



Agence Française
de Développement

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Numerous partnerships

The partnership between AFD and civil society has been greatly enhanced in recent years, making civil society organizations (CSOs) essential partners for AFD. In terms of financing, AFD's budget to support CSO initiatives has increased, in line with the presidential commitment to double the Official Development Assistance (ODA) channeled through NGOs between 2012 and 2017.

AFD increasingly calls on CSOs to be project operators, propose innovations, or intervene in crisis and post-crisis situations. The partnership has also been strengthened in terms of strategic and sectoral dialogue on AFD's policy documents and the main development issues. At the end of 2013, AFD approved the first Cross-cutting Intervention Framework, "AFD and CSOs" (2013-2016).

The CSO wants:			
To submit a project	To respond to a call for proposals	To be the project "operator"	To participate in the strategic dialogue
Financing for "CSO Initiatives" (CSO-I)	Sectoral innovation facilities for CSOs (FISONG) Calls for crisis/post-crisis projects (APCC)	Competitive bidding for contracts under AFD-funded projects	Formal frameworks for dialogue on AFD's strategic and sectoral documents Knowledge production, symposiums, seminars

Equilibres & Populations – Improving women's rights and health in West Africa

The project, cofinanced with the Gates Foundation, is designed to improve the rights and sexual and reproductive health of women and adolescent girls, with a focus on access to contraception, in five African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Senegal). It involves assisting a network of local CSOs called "Alliance Droits et Santé" in the definition of national advocacy strategies, especially by strengthening their organizational capacities and via personal coaching.



Awareness-raising workshop for women, Benin © Christophe Abramowitz

Support for CSO initiatives

In 2009, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI) transferred to AFD the financing activity for projects initiated by French CSOs working in the field of international solidarity. The eligible CSOs are associations under the law of 1901, trade unions and charitable foundations. This activity is based on a grant budget allocated by MAEDI every year and recognizes the right of initiative and independence of CSOs. It is managed by the NGO Partnerships Division (DPO) in the Strategy, Partnerships and Communication Department (SPC).

3 objectives in supporting French CSO initiatives

- Support civil societies in the South in fighting poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;
- Support civil societies in the South in promoting governance, gender equality and defending fundamental rights;
- Enhance the effectiveness of French civil society actors in terms of development cooperation and citizen mobilization, and capitalize on their expertise and capacities to exert influence internationally.



Financing for CSO Initiatives in figures

287 ongoing projects

for a total grant amount of **EUR 211m**, implemented by **128 CSOs**, for an average grant amount of **EUR 736,000** at 31 December 2015

607 CSOs in the South

supported via **71 projects** led by **59 French CSOs** in 2015.

Sharp increase in grants :

from EUR **41m** in 2011 to EUR **65m** in 2015.

FIDH – Promoting human rights and democratic reforms in Tunisia

The project involves assisting Tunisian civil society in the promotion of human rights in order to get the authorities to commit to these rights in a context of democratic transition.

The aim is to support victims of violations in their quest for justice, advocate for the development of a protective legal corpus, and contribute to the legislative reforms required to consolidate democracy.

The action mainly targets human rights victims and defenders, Tunisian CSOs, the legal corpus, decision-makers and journalists.

Various types of operation

Field operations

They aim to support actors in the South by building their capacities and implementing local development actions. The quality of the partnership with local actors must be a key component.

There are three types of operation :

"Traditional" projects

contribute to the achievement of development goals in one or several countries, in close partnership with one (or several) actor(s) in the South.

AFD cofinancing : **50%**

Program agreements

include a coherent set of field actions and cross-cutting actions (capitalization, advocacy, communication, evaluation), with the aim of building the expertise of the CSO and its local partners, for a priority strategy where the CSO has proven added value.

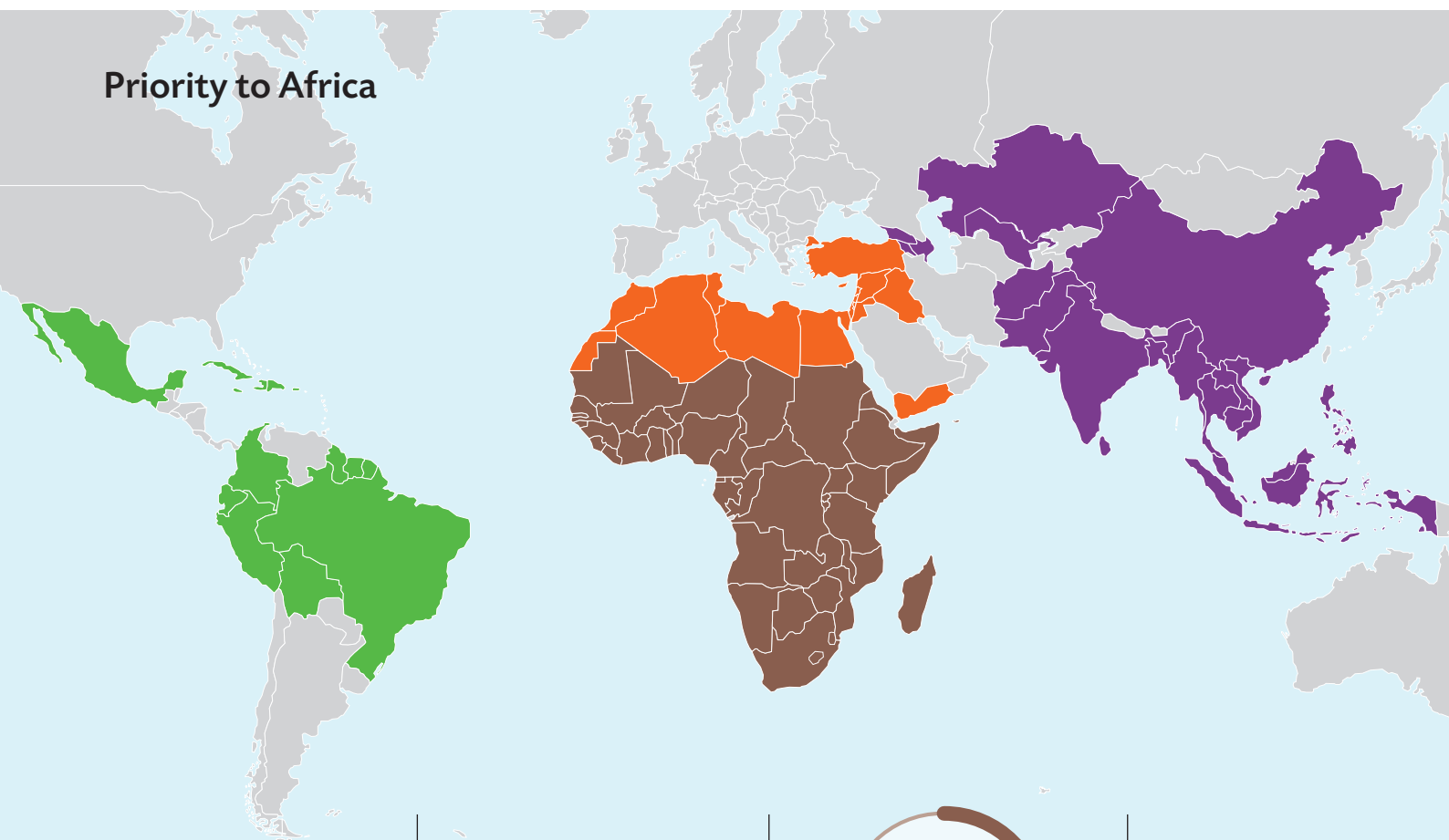
AFD cofinancing : **60%**

Concerted multi-stakeholder programs (PCPAs)

bring together institutional and non-governmental stakeholders from the North and South. They aim to strengthen local civil society, with a focus on its capacity to participate in the implementation of local public policies.

AFD cofinancing : **75%**

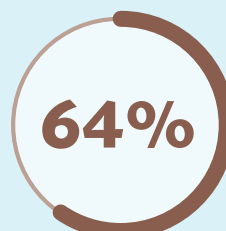
Priority to Africa



Latin America
and Caribbean



Mediterranean



Sub-Saharan
Africa



Asia

Public-interest operations

They are intended for a public residing in the North, and in France in priority. AFD cofinancing : 60%

- **Development education projects** concern either information and advocacy actions, or educational processes to support project initiators (training and capacity building). They aim to promote an understanding and ownership of international solidarity issues by the French;
- **Projects to structure associations** aim to strengthen France's network of associations by financing platforms, collectives, support funds or any sustainable collective initiative. Their objective is to strengthen the capacities of French CSOs and enhance their consultation and participation in major international events.

Schoolchildren in immersion in the Senegalese village © Gaïa Center



Le Partenariat - Education in citizenship and international solidarity at the Gaïa Center

The Gaïa Center was set up in Lille in 2006 and is an educational space intended for schoolchildren.

It has recreated a life-size Senegalese city and village where immersive workshops, sustainable development activities and teaching based on new technologies are proposed.

The association also develops synergies with local authorities, international exchanges with teachers, and supports 200 project initiators.

Two facilities to support microprojects



The Program to Support the Projects of Immigrant Communities' International Solidarity Organizations (PRA/OSIM), supported by AFD and managed by FORIM (Forum of Diaspora International Solidarity Organizations), is a cofinancing and support mechanism (a maximum of EUR 15,000 per project) for local development microprojects led by OSIMs. It finances 50 microprojects every year (health, education, water, economic, rural, agricultural and social development). It also allows over 150 OSIMs to be trained in France and the role of migrants and diasporas to be promoted.



Microprojects.org
Incubateur d'initiatives solidaires

The Microprojects Agency (AMP), supported by AFD and managed by the Guilde Européenne du Raid, is a mechanism open to French associations whose annual budget does not exceed EUR 250,000. It provides between EUR 2,000 euros and EUR 15,000 of financing for international solidarity microprojects and up to 75% of the total budget. AMP also assists project initiators in the definition, monitoring and evaluation of their initiatives.

The other forms of partnership

Sectoral Innovation Facility for NGOs (FISONG)

FISONG was set up in 2007 and is a “call for ideas” which aims to bring about innovative practices. The objective is to promote operating methods that bring real added value to technical, methodological and organizational procedures which are conducive to creating new dynamics. Two calls for proposals are launched every year, on the basis of themes predefined in consultation with CSOs, with a EUR 2.5m budget from FISONG.

New instruments to address crises

■ Call for Crisis and Post-Crisis Projects (APCC)

The APCC allows AFD to directly finance French, international and/or local CSOs, on the basis of calls for proposals in crisis, post-crisis or post-disaster situations, with durations of between 18 and 36 months.

The projects involve CSOs restarting or delivering basic services in order to ensure the transition towards the implementation of development projects which benefit local institutions and actors once stability has been restored;

■ Crisis and Post-Crisis Intervention Instrument (OICC)

The OICC allows AFD to finance projects for public infrastructure, economic recovery, or basic services which are necessary for recovery in post-crisis or post-disaster situations.

It is intended for local actors, including local CSOs. The maximum duration for the implementation of funded projects is 18 months;

■ 10% reserve of the CSO-Initiative budget to address crises

Every year, the NGO Partnerships Division now reserves an availability of funds, for a maximum of 10% of its budget, to finance post-crisis or emergency-rehabilitation-development projects in response to a crisis occurring after the annual project pre-selection exercise.

Small-Scale Initiatives Program of the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM)

Since 2006, FFEM's Small-Scale Initiatives Program (PPI) has been supporting CSOs in African countries which work to protect biodiversity and combat climate change. The program thereby contributes to improving the governance of these processes and has consequently achieved significant recognition among the African conservation community.

Over the past 10 years, the PPI has financed 181 projects in Africa for a total amount of EUR 6.3m. The average amount allocated is a EUR 35,000 grant.



Young Syrian and Lebanese refugees in a school, Lebanon ©Benjamin Petit, AFD

Supporting the reception of Syrian refugees in the Middle East

In 2015, AFD launched an APCC which aimed to support Syrian refugees and the host communities in the countries where they have found refuge.

The objective was to increase their access to essential health and education services in order to preserve social cohesion. The EUR 5m of financing has supported 2 Lebanese NGOs, Amel and Arcenciel, and the NGO Première Urgence Internationale, in the implementation of projects in the fields of health, education and psychosocial support in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraqi Kurdistan.

Promoting exchanges and mutual knowledge

Strategic dialogue

In addition to financing, in recent years, AFD has strengthened dialogue and consultation with civil society.

AFD involves stakeholders, including CSOs, in discussions on its Strategic Intervention Frameworks and policy documents. It regularly meets representatives from the French NGO platform, Coordination Sud, to discuss the major issues on the international agenda, as well as advocacy NGOs over the campaigns they lead. It also coordinates meetings between CSOs and all AFD's divisions on sectoral and cross-cutting themes.

Finally, in the context of the implementation of AFD's Strategic Intervention Framework for CSOs (2013-2016), the NGO Partnerships Division has led five reflection projects with CSOs on themes related to crisis or post-crisis situations, public-interest projects, the revision of financing instruments, the simplification of appraisal and monitoring procedures, and transparency and accountability. They reached completion in late 2015 and led to decisions and reforms which have been implemented in 2016.

Transparency and accountability

In the context of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy, AFD has pledged to publish all documents that give a better understanding of its activity and operation every year. This transparency policy also applies to CSO financing. For the purpose of accountability, AFD has also set up a grievance management mechanism, which allows third parties to submit complaints concerning the environmental and social aspects of a project.

Knowledge production

For several years now, AFD and CSOs have been working in partnership to conduct cross-cutting project evaluations, as well as capitalization activities, or studies on the practices of AFD and non-State development assistance actors. This production contributes to strengthening consultation between field actors, exchanging know-how, and improving future actions.



AFD / Fondation de France study on the role and financing of French CSOs in Haiti

AFD, with Fondation de France, has financed a joint study on Haiti which aims to gain a better understanding, as donors, of the practices and strategies of funded CSOs in the aftermath of the earthquake. Beyond the case of Haiti, the objective was to question CSO practices in post-crisis situations.

The study focused on 2009-2014 and provides input for reflection and possible solutions concerning the support of development CSOs in the response to the crisis, the stumbling blocks to avoid in order to ensure that the aid does not destabilize local civil society and the State, and the complementarity of donors in crisis and post-crisis situations.

Agence Française de Développement (AFD), a public financial institution that implements the policy defined by the French Government, works to combat poverty and promote sustainable development. AFD operates on four continents via a network of 75 offices and finances and supports projects that improve living conditions for populations, boost economic growth and protect the planet. In 2015, AFD earmarked EUR 8.3bn to finance projects in developing countries and for overseas France.



Bean crops, Madagascar © Nicolas Hertkorn, AFD



Proparco – a subsidiary of the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) devoted to private sector funding – has been supporting sustainable development for almost 40 years. It operates in 80 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East and helps finance and support financial institutions and corporate private-sector projects.

www.proparco.fr



FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL

The French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) is a financial instrument of French cooperation and development policy, dedicated to the protection of the global environment in developing countries and emerging markets.

With funds of €90 million for 2015-2018, the FFEM supports innovative work in developing countries in the following areas: climate, biodiversity, international waters, soil degradation including deforestation, persistent organic pollutants and the ozone layer. At the end of 2015, the FFEM had received financial pledges of €331 million, with 285 projects in their portfolio, 67% of which are in Africa and the Mediterranean.

www.ffem.fr - ffem@afd.fr



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