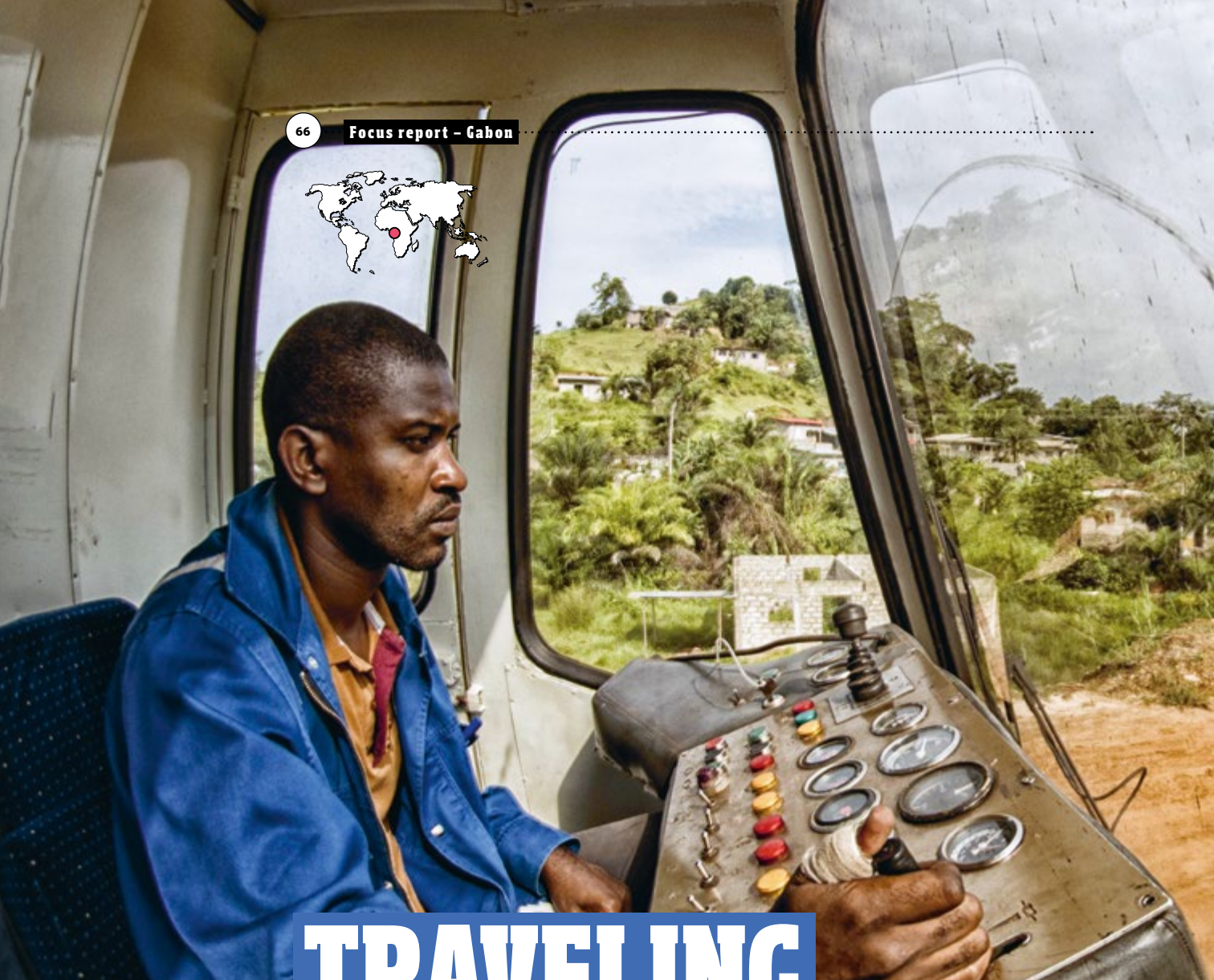
They've been convicted for carrying a weapon, drug trafficking or prostitution by Colombian courts. Today, these adolescent boys and girls are getting their lives back on track thanks to the Amigó Soacha Club.

This support produces real success stories every year. *"Without my lessons, I would still be hanging around in my neighborhood and up to no good,"* admits Brayan. But not all the students of the Amigó Club manage to achieve their objectives. In 2017, only seven of them graduated with their high-school diploma. Mileidy Parraga thinks that more teachers are needed. This teacher believes that the effort is crucial, as *"a well-educated person means a generation saved."* ♦



2,000

**young people are
potential beneficiaries
of AFD's support**



TRAVELING

the Transgabonais

648 kilometers of tracks cross Gabon from west to east, from Libreville to Franceville. Taking the Transgabonais means plunging into the heart of this emerging country, which AFD has been supporting for 70 years. The Gabonese photographer Sonier Issembé has brought back an exceptional report from this trip.



1.8 M
inhabitants
in Gabon

320,000
passengers
take the Transgabonais
each year



Some 1,100 people
are directly employed
by the railway company.



€800 M

.....
committed by AFD in Gabon
between 2010 and 2017
.....

Vast forest resources, a favorable climate for agriculture, exceptional biodiversity... Gabon has major assets which provide opportunities for the country's development. The country is economically advanced but does, however, need to address the challenge of social and territorial inequalities. AFD has been assisting it on this path for 70 years.

To mark this anniversary, the photographer Sonier Issembé took the Transgabonais, the country's only railway line. From Libreville, which lies on the estuary of the Ogooué River, to Franceville, perched on the Bateke highlands, he went to meet the beneficiaries of the development

projects financed by AFD nationwide. Throughout the railway journey, the former customs officer took pictures which reveal the diversity of his country. This photographic journey illustrating the strong partnership between France and Gabon took him as far as the remote villages that are only—or almost only—connected to the world by the Transgabonais. ♦



INFRASTRUCTURE

Crossing the country made easier

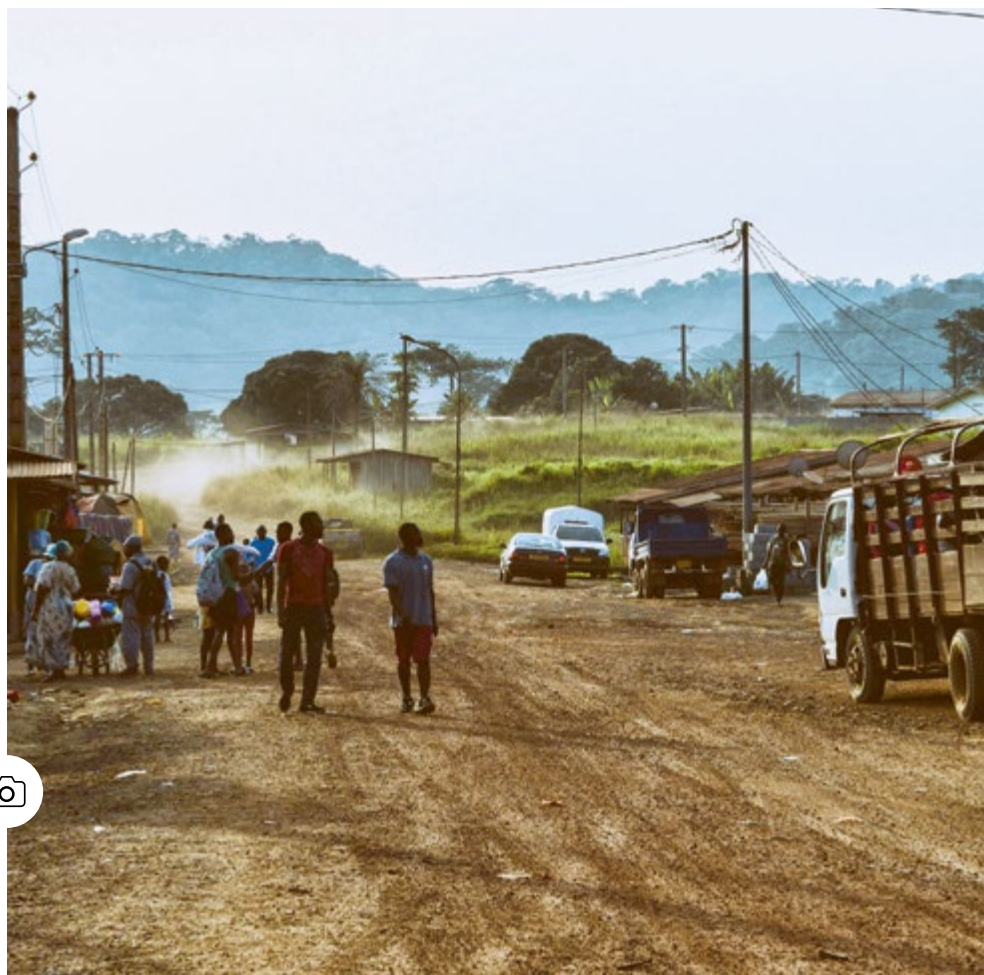
The Transgabonais is Gabon's only railway line. The railway infrastructure, which was built in 1973 to transport passengers and goods, has had little maintenance and is now ageing. Since 2005, the Transgabonais Operating Company (SETRAG) has been implementing an upgrading program with support from AFD, its subsidiary Proparco

and the International Finance Corporation. In addition to rehabilitating infrastructure, the program plans to purchase equipment, build housing for workers and develop the training center in Franceville for railway jobs.



€93 M

**lent by AFD for the
rehabilitation of the
Transgabonais**



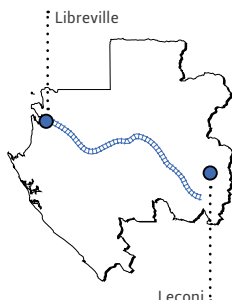
In Booué, as in a number of villages served by the Transgabonais, the train sets the pace for economic activity.



A million old wooden railway ties need to be changed along the 648 kilometers of track. Most of the workers are recruited locally, in the villages and cities neighboring the railway line. The future repairs will cover 37 unstable areas.



In the small town of Booué, the housing estate for SETRAG staff is being renovated. Living conditions for residents will change: drinking water will be supplied to homes; schools and social facilities will be improved.



HEALTH

A country with better healthcare

In Gabon, there is a lack of health facilities, and those that exist in rural areas are in such a bad state that they do not allow the population to access healthcare in good conditions. The State is implementing a new social pact to improve essential services for the most vulnerable people. Renovation of the health system is part of this. Upgrading equipment, training staff: everything is

being done to strengthen services, particularly for sexual, maternal and child health. AFD ini-



550,000

people will benefit from
Gabon's new health facilities

tially financed the renovation of health centers. A second project provides for the rehabilitation of infrastructure, the construction of housing for staff and the provision of equipment in four of the country's provinces.

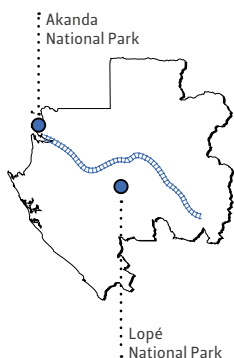


The Leconi medical center is one of the country's 27 health centers to be renovated.





Patients at the maternal and child health department of the Okala medical center in Libreville now enjoy better conditions. This center was renovated as part of AFD's first project.



ENVIRONMENT

Resources to protect

Gabon's 13 national parks are home to extremely rich biodiversity, which the country has been seeking to protect and develop for over 15 years. Around Libreville, the Emerald Arc is emblematic of this action for forest and coastal ecosystems. The country is also engaged in the sustainable use of its natural

resources and has completely overhauled its timber industry to more effectively control forest exploitation. AFD is supporting these two components of the Government of Gabon's nature conservation policy, in the context of the Debt Conversion Agreement signed between France and Gabon in 2008.



80%

**of Gabon
is covered by
forests**

Gabon's forestry sector, the country's largest private employer, is sustainable. The ban on rough lumber exports has prompted forestry companies to relocate timber processing.

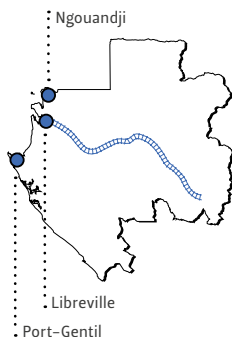




Mangroves in Akanda National Park, which is part of the Emerald Arc, are being protected and enhanced. The eco-guards ensure that local communities are involved in ecosystem preservation projects in order to promote the fight against illegal fishing and protect the natural heritage.



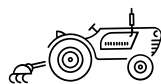
At the Lopé training center, men and women train at night in fighting against elephant poaching and damage to biodiversity. They are the future eco-guards of Gabon's 13 national parks.



AGRICULTURE

A committed production

Despite abundant natural resources and a favorable climate for agriculture, Gabon is finding it difficult to ensure its food independence. To meet the growing needs of the population, the Government has made the development of the agriculture sector a priority.



3,000

people trained in sustainable agricultural practices

AFD has been supporting and financing development programs in the sector for over 20 years. The latest program is promoting environmentally-friendly periurban agriculture, with a capacity to supply cities such as Libreville.

The agropastoral site of Alibandeng, located in the center of Libreville, supplies the markets of the capital and Port-Gentil with vegetables and products from livestock farming. Over 70 Gabonese and foreign farmers and herders work there and earn enough to support their families.





On the Ngouandji plantation where Mrs. Ayabe works, there are more women than men farmers. However, farming activities and the difficult working conditions have little appeal for young people.



AGRICULTURE

IRRIGATION

to the farmers' rescue

In Cambodia, in the provinces of Kampong Thom and Kandal, farmers can now grow crops all year round and diversify their production, thanks to renovated irrigation and floodwater-spreading canals.

November 2017, Khvaek village, in the center of the country. The rice harvest will get underway in just a few days. Farmers will thresh the cereal, dry it, then store it in 50-kilo bags to sell it at markets. Then they'll start the process all over again.

Here, in Kampong Thom Province, growing rice several times a year long posed a real challenge. Several small rivers flow through the region, but until now there was no reliable access to water all year round. This situation was exacerbated by the impacts of

climate change: during the dry season, there was sometimes no more water for crops. To survive, most families left to work on construction sites in Phnom Penh, about a hundred kilometers further south.



3,000 ha

**of rice production
rehabilitated
in Kampong Thom
Province**

These difficulties have become a distant memory, thanks to the rehabilitation of the irrigation system on the Stung Chinit River, supported by AFD since 2000. An extensive network of canals now benefits thousands of farmers in the region. It also gives farmers the chance to grow vegetables

and try their hand at simultaneously farming several paddy fields. ▲



80%
of Cambodians
live in rural areas

27%
of national GDP
is provided by
the agriculture sector

5 months
Average duration of the
dry season in Cambodia



For a long time, farmers from Kampong Thom had to leave their land in order to survive during the dry season. Today, they can grow crops all year round.


Much more than water

On the road to the market, Huot Chanthou stops to extol the virtues of the canals. On the back of her battered motorbike a bag is overflowing with lettuce, one of the many vegetables she grows in rotation. *“It’s really much better now,” she says. “I can grow loads of things, and I spend less money on pumping water. There’s a better road too.”*

Infrastructure development, technical assistance... For farmers in Kampong Thom, the rehabilitation of canals brings much more than water. When these canals are renovated, so are roads. Farmers thereby benefit from better access to markets and intermediaries. In the field, community facilitators also help them negotiate better prices and promote their products. In addition, they encourage them to adopt new production techniques, such as organic farming, which earns more money.

But all these changes are happening slowly. For the vast majority of irrigation programs, it sometimes takes years for farmers to get to grips with new practices.

No longer just rice

Not far from Khvaek, a drainage canal runs the length of Sa’ang village, separating houses from the small plots of farmland. Water is controlled by a gate maintained by the Farmer Water Users Community (FWUC) and financed through fees paid by farmers. Some rice fields have already been harvested and replanted with neat rows of lettuce and morning glory. 





*If you come back
in a few months, you'll see
vegetables everywhere.*



Lettuce, squash, asparagus beans, sugarcane... Thanks to the rehabilitation of the irrigation and floodwater-spreading channels, Cambodian farmers are growing an increasing number of plant varieties.

In the region, people generally make a livelihood just from planting rice. But since the canal was rehabilitated in 2006, FWUC has gradually been managing to convince farmers to also grow crops during the dry season. It does not bill the water when the rain stops. The result: despite the reluctance at the

beginning, out-of-season crops have been developing for two years.



7

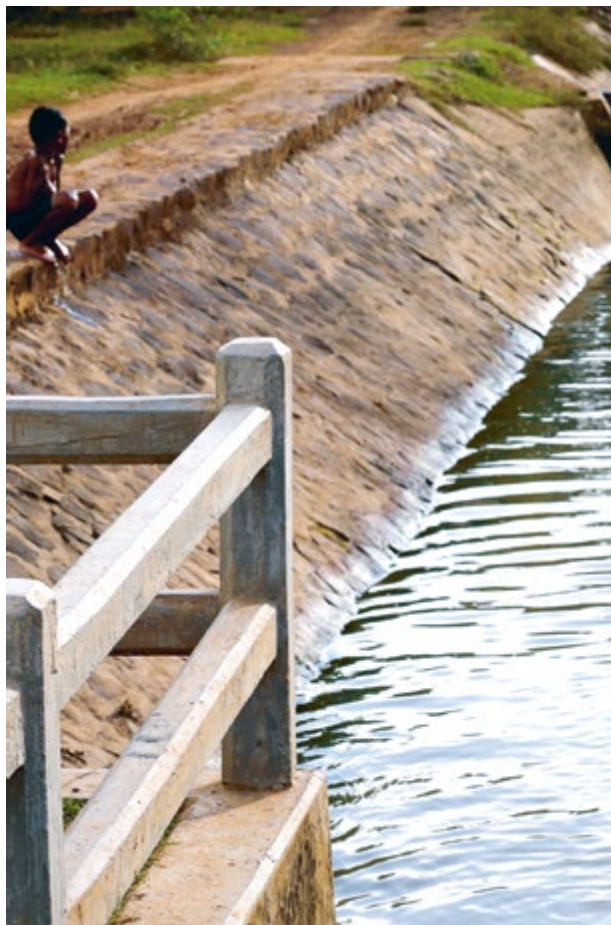
floodwater-spreading canals renovated in Kandal Province

Farmers are gradually getting used to growing fruit and vegetables, and this is making life change in Sa'ang village. *"We're starting to organize our life around the canal,"* says Oun Narin, 28. *"We come up with solutions to grow crops during the dry season and work near our homes."*

A new era

As in Khvaek, during each dry season, men and women used to leave to look for seasonal work in factories, construction or in the fields of surrounding regions. The grandparents used to look after their grandchildren, while the parents would resign themselves to long months of hazardous work for scant wages.

Today, Narin no longer needs to go and work in Phnom Penh during the dry season. Her husband has found a job closer to home. He earns less, but the couple has a considerable amount of additional income: Narin grows and sells her own vegetables. *"Before the renovation of the canal, you could only grow*



grass here to feed the cows," explains the young woman. *"If you come back in a few months, you'll see vegetables everywhere."*

The importance of prek

In Kandal Province, AFD has also supported the rehabilitation of seven floodwater-spreading canals, called *prek*. They are 2,000 meters long and cross a flood-prone area in Sa'ang district, 30 kilometers from Phnom Penh, up to the Bassac River. On each side, hundreds of small plots of land are full of



12,000

**people are
benefiting from
the renovation of
canals in
Kampong Thom**



Since the renovation of the Stung Chinit canal, life is gradually getting better in Sa'ang village.

orchards and vegetable plantations. As with the irrigation canals in Kampong Thom, they have replaced wells and allowed crops to be grown all year round, even during the dry seasons.

“The canals allow us to adapt to climate change,” explains Chun Peng Long, Director of the Kandal Province Water Authority. “They can bring water in the event of drought and, during flood periods, move water from the flooded areas to the river. They act as a sort of regulator.”

Cambodia follows a seasonal flooding cycle. Between May and November, the monsoon swells the country's lakes, pushing water and its nutrients onto the surrounding land. But when the rain stops and the water recedes, there are few places where the soil remains sufficiently rich or moist for dry-season crops.

Even during the Angkorian era, irrigation was a crucial means for maintaining agricultural productivity. Centuries later, climate change and population growth have made access to water even more vital. ♦



PROFILE

Nang's vegetable gardens

Kan Nang, 59, lives in Prek ta Chrouk village, in Kandal Province. He is proud to show off the trellises he has installed in front of his small house, which is surrounded by huge vegetable gardens. They are overflowing with squash, lettuce and other vegetables.

"I've been earning 30% more since the rehabilitation of the floodwater-spreading canals. My rice production has increased by 70%," he explains. "Before, I could grow crops only once a year. Now, it's two or even three times." With this additional income, Nang has been able to buy land for his children, the value of which has already risen considerably.

"There's no need to go to another country or another province to see the difference: 2 kilometers from here, there's no irrigation, and over there, it's dry," states the farmer. There have been a few management problems, but Nang is convinced that if the irrigation schemes functioned perfectly, the community as a whole would be immunized against the impacts of floods and droughts: "We'd no longer have any problems with climate change."



Before, I could grow crops only once a year.

Now, it's two or even three times.

PROFILE

Kim Sreng's new life

Chhuon Kim Sreng is one of the many farmers to have benefited from the rehabilitation of *prek* in Kandal Province. It is the start of the dry season, but he proudly shows us his plantation of long beans. When these vegetables are harvested in two months' time, he will move on to bitter melon, then sugarcane. He used to plant only once a year.

"My life has really improved over the past five years," he smiles. "With my income, I've renovated my house, and I have more money for my children's education." Before being able to harvest all year round, Kim Sreng often had to borrow to feed his family. His wife also had to work for another farmer to contribute to repaying debts. Today, the farmer provides a livelihood for his entire family by himself. He would like to see irrigation extended: *"It would be good if all farmers could benefit from this; they could harvest more."*

“

*I've renovated my house
and I have more money for
my children's education.*





INNOVATION

Digital tech

challenges deforestation

The Mé region, in southeast Côte d'Ivoire, is plagued by rampant deforestation. NGOs are trying to put an end to the phenomenon, with the help of GeoPoppy, an innovative data collection application developed with free software.

When I was a child,” recalls Abou Ouattara, 41, “it was sometimes impossible to see the sun because there were so many trees.” Today, the classified forests of Mabi and Yaya which surround his hometown, Adzopé, are threatened by deforestation. To preserve them, the NGO Nitidæ—which came about through the merger between Rongead and EtcTerra—has been leading the Mé Redd+ project since 2017. It involves putting an end to land clearing, while improving living conditions for farmers and the population. Seven villages are the focus of attention of 18 staff members in and around these forests. “We are trying to show people the benefits of planting other tree species: environmental conservation,

profitability and sustainability of the activity,” explains Romuald Vaudry, Project Manager.

The objective? Develop zero-deforestation agriculture which enables planters to earn their living without clearing land and to earn incomes balanced between agriculture and forest exploitation. By the end of 2019, Nitidæ’s teams plan to have supported 2,250 planters on 5,000 hectares. The project is based on the use of GeoPoppy, a simple and cheap-to-deploy geographical information system for tablets designed by the National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA). It has been developed with support from AFD’s Evaluation and Knowledge Capitalization Department and allows the evolution of croplands and woodlands to be closely monitored. ▲



FOCUS

95,000
hectares of forest
disappear every year in
Côte d'Ivoire

20%
Estimated share
of deforestation
in greenhouse gas
emissions



”

I didn't think that tools like GeoPoppy would exist one day. We now know our plots better.

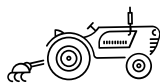


Abou Ouattara (at left) accompanies Romuald Vaudry (at right) and Denis Mea, who are taking readings on his plot.

Technology serving mankind

Denis Mea, a project officer for Territorial Development, Monitoring and Evaluation at the NGO, oversees the five operators who are travelling across the Mé region. With the GeoPoppy in his hands, he explains: “The collector draws the outline of the plot on the map by taking readings of a number of points on the spot, with the possible use of satellite imagery. The key information, such as the type of crop, is added. The surface area is then automatically calculated.” The application makes the operators’ work much easier, as Romuald Vaudry explains: “You used to have to go to the field with a notepad, pencil and GPS and, once you got back to the office, you had to enter the data.” Field operators are now spared this duplication of tasks and can thereby avoid a number of errors or approximations.

Accurately mapping plots allows everyone to better understand and safeguard the threatened areas and species. With GeoPoppy, the Nitidæ operators collect a maximum amount of data. In the field, with the beneficiaries, they survey the plots equipped with a simple tablet and mini-server, with no need for an Internet connection. “Everyone can use it, from local authorities to small companies, in both cities and rural areas,” confirms Denis Mea, who is convinced that the experience in the Mé region can be replicated all over the world.



2,250

**farmers
supported by
the NGO Nitidæ
by 2019**



65,000 ha

**of classified forests
to protect in Côte d'Ivoire**

provided by GeoPoppy, are clearly visible and marked out. For him, “by using a geographical information tool like GeoPoppy, you can show both the transparency of your data and the progress of the Mé Redd+ project step

by step.” This is extremely useful, especially vis-à-vis the French and Ivorian Governments, the Ministry of the Environment and donors such as AFD, which finance Redd+ programs.

Redd+ is the international mechanism on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation. Côte d'Ivoire has been implement-

ing this initiative since 2011. The next stage is long and complex: preparing the beneficiaries for land certification. According to Romuald Vaudry, this process has undeniable benefits: “The beneficiaries will be able to safely pass on their property to their children or request bank loans. Private companies are also interested in reforesting these plots free of charge and buying the timber.”

In the meantime, Abou Ouattara has also started using GeoPoppy. He is the manager of the Atsé property, which farms about a hundred hectares in Adzopé, where cocoa, coffee and cassava are grown. In the context of the Redd+ project, Abou Ouattara is contributing to the reforestation of 500 hectares in the region. GeoPoppy allows him to monitor the cedrela, teak, tiama and anigre plantations. “Thanks to the maps,” predicts the manager, “we will be able to properly manage this land over the next 30 years.” And save the Mé region. ♦

Reforesting for future generations

On Romuald Vaudry’s screen, a few dozen rubber plantations, whose data have been



GeoPoppy, or freedom in your hands

GeoPoppy was originally developed by INRA to monitor... poppy fields. It could be the first in a long series of new digital tools for the monitoring-evaluation of projects.

"Everything is published under the Creative Commons license, so that the tool can easily be reused by other actors and the project replicated in other contexts," explains Martin Noblecourt, Project Manager at CartONG, which helped Nitidæ tailor GeoPoppy to its needs. GeoPoppy has been developed using free software: PostgreSQL for database management and QGIS for the geographical information system. All you need to use it is a portable mini-server (Raspberry Pi type), an external battery and a tablet. Once the equipment has been purchased, GeoPoppy is therefore free, with unlimited use.



Nature in Laos

In northern Laos, the protected area of Nam Et-Phou Louey is the setting for an innovative project that reconciles biodiversity protection and ecotourism. There are many benefits for the villagers: reduction in deforestation and poaching, wildlife monitoring, as well as economic benefits thanks to tourism and the reorientation of agriculture. AFD has been supporting this project since 2014. Its operational implementation is managed by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), in partnership with the Government of Laos. ♦

ELSEWHERE *in the world*



Social and Inclusive Business Camp: Let's speed things up!

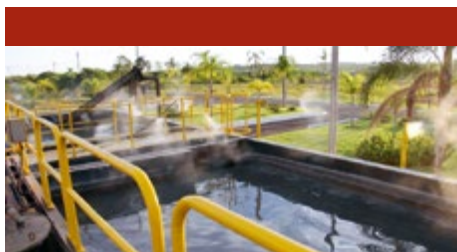
Innovation does not like to be kept waiting. With the Social and Inclusive Business Camp, AFD is offering an acceleration program for entrepreneurs involved in societal innovations in Africa. This program is intended for entrepreneurs who have come out of the incubation phase and are faced with scaling up. It combines digital coaching with a week of on-site support. It targets innovative project initiators who have the dual objective of economic profitability and societal impacts.

Through explanations given by qualified experts and occasions for sharing between peers, the Social and Inclusive Business Camp aims to make

an operational contribution to speeding up projects that are likely to be financed by investors and become reference companies in their field.

The program was launched in October 2017 and is also building an inspiring community of mentors who will in turn be able to assist committed entrepreneurs, through a community of over 20,000 members.

As summed up by Karim Gadjigo, founder of Mia Moké and a participant in the program, *"Participating in the Social and Inclusive Business Camp means you are sure to significantly scale up your project."* ♦



Drinking water in Brazil

The resources are there, yet in Brazil, one out of five people lack access to drinking water. AFD, along with Proparco, is supporting the AEGEA project, which aims to improve drinking water supply in the country. 150,000 people will benefit from this project. ♦



Agriculture in Armenia

AFD has supported major irrigation work in Armenia, thanks to AGREENFI, its sustainable agricultural finance label. This includes a dam, networks, as well as an ambitious pilot project to promote agriculture. The result: 6,000 hectares of irrigated land and better working conditions on 4,500 farms. ♦



With Europe

AFD works closely with the European Union to enhance the effectiveness of European aid. Since 2008, 172 AFD projects have benefited from European delegated funds. Here are two examples of cooperation:

■ Supporting displaced persons around Lake Chad

The RESILAC project, cofinanced by AFD and the European Union Emergency Trust Fund, aims to reduce community tensions and strengthen social cohesion in the Lake Chad region. It assists displaced persons by supporting their economic autonomy through small-scale farming activities. The activities are being conducted jointly in the four countries around the lake. This project stems from the Kouri Initiative (see the graphic report by the geographer Christian Seignobos, p. 114). The two mechanisms are part of France's contribution to the Sahel Alliance.

■ Solid waste treatment in Jordan

The Priority Program to Improve Solid Waste Management in Jordan is being implemented in the governorates in the north of the country, where host communities and Syrian refugee populations are faced with a deterioration of these services.

In this context, the European Union has entrusted the management of part of its financing to AFD (€55.3 million) to implement the first phase of Jordan's national strategy for solid household waste management. This program aims to create both landfills that meet standards and waste transfer centers in the area in question. ♦

To find out more, please visit www.afd.fr/en/europe



This publication is the sole responsibility of AFD and it does not engage the responsibility of the European Union.

Collective



intelligence

DIALOGUES

Because global challenges require collective solutions, AFD takes part in the discussions on them and encourages dialogue by all. It establishes partnerships with the research community, conducts exchanges with decision-makers, and raises awareness about the importance of development assistance.

"It is essential to reduce inequalities because they hinder development"

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"Build synergies between research and public policies"

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FORWARD-LOOKING VIEWS

“It is essential to reduce inequalities because they hinder development”

by **GAËL GIRAUD**, Chief Economist at AFD

Gaël Giraud analyzes the general rise in inequalities around the world. In this article, he takes a look at the importance of research in building public policies to fight against inequalities.

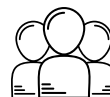
While global wealth is increasing, income inequalities are rising within countries. In developing countries, inequalities are declining in certain countries, but according to the United Nations Development Programme, income inequalities taken as a whole rose by 11% in these countries between 1990 and 2010.

The threat of inequalities

The rise in inequalities weakens the social fabric, jeopardizes sustainable development and undermines the effectiveness of poverty reduction policies. The sense of frustration over inequalities and social injustice fuels tensions which are likely to degenerate into conflict. An observer like Pankaj Mishra, author of

Age of Anger, goes as far as to argue that the rise in right-wing populism in the West and the violence of Islamist terrorist groups have a common root: the resentment of people disappointed by the globalized promises of Western modernity.

In terms of the economy, far from benefiting all, inequalities undermine growth: when inequalities increase, the middle and lower classes tend to borrow money to maintain their standard of living, or try to keep up with the wealthiest, which leads to an increase in private debt. This debt increases inequalities through the interest payment mechanism and, if it exceeds a certain threshold, can plunge an economy into deflation: sluggish growth, zero interest rates... It is for this reason that it is essential to reduce inequalities, because they hinder development. ▲



7 in 10

**Proportion
of people living in
a country where
the wealth gap
between the rich
and poor has
increased over
the past 30 years**



An international conference on inequalities and social ties

To take stock of recent research on the subject and foster discussions among development practitioners and researchers, AFD is organizing a major international conference on inequalities and social ties on December 6 and 7, 2018, in Paris.

The richest 10% in OECD countries earn 9.6 times more than the poorest 10%.

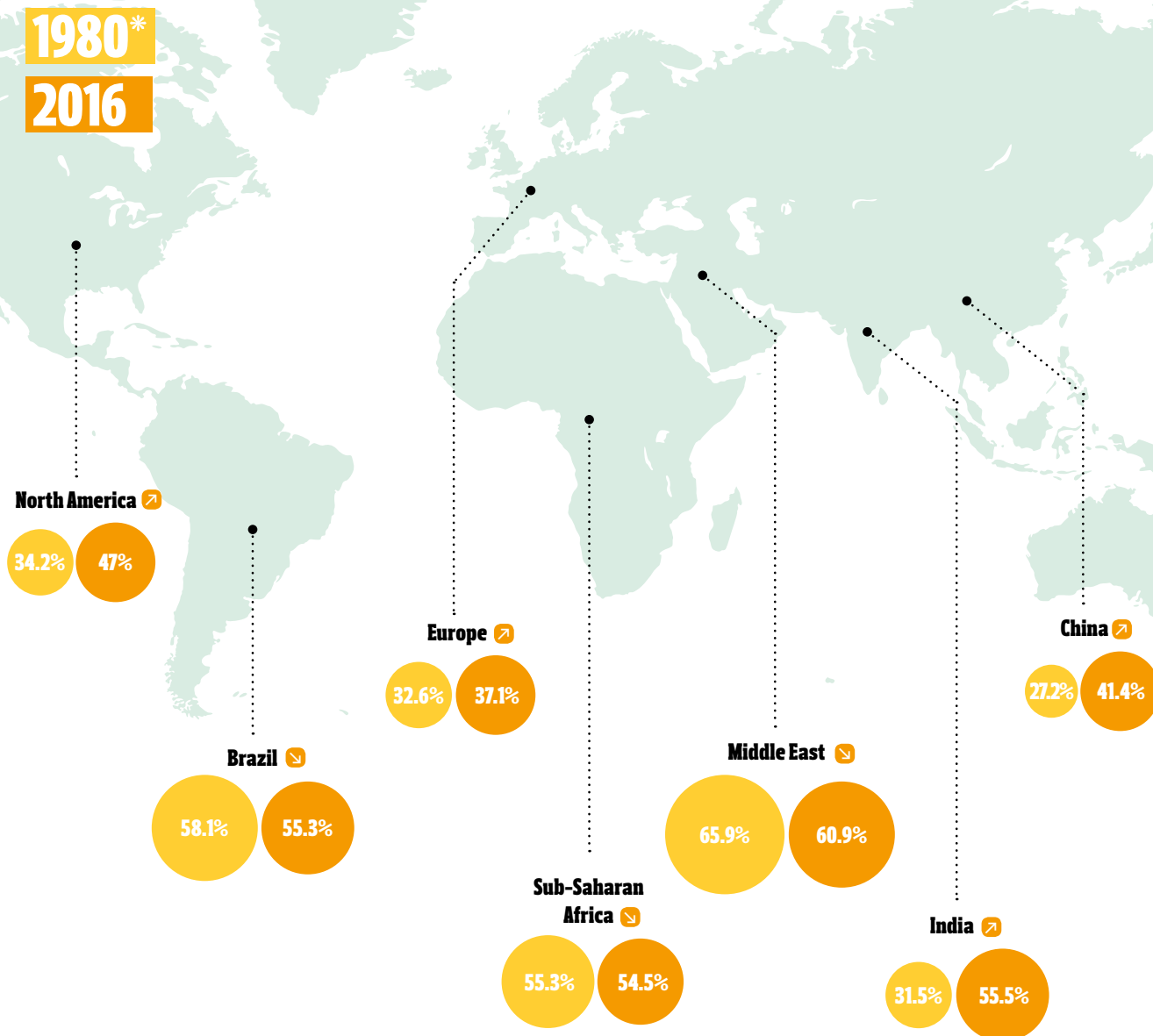
Understand in order to fight

It is therefore essential to gain a better understanding of what determines economic inequalities in each country, as well as their consequences and the public policy drivers that reduce them. Through a European Union facility, AFD is financing research conducted by research institutes in 11 countries in the South (Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia and Vietnam). The objective: to help developing countries refine their analysis of inequalities so that they can design appropriate public policies.

What development trajectories can allow us to reduce inequalities while preserving the planet? Does the emergence of middle classes in developing countries have an impact on inequalities? In what way does the increase in inequalities have an effect on social ties? These are all questions we will need to answer in the coming years to fight inequalities and preserve social ties. ♦

Inequalities around the world since 1980

Share of national income of the most affluent 10%



*1990 for Brazil, the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa

Source: World Inequality Lab, World Inequality Report 2018.

STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

“Build synergies between research and public policies”

DR. NAHOUA YEO, Director of Cabinet, Ministry of Planning and Development of Côte d'Ivoire

Since September 2016, the Ministry of Planning and Development of Côte d'Ivoire has stepped up its exchanges with AFD via a strategic dialogue partnership on public policies. Dr. Nahoua Yeo tells us about this experience.

Why have you established a strategic dialogue partnership on public policies with AFD?

NY: We were convinced of the advantage of research for Côte d'Ivoire's development, and the experience with AFD has only reinforced this belief. The Memorandum of Strategic Dialogue we signed in 2016 involves a set of short- and medium-term programs whose basic functions include research activities and their dissemination, as well as networking among experts. It allows us to produce knowledge on strategic development subjects and build synergies between research and public policies. The other advantage of this scientific research lies in the involvement of Ivorian researchers. Indeed, we wanted to seize

this opportunity to boost our own scientific production by improving its visibility and capitalization.

What are the areas and expected outcomes of this partnership?

NY: The research conducted concerns the field of economic and social sciences and covers several thematic areas: social inequalities in Côte d'Ivoire, the middle classes, youth employment, the reform of local middle schools, macroeconomic modelling, the informal sector, and climate services for cocoa producers.

The findings of the study on the middle classes presented in December 2017 have



This first memorandum is a rich experience. It has provided tangible results.



Address by Dr. Nahoua Yeo during a steering committee of the Memorandum of Strategic Dialogue with AFD in Abidjan in December 2017.

We were convinced of the advantage of research for Côte d'Ivoire. The experience with AFD has reinforced this belief.

shed light on the current reality of the middle classes in Côte d'Ivoire. They are heterogeneous, account for only 26% of the population, are still largely rural (42%), and the majority of them work in the informal sector (64%). These new data have fueled discussions and attracted the attention of both public and private decision-makers. At our level, this study has allowed us to initiate reflection on public policies, with a focus on budgetary policies to support the emergence of these middle classes and meet their aspirations.

In what way is this approach useful for the strategic reflection of the Ministry of Planning?

NY: The findings and recommendations of research contribute to reflection on the strategic orientations of sectoral policies and national development plans. They also enrich our forward-looking studies. The study on the middle classes is a good example of this. We have also conducted a major reform in Côte d'Ivoire's education system. The study on local middle schools has provided us with a detailed analysis of the impacts of this reform, in particular on girls' education in rural areas. The findings of the studies on youth employment are also relevant and sufficiently credible for decision-making, thanks to a greater interaction between decision-makers and research institutes during the research work.

An initial pilot phase reaches completion in September 2018. How do you see the continuation of this first experience?

NY: This first memorandum has been a rich experience. It has provided tangible results that we are satisfied with. This is an opportunity for us to thank AFD for the partnership and all the national actors who have contributed to the success of the pilot phase. Consequently, we wish to continue and strengthen this partnership with AFD by enhancing the structuring of research and training programs, more closely involving research institutes, researchers, academics and Ivorian officials and, obviously, by selecting key thematic areas for the structural transformation of our economy. ♦



Research to support decision-making and public action

Bring together high-level institutional decision-makers from developing and emerging countries, university researchers and AFD experts: this is the aim of the strategic dialogue on public policies established in certain countries with which AFD is developing a special relationship.

The approach involves mobilizing research, and in particular local academic expertise, on jointly defined thematic areas in order to inform public decision-making and action by developing, supporting and evaluating public policies. Various tools (macroeconomic modelling, sectoral diagnostics, etc.) are developed to analyze the scope of the main strategic issues (ecological transition and reduction of inequalities, for example) in the relevant countries.

Several strategic dialogues have been initiated: in Côte d'Ivoire since September 2016 and in Tunisia since February 2018. The approach should be extended to other countries.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

A photograph of Frédéric Mion, a man in a dark suit and tie, standing and speaking to an audience. He has his arms crossed and is looking towards the right. The audience members' heads are visible in the foreground, out of focus.

“Comparing our views on development”

FRÉDÉRIC MION, Director of Sciences Po
(the Paris Institute of Political Studies)

The partnership signed between Sciences Po and AFD in 2017 is strengthening and extending a long-standing tradition of cooperation. Its aim: to feed into research and public debate, as well as to better train future development actors.

Sciences Po and AFD produce research and expertise on development. What will be the impact of their closer ties in terms of knowledge production?

FM: Our aim through this partnership is to compare our views on development, by calling on all talents: researchers, practitioners and students. The idea is to build multidisciplinary

expertise together in order to feed into public debate on development issues. These closer ties will help launch new research projects thanks to the organization of joint seminars. I feel sure that the meeting between our worlds will be fruitful. AFD has recently integrated new geographical and thematic responsibilities on which Sciences Po researchers will also provide useful expertise.



1 year

**Duration of the
partnership signed
between AFD and
Sciences Po**

The partnership established with AFD plans to focus on courses geared towards concrete solutions. What educational innovations are you planning?

FM: At Sciences Po, we see to it that we offer courses that combine academic expertise and the know-how of the best practitioners. The innovative teaching formats we develop, both in our graduate schools and in our continuing education courses, are excellent tools for this: case studies, simulations, collective projects, memos to decision-makers...



18

**SDG Professional Certificate
students visited AFD
in March 2018**

Our closer ties will allow students to immerse themselves in AFD projects. They will have the opportunity of working on case studies and concrete issues drawn from the heart of AFD's operations. This is a major asset for more effectively training future development actors: with 85 agencies around the

world and projects in 110 countries, AFD has tremendous sensors to capture the ongoing innovations at grassroots level. In return, its experts will benefit from the creativity and talent of our students, whose assignments are very close to professional work—and

are sometimes more innovative thanks to their new outlook.

The partnership focuses on Africa. In what way is this a major thematic area for Sciences Po?

FM: Development is largely based on the capacity to train elites and provide wides-

Our closer ties will allow students to immerse themselves in AFD projects.



pread access to higher education. In this respect, Sciences Po has adopted an Africa strategy, which I have made a priority. In 2011, we launched a Europe-Africa Undergraduate Program. We have also created focuses and programs geared towards this continent at master's level: for example, a program devoted to African cities is offered to students from the Urban School.

At the same time, we have established partnerships with some twenty African universities across the continent. We are conducting ambitious projects with them. For example, in early 2018, we launched the Africa and Globalization MOOC. This online course was prepared under the direction of Bertrand Badie and Marie-Françoise Durand. It combines the views of a dozen or so African, Latin American and European teachers and thereby gives a new view of Africa and its future in global governance. It is accessible to all on the Coursera platform. Building on a firmly established network of alumni, we aim to continue this development. AFD's support on the continent will be extremely valuable to us. ♦



Scaling up exchanges

The partnership between Sciences Po and AFD was concluded in November 2017. It opens up real opportunities for both institutions to dialogue on key thematic areas, such as the governance of resources, migrations and inequalities. Several joint seminars are planned with the Sciences Po Center for International Studies (CERI).

Sciences Po and AFD will also organize a series of conferences on development and to do so will mobilize experts and highly qualified figures.

Finally, AFD will support several master's level training sessions given by Sciences Po. It will in particular support the executive master's "Development Policy and Management – African Potential" of Sciences Po Executive Education, a diploma course for professionals, executives and managers.



WHAT TO READ AND WATCH

Would you like to broaden your outlook on development?

Find out about the MOOCs of AFD and Sciences Po on the Coursera platform. These online courses are free and can be followed in French and English.....

Africa and Globalization, a Comparative Perspective, offered by Bertrand Badie and Marie-Françoise Durand (Sciences Po).....

Energy-Ecological Transitions in Countries in the South, offered by Gaël Giraud, David Claessen and Alain Grandjean (AFD-École Nationale Supérieure)....

International Migrations: A Global Issue, offered by Catherine Wihtol De Wenden (Sciences Po)



DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

Young people's *relationship to the world*

The young Anna talks
with Lilian Thuram on
the stage of the Forum
des Images in Paris.



59%

**of French people
aged between
15 and 25 believe
that citizens can
change the world**

In early 2017, AFD brought together a few hundred young people and some specialists on the theme of “Being a citizen of the world”. It was a chance for these adolescents to take stock of their sense of commitment and their relations with others, beyond borders.

I “turned black at nine.” While Lilian Thuram explains how he was teased about the color of his skin when he arrived in mainland France, he is interrupted by a cry of surprise by Anna. Thanks to her spontaneous reaction, the young girl is called onto the stage to talk with the former footballer who is committed to education against racism.

Accept others, think about solidarity, realize that what happens over there concerns us here... 300 middle and high school students, gathered alongside experts and key figures from civil society, focused on these themes at the Images Forum in Paris on February 13, 2017. AFD organized this day of debates and exchanges on the notion of “citizen of the world”, in the context of its mandate

for awareness-raising and education on development.

Wanting to change the world

“We realize that we can change things, at our modest level,” says the young Kiliana, 16, between two talks. Certain causes do nevertheless seem too huge for the high school student to shoulder: *“For climate change, I don’t see what I can actually do about it.”*

Kiliana’s climate melancholy does not stop Nawel, who has just reached legal adulthood, from thinking that there is greater solidarity among her generation than in the previous ones: *“With social networks, we know we can have an impact,”* adds the young woman, who is on a civic service mission with the association Unis-Cité.

Making commitments for the future

Wisler is also impressed by the key figures he has seen pass on the stage. The 16 year-old has learnt one thing from it: *“We can all get involved with our own talents.”* Like his idol Lilian Thuram, Wisler would like to *“help young people through sports.”* Smiling, he wraps up his comments saying, *“Solidarity and mutual support are values I believe in”.*

But Anne, a young employee from the Communication Department of Action Against Hunger, has no illusions: *“Children are not yet sufficiently aware of relations with others, of what we all have in common around the world”.* At the same time, on stage, a young woman working for UNICEF says, as if in response, *“As long as we have our head in the stars and our feet on the ground, we can do it.”* ♦



“COLOC OF DUTY”

When the cartoonist Jul sketches development

With AFD’s help, at the 2017 Angoulême International Comics Festival, the cartoonist and author of comic books Jul (*Silex and the City*, *Platon la Gaffe*, *50 nuances de Grecs*, and others) presented a series with nine episodes: *Coloc of Duty* (in English, *Roommate of Duty*).

Coloc of Duty is a nice metaphor for our world. In these comic strips thought up by Jul, roommates receive a strange newcomer, Edmund, and start discussing collective responsibility. The funny and offbeat situations which follow call into question a much bigger and very real history: the history that we as citizens of the world build on a daily basis.



WHAT TO READ AND WATCH

Coloc of Duty, read the nine comic strips at colocofduty.b dangouleme.com

Video interview with Jul

at <https://youtu.be/U5nhoxWgCGg>

EVALUATION

“Learn and move forward with our practices”

NATHALIE LE DENMAT, Director of AFD's Evaluation and Knowledge Capitalization Department

Evaluation is central to AFD's action. It enables AFD to increase its effectiveness, dialogue with stakeholders and fulfill its duty of transparency and accountability. Nathalie Le Denmat explains.

What are the main objectives of evaluation for AFD?

NLD: Evaluations are a powerful tool for learning and guiding our strategies for operations. It is through our capacity to learn lessons from our experiences and apply them that we are able to improve the effectiveness of our projects, programs and strategies. The evaluation process allows us to learn and move forward with our practices. Our evaluations feed into the dialogue with project stakeholders, disseminate a culture of evaluation and aim to inform the debate on public policies. Finally, they contribute to our obligation of transparency and accountability towards the State,

national representation and public opinion in France and abroad.

What types of evaluation are conducted in the field?

NLD: Since 2008, over 400 evaluations of completed projects have been led as closely as possible to the field. They contribute to ensuring there is quality dialogue with stakeholders.

Furthermore, some fifty evaluations with a broader scope, concerning a financial instrument, a country, a sector, a crosscutting issue or a strategy, have been conducted, sometimes jointly with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance, or



over 450

evaluations of completed projects conducted since 2008



“
Evaluations measure the impacts
that our operations have on
the quality of life of populations.

with other donors. For example, we have just completed the evaluation of 15 years of AFD support for local development in Africa and 10 years of French official development assistance in Vietnam.

Finally, 14 scientific impact evaluations have been entrusted to research centers in emerging countries and partner countries. These evaluations use a strict methodology to measure the impacts on people's quality of life that are directly attributable to our projects.

Is AFD not acting as both the judge and stakeholder by evaluating its own projects and practices?

NLD: AFD adheres to the six principles of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) on evaluation: impartiality, independence, credibility, usefulness, participation of local partners and coordination with the other donors. We use several approaches to meet the challenges related to the independence of our evaluations. The evaluations are conducted and supervised by a department which is independent from the operational staff responsible for designing and implementing operations. Furthermore, most evaluations are conducted by evaluators from outside AFD and are supervised by a "reference group" made up of beneficiaries, partners and qualified individuals. Finally, AFD has set up an Evaluation Committee, composed of the various ministries involved in AFD's governance and qualified individuals from the academic and research world, civil society organizations and partners. It ensures the quality of the evaluation work and the relevance of its programming.



In the coming years, how will evaluations conducted by AFD need to innovate with their practices and tools?

NLD: One of the areas involves making our operations easier to evaluate by ensuring that their objectives are clear, that the project's strategy to achieve them is credible and that a monitoring-evaluation mechanism is in place throughout the project. A second challenge lies in enhancing the quality of evaluations, in



AFD projects which support sustainable urban development in the city of Hanoi have been taken into account in the evaluation of France's development assistance in Vietnam between 2005 and 2015.

particular in terms of methodology, so that we can know how to evaluate complex processes such as social changes, capacity building for our stakeholders, or climate change. We also need to involve the stakeholders and beneficiaries of our projects more in the actual evaluation process. In this respect, we are developing exchanges with evaluators from partner institutions in order to pool our reflection and move forward. Finally, we are seeking to increase the usefulness of evaluations and

are currently testing pilot approaches directly inspired by our German counterparts from KfW, which are highly conducive to learning and disseminating the culture of evaluation, such as evaluations conducted by mixed teams including an evaluator and a sectoral expert from AFD. We also want to conduct more mid-term evaluations, which are helpful for reorienting the operation along the way and for learning lessons with a view to the appraisal of a subsequent phase of the project. ♦



“**This approach is important in the context of a fragile State like DRC, where the ownership and sustainability of operations are particularly important issues.**”

Claire Zanuso, Economist responsible
for impact evaluations at AFD

How a scientific impact evaluation is put together in Kinshasa

What does conducting a project evaluation involve? We can see here with the example of the ongoing scientific evaluation of health and socio-economic impacts in the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Scientific evaluation of the health and socio-economic impacts of water infrastructure: that's the aim of this research project. Specifically, this evaluation concerns the project to promote innovative methods for access to drinking water in Kinshasa (PILAEP 2). It is being conducted by researchers from the Development, Institutions, and Globalization Mixed Research Unit of the Research Institute for Development. As with all impact evaluations, it will allow AFD to improve the examination and preparation of its future programs, but also to meet its obligation of accountability.

The study concerns a water supply project in the city's new neighborhoods that are not serviced by the local water authority. The Congolese NGO Action for Infrastructure Development in Rural Areas (ADIR) has set up a decentralized management system, which is based on community participation and structured around users' associations. PILAEP 2 aims to connect 400,000 residents in 26 neighborhoods to water networks in order to meet an essential need: secure access to high-quality drinking water.

The survey is being conducted with the Congolese National Institute of Statistics and aims to measure the project's impacts: Has the health of residents, particularly of children, improved? Has the reduction in the distance and time to travel to get water helped to increase schooling for young girls? AFD's future action depends on the answers to these questions.



Interview for a beneficiary survey.

Like this woman, 18,000 residents from some 3,000 households were met by 60 interviewers between February and May 2018.

CLIMATE

When innovation serves *the environment*

FRENCH FACILITY FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT



314

**projects financed
in FFEM's
geographical areas
of operation
since 1994**

In 1992, the Earth Summit put sustainable development at the center of international discussions. The need to combine environmental protection with economic and social development was recognized for the first time. The French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) came about through this observation.

F FEM was set up in 1994 and operates in the environmental field with a major asset: innovation. It serves French development cooperation policy.

Innovating for sustainable development

FFEM promotes environmental conservation and sustainable development in developing and emerging countries. It provides grants for innovative projects in six areas: climate, biodiversity, international waters, land degradation (including deforestation), chemical pollutants and the stratospheric ozone layer. It works with all types of actors in various contexts, from the public sector

Rating countries on climate better



€2 M

**Cost of the program
for 18 months**

The fight against climate change requires strong involvement by the financial sector. However, the fact that rating agencies do not take into account the state of natural capital is a major obstacle to an accurate assessment of sovereign risks.

In this context, FFEM and AFD are supporting an innovative program that aims to renew the financial rating of States and speed up integration of environmental issues by the financial industry. The result: the creation of a rating agency dedicated to sovereign risks, with a capacity to disseminate these new forms of analysis. The program is being implemented by the company Beyond Ratings and is financed by FFEM and AFD, with €0.5 million and €0.7 million respectively.

The new rating agency will be based on an innovative model: international public-private shareholding, open governance and a redesigned economic model. To conclude the program, funds will be raised to ensure that the shareholding gathers long-term international public and private investors. This will give the future agency an essential institutional base.

to the private sector, including civil society, NGOs, the research community, territorial authorities, donors and international environmental conventions.

FFEM stands out from other public and private initiatives by making innovation central to its action. It supports pilot projects which test new solutions and allow lessons to be learned from them. This facilitates their implementation on a larger scale by other donors or commercial banks. FFEM thereby seeks to disseminate new methods and innovative practices in the environmental field at the global level. ♦

Three governance bodies

- ▶ A steering committee composed of the Ministry of the Economy (which holds the Chair); Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs; Ministry for an Ecological and Inclusive Transition; Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation; Ministry of Agriculture and Food; and AFD.
- ▶ A scientific and technical committee, which ensures that projects are compatible with the strategic orientations.
- ▶ A secretariat, which manages the strategic and examination cycles, as well as project monitoring.

LAKE CHAD

Drawing and territories

In his latest book, the geographer Christian Seignobos analyzes the challenges of the development of Lake Chad using the tip of his pencil... a case of when geography and research encounter the art of drawing.



WHAT TO READ AND WATCH

Des mondes oubliés : carnets d'Afrique

(Forgotten Worlds: African Notebooks)
Christian Seignobos.
IRD publications/
Parenthèses, Beaux-
Livres collection, 2017

* See also on p. 89 our dispatch about the RESILAC project, stemming from the Kouri Initiative and cofinanced by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund

The Lake Chad basin is located at the boundaries of several troubled areas at the border between Chad, Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria and is a constantly changing territory.

The French geographer Christian Seignobos, Director Emeritus for Research at the Research Institute for Development (IRD), has explored this region for over 40 years. He is today offering an original vision of it via a hybrid publication, combining drawing and geography.

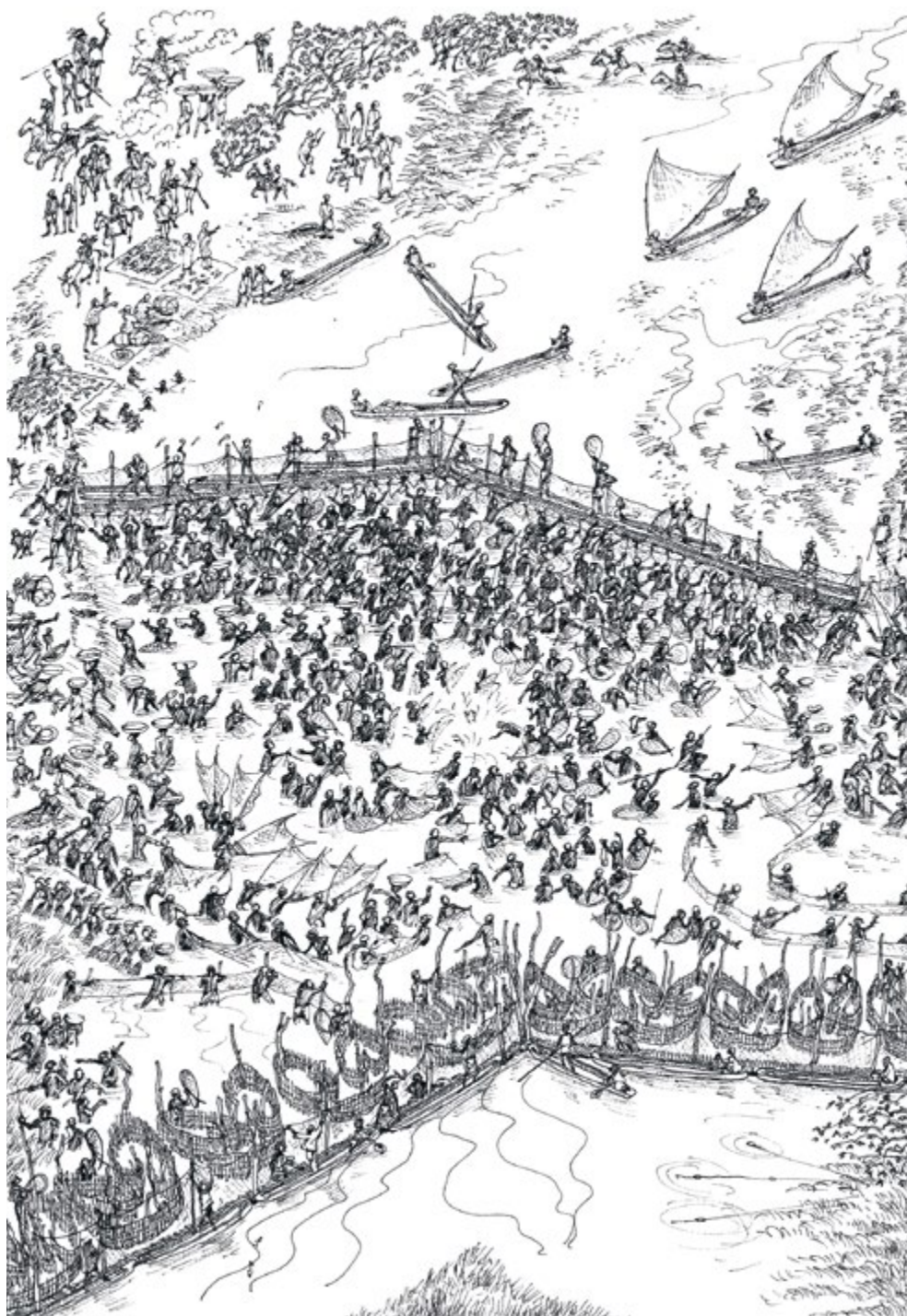
Research in a different way

Des mondes oubliés : carnets d'Afrique (in English, "Forgotten Worlds: African Notebooks") was published in French in 2017 and includes a large body of texts, sketches and drawings produced in the field, providing testimonies of a personal and professional practice of research.

This innovative approach gives a better understanding of the complexity of a regional system in crisis, "*without references and without maps*", as the geographer points out. The publication was awarded prizes by the Société de Géographie (Geographical Society) and the Académie des sciences d'Outre-mer (Academy of Overseas Sciences) in 2017.

A needed testimony

Several drawings by Christian Seignobos were displayed at AFD in January 2018, providing the opportunity to shed light on the many challenges facing the region today. In 2016, in the context of the French contribution to the Sahel Alliance, AFD launched the Kouri Initiative* to support the populations of Lake Chad affected by the conflicts. This initiative promotes local territorial development, socio-economic integration, food security and natural resources management. ♦



30 M

**people live
in the Lake Chad
basin**

**A giant oasis
in the middle
of the desert**

Fishermen carry out Kal Soso: collective fishing on backwater bays. The Lake Chad basin has led to the creation of a sustainable environment in the middle of the Sahara Desert. The depth of the lake is constantly changing, but populations have managed to adapt to its resources. The fishermen become farmers when the water level falls.

A territory in movement

Mbororo Biibe Woyla under transhumance move along the deflooded pastures of Lake Chad on the Cameroonian shore.

Pack zebras carry women, children and the family's goods.

The nomads follow their herds, carry their habitat with them and settle depending on the changes in nature.



A crisis area

Boko Haram fighters cross the northern basin of Lake Chad, a flooded forest of *Prosopis juliflora*. The terrorist organization came into being in 2002 in Nigeria and swore allegiance to the Islamic State group in 2015.





Populations in exile

The incursions of Boko Haram leave burned-out villages behind them. Over 2.5 million people have found refuge in other regions or camps managed by NGOs. Over a million are still unable to return home.

An economy bringing people together

Agriculture, fishing, livestock raising, handicrafts... the southern shore of the lake is a real El Dorado. People work together to take advantage of the wealth offered by the lake, its surroundings and its land.



What future?

Bornouans, Hausa, Buduma, Arabs... All the populations in the region mingle with each other at the fish markets like the one in Malam Fatori, in northeast Nigeria. But the future is uncertain in this region, where there is a combination of natural resources, control problems and political instability.



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p. 104: Alain Goulard
p. 105: Jul
p. 107: Quentin Houdas/Animal Pensant
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p. 112–113: Martial Dosdane
p. 115–118: Christian Seignobos

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