

Liberté Égalité Fraternité



# Atlatic Ocean

**ACTIVITY REPORT** 

2020

espite their diversity, the territories around the Atlantic Ocean share common issues that call for a regional approach to development. This can consist in encouraging dialogue among stakeholders, finding sustainable solutions on a regional scale, and helping to improve living conditions for the local population. AFD's main objective in the region is to work together to build sustainable solutions benefiting everyone, and create a true economic, cultural, and societal "Atlantic Ocean" community.

## AFD's strategy in the Atlantic Ocean

- Boosting resilience to natural and climate hazards
- Contributing to the emergence of a green economy
- Improving regional coordination to deal with health risks
- Developing a regional partnership approach

One of the specific characteristics of countries in the Caribbean, composed primarily of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), is their vulnerability to the effects of climate change, with a high incidence of natural disasters due to their geography, size and insular nature. These common issues and the accelerating pace of change globally make it crucial to act quickly at the regional level. AFD has therefore stepped up its presence in the Atlantic Ocean since 2018 with the creation of a Regional Directorate (DR).

2020 was an atypical year for our regional activities and the Group as a whole. It forced us to demonstrate agility and a greater level of responsiveness, while continuing to work together for the common good. AFD demonstrated its capacity to mobilize its forces during the crisis and continue its activities. Despite the difficult context, we were able to meet our partners' expectations, with payments of €503 million to projects and €465 million in new commitments for the "Health in Common", "COVID response" and "Overseas Territories in Common" initiatives.

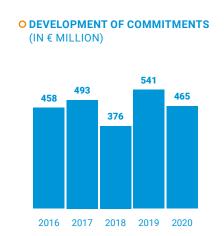
In 2021, AFD will be continuing to play a counter-cyclical role by supporting sustainable economic recovery to promote societies of reconciliation and resilience that are aligned with the SDGs, in French overseas territories and foreign States in the region. In our interventions, we will prioritize the preservation of biodiversity (SDG15), sustainable consumption and production patterns (SDG12), and health (SDG3).

## Our activities in the Atlantic Ocean in 2020

#### **O GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF COMMITMENTS**

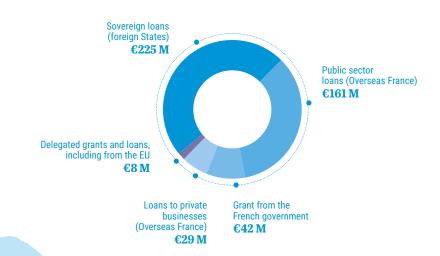


€465 M In the Atlantic Ocean region, which includes foreign States and French overseas territories, around €3 billion has been committed to nearly 600 projects in 10 years. In 2020, 67 new projects were funded in the area for a total of €465 million. At the same time, €503 million was also contributed (including €17 million for multi-country projects). These funds targeted health, infrastructure and urban development, digital technology and agriculture.





#### **O DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL**



#### **O DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR**



Health €250 M



Infrastructure and urban development €109 M



Digital technology €29 M



Agriculture €28 M



Water and sanitation €19 M



Building the capacities of local public stakeholders €19 M



Private sector funding **€8 M** 



Civil society and education €3 M

# Our activities in Guadeloupe and Saint-Martin in 2020

Guadeloupe is facing significant economic and social challenges. Through consulting and financing activities, AFD continues to pursue its close partnership approach with local authorities in Guadeloupe and Saint-Martin in order to support and develop infrastructure and promote inclusive and sustainable economic development.

It also provides support for private sector projects aimed at structuring the economy (tourism, green energy, etc.).

#### **O TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2020**

**€40 M** 



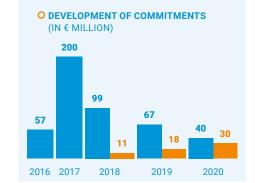
€30 M

€71 million paid
Guadeloupe

Saint-Martin

## O DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR







## **Our activities in French** Guiana in 2020

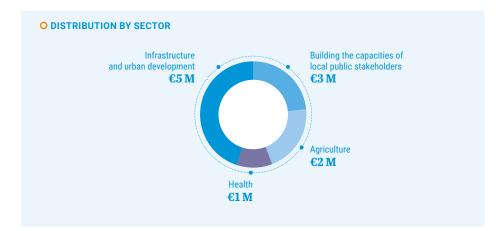
French Guiana is located in South America and has a surface area comparable to that of Portugal. The Amazon forest covers 96% of the territory. It is characterized by strong population growth, and is facing numerous social, health and economic challenges. To help address these challenges, AFD assists local stakeholders in the public and private sectors throughout the territory, from the coastline to isolated areas

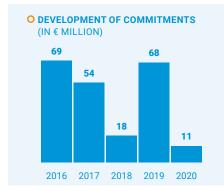
#### **O TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2020**

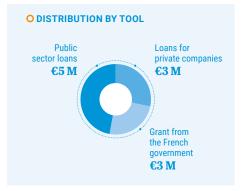




#### €32 million paid







### Our activities in Haiti in 2020

Haiti is marked by poverty, and is also vulnerable to climate change and prone to natural disasters. While continuing to provide structural assistance for education and health aimed at reducing inequalities and reinforcing human capital, in 2020 AFD also provided a rapid response to the COVID-19 health crisis. AFD prioritized agroecology and the environment in the country (increasing food security and job creation). For the first time, AFD granted funding for the conservation of biodiversity, which is essential in ensuring the sustainable development of the country and the global public good. In addition, AFD is continuing its efforts to increase citizen participation in public policy decisions and the quality of public services for citizens, especially for women and young people.

#### **O TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2020**

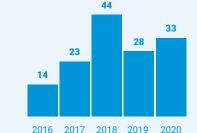


€9 million paid

## O DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR



#### O DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITMENTS (IN € MILLION)



#### **O DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL**



# Our activities in Martinique in 2020

Martinique is home to exceptional natural heritage, but faces significant challenges. It must find new drivers of growth and reduce persisting social and territorial inequalities. Longstanding partner in Martinique, AFD is assisting the island as it transitions towards a more inclusive and sustainable development model.

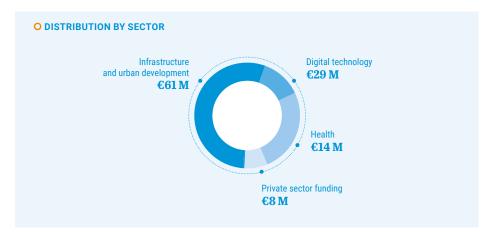
AFD is the number one partner of the island's local authorities and is also the main provider of funding for green growth. It also supports the health and medico-social sectors.

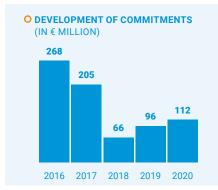
**O TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2020** 

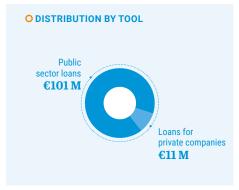


€112 M

€97 million paid







## Our activities in the Dominican Republic in 2020

In the Dominican Republic, AFD seeks to implement the regional strategy for the Atlantic Ocean, aimed at "contributing to the territories' sustainable and inclusive development." AFD Group's main goals in the Dominican Republic are therefore to support the country's territorial, ecological and energy transitions, and promote social transition aimed at increasing fair access to essential services for citizens. It also supports economic and financial transition to create sustainable economies.

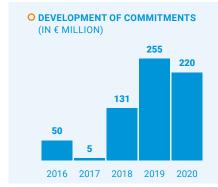
**O TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2020** 

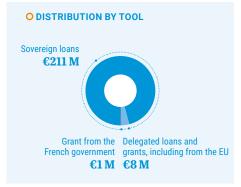


€220 M

€270 million paid







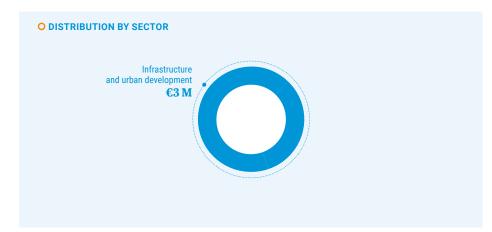
## Our activity in Saint-Pierreand-Miquelon in 2020

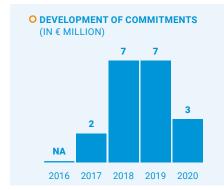
France's only overseas territory in North America, the archipelago of Saint-Pierre-and-Miquelon, is composed of 8 islands, 2 of which are inhabited year-round. Located off the coast of Canada, it has a unique geography and undeniable natural assets. However, the territory is seeking new direction for its economy following the fishing crisis. AFD, a loyal and lasting partner in the territory, is supporting these transition efforts. In 2020, AFD finalized its co-financing of the local airline, Air Saint Pierre, which received a new main aircraft, an ATR42-600.

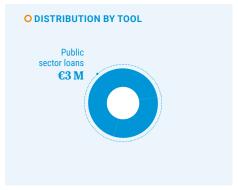
**O TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2020** 



€3 M







## Our activities in Suriname

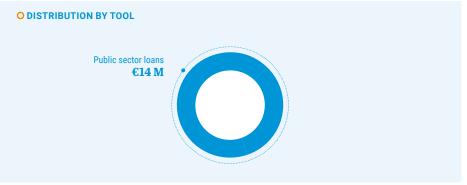
Located in South America on the Guiana shield, Suriname is facing significant economic, health and social challenges. With 90% of its surface area covered by the Amazon forest, Suriname is home to natural resources in need of protection. AFD assists the government of Suriname throughout its territory, from the coastline to isolated areas. Its current mission is to encourage regional cooperation and green and inclusive growth, especially in the sectors of health, infrastructure and energy, and water and sanitation.

O TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2020



€14 M





## Focus Adapt'A@tion

The Caribbean is home to the most vulnerable territories in the world in terms of climate change (flooding, coastal erosion, increasingly sever hurricanes, landslides, heatwaves and extended droughts). Climate predictions are very alarming:

- Temperature increases between 1.4 °C and 3.2 °C, with an average increase of 2.0 °C;
- · 12% decrease in annual precipitation;
- Longer seasonal dry periods and more frequent droughts are expected to increase water demand throughout the region;
- Sea level rise ranging from 40 to 60 cm in 2100, as much as one meter in the most extreme cases (by the end of the century as compared to the 1986-2005 period).

The increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events is threatening the region's ecosystems (marine and coastal environments), citizens (health, migration) and economic activities (agriculture, tourism, infrastructure).

In order to respond to these challenges, since 2017 the Adapt'Action facility has been supporting the Caribbean region, in particular the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECO), the Dominican Republic and Cuba\* in their efforts to build their capacities for stronger climate governance, to help better integrate adaptation to climate change in their sectoral public policies, and encourage the emergence of structural adaptation projects.

The approach therefore promotes a paradigm shift that extends beyond the climate co-benefits. Adapt'Action promotes a greater integration of adaptation measures in the project design phase (adaptation by design), with a joint development approach bringing together counterparties, sectoral experts and adaptation experts to define and monitor feasibility and vulnerability studies.

https://www.afd.fr/en/adaptaction #adaptaction

## coastal environments), #adaptaction n) and economic activi-

#### **O TOTAL OUTSTANDING COMMITMENTS SINCE 2017**



**€2.7 M** 

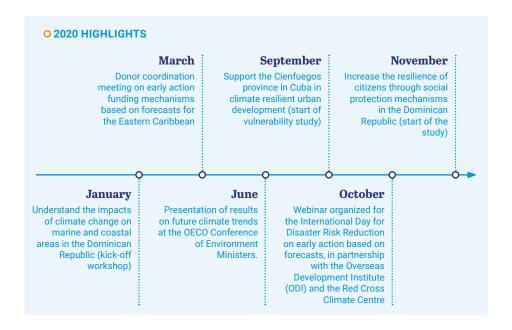
For a total of **8 support measures** helping to achieve the goals of the Atlantic Regional Directorate, which are as follows: promote better climate governance, mitigate the impacts of disasters through a global response combining knowledge, prevention, and risk preparedness, and the enhancement and sustainable management of natural resources through the preservation of ecosystems and biodiversity.



3,000



<sup>\*</sup> The activities in Cuba are covered by the Regional Directorate for Mexico, Cuba and Central America.



## Focus: nature, an effective ally for adaptation to climate change in the Caribbean

While marine and coastal ecosystems (dunes, lagoons, coral reefs, mangroves) are the first victims of climate variations in the region, preserving these ecosystems is essential in controlling the effects of climate change and maintaining natural protection for infrastructure and citizens faced with climate hazards (coastal flooding, erosion, heatwaves, etc.). Enhancement of adaptation measures based on ecosystems, or **nature-based solutions**, is therefore a central subject of reflection and has proactively resulted in the support funded by the facility.

Adapt'Action has therefore been supporting the OECO Commission since 2019 in the enhancement of a transformational climate change adaptation approach which integrates nature-based solutions (NbS) and gender mainstreaming at all stages, from the definition of adaptation strategies to their operational implementation. The formulation of regional adaptation projects was supported through capacity building activities, the sharing of experiences among Member States (including Grenada, Guadeloupe and Saint Vincent) and tools and resources adapted to the regional context.

In 2021, a critical year for biodiversity and the climate, local authorities in Cuba (Cienfuegos) and the Dominican Republic (National District, Barahona, Las Terrenas, Santiago, San Pedro de Macoris) will benefit from technical support in revising their territorial planning strategies and instruments by prioritizing the use of NbS to mitigate the climate risks faced by these territories (floods, coastal flooding and erosion, drought, and heatwaves).

#### Towards a world in common

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) implements France's policy on development and international solidarity. Through funding for the public sector and NGOs, research and publications (Éditions AFD), training on sustainable development (Campus AFD) and efforts to raise awareness in France, it finances, supports and accelerates transitions towards a fairer and more resilient world.

We work alongside our partners to develop shared solutions with and for communities in developing countries. Our teams are involved in more than 4,000 projects on the ground, in France's overseas territories and 115 countries, including areas in crisis. We strive to protect the common good-promoting peace, biodiversity and a stable climate, as well as gender equality, health and education. In this way, we contribute to the commitment of France and French people to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Towards a world in common.



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