



RÉPUBLIQUE
FRANÇAISE

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*



Pacific Ocean

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS TO FACE
CLIMATE CHANGE

© Nicolas Joby/HEDS Merline - AFD

#WorldInCommon

TAKING ACTION TOGETHER, AT EVERY LEVEL

Striving for excellence in the service of the most vulnerable is what guides our work. When it comes to the climate challenge, we know that, in addition to funding, it is a skilled and committed workforce that makes the difference.

In 2026, the pre-COP climate conference will be held on the Blue Continent, at the heart of Pacific perspectives.

In these islands, action is urgently needed. We must move faster: drawing on local ecosystems and knowledge - including that of French territories, developing low-carbon solutions, strengthening risk management and sustainably preserving forests and reefs.

Taking action at every level. But above all, taking action together. Because only responses built in partnership can deliver sustainable results. This document provides some tangible examples of this approach.

Agence Française de Développement is fully committed, with activities that are 100% compatible with the Paris Agreement.

In the Pacific, like elsewhere, our commitment is clear: to provide long-term support for resilient development pathways, serving the most vulnerable populations.

Safia Ibrahim, Pacific Regional Director

CLIMATE AT THE HEART OF BUILDING DESIGN

Faced with increasingly severe weather events and with the challenges of energy management, AFD works with its partners to integrate climate considerations right from the design of buildings. In the French Pacific territories, where the agency is the leading source of funding for local authority investments, we support projects that promote both energy efficiency and adaptation to climate change.

Several bioclimatic buildings have been financed (through technical assistance and loans), such as the fire and rescue centre in Boulouparis (New Caledonia) and schools in Moorea and Teva I Uta (French Polynesia). These buildings make use of natural ventilation, solar shading and planting in the surroundings to reduce energy consumption whilst improving user comfort.

In Wallis and Futuna, AFD has mobilised the Partnership for Energy Efficiency in Buildings to support the design of

the future headquarters of the Territorial Assembly, which is set to become a model building in terms of climate performance, for both emissions and resilience.

Last but not least, AFD is backing social housing providers to build bioclimatic homes and carry out renovations that support the energy transition, such as the installation of solar water heaters. In particular, it has supported the sustainable development programme of SIC, New Caledonia's largest social housing organisation and is funding the Fare OPH, a housing solution developed by the Office Polynésien de l'Habitat (OPH), in French Polynesia. This individual wooden home, designed for low-income households that own land suitable for building, is tailored to local needs. Produced locally, assembled in a matter of weeks and adapted to local climate conditions, the Fare OPH is attracting interest from residents of Tahiti, more remote islands (thanks to its kit form) and other Pacific countries.



Papetoua Bioclimatic School, Moorea © Mathias CLEMENT Photographie / AFD

CLIPSSA: SUPPORTING ADAPTATION BY COMBINING SCIENTIFIC DATA AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

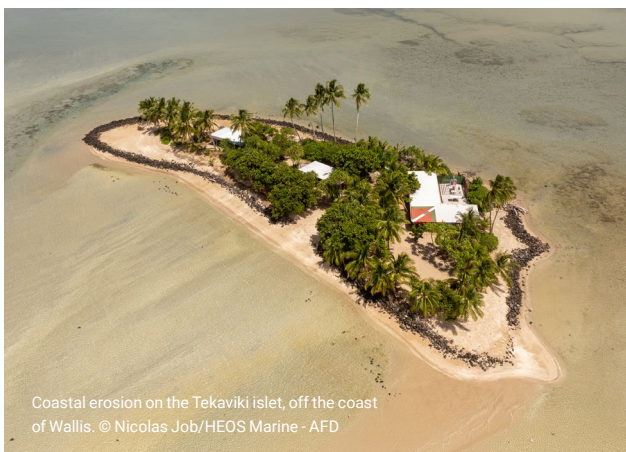
CLIPSSA is an action-research initiative carried out in partnership by Météo France, the French Research Institute for Development (IRD) and AFD, which aims to support the climate change adaptation capacities of four island countries and territories.

First, it involves producing new climate data by refining the resolution of climate models, moving from scales of 100 km to 20 km and down to 2.5 km, which is better suited to decision-making on small islands. The project then models the impacts of climate change. Meanwhile, field studies focus on community knowledge in sectors

that are priorities for local populations, such as agriculture and water management, so that this knowledge can be used in climate change adaptation.

Lastly, the project's results are used to guide adaptation policies, with technical assistance provided to local authorities.

In New Caledonia, AFD also funds other research, such as the Resocot project, which models current and future cyclonic storm surge risks on the Ouvéa atoll.



Solution
Grant



Amount
4.2 M€



Location
**New Caledonia, French Polynesia,
Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna**

IN THE TUAMOTU ISLANDS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS DESIGNED TO SAVE LIVES

In French Polynesia, the Tuamotu Archipelago is particularly vulnerable to cyclones, due to its very specific geography (low elevation, limited building land, isolation, and scattered settlements). A programme run by the French state and the Government of French Polynesia is enabling the building, rebuilding, renovation or extension of 17 public buildings that can serve as shelters to cope with this risk.

Elevated and designed to withstand extreme conditions, these survival shelters are essential for saving lives in the event of a cyclone or tsunami and are used on a daily

basis as schools, town halls or health clinics. As a result, they are maintained and kept in good working order so that they are operational in the event of a crisis. They also include equipment such as generators, water tanks and water purification systems to provide self-sufficiency for several days.

AFD is providing support to complement the efforts of the French State and the Government of French Polynesia, through long-term loans and/or pre-financing of grants, which help to provide the cash flow needed to ensure the smooth progress of the works.



Solution
Loan and pre-financing of grants



Amount
**6.6 M€ (pre-financing) et 380 000 € (loan)
over 4 operations**



Location
French Polynesia

SWAC: A LOW-CARBON SOLUTION FOR AIR CONDITIONING IN TAHITI

The Sea Water Air Conditioning (SWAC) system at the French Polynesia Hospital is an innovative air-conditioning system that uses seawater drawn from a depth of 900 metres, at a temperature of 5°C, to cool the hospital.

It is the largest and most powerful SWAC system in the world (6 MW of cooling capacity). Fully aligned with French Polynesia's energy transition and supported as an innovative project, this system saves up to 11 GWh of electricity each year, equivalent to 2% of the electricity

demand for the entire island of Tahiti. Commissioned in 2022, the facility now provides 100% of the hospital's air conditioning, helping to reduce its carbon footprint and promote more sustainable management of natural resources.

AFD supports many other projects related to Polynesia's energy transition, such as the hybridisation of thermal power stations with solar energy (Huahine, Tahuata, Maiao, etc.) and the funding of energy efficiency studies.



Solution
Loan



Amount
7.5 M€



Location
French Polynesia

STORING SOLAR ENERGY TO REDUCE EMISSIONS

New Caledonia is one of the biggest per capita emitters of carbon. To reduce its emissions and its dependency on imported fossil fuels, New Caledonia needs to control its energy consumption and massively integrate renewable energy into its grid.

The Boulouparis Large Battery project is the largest electricity storage project in any French territory. It is scheduled to come into service in 2027. By storing electricity during the day and feeding it back into the grid during the evening peak demand, the battery will

make the most of the electricity generated by solar power stations. The rapid energy storage and discharge system, using a 50 MW lithium-ion battery, will prevent the emission of 50,000 tonnes of carbon every year.

In New Caledonia, the government is pursuing an energy transition policy, and AFD is supporting this initiative in various ways (technical assistance, loans, grants) and with a range of partners (public and private entities, the government, local authorities and non-profit organisations).



Solution
Loan



Amount
15 M€ over a total of 45.8 M€



Location
New Caledonia

ADAPTATION THROUGH NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

The Kiwa Initiative is a multi-donor fund launched in 2020 and managed by AFD, which supports adaptation to climate change in Pacific Island states and territories. With 80 M€ in funding from France, the European Union, Canada, New Zealand and Australia, it currently supports over 40 projects across 17 countries and territories, benefiting more than 130,000 people. Its core focus is on Nature-based Solutions: restoring forests and mangroves, protecting coral reefs, sustainably managing catchment areas and water resources, developing agroforestry or organic farming, and combating invasive species. These actions pursue a dual, inseparable objective: to strengthen biodiversity – particularly crucial in what is a global biodiversity hotspot – and to tangibly improve the living conditions and well-being of local communities in the face of the existential threat of climate change. Beyond its areas of focus, Kiwa stands out for its spirit of inclusion, experimentation and cooperation.



The Kiwa WISH+ project supports integrated watershed management at key sites **in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea**. A catchment area is the entire area from which rainwater flows into a single river and then into the sea. Thus, activities carried out upstream directly influence the quality of the water and ecosystems downstream. Erosion, deforestation and pollution degrade watercourses, weaken coral reefs and increase water-related risks to human health. The project aims to restore and protect these areas (through reforestation and protected areas), develop small-scale sanitation solutions in villages, whilst establishing funding mechanisms to ensure these initiatives and their benefits are sustainable.

 Amount 5.4 M€



In Manus, in Papua New Guinea, where WISH+ is implemented. © Alice Latinne - WCS



For a long time, the management of coastal fisheries in the Pacific focused on increasing production and modernising techniques. Recently, this has shifted towards a more sustainable and participatory approach: the Kiwa MiCOAST project helps communities **in Micronesia (Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau and Federated States of Micronesia)** to better manage coastal fisheries in order to protect marine resources and adapt to climate change. It supports fishers and local authorities by proposing sustainable methods and management plans tailored to the needs of each area.

The expected outcomes are improved food security, the preservation of coastal ecosystems, greater resilience to climate change and more stable incomes for fishing communities.

 Amount 4.9 M€



Developing aquaculture is part of the solutions explored by MiCOAST. © Maylane Silbanuz – Kiwa Initiative



The Kiwa POLFN or 'Pacific Organic Learning Farms' project aims to improve access to organic farming methods and technologies in order to promote food security, climate change adaptation and the preservation of biodiversity.

It is being implemented by the Pacific Community (CPS) to meet the needs of small-scale farmers in **Fiji, Nauru, Tonga and the Solomon Islands**. A network of seven organic farms, which have become learning centres, is helping to develop these more sustainable forms of agriculture by drawing on the exchange of experience, an aspect central to the Kiwa initiative.

 Amount 4.6 M€



Sharing best practices at a learning farm in Momi, Fiji. © Nicolas Job/HEOS Marine – AFD

A GREENER, MORE RESILIENT PORT IN RABAU

The Port of Rabaul is the main commercial hub for the province of East New Britain and the region's only international port. Its two docks enable it to handle around 400,000 tonnes of cargo each year. However, the infrastructure is in poor condition, threatening the continuity of operations, and is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and natural disasters.

The project aims to «green» the port of Rabaul by strengthening its resilience to climate change and

natural disasters, reducing local pollution that affects natural resources and biodiversity, and cutting carbon emissions. This will enable the port to continue facilitating the transport and exchange of people and goods, despite the risks posed by cyclones and rising sea levels, whilst supporting regional and national trade.

In French Polynesia, AFD is also supporting the ambitious «greening» project for the port of Papeete.



Solution

Very concessional loan and EU grant



Amount

40.6 M€ (AFD and EU) + 24 M€ (BEI) + 18 M€ (PNG Government)



Location

Papua New Guinea

3 OCEANS: BUILDING RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS AND HEALTH CRISES

Small islands face immense challenges from natural hazards, health crises and the effects of climate change; regional cooperation and building the resilience of these countries and territories are therefore essential. Funded by AFD and implemented by the French Red Cross, the 3 Oceans project aims to strengthen emergency preparedness and response capacities across three oceanic basins.

In the Pacific, the new phase of this project builds on the relaunch of the Preparedness and Response Platform for

the Pacific (PIROPS). Based in Nouméa and founded on a partnership with national Red Cross societies, it enables a response to emergencies, strengthens preparedness and supports rehabilitation, for example by training trainers in first aid or psychological first aid, or by pre-positioning emergency kits on remote islands.

Particular emphasis is placed on environmental issues and gender equality in disaster risk management.



Solution

Grant



Amount

12 M€, of which 2.7 M€ for the Pacific



Location

Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Pacific regions

GPFS: A MORE ROBUST FINANCIAL SECTOR TO BETTER PREPARE THE FUTURE

In the Pacific, the resilience of communities also depends on the ability of financial systems to anticipate and manage climate risks.

Drawing on its recognised expertise in Green and Inclusive Finance, AFD supports central banks and public development banks in integrating climate considerations into their analytical frameworks, financial tools and investment strategies. Through the Greening the Pacific Financial Systems (GPFS) programme and support for ADFIP – the network of Pacific public development banks – financial institutions cooperate, share best practices and develop solutions tailored to island realities.

In practical terms, when financial systems incorporate climate risks, banks can continue to lend after a cyclone or natural disaster. Small businesses have easier access to finance for reconstruction. Local farmers and entrepreneurs can invest in more resilient activities. And vulnerable groups (women, young people, rural communities) have access to tailored financing solutions.



Solution
Grant



Amount
9.5 M€



Location
19 Pacific Island states and territories

EU-FCCB: INVESTING IN THE GREEN GROWTH OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Forests - Climate Change - Biodiversity programme (EU-FCCB) is the European Union's flagship environmental initiative in the Pacific. Expertise France implements the national component of the programme, strengthening central institutions and extending its reach to the grassroots level, to help preserve Papua New Guinea's exceptional forest heritage. Indeed, 78% of the country is covered by forests, making it one of the world's most vital reserves of biodiversity and carbon, also essential to the country's culture.

Expertise France focuses on three priorities: improving public management of forests, climate and biodiversity; supporting education, research and awareness-raising

on these issues; and protecting the environment whilst encouraging sustainable economic activities.

EU-FCCB has already helped national public agencies responsible for forests and environmental protection to digitise their operations. Through a programme of masters and research scholarships, young Papua New Guineans receive training on environmental issues. Community-level initiatives help to develop economic activities and opportunities that are not harmful to nature. The expected outcome is a better-organised country, capable of achieving the ambitious goals it has set itself to protect the environment and attract green investment.



Solution
Technical cooperation



Amount
33.5 M€ (of a total 55.2 M€ for all EU-FCCB, European Union grant)



Location
Papua New Guinea

World in Common

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 GROUP

PACIFIC OCEAN REGIONAL OFFICE

1 rue de Barleux
BP J1 - 98849 Nouméa Cedex
New Caledonia

Phone : (+687) 24.26.00
afdnoumea@afd.fr

 Agence Française de Développement AFD in the Pacific

HEADQUARTERS

5, rue Roland Barthes – 75012 Paris – France
Phone : (+33) 1.53.44.31.31  afd.fr