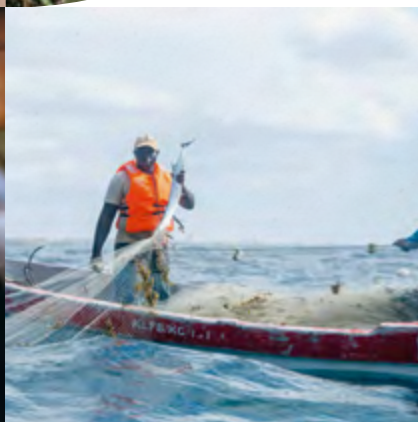




# RESULTS & OUTLOOK

2023-2024



KNOW-HOW  
IN COMMON



**Expertise France** is France's public agency and interministerial actor in charge of international technical cooperation, the second largest in Europe. As a subsidiary of Agence Française de Développement Group (AFD Group), it designs and implements projects that sustainably strengthen public policies in developing and emerging countries. Expertise France works in key areas of development: governance, security, climate change, health, education, and more. Alongside its partners, it contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For a world in common.



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## FOREWORDS

# “Continuing our efforts for even greater responsiveness”

By **STÉPHANE SÉJOURNÉ**, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs

**T**he Presidential Development Council (CPD), which met on May 5, 2023, confirmed that international solidarity is a priority for France. This Council also approved a methodological change, enabling us to be more agile in response to the increasing number of challenges we face. The Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (CICID) met on July 18, 2023, and defined the broad strategic direction of this response. Divided into ten priorities in the form of practical and measurable policy objectives, it will provide a framework for our actions and those of our operators.

The involvement of Expertise France, as the driving force behind our international technical cooperation work, will be essential if we are to achieve these objectives. In the future, Expertise France will mobilize even more people to represent France, contributing to our international influence by supporting the implementation of public policies and building the capacity of our partners around the world.

By continuing to expand Expertise France, we will be able to develop innovative and practical solutions tailored to the real diplomacy work that we carry out on all continents. In 2023, many projects launched by Expertise France had already provided rapid, efficient, and customized solutions, particularly:

- ▶ in situations of war and crisis, such as the establishment of a mechanism for reconstruction work in Ukraine;
- ▶ relating to the protection of global public goods, including in new areas of intervention such as Papua New Guinea;
- ▶ through the implementation of the transformational agenda with Africa, notably through Team Europe initiatives and projects that support entrepreneurship, young people, and the cultural and creative industries.

This year, we will need to continue this work to become even more responsive, efficient, and joined up within Team France, while increasing the visibility of the work we carry out on the ground. To this end, the gradual consolidation of the Expertise France network abroad will enable us to clarify our actions and forge even closer links in the countries in which our experts are based.

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to all Expertise France employees as well as to our experts working in the field. It is through their day-to-day work and the concrete solutions they help to develop that we are able to support the priorities of our partner countries, conduct our work on solidarity and sustainable investment, and showcase French expertise around the world. ■



# “A leading operator for the European Union



By **BRUNO LE MAIRE**, French Minister of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty

**A**s we confront the greatest technological, economic, and climate challenges the world has ever faced, the French government, under the leadership of President Emmanuel Macron, has committed to reducing the gap between North and South.

For the past seven years, we have been actively working to strengthen France's international development and solidarity policy. We have made it more effective, to better serve our partners, informed by our desire to promote our knowledge, know-how, and expertise.

2023 was a particularly decisive year in this regard, with several important meetings: the President's Council for Development (CPD), the Interministerial Committee on International Cooperation and Development (CICID), and the Summit on a New Global Financing Pact held in France, which led to the Paris Pact for People and the Planet. These events offer new momentum and a clear direction for the coming years, which will apply to all development policy stakeholders, particularly AFD Group and Expertise France.

The CICID identified the main priorities of France's development policy: reducing inequality, fighting climate change, and protecting global public goods. It also called for significant changes to our ways of working: gone is the list of priority countries, replaced by a more agile geographic distribution; greater balance between efficacy and impact (the development approach) with the promotion of our values and strengths to better serve our partners (the influence approach); and the need to bolster private

sector involvement to help meet wide-ranging needs in developing countries.

In all these fields, Expertise France must play a significant role within AFD Group. The CICID's conclusions clearly call for Expertise France to play a stronger role, particularly through the deployment of international technical experts. We must also develop solutions that combine financing with expertise and increased European funding to support our bilateral priorities. Expertise France is already a leading operator for the European Union.

I know I can count on all the staff of Expertise France, in the field and at headquarters, to advance the government's ambitions. I'm counting on you to further deploy our expertise, particularly in areas that are important to the Ministry of the Economy, Finance, and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty. This includes helping to mobilize domestic resources, supporting entrepreneurship, and contributing French expertise to our partners' sectoral policies.

Finally, given the need to control public spending across the entire public sector, I will remain particularly attentive to consolidating the economic model of Expertise France, the search for synergies within AFD Group, and the efficiency of your actions. ■

# “Continuing to **adapt** to our partners’ needs



With **JÉRÉMIE PELLET**, CEO of Expertise France and **RÉMY RIOUX**, AFD Group CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Expertise France

## What can we expect from the new Strategic Guidelines, which will be the first in AFD Group format?

**R. R.** The next Strategic Guidelines will take us through to 2029 – right before the deadline for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. They will complete our consolidation efforts which began with the integration of Expertise France in 2022 and will harness our collective potential to benefit our clients, in collaboration with all our partners in France, Europe, and around the world. By capitalizing on the diversity of the work carried out by our three entities and the full range of tools at our disposal, the AFD Group 2024-2029 Strategic Guidelines will equip us with a unique strategy and clarify our role in representing France: a group that is “by your side,” “100% focused on the SDGs,” with a “mobilization platform.” These three commitments present challenges we will need to overcome. We will do this by pooling all our means, resources, and know-how, particularly through the movement of staff between AFD and Expertise France, something which is happening more frequently. And we will be even more attentive and respectful of our clients and partners to even more effectively meet their needs and further strengthen our ties.

These new Strategic Guidelines and the two resulting agreements on targets and resources are a continuation

of the Group's aims, in keeping with the guidelines laid out by the French law of August 4, 2021, the CPD, the CICID, the CIOM, and the Paris Pact for People and the Planet. They are fully aligned with the multilateral framework set by the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Climate Agreement, the Addis Ababa Peace Security, and Cooperation Framework, the Sendai Framework, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which have guided our actions since 2015. Between now and 2025, when the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in Spain and the COP 30 Climate Summit will be held in Brazil, our Group is ready to support sustainable development solutions that are emerging and spreading across the globe. This will be made possible by the commitment of all our employees and support from the Public Development Banks that are part of the Finance in Common network.

## Expertise France will celebrate its tenth anniversary at the end of the year. How do you assess this first decade?

**J. P.** Our record is extremely positive. As a result of its dual role as both an interministerial agency for technical cooperation and an AFD Group operator, Expertise France uses a partnership approach to efficiently and consistently meet France's priorities for inclusive and sustainable development. Following



our expansion, in 2020 we became the second-largest technical cooperation organization in Europe, reflecting France's efforts to foster inclusive development, within which technical cooperation plays a key role.

At the European level, our integration into AFD Group has bolstered our dialogue with our counterparts and EU institutions. In 2023, for the second time, Expertise France held the presidency of the Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation. I made it my mission to better organize and strengthen this network, using a Team Europe approach.

Thanks to the growth in our business and the doubling of our volume of business in the past five years (close to €400 million in 2023), Expertise France has bolstered our position on the international stage in all sectors, from health and biodiversity to economic development, culture, and heritage, as well as in new areas such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and space. To support and sustainably structure this growth, we are strengthening our network on the ground. In 2023, we decided to decentralize our work even further. This is reflected in stronger networks with AFD in the field.

### How is AFD Group strengthening its action on the ground?

**R. R.** With a network of around 4,500 employees working in more than 150 countries and 11 French overseas departments and territories, our Group is engaging in a dialogue around local public policies with all our partners and clients. Our aim is to meet the development strategies of France's overseas provinces and the countries in which we operate. Staff in each entity coordinate their efforts to ensure that our work fosters connections between the public and private sectors and takes the institutional contexts into account. I can't overstate the importance of our shared network. Since 2023, our geographic coverage has grown, with five regional AFD-Expertise France-Proparco teams that are working to provide Group solutions on the ground in the Andes, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Eurasia, and North Africa regions. This process is far from complete, but we are improving our operational synergies and are moving towards increased decentralization of our resources and decisions to grow ever closer to our final beneficiaries, while managing our risks. Our goal

is to capitalize on our shared identity and the Group's unique added value. We are working towards this in the Group Executive Committee, which now meets regularly with Françoise Lombard, Jérémie Pellet, Marie-Hélène Loison, and Bertrand Walckenaer and listens to all our colleagues. We are committed to responding in a flexible and agile way to meet the needs of the most vulnerable populations and have a greater positive impact on global public goods.

### The year 2023 was marked by numerous crises in Expertise France program areas. How have you adapted to these international events?

**J. P.** Of course, the work of Expertise France has been affected. But working in crisis zones is a core part of what we do. Our action in countries in crisis contributes to our aim of establishing, strengthening, or rebuilding strong public institutions (see pages 22-23) and supporting private sector development (see pages 26-27). We also want to ensure that people receive essential public services (see pages 18-21). Working in sensitive contexts is part of our *raison d'être*, as is adapting our support to the specific needs of our partners: our projects are customized.

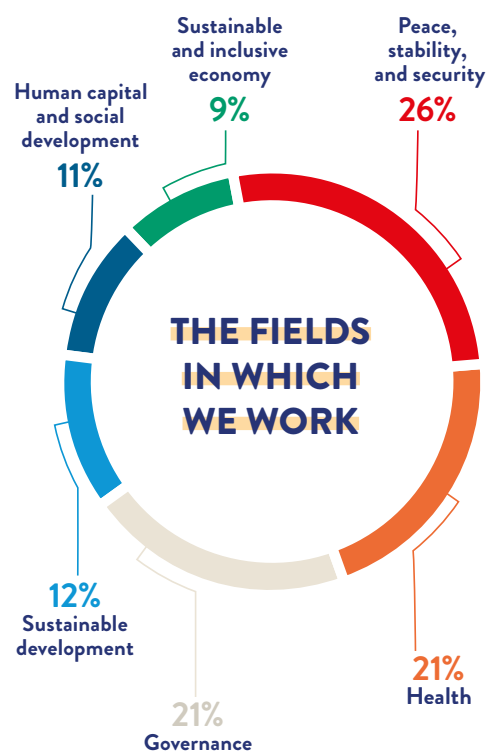
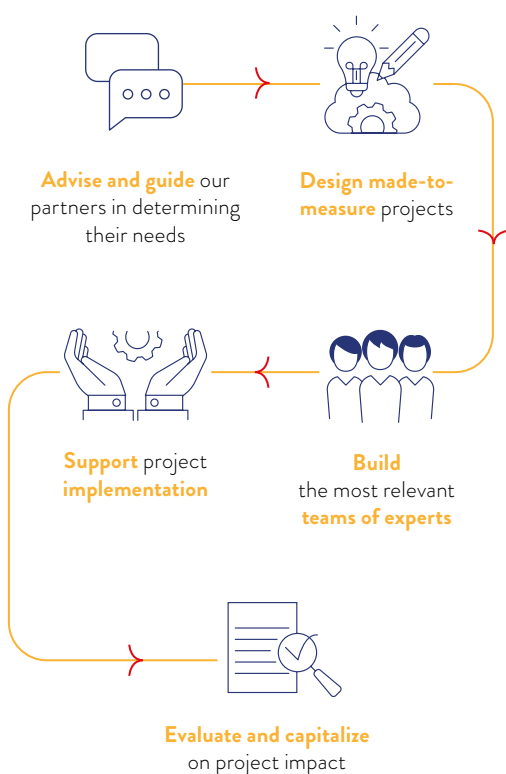
To do so, we use a broad range of tools including project teams in the French ministries and alongside our partners, the provision of technical support, and our network of international technical experts (see pages 14-15). These tools are one of our key assets and allow us to remain agile and effective in all situations.

Our ongoing decentralization process and our transformation are both intended to better meet our partners' needs. We need to keep rethinking the way we operate. Expertise France and the entire AFD Group are at a pivotal moment that requires us to adapt to better meet our partners' needs and tackle the challenges of a perpetually changing world. ■

# Expertise France in brief

As a subsidiary of AFD Group, Expertise France works to strengthen the public policies of our partner countries over the long term. We guide central government ministries and agencies, regional organizations, local authorities, and civil society organizations. Our mission is to contribute towards achieving the SDGs.

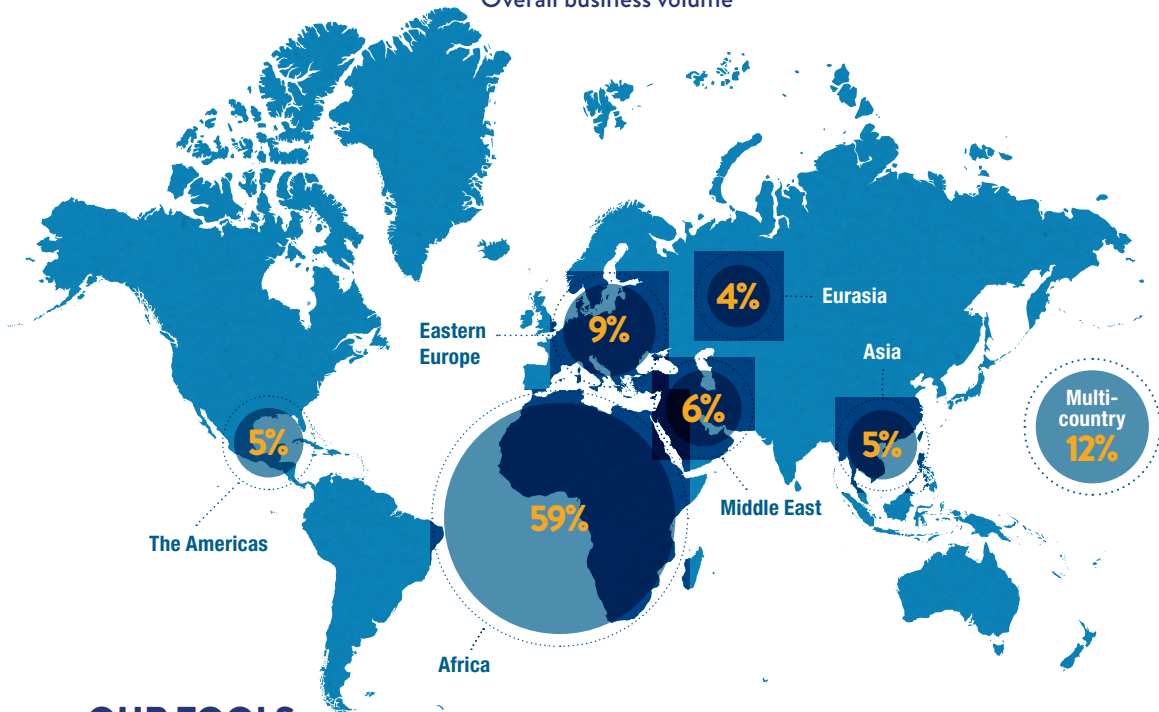
## WHAT WE DO





## NEARLY 60% OF OUR BUSINESS IS IN AFRICA

Overall business volume



## OUR TOOLS



### Methodology and technical advice:

preliminary studies, recommendations, action plans, etc.



### Capacity building:

training, coaching, change management, etc.



### Networking:

peer exchanges, study visits, consultation workshops, etc.

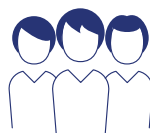


**Supplying goods, services, and works:** drafting of specifications, procurement, coordination of activities, etc.

## Financing from various sources



## Our teams



**765**  
employees at  
headquarters

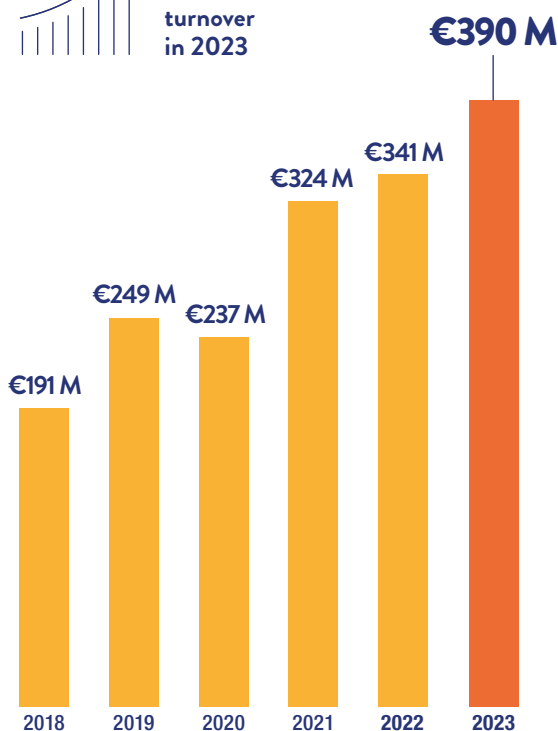
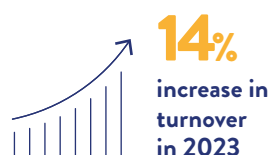


**1,400**  
staff  
in the field

# Our results for 2023

Two years after becoming part of AFD Group, Expertise France has continued to bolster its commitment to promoting the SDGs. In 2023, our business increased by 14% and had a greater impact in partner countries.

## Clear and continued growth



**350+**

**current projects**  
(174 new projects or €558 M signed in 2023, up 72% on 2022)



**320**

**individual experts deployed**  
by March 31, 2024, including 263 international technical experts, 20 seconded national experts and 37 other experts (AFD, local authorities, etc.)



**37**

**projects to promote global health and fight pandemics**  
financed through L'Initiative



**147**

**countries and 27 territories**  
around the world



## OUR IMPACT

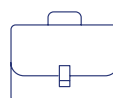
### HEALTH



**571,808**

beneficiaries of health  
services supported

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP



**2,089**

businesses  
supported

### DEMOCRATIC, ECONOMIC, AND FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE



**21,151**

staff in organizations participated  
in capacity building

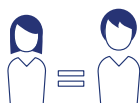
### EDUCATION



**270**

organizations supported in providing  
basic educational services

### GENDER EQUALITY



**46,684**

people trained in,  
or made aware of,  
gender equality

### CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY



**603**

organizations participated in  
capacity building  
around sustainable development issues

### SECURITY AND STABILITY



**54,428**

beneficiaries of actions  
to ensure the security or stability of a territory  
and/or manage crises

### BUSINESS CLIMATE



**84**

national public institutions  
participated in capacity building  
around their business climate

# Working closely with our partners

**Expertise France has developed a vast international network. To meet growing needs, we are continuing to strengthen this network and decentralize our activities to work even more effectively with our partners.**

## Bolstering our actions through decentralization

**H**ow can Expertise France best address the growth of our activities around the world? As part of our transformation plan, we chose to accelerate the decentralization of our operations by establishing a geographic department in 2023, based in our Paris headquarters. Isabelle Valot, its new director, says, *"The Geo department was created in response to the growth in Expertise France's activities and our volume of business. By decentralizing the management of our operations, we have improved our efficacy and agility."*

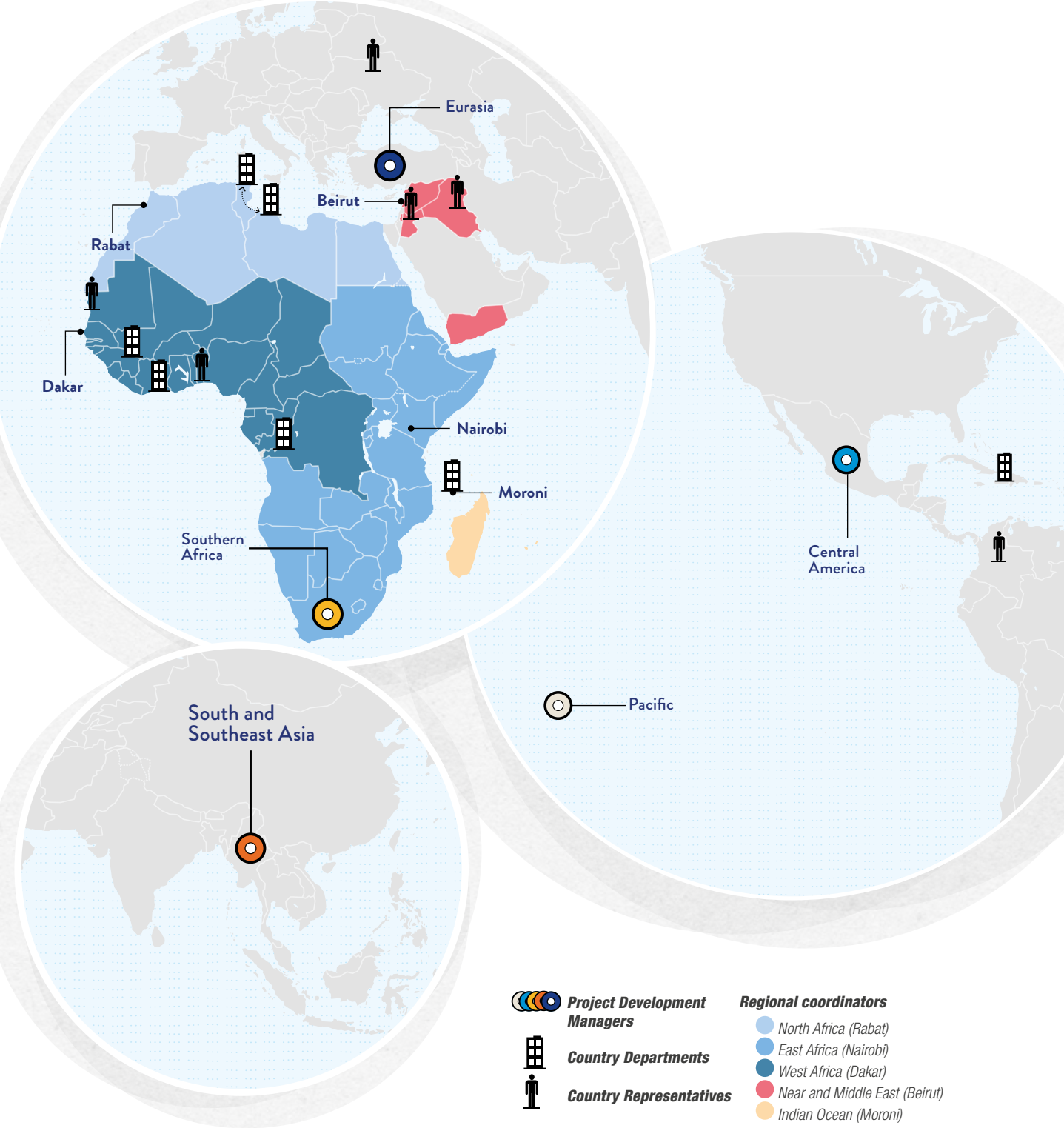
### **Management closer to the field**

We created six country departments in our main areas of operation to improve project management and reflect the realities of our partners on the ground. In 2023, Expertise France launched country

departments in the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Tunisia (which also covers Libya), then in Haiti and the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2024. We also have five regional coordinators who facilitate our presence in their area of intervention, monitor projects, and supervise the cross-cutting positions brought together in the project support units (PSUs) created outside country departments: East Africa, West Africa, North Africa, the Near and Middle East, and the Indian Ocean.

There are also five Project Development Managers focusing on expanding project portfolios and working within AFD's regional offices (Southern Africa, Central America, South and Southeast Asia, Eurasia, the Pacific). They have a dual mission –to relay information about opportunities in the field and to help implement the AFD Group strategy through actions in their respective areas of intervention.





## Greater regional coverage integrated into the AFD network

Expertise France has extended our activity to new regions, in line with France's development assistance priorities. Our new geographic organization helps strengthen the AFD Group network. The three entities

—AFD, Expertise France, and Proparco— now have more than 2,000 employees in more than 150 countries, 27 territories, and France's 11 overseas departments and territories. The density of this coverage, which is supported by the French diplomatic network, differentiates AFD Group from its counterparts around the world. ■

# Resolutely European

As a resolutely European agency, Expertise France works closely with its European counterparts and institutions. As such, we actively participate in coordination networks and Team Europe initiatives.

## Harnessing the power of European cooperation



With **JUTTA URPILAINEN**,  
European Commissioner for  
International Partnerships

### What role do Member States' development cooperation agencies play in implementing the Global Gateway strategy?

These agencies, including Expertise France, play an increasingly important role in implementing transformation projects on a global scale. These initiatives fall within the European Global Gateway strategy, which has a budget of 300 billion euros.

The Global Gateway is a joint initiative to help partner countries boost their connectivity in the transport, digital, and energy sectors, as

well as in relation to value chains. Our global investments provide both "material" infrastructures and "immaterial" services, while promoting the economic environment in partner countries. We also ensure the transfer of technologies and support skills, education, and healthcare.

Our impact can be truly transformative when we unite our efforts and pool our resources and our expertise. By implementing the Global Gateway as part of a Team Europe approach, we bring together the institutions and Member States of the European Union, public development banks, development financing institutions and implementing bodies, the European Investment Bank, the private sector, and civil society.

### How can the Practitioners' Network increase the impact of European Union international cooperation policies?

This coalition of European development cooperation agencies advances our shared objectives by improving coordination between members and the European development financing institutions, and by building on the exchanges they have with one another, particularly when it comes to working with the private sector.

In the future, it will be important to engage more deeply with the private sector on subjects such as sustainable value chains, vocational training, corporate social responsibility, and the trade environment to build up a pool of sustainable investment projects. ■





On May 14 and 15, 2024, in Marseille, at the Practitioners' Network General Assembly, Expertise France was once again chosen as President of the network, alongside the Austrian Development Agency (ADA). The Belgian (Enabel) and Swedish (SIDA) development agencies will serve as Co-Presidents starting in May 2025.

## Expertise France presides over the Practitioners' Network

**E**xpertise France has served as President of the Practitioners' Network since May 2023 and will be joined in May 2024 by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) for a co-presidency lasting until May 2025. During the network's General Assembly in May 2023, the CEO of Expertise France, Jérémie Pellet, stated that the network should make European development action more effective and mobilize the expertise of its members. He laid out our aims: to better position the network and technical cooperation within European assistance, to improve its visibility and the recognition of cooperation in the European and international ecosystem, to make the network more inclusive, and to guarantee its sustainability.

### Expertise France within the network

Within the Practitioners' Network, we have strengthened our relationships with our European counterparts in working groups that we co-facilitate (fragility, digitalization, contractual and financial frameworks).

During our presidency, we encouraged the Team Europe approach and joint initiatives within the network and between its members and their European partners through the European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI) and the Joint European Financiers for International Cooperation (JEFIC). ■



# International technical experts

The deployment of French experts in other countries is at the core of the new strategy to promote French technical cooperation, which was approved during the most recent meeting of the President's Council for Development.



## Structuring the French network of International Technical Experts

**L**aunched in September 2023, the Portal for the Mobilization of International Expertise developed by Expertise France presents the main cooperation sectors that France supports and promotes mobilization tools. This platform assists experts on international missions and encourages their interactions within Team France, particularly through a directory of International Technical Experts (ITEs) working in the field. It highlights professional opportunities and guides potential candidates through their expatriation process via topical information sheets, expert testimonials, and discussions between peers.

### **Doubling the number of French ITEs deployed**

The President's Council for Development meeting on May 5, 2023, led to the formulation of a new

ambition for France's expertise: to place research, innovation, evaluation, and accountability at the core of France's development assistance policy, with the goal of 500 ITEs by the end of 2027. *"The president of France has set a goal of doubling the number of French technical experts working abroad. These experts are central to the new international partnerships we want to develop,"* said Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, Minister of State for Development and International Partnerships.

### **A network covering all sectors, present in more than 110 countries**

Expertise France is responsible for recruiting, supervising, and coordinating these ITEs, at the request of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Economy, Finance, and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty. Working in more





↑ *The second edition of the International Technical Experts Days was held on August 31 and September 1, 2023. It offered participants an opportunity to discuss ways to improve the cohesion and effectiveness of France's actions in other countries.*

than 110 countries, ITEs are renowned experts in their fields who are recruited for high-level assignments. Their specific position — working directly with host organizations — and their close relationship with partners are of significant importance to France's foreign policy. Their work is closely related to the diplomatic network and thereby receives support from the relevant embassy departments. In 2023, the Expertise France network of ITEs expanded to include new positions on topics such as culture, heritage, and sports. ■



**320**

**individual experts deployed by March 31, 2024, including 263 international technical experts, 20 seconded national experts and 37 other experts (AFD, local authorities, etc.)**



**Discover the portal for the mobilization of international expertise (in French)**  
[mobilisation-expertise.fr/](https://mobilisation-expertise.fr/)

## TESTIMONIAL

# “The Youth Olympic Games are a real driver of development

**François Bockel**, International Technical Expert, Advisor to the General Coordinator of the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games Organizing Committee



France is one of Senegal's main partners in organizing the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG). My mission is to coordinate and reinforce France's work alongside our Senegalese partners. This partnership involves Paris 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for Sport and the Olympic and Paralympic Games, AFD, the French National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSF), the National Institute of Sport, Expertise, and Performance (INSEP), several sports federations, and local authorities in Île-de-France.

I also support those involved in the French sports industry, through a partnership-based approach to foster the development of a sports industry in Senegal. The Dakar 2026 YOG are a lever for economic development through the construction of infrastructure and the economic opportunities provided to local businesses. These Games will catalyze public policies not only relating to sport, but also relating to transport, health, youth, and more.

These Games are also a lever for human development, as many people will receive training in all sectors. Lastly, the Dakar 2026 YOG will also improve inclusion and equality through education and health through sport, and will address gender equality and disability, all of which are central to the Senegalese Olympic project. ■

# Promoting the SDG

**Building on 10 years of experience, Expertise France is pursuing its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals. Here is a look back at several key moments in 2023-2024.**

## 10 YEARS **WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP**

Created by framework legislation on the French Development and International Solidarity Policy of July 7, 2014, Expertise France is celebrating its tenth anniversary in 2024. We are now recognized as a leading international agency, particularly for our work in Africa, and are fully trusted by donors. Our integration into AFD Group in 2022 served to further reinforce the Group's work by providing both financial and technical solutions.

## PROMOTING **PEACE AND STABILITY**

Phase 2 of the European EL PACCTO program, which supports the fight against organized crime led by European, Latin American, and Caribbean countries, was launched in Panama in March 2024. Expertise France has also launched new disaster risk reduction projects, including in the Philippines.

## RESOLUTELY **EUROPEAN**

In May 2023, we took on the presidency of the Practitioners' Network for one year.

This term was renewed in May 2024 for another year, as a co-presidency with the Austrian Development Agency (ADA). We are continuing to support European neighborhood countries to help them converge towards EU standards. Expertise France also continues to support projects funded by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs to rebuild Ukraine.



## TAKING ACTION FOR **THE CLIMATE** **AND BIODIVERSITY**

We continue to work on these themes by expanding our activity in new regions. In July 2023, as part of the Global Gateway Strategy, the CEO of Expertise France and the EU Ambassador signed a contribution agreement in Papua New Guinea for the national component of the Forests, Climate Change, and Biodiversity (EU-FCCB) support program. The French president also announced that France will help implement a Forests, Nature, and Climate country package for Papua New Guinea, coordinated by Expertise France.

## BRINGING THE **DEVELOPMENT** **ASSISTANCE** COMMUNITY TOGETHER

In August 2023, Expertise France organized the second edition of the International Technical Experts Days, which was the opportunity to present the Portal for the Mobilization of International Expertise. In 2023, four “Rendez-vous de l'Expertise” meetings brought together technical cooperation experts and partners to discuss major issues such as justice in wartime, crises and food security, sustainable cities, and taxation.



[rdvexpertise.fr/en/](https://rdvexpertise.fr/en/)

## **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE** TO PROMOTE A SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE FUTURE

In March 2024, Expertise France brought together political leaders, researchers, and entrepreneurs from all over the world for a conference titled “Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Futures.” It was coordinated by Expertise France with AFD and the European Union's Digital for Development strategic platform.

## ACCELERATING PROGRESS ON **GENDER EQUALITY**

Since 2020, Expertise France has redoubled its efforts to place gender at the center of its work. Gender is now included in all our actions and in each stage of the project life cycle. In 2023, DAC 1 and DAC 2 projects represented 68% of all contracts signed. Of all DAC 2 projects, 80% were financed by AFD and 57% were implemented in Africa.



# Supporting human development

**Given that human development is critical to prosperity, it is a key component of France's cooperation policy. Expertise France promotes this, particularly by supporting education, employment, and health systems.**



## Education, a key priority

**E**xpertise France is working in 40 countries to support inclusive and equitable high-quality education, which is necessary for personal emancipation and labor market integration.

### Better teacher training

According to UNESCO, there is a global shortfall of 44 million teachers. As a result, the European Commission has placed teacher training at the center of its international cooperation for 2021-2027. It is also one of the ten goals of the French inclusive and sustainable investment strategy, adopted during the President's Council for Development in May 2023.

To improve teacher training, Expertise France and our Belgian and Finnish counterparts are implementing the Regional Teacher's Initiative for Africa, led by the

European Commissioner for International Partnerships and financed by the European Commission. The goal is to harness African and European expertise to provide the technical support requested by African partners and assist their efforts to improve teaching conditions, including in countries and regions in crisis and emergency situations.

We are also offering educational support in Haiti (the Avni Nou "Our Future" project) and Sudan (the EQUIP project) beyond the existing context in these countries by working with civil society organizations and international NGOs. In Burundi, Expertise France is working with UNICEF on the Twige Twese ("Let Us All Learn") project, which aims to strengthen and promote primary teachers, improve the quality of teaching, and make the education system more inclusive, particularly for girls and children with disabilities.



**40,724**  
beneficiaries  
of professional and technical  
training





←  
EQUIP 2, the European program to support the education sector in Sudan, is resuming its activities by adapting to immediate needs in response to the country's humanitarian crisis.

## Digital education and digital literacy

In schools, digital technology is both a teaching tool and a set of specific skills to be acquired. Expertise France supports both aspects of digital education through several projects, particularly by training tea-

chers on the use of digital teaching tools. This is the case in El Salvador, through the LAMARR program, financed by the European Union. This project offers digital training and job opportunities for disadvantaged young people. Since its launch in early 2023, this project has already trained 150 beneficiaries in the use of computer tools. ■

# Protecting individuals throughout their lives

**E**xpertise France helps many partner countries to develop social protection systems, and build public sector capacity, working as closely as possible with communities.

We are focusing on several main aspects of social protection, including health care financing, families, decent work, old age, and integrating vulnerable populations. In Latin America, for example, Expertise France is implementing programs to reduce loss of autonomy among the elderly and provide support to their caregivers. We are also helping countries that

are working to provide universal health coverage, such as Morocco, Egypt, and Tunisia, as part of significant efforts to provide everyone with health insurance. Expertise France is offering support in Belgium and Slovenia to better meet structural needs around health reform financing.

By expanding social protection to the greatest number of people, these projects aim to help individuals confront financial or health problems without falling into poverty. In this way, Expertise France is helping reduce inequality, including by encouraging the integration of disability and gender inequality. ■

# Taking action for global health

**In line with the 2023-2027 French global health strategy, Expertise France is taking action to help strengthen health systems, develop public health policies, and fight pandemics.**

## Strengthening human resources for health

**A**s the cornerstone of any health care system, health human resources (HHR) ensure access to, and the availability, continuity, and quality of, health care. In many countries, a shortage of HHR presents a real and immediate threat to health security, and to the stability of health systems. It also often reinforces inequalities between urban and rural areas and public and private sectors. It is the direct consequence of insufficient investment, particularly in the initial training of health professionals. In this critical context, Expertise France is sharing our experience and expertise with France's partner countries, along with the support of our technical and financial partners.

### **Better training, distribution, and recognition of health professionals**

L'Initiative, a funding mechanism that complements the work of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, has prioritized the initial and continuing education of health professionals

and supporting public policies relating to HHR. Through L'Accélérateur, its program to support neglected issues, it will provide €3 million to a project to strengthen intervention epidemiology HHR in 10 countries in West Africa. At the end of 2023, L'Initiative organized a master class to provide young researchers in French-speaking Africa with high-quality and wide-ranging training on the latest scientific news and research issues relating to tuberculosis.

### **Protecting mothers and children in Mauritania**

Expertise France is working to improve maternal and child health by coordinating the Temeyouz project in Mauritania, which has been financed by AFD since 2020. In a country where primary, sexual, and reproductive health services are extremely limited, the Temeyouz project aims to make improvements in several ways: by overcoming the gap in health care services



**9,570**  
health professionals  
trained or supported

“

*My training will help meet the urgent need for anesthetists at the Fomboni Hospital in the Comoros. I hope to be able to return to work at this hospital to improve patient care.*

Doctor **FOUZIA BINTI MADI**, one of 10 doctors in the Comoros who received scholarships to continue their studies at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar (Senegal)

in fragile areas in the eastern part of the country and by supporting the National Blood Transfusion Center (CNTS) and the National Higher School of Health Sciences, which trains midwives. Indirectly, this project will also help reduce gender inequalities in access to care and prevent violence against women. ■



**To learn more:** Interview with Ahmedou Ould Armiyaou, Director of the National Higher School of Health Sciences (ENSSS) in Nouakchott  
[bit.ly/actionforhealth-mauritania-2023](https://bit.ly/actionforhealth-mauritania-2023)



## Protecting health, during and after crises

**E**xpertise France is bolstering the capacity of governments to provide health services to their populations under all circumstances. In the event of a crisis or conflict, the goal is to facilitate the gradual reestablishment of essential services, particularly health care. We are doing this through the HERNES project, funded by the European Union and the French Crisis and Support Center (CDCS), which is working to restore basic health services in Northeast Syria, an area devastated by war with ISIS from 2013 to 2017. The project aims to develop and establish clinical guidelines and improve the availability and quality of health services. Since 2022, Expertise France has used AFD funding to help

improve the health conditions of people in Nineveh Governorate by rehabilitating and operationalizing the Medical Research and Care Center (MRCC) of the University of Mosul in Iraq.

Expertise France has also expanded its work in Ukraine, which is one of the European countries most impacted by HIV and tuberculosis. Since the end of 2022, the Ukraine Emergency Fund to fight HIV and tuberculosis has enabled L'Initiative to support locally led projects to the tune of €5 million. The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs has also provided us with €12 million to support France's contribution to improving access to health care during the war. ■

# Strengthening governance

Improving governance is the key to lasting development. Expertise France is helping to structure and strengthen the institutions that guarantee the rule of law, democratic processes, and social and economic development.

## Fighting against human trafficking in the Gulf of Guinea



With **MYSS BELMONDE DOGO LOGBOH**, Minister of National Cohesion, Solidarity and the Fight Against Poverty in Côte d'Ivoire

In the Gulf of Guinea, human trafficking is circular and crosses borders: these countries are territories of origin, transit, and destination for trafficking victims. As part of a project to support the fight against human trafficking in the Gulf of Guinea (ALTP), Expertise France is working with authorities and civil society in six countries in the region.

### What is your approach to human trafficking?

In the Gulf of Guinea, human trafficking occurs both domestically and across borders. We take the

“4Ps” approach: prevention, protection of victims, prosecution of traffickers, and partnerships on both the local and global scale.

### What does Expertise France contribute to this project?

The productive partnership between the ministry and Expertise France has led to specific actions: renovation of the headquarters of the Executive Secretariat of the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, reinforcement of the technical secretariat's capacities, and the acquisition of equipment needed to launch a new database. Expertise France has also helped us take more structural actions, such as setting up seven regional units to fight against trafficking, developing a national referral system and victim support procedures, and

capacity building on this topic for stakeholders in the penal system.

What challenges must be overcome to fight more effectively against human trafficking in the coming years?

We must keep strengthening the legal framework, finalize and launch the database, and expand



# 274

**organizations supported**  
in the fields of  
justice and migration





*As part of a European project to fight against human trafficking in the Gulf of Guinea, Expertise France is supporting Cavoequivia, an NGO which works to protect vulnerable girls in Côte d'Ivoire.*

## Supporting the mobilization of domestic resources

To implement public policies that benefit populations, countries must develop and deploy fair and effective tax collection systems. Supporting the mobilization of domestic resources is one of our priorities. We are doing this via projects in Guinea, Mauritania, and Madagascar, for example which are focused on the efficacy of public finance and fiscal governance.

awareness-raising campaigns by including survivors. To eradicate the trafficking pattern in the Gulf of Guinea, we need a holistic approach based on improved cooperation between countries and stakeholders. Our work on the

ground will soon be strengthened by the creation of new regional units, a victim services center, and a dedicated hotline. ■



**To learn more:** Full interview with Myss Belmonde Dogo Logboh  
[bit.ly/governance-ivorycoast-2023](https://bit.ly/governance-ivorycoast-2023)

# Helping to strengthen judicial and legal systems

**E**xpertise France is deploying expertise from the French legal sector to projects in the areas of basic rights and access to justice, the independence and the quality of the legal system, and protection and security mechanisms.

In Europe, Expertise France is assisting EU candidate countries with their administrative and governance reforms in the judicial sector. This is the case in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where Expertise France launched the EU4Justice project in 2023, which aims to strengthen the rule of law. In this project, as with others, technical cooperation helps align European Neighborhood countries with European standards to build a unified area, which has become critical since the start of the war in Ukraine. In this context, Expertise France has

refocused the Pravo-Justice II project, which has been implemented in Ukraine since 2021, to better address the urgent needs of the country's justice officials and displaced persons. The project also documents alleged war crimes.

The legal system must also protect the environment, as increasing damage represents a danger for populations and biodiversity which goes beyond financial losses. To fight against this destruction, Expertise France is contributing to environmental justice through cooperation projects to prevent, punish, and compensate for damage to ecosystems. ■

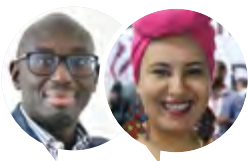


**To learn more:** Interview with Vincent Delbos, an expert involved in various justice projects  
[bit.ly/justicesystem-balkans-2023](https://bit.ly/justicesystem-balkans-2023)

# Promoting a **sustainable** and **inclusive** economy

Expertise France supports development that is inclusive, sustainable, and attractive. We leverage various tools, such as support for the development of artificial intelligence and culture or the implementation of macroeconomic initiatives on the continental scale.

“*Digital sovereignty will enable countries to escape poverty*”



With **SEYDINA NDIAYE**, Research Professor in artificial intelligence at the Virtual University of Senegal, and **MAHA JOUINI**, Author and Founder of the African Center for Artificial Intelligence and Digital Technology

**E**xpertise France is helping our partner countries use artificial intelligence (AI) to support economic development. Two experts discussed these topics during a conference organized in partnership with the EU's Digital for Development (D4D) Hub.

What opportunities does AI offer to developing economies?

**S. N.** Deploying AI requires high levels of computing power, energy, and investment, which some countries don't always have. Yet AI offers them the greatest benefit. Certain technologies require fewer resources than others even while using fairly advanced AI, which can be geared to address the specific problems of developing economies. In the health field, the Senegalese start-up KERA has reduced face-to-face time between patients and doctors by collecting a range of information

beforehand to facilitate an initial diagnosis. In the agriculture sector, a project is mapping rice crops and estimating their yields. However, we must be able to access the human



**1,902**  
**organizations**  
supported in their  
digital transition



In March 2024, Expertise France brought together political leaders, researchers, and entrepreneurs from all over the world for a conference entitled "Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Futures." It was coordinated by Expertise France with AFD and the European Union's Digital for Development strategic platform.

resources that are required to develop and deploy these solutions. Sufficient computing and storage capacity is also required, as well as a minimum of State supervision to ensure that AI technologies are used safely and ethically.

### Can AI contribute to the inclusion of women and young people?

**M. J.** Were we to ask AI to define me, it would do so as a woman, a Muslim, and an Arab, and these three identities have sometimes hindered my career. AI is the mirror of an unfair reality, made up of stereotypes and prejudices. It cannot currently serve as a lever for the inclusion of women and young people. Before it can do so, AI must be provided with good governance. The digitalization underway is not equitable. It is digital sovereignty that will enable countries to escape poverty, create development opportunities, and minimize their debt. Without this sovereignty, we'll experience digital colonization and AI will increase the control that big data companies have over our economy. ■



**To learn more:** Full interview with Seydina Ndiaye and Maha Jouini  
[bit.ly/ai-senegal-2023](https://bit.ly/ai-senegal-2023)

## Economic integration across Africa to promote a sustainable economy

Expertise France is supporting the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Through this project, 50 women-led companies were sponsored and participated in the Intra-African Trade Fair in 2023. At the same time, since 2020, we have supported the African Union's efforts to become a key player in continental economic integration.

## Harnessing culture to promote tourism

**T**ourism, heritage preservation and the creative industries are key to promoting attractiveness, development, and social cohesion. Expertise France is helping to generate dialogue between different forms of cultural expertise, as with the project to restore and open up the National Palace in Addis Ababa, a cornerstone of Ethiopia's heritage, with funding from AFD. This project will boost the capital's appeal as a tourist destination and its economic vitality.

Thanks to European financing, Expertise France is also supporting a project to restore the Byrsa Acropolis and renovate the Carthage National Museum in Tunisia. Working with the Aliph Foundation, we are also supporting a project in Amedi, in Iraqi Kurdistan, which involves architectural renovation and the creation of a heritage trail.

At the same time, we are also supporting the development of the cultural and creative industries. Thanks to AFD financing, Expertise France is supporting a project in Ghana to develop the music industry with the Creative Arts Agency. A project to bolster Mozambique's cultural sector is also in progress. With funding from the European Union, it features several types of activities including an incubator, networking, and capacity building for staff at the Ministry of Culture. ■

# Promoting peace and stability

**Expertise France works with its partners in the field to help governments prevent and manage crises, fight cross-cutting threats, terrorism, and organized crime, and promote peace and security.**

## Supporting reconstruction in Ukraine



With **PIERRE HEILBRONN**,  
the French President's Special  
Envoy for Ukraine's Relief and  
Reconstruction

### How is France supporting Ukraine's reconstruction?

France is continuing to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine, of course, and helping rebuild essential infrastructure such as hospitals, schools, and bridges. To do so, we are working closely with our partners and mobilizing all our economic and financial instruments. More generally, France wants to support the transformation of Ukrainian society. This requires

reforming institutions, the legal system, and public and sectoral policies to ensure the country complies with European standards as part of its efforts to join the EU.

### How is Expertise France contributing to France's support for Ukraine?

Expertise France has a fundamental role to play in the country's transformation, which it was already doing well before the Russian invasion. However, we have significantly accelerated our efforts since February 24, 2022, by adding new projects through the mAIDan Facility. We also opened an office in Chernihiv, north of

Kiev, where we are helping local authorities improve their capacity to implement projects to benefit society.

In practical terms, a 40-strong team is working in the field on essential projects such as fighting tuberculosis, promoting innovation, and reforming the legal system. The entire Expertise France action plan helps support the work of local governments and French operators in the country.

### How is France working with the European Union and the G7, who are also on the ground?

France participates in all the decision-making bodies providing





international and European assistance to Ukraine. As a member of the G7 and the European Union, France has a decisive voice within the coordination mechanisms that have been set up. We are also the second-biggest European contributor –after Germany– to the Ukraine support fund. I am talking about the EU’s €50 billion Ukraine Facility, as

well as the European Peace Facility. As a member of multilateral development banks and through UN agencies, France is contributing to budgetary assistance, purchasing joint equipment, and funding for technical cooperation projects. Projects to support Ukraine that are financed by these funds are led by French operators such as

↑ *Expertise France will send nearly 40 staff to Ukraine in the coming months. We have been operating in the country since 2006, and are now helping to rebuild the country and support convergence towards European standards.*

Expertise France. The Pravo and EU4Innovation East projects come to mind. This is the best evidence that our partners trust us and acknowledge our expertise. ■

## Preventing and preparing for disaster risks

According to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, there is a strong link between global warming and extreme climate events, which can vary in their extent, intensity, frequency, spatial distribution, and time frame. This can affect the level of development (education, health, etc.) and the stability of societies, systems, and communities. Expertise France is helping authorities with their policies, adaptation strategies, and ability to respond to natural risks. These actions aim to anticipate, mitigate, and prevent risks to protect human lives, goods, infrastructure,

and the environment. We are working to implement measures at different levels, from the local to the national, in collaboration with authorities, communities, civil society organizations, the private sector, and international partners.

In the Philippines, Expertise France is collaborating with AFD and the EU to help local governments with disaster risk management. In Peru, with the financial support of AFD, we will help the country’s institutions respond to extreme weather events and the impacts of climate change. ■

# Working for the climate and the planet

**Expertise France is working with its partners to mitigate the effects of climate change and protect biodiversity. We are helping to catalyze a fair energy transition in many countries, generating both social and environmental benefits.**

## Protecting carbon and biodiversity reserves

**F**orests and oceans are critical to life on Earth. They store an incredible amount of carbon, help regulate the climate, and the lives of several million human beings directly depend on them. They are resources that need to be protected and valued.

### Protecting forests

Expertise France is cooperating with our institutional partners, civil society, and native communities to integrate forest protection into government policies while strengthening stakeholder capacity and governance frameworks. In Morocco, Expertise France is helping the National Agency for Water and

Forests implement its Forests of Morocco 2020-2030 strategy.

In Latin America, Expertise France is working with EU regional sustainable forest management programs such as Euroclima et Amazonia+. In Colombia, we are helping those working in the palm oil, cocoa,

milk, and meat sectors implement and comply with zero deforestation agreements signed between the government and private sector. In the Amazon basin, we are supporting the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and the Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) in their efforts to improve inclusive forest management. We are also helping local communities



**11**  
million hectares  
of marine biodiversity  
that benefit from  
improved management practices



Through French and European funds, Expertise France is helping to protect Papua New Guinea's forests.



and women's organizations protect the forest and its resources.

### Promoting an inclusive and sustainable blue economy

Like forests, marine and coastal ecosystems are under threat. Expertise France's blue economy approach aims to strike a balance between protecting seas and oceans and making space for their many uses by humans. In the Southwest Indian Ocean, in collaboration with the Réserves Naturelles de France NGO, we are helping more than 60 operators improve their management of protected marine areas. In Madagascar, with the support of WWF France and WWF Madagascar, the BIODEV2030 project has involved the private sector in the sustainable management of the shrimp fishing industry, based on the principles of sustainable fishing. Expertise France is also working in Algeria to make the fisheries and aquaculture sectors more sustainable through better resource management and improved working conditions for fishers. ■

## Promoting a fair energy transition

Expertise France supports the energy transition, which is a source of jobs, sustainable growth, and economic competitiveness. Uzbekistan, one of the countries that is most vulnerable to climate change, is facing significant environmental challenges. Since 2023, we have been helping the country deploy ambitious national objectives to promote energy efficiency and accelerate the transition to a less resource-intensive and polluting economy. The country aims to reach 27 gigawatts of installed renewable energy and produce 40% of its electricity using renewable energy by 2030. For three years, Expertise France will offer technical support to facilitate a public policy dialogue on energy and build the capacity of key players in the sector thanks to AFD financing.

In Côte d'Ivoire, where heat waves and heavy rains have been intensifying and sea levels have been rising each year, the energy transition has become a priority in the national strategy to mitigate the effects of climate change. To implement this strategy, the country has received European financing and technical assistance from Expertise France through the Low-Carbon Transition program. This will enhance the coordination of intersectoral climate action at the national level, centralize measurement and reporting mechanisms, and strengthen the capacity of local public, private, and civil society stakeholders. ■



# Tackling regional challenges

**Expertise France is now working in almost 150 countries. Thanks to our multi-sectoral expertise, we adapt our strategy to the challenges of each region, in alignment with French and European development assistance policies.**



## AFRICA

### Contributing to inclusive and sustainable prosperity

**A**s partnerships between France, Europe, and Africa are being redefined, Expertise France is committed to strengthening longstanding ties with the African continent. We implemented 161 projects in Africa in 2023. We take a multi-sectoral approach and focus on sustainable development, supporting culture, and promoting heritage. We aim to ensure the development of sustainable and inclusive economies in East, Southern, and Central Africa

#### ♦ **Focusing on innovation and supporting new generations**

With 60% of its population under the age of 24, Africa is the world's youngest continent. This situation, which will only intensify in the coming decades, presents both a challenge and an opportunity for development. To tackle the challenges of the continent's growth, Expertise France is working to improve training and labor market integration through innovative educational initiatives (see

pages 18–19). In Angola, professional training is creating strong ties between universities and companies.

Forty percent of the population in sub-Saharan Africa will have access to the mobile internet by 2025. Expertise France wants to maximize the potential of digital technology to foster youth employment and economic development. Through the Digital for Development (D4D) Hub, we are supporting the implementation of strategies to support the digital transformation and increase investments in digital technology. This will lead to the creation of stable jobs and improve the employability of young people in countries like Senegal and Rwanda.

#### ♦ **Taking climate action and protecting biodiversity**

To tackle climate change and protect biodiversity in Africa, Expertise France is developing innovative initiatives, in alignment with the French President's





←  
In Côte d'Ivoire,  
the village of  
Dibykro was  
electrified  
through the  
EU's Ecler Ivoire  
project.

Council for Development. These actions include projects such as MAX, in Côte d'Ivoire, which provides rural populations with improved access to electricity, and BIODEV2030, a regional initiative that aims to integrate biodiversity conservation into various economic sectors. Expertise France is also part of the project to support the Covenant of Mayors for Sub-Saharan Africa, financed by the EU. We are also helping towns in Togo design their energy policies and carry out their climate actions.

### ◆ Promoting pan-African trade and regional integration

The African Union recently joined the G20 and the continent boasts the largest free trade area in the world. The promotion of trade between African

countries and regional integration are key to stimulating economic growth and reducing disparities. Expertise France contributes in several ways: the Pan-African Statistics Program II (PAS II) improves the availability of reliable statistics to facilitate political and economic decision-making. We are also strengthening the capacity of African regional organizations (such as ECOWAS, AU, WAEMU, CEMAC) to create an environment that fosters trade and shared prosperity. Finally, we work closely with local and international stakeholders to promote an inclusive and sustainable economic integration through the "EU Technical Assistance Facility to support the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and Continental Economic Integration," which aims to align Africa's capacity with the goals of the 2030 Agenda and the 2063 Agenda. ■

## MEDITERRANEAN



# Uniting both shores to pursue joint development



*The European Raqameyon program offers young Libyans opportunities to enhance their digital skills.*

**T**he Mediterranean is a strategic crossroads that offers an example of multi-sectoral cooperation between Europe and Africa to build a more resilient and sustainable future.

## ♦ Fighting against disasters

The Mediterranean Basin, home to 500 million people, has experienced a number of events caused by the climate crisis. The region is subject to many natural hazards that take a heavy human, material, and environmental toll. Expertise France is helping our partner countries anticipate these risks and is preparing public and civil society institutions to respond to crises. For example, we have helped strengthen civil protection capacities in Tunisia. In Jordan, we have supported the creation of an organization to map natural hazards and improve risk prevention and preparation tools. Expertise France is also supporting vulnerable populations by adapting buildings and activities as well as improving access to loans and insurance.

## ♦ Focusing on youth and innovation

In the Mediterranean region, Expertise France is helping our partner countries improve training programs and entrepreneurial ecosystems. To do so, we are bolstering entrepreneurship, as in Tunisia, where we are offering funding and support to those working in the fields of innovation, culture, and green entrepreneurship through the Innov'i and Greenov'i projects.

Digital inclusion is an Expertise France priority. In Libya, the EU-funded RAQAM-E project, which ended in 2023, led to the organization of a number of hackathons and the establishment of a coworking space for women entrepreneurs in Janzour. This program also led to the creation of a center for female entrepreneurs with childcare services. The Raqameyon program is a continuation of that project, offering young Libyans the opportunity to enhance their digital skills. ■

## Promoting the green economy

**The green economy is an important component of our work in the region. Since January 2024, the EU Green Forward project has been working to strengthen green and circular economy principles in the southern Mediterranean by developing an institutional and legislative framework. In Libya, the EU E-NABLE project (which supports a stronger business climate) and the EU4SKILLS project, launched in 2024 (which promotes employability), both include a green economy component.**



## EUROPE

# Supporting convergence towards EU standards

**R**ussia's war of aggression against Ukraine demonstrated the need to build a united European area. Technical cooperation plays an essential role in this regard, helping bring European neighborhood countries closer to European standards, particularly through the EU accession process.

### ◆ Supporting reconstruction in Ukraine

Ukraine needs urgent assistance to cope with the war and prepare for reconstruction. The mAIDan Facility was launched in September 2023 as part of France's support to Ukraine. It has already shown concrete results through the Pravo-Justice project, contributing to the selection of judges on Ukraine's Constitutional Court, which is the first condition to open accession negotiations. Thanks to the mAIDan project, the roof of the Chernihiv Regional Theater was repaired, allowing activities in the region's main cultural space to resume. Expertise France will also guide local authorities in Chernihiv through the reconstruction and decentralization process.

### ◆ Strengthening the rule of law

The rule of law and governance are key conditions for EU membership. Expertise France is helping candidate countries in the West Balkans make administrative reforms in this direction. We have been working in Bosnia and Herzegovina since February

2023 to improve the integrity of institutions upholding the rule of law.

### ◆ Supporting convergence towards EU standards

Joining the EU requires an alignment with its standards and procedures. In Albania, Expertise France has launched a technical assistance program to reform the energy sector, financed by AFD. As part of the global SOCIEUX+ facility for employment and social protection, we are helping Moldavia develop strategies for youth employment and the vocational rehabilitation of people with disabilities. Thanks to funding from the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, experts are working with public sector bodies to support the convergence towards European Union standards in countries such as North Macedonia and Montenegro. ■



→  
*Through the mAIDan project, the roof of the Chernihiv Regional Theater was repaired, allowing activities in the region's main cultural space to resume.*





## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

# Protecting biodiversity and human rights and fighting organized crime

**I**n Latin America and the Caribbean, Expertise France is participating in co-operation programs that focus on promoting the best use of natural resources and supporting inclusive economic development.

## ◆ Mainstreaming gender in public policies

In 2024, the EU launched a new phase of its TEI LAC program in the region. The goal is to reduce gender inequalities by encouraging partner countries to mainstream gender, particularly in policy design. Expertise France is responsible for implementing the Gender Equality component of this program.

We are also supporting women in Columbia by helping the municipality of Bogota and 11 other local and regional authorities mainstream gender in their regional development plans. We are also improving tools to prevent gender-based violence and protect and treat victims. These examples help inform our work in other projects and locations.

## ◆ Encouraging the socio-economic integration of young people

Since July 2023, Expertise France has contributed to the social and economic integration of young people in El Salvador through the EU-funded LAMARR initiative. In Mexico, we are involved in three national projects, two of which are financed by the EU. They aim to foster social cohesion and promote the economy, growth, and sustainable development in Mexico.

## ◆ Taking climate action

Expertise France is working to protect biodiversity and tackle climate change. We are contributing to



↑ In Latin America, the new phase of the EU EL PAcCTO program, launched in March 2024, will strengthen the rule of law and tackle organized crime.

several EU programs in the region, including Euroclima Caribbean, Great Forests, and Amazonia+.

We are advancing environmental justice by training and coordinating professionals in the penal system. In Latin America, the new phase of the EU EL PAcCTO program, launched in March 2024, will strengthen the rule of law and tackle organized crime. Since 2021, we have also been helping Bolivia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Costa Rica implement the 2018 Escazú Agreement, the first environmental treaty in Latin America and the Caribbean. ■





INDO-PACIFIC

# Promoting a safe and protected environment

**A**s the strategic crossroads of global trade and a biodiversity hotspot, the Indo-Pacific is a key priority for French development assistance. Some French islands can be found in the region, and France is focusing its cooperation activities on security and the environment.

## ♦ Tackling maritime trafficking

To secure the Indo-Pacific maritime space, Expertise France launched the CRIMARIO II project, which focuses on information sharing, capacity building, and training. The ESIWA project, implemented with GIZ, aims to enhance security and defense cooperation between the European Union and Asia to tackle the challenges of cybersecurity, crisis management, and counter-terrorism.

## ♦ Protecting both land and sea

The Varuna program helps protect the exceptional endemic biodiversity in the southwest Indian Ocean region in the interests of its inhabitants by raising awareness and pooling the efforts of public, private,



and civil society stakeholders. Expertise France is also helping develop a network of marine protected area managers in the southwest Indian Ocean, led by Réserves Naturelles de France. And in Papua New Guinea, the European Union, and France in particular, have created a “Forests, Nature, and Climate” protection plan, which aims to mobilize international financing to ensure that 30% of the land and sea will have protected status by 2030. Expertise France will deploy experts and technical support, working with national authorities in charge of forests, climate change, and environmental conservation. ■

## Expertise France is bolstering its presence in Southeast Asia

Two AFD-funded projects were launched in collaboration with ASEAN: one to improve air quality, and the other to manage ship waste sustainably. Since January 2024, we have been implementing a European project, the main objective of which is to help the Philippines transition to a green and circular economy, particularly by reducing waste. Also in the Philippines, we are launching a project to improve disaster risk reduction.



*In the Comoros, the AFIDEV project is contributing to the development of Comorian excellence in the vanilla, ylang-ylang, and clove sectors.*

# Visit us online!



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You will find **interviews** highlighting our work with our partners as well as **archives of all our annual reports.**



Watch this **video** to see our key figures for 2023 and our objectives for 2024.

## Abbreviations and acronyms

- **ACTO:** Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
- **ADA:** Austrian Development Agency
- **AFD:** Agence Française de Développement
- **AU:** African Union
- **CDCS:** French Crisis and Support Center
- **CEMAC:** Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
- **COICD:** French Interministerial Committee on International Cooperation and Development
- **CIOM:** French Interministerial Committee on Overseas France
- **COICA:** Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin
- **COP:** Conference of the Parties
- **CPD:** French President's Council for Development
- **DG INTPA:** Directorate-General for International Partnerships of the European Commission
- **DG NEAR:** Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations of the European Commission
- **ECOWAS:** Economic Community of West African States
- **EDFIs:** European Development Finance Institutions
- **EU:** European Union
- **ITE:** International Technical Expert
- **GIZ:** German Agency for International Cooperation
- **JEFIC:** Joint European Financiers for International Cooperation
- **MEAE:** French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
- **NGO:** Non-governmental organization
- **PSUs:** Project Support Units
- **SDGs:** Sustainable Development Goals
- **WAEMU:** West African Economic and Monetary Union

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