

Liberté Égalité Fraternité





Lebanon, the gateway to the Middle East, is facing an unprecedented, multidimensional crisis, further intensified by the recent conflict. The inefficiencies of public services jeopardize development gains and deepens socio-economic inequalities. In line with public policy priorities, the AFD Group supports Lebanon in addressing the needs of vulnerable people, ensuring the proper management of natural resources and preserving social cohesion.

OUR ACTIVITIES IN Lebanon

Supporting equitable access to education, vocational training, and employment

The Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education's five-year plan (2020–2025) and the vocational education strategy (2023–2025) guide AFD's efforts to improve the quality of education, strengthen governance, and support youth integration into the labor market. To help vulnerable students stay in school, AFD supports remedial programs and school feeding initiatives. Its contribution to the multi-donor "Transition and Resilience Education Fund" (TREF) enables the implementation of the Ministry's priority reforms.

In vocational training, AFD is financing the development of technical training in baccalaureate courses and short courses, as well as the training of healthcare professionals in the public sector. AFD has also supported the construction of a new building for the National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts (CNAM). In parallel, the Group is working alongside entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises to maintain employment and ease social tensions.

Promoting equitable access to quality healthcare

In Lebanon, strengthening the public health system is a top priority. AFD is working with civil society partners and international organizations to support Lebanese institutions in implementing the national strategy. For example, Première Urgence Internationale and the Pierre Fabre Foundation support 29 primary healthcare centers, while the International Committee of the Red Cross is supporting two of the country's largest public hospitals – the Rafic Hariri University Hospital and the Tripoli Governmental Hospital – as well as the Tebnine and Marjayoun Governmental Hospitals in the South. Support includes infrastructure rehabilitation, staff training and financial assistance for vulnerable patients. Special attention is paid to mental health, with support for the National Mental Health Program and the establishment of a dedicated university degree in collaboration with the World Health Organization and Saint-Joseph University. AFD is also contributing to structural reforms such as modernizing the blood transfusion system, strengthening the drug supply chain and supporting public hospitals to ensure they comply with the Ministry of Health's accreditation standards.



Developing access to water services and promoting good governance

Lebanon's water sector faces technical, institutional and commercial challenges. AFD has been operating since 1999 to support infrastructure renovation and governance, with the guiding principles of sustainable resource management and the promotion of a quality service for all. With European funds, AFD has supported the revision of the national strategy and the development of a recovery plan for the sector. It is also supporting the Ministry and Regional Water Establishments in implementing the necessary reforms. As lead of the donor coordination group, it contributes to sector coordination and public policy dialogue. AFD also finances the renovation and construction of infrastructure (reservoirs, networks, pumping stations, solar grids) throughout the country, including in the most remote rural areas.



Encouraging inclusive territorial development

In rural areas, territorial development and sustainable agriculture create jobs and strengthen food security. To this end, AFD finances projects that promote employment and local agricultural production, conserve biodiversity and reduce disaster risks, while strengthening social cohesion. AFD is supporting Lebanon in its agro-ecological transition to ensure more sustainable management of natural resources.

In urban areas, priority is given to economic revitalization and social cohesion through a "double dividend" approach per neighborhood, combining the construction of infrastructure (access to services, shared public spaces) and the strengthening of social ties. Residents are at the heart of these initiatives, participating in governance and investment choices.

AFD also supports cooperation projects between French and Lebanese local authorities.



Supporting economic and financial reforms

The Group supports Lebanon in its economic and financial reforms, particularly in public procurement and budget transparency, to improve governance and the management of public resources. AFD has assisted the Ministry of Finance in budget preparation, the establishment of the Public Procurement Authority, and the training of relevant public administrations.

The Group has also supported the Port of Beirut in aligning with international port safety and security standards, and is assisting the Electricity Sector Regulatory Authority as part of structural reforms in the energy sector.

AFD and Expertise France also support independent civil society actors carrying out innovative initiatives that promote accountability and transparency in public institutions, including the media.

OUR KEY FIGURES

Since its establishment in Lebanon in 1999, AFD Group has financed over 125 projects with a total net commitment of 1.3billion euros. In response to successive crises, AFD group has mobilized grants, and since 2017, the Minka Fund has helped mitigate the effects of the Syrian crisis and address the needs of vulnerable people. More recently, the Group has stepped up its efforts to help Lebanon cope with the socio-economic crisis, COVID-19, the Beirut blast and the recent conflict with Israel.



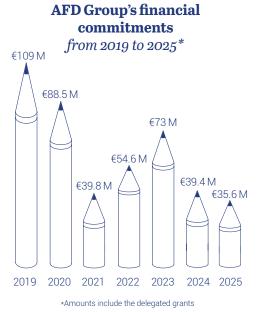
€75 M

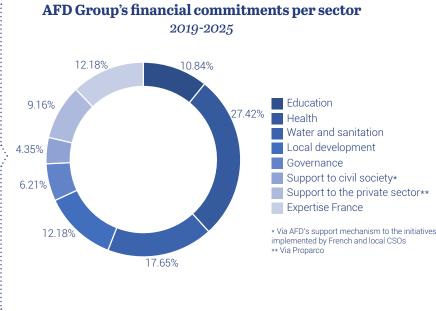
delegated to AFD and Proparco since 2019 by partners such as the European Union, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the King Salman Relief Center to maximize impacts.

€ 53.5 M*

delegated to Expertise France since 2019 by the European Union, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (France) and the Ministry's Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS).

*Excluding AFD financing





Lebanon is going through an economic, financial and banking crisis that that is putting pressure on the private sector. Since 2019,

Proparco has financed **6 projects** in Lebanon totalling

€40.34 M

in support of the Lebanese economy and energy efficiency.

Expertise France

Expertise France implements projects in Lebanon in 4 priority areas: democratic, economic and financial governance; social development; stability, international security and peace; and a sustainable and inclusive economy. It accompanies reforms and promotes good governance while strengthening the capacities of Lebanese civil society and supporting the private sector.

Since 2019, Expertise France has been implementing projects totaling €77.15M*, with significant impact:

- Over 16,000 people have benefited from protection services and psychosocial support.
- **Over 50** municipalities have received support to address the multisectoral needs of their communities.
- **Over 6,000** vulnerable children have received educational support.
- 100 officials from Lebanese control bodies have strengthened their skills to enhance transparency, accountability, and integrity in public action.

* AFD funding included

About AFD Group

AFD Group finances and drives the transition to a fairer, safer and more resilient world, working with its partners to support communities all over the world. Drawing on the complementary strengths of its entities – Agence Française de Développement for public financing, Proparco for responsible private investment, and Expertise France for technical expertise – the Group is ideally positioned to meet all sustainable development challenges.

Working in over 160 countries, including France's Overseas Territories and Departments, the Group adapts its operations to the realities on the ground, actively supporting local initiatives. With over 4,000 projects, whose objectives are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), AFD Group works on behalf of the French people, together with all stakeholders committed to economic development and the preservation of common goods: climate, biodiversity, peace, gender equality and global health. Working by your side, toward a world in common.



AFD Beirut Agency French Embassy in Lebanon Building K, Damascus road, Beirut





