



AFD AND Sport

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A vehicle for social cohesion and equality

Sport is a valuable tool for helping achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. It contributes to peace, education, gender equality and health and opens up new horizons for development actors, in partnership with the public and private sectors and civil society.

#WorldInCommon

Sport, A TOOL FOR DEVELOPMENT

AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

1

A new focus for cooperation

Sport is now a strong focus of AFD's strategy, especially in Africa. Our aim is to assist our partners in implementing sustainable development paths.

- The launch of a platform for transformation through sport was announced by President Emmanuel Macron in February 2018, during a reception for Liberian President and former soccer star George Weah. Its objective is to establish international partnerships and develop local initiatives for community sport and social cohesion.
- In the French overseas territories, the partnership with the French National Center for the Development of Sport (CNDS) supports innovative sport infrastructure projects.
- AFD has for many years been financing municipal sport infrastructure (neighborhood stadiums, swimming pools, etc.) in the countries where it operates.
- The support for the projects of French CSOs – such as Play International, a non-profit association accredited by the French Ministry of Sport which has been working in Burundi since 2016 – promotes access to education through sport.

2

A means for achieving the SDGs

Paris has made sustainable development a key component of the project to organize the major international sporting events of the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

- Sport is a tool for cohesion and development. It can make a significant contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the 109 countries where AFD operates.
- The SDGs mention sport as a key factor through its "contribution to peace, the empowerment of women and of young people, as well as to the achievement of health, education and social inclusion objectives".
- Sport is a vehicle for France's outreach, which requires being a model of sustainable development in order to showcase French know-how.

3

Focus on community sport

AFD's aim with its Sport and Development activities is to promote community sport by supporting local initiatives for social cohesion.

- Community sport is a powerful ingredient for social inclusion, as well as a factor for empowerment and self-esteem for girls and women.
- With 70% of Africa's population today under 30, the organization of the sector in Africa needs to be improved.
- To promote community sport, it is essential to renovate infrastructure for people living in the most underprivileged neighborhoods, which requires diversified modes of financing.

4

Support for a rapidly developing economic sector

AFD, with its subsidiary PROPARCO, aims to mobilize the private sector in the countries where it operates in order to develop a dynamic sport sector (equipment manufacturers, sustainable infrastructure, training schools, etc.).

- Sport is a rapidly developing economic sector which can act as a driver for development in certain regions of the world. It is a vehicle for the creation of economic wealth for which France can provide its expertise.
- The organization of the 2024 Olympic Games is a unique opportunity to get several sectors to work together towards a common objective of promoting France's international range of activities.

5

A comprehensive range of financial products

AFD has financial products tailored to development through sport.

- For public investments for sustainable sport: sovereign or non-sovereign concessional loans for the construction of sustainable sport infrastructure.
- For private investments for the economy of sustainable sport: loans on market terms via our subsidiary PROPARCO, equity investments, banking intermediation and the Fund for Technical Expertise and Experience Transfers (FEXTE).
- Initiatives for social cohesion are taken into account by AFD's NGO window and the French Local Authorities Financing Facility (FICOL).

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