



The AFD Group in the **port and maritime sector**



Maritime transport, which alone accounts for more than 80% of the world's trade, is at the heart of international trade. In Europe, nearly 40% of trade passes through seaports. Port platforms are thus an essential element of economic growth and integration into global trade. However, recent geopolitical upheavals and the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the fragility of maritime supply chains, highlighting the strategic importance of ports, as well as associated land corridors and sea routes, to maintain the balance and fluidity of international trade.

AFD Group in the port and maritime transport sector

As a major player in economic and sustainable development, the AFD Group is committed alongside partner countries, stakeholders in the port and maritime sector, to meet the economic, social and environmental challenges they face.

With a solid strategic intervention framework and operational experience in these areas, the AFD group deploys a comprehensive and integrated approach, relying on the various instruments at its disposal. The aim is ultimately to support the modernization of major port facilities and the performance of logistics chains at the scale of sub-regions, to improve the integration of their economies in international economic exchanges and their sustainable development.

Intervention framework

The AFD Group's strategic intervention framework in the port and maritime transport sector is fully in line with the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs). It is structured around the following four axes:

- **Improve the performance of port platforms and maximize local** benefits on the economy and employment.
- **Opening up and developing hinterlands** by structuring strategic transport corridors and efficient, sustainable and resilient logistics systems in the Global Gateway dynamic supported by the European Union,
- **Reduce the sector's impacts on the environment and supporting its energy transition** to lower its carbon footprint.
- **Strengthen port and maritime safety and security**, essential issues for the fluidity and reliability of international trade.

To achieve this, the AFD Group can mobilize a diverse range of instruments:

- **Financing to public institutions** in their mission through loans (sovereign or non-sovereign, on market or concessional terms) or **grants** dedicated to investments of various kinds (studies, works, equipment).
- **Financing to private port actors** to support their investment plan with strategic and technical support if needed.
- **Technical cooperation** through advice, technical assistance or capacity-building activities, in particular for port authorities and relevant public institutions (training, peer-to-peer exchanges, institutional support, etc.) by mobilizing public and private expertise.

Some flagship projects



Reconstruction and modernisation of the Port of Beirut in Lebanon

The Port of Beirut is a strategic gateway for the Lebanese economy, through which almost 80% of the country's trade flows. Following the devastating explosion on August 4, 2020, France quickly mobilized alongside Lebanon to provide emergency support and begin a process of reconstruction of this crucial economic hub. Since 2020, in coordination with other French partners, we have been accompanying the port of Beirut as part of a program aimed at its reconstruction and modernization.



European maritime and port security projects

Maritime security issues are inherently transnational and therefore require a coordinated national and regional response. Aligning with the European maritime security strategy, we are implementing several European projects to strengthen national, regional, and supra-regional cooperation in critical infrastructure protection and maritime safety and security.

The GoGIN and EnMAR projects in the Gulf of Guinea, as well as ESIWA and CRIMARIO in the Indo-Pacific and SEACOP in the Caribbean, West Africa, and Latin America, notably contribute to strengthening dialogue and fostering a shared maritime culture among states, enabling them to better understand and manage their maritime domains.



Extension and modernization of the Port of Pointe-Noire in Congo

As a long-standing partner of the Port Authority of Pointe-Noire (PAPN), we have contributed through two financings granted in 2009 and 2016, for a total amount of €266 million, to improving the port's capacity (dredging and installation of container, bulk, and conventional terminals), efficiency (accounting and financial management, facilitation of port passage), and environmental management of the Pointe-Noire is the only maritime outlet of Congo and the main deep-water port in the sub-region. Additionally, the implementation of an EU grant enabled the relocation of the fishing port to resolve usage conflicts with the commercial port.

Some flagship projects



Support program for the National Ports Agency in Morocco

Since 2012, we have been supporting the National Ports Agency (ANP) in its maintenance, upkeep, and development investments for its port infrastructure. Our financing has strengthened protective works, rehabilitated docks and yards, and created new dry ports. These investments contribute to improving the quality of port reception and services while enhancing the resilience of infrastructure against the effects of climate change.



Sectoral reform of maritime transport and logistics in Indonesia

Alongside the World Bank and KFW, we granted two budget loans of €150 million each to the Indonesian government in 2017 and 2018 to support its reform of maritime transport and logistics, strategic sectors for the economy and the opening up of this archipelago's territories. The reform program aimed for a deep modernization and improvements in (1) governance and management of commercial ports, (2) quality of logistics services, and (3) trade facilitation. It benefited from the expertise of the Grand Port Maritime du Havre through an additional technical assistance grant. The program helped reduce ship waiting and docking times, develop quality management systems, and thus indirectly reduce CO2 emissions and associated transport costs.



Support to Terminal Link for the operation of the Port of Umm Qasr in Iraq

We have granted a \$33 million loan to Terminal Link (a JV between CMA CGM and China Merchant Ports) to modernize the container terminal at Umm Qasr Port in Iraq, a vital infrastructure for the country's economy, which is marked by conflicts and a heavy reliance on oil. This port, which has existed since the 1930s, is indeed the main gateway for the import of essential goods to Iraq, through which 60% of the country's goods transit.

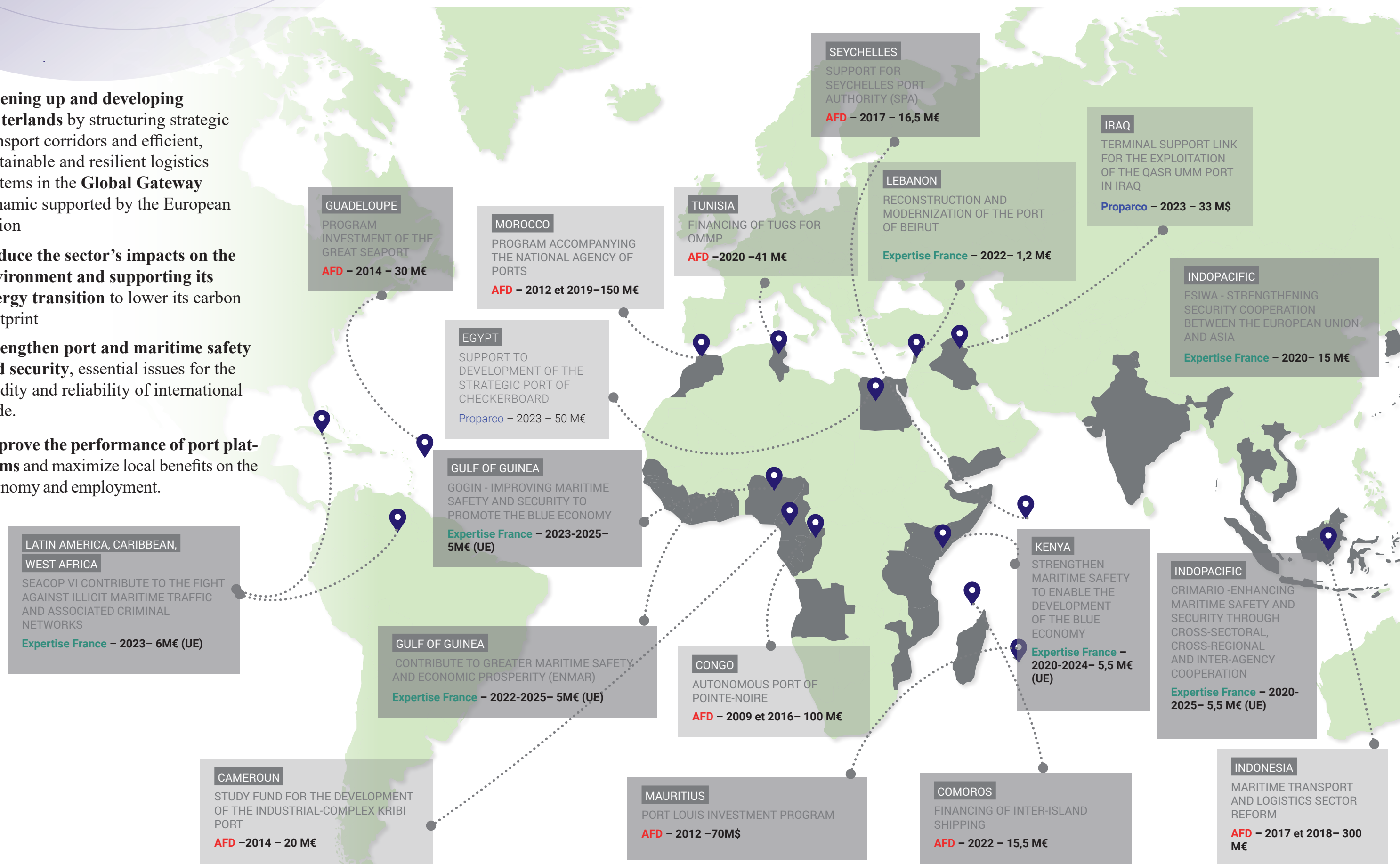


Support for the development of the strategic port of Damietta in Egypt

Alongside international investors, we support the development of the port of Damietta in Egypt through a \$50 million financing to the concessionaire DACT to develop a second container terminal and thus triple its capacity. The project also aims to equip DACT with an E&S management system meeting the highest international standards and to support local economic development through a partnership with nearby vocational schools, with the new terminal representing 2,200 direct and indirect jobs.

More than 40 projects committed since 2010 by the AFD Group in the port and maritime sector totalling more than €1 billion, including:

- **Opening up and developing hinterlands** by structuring strategic transport corridors and efficient, sustainable and resilient logistics systems in the **Global Gateway** dynamic supported by the European Union
- **Reduce the sector's impacts on the environment and supporting its energy transition** to lower its carbon footprint
- **Strengthen port and maritime safety and security**, essential issues for the fluidity and reliability of international trade.
- **Improve the performance of port platforms** and maximize local benefits on the economy and employment.



AFD Group contributes to the implementation of France's policies for sustainable development and international solidarity. The Group includes Agence Française de Développement (AFD), which finances the public sector, NGOs, research and training; its subsidiary Proparco, which is dedicated to the private sector; and Expertise France, a technical cooperation agency. The Group finances, supports and accelerates the transitions needed for a fairer, more resilient world.

With our partners, we are building shared solutions with and for the people in more than 150 countries, as well as in 11 French Overseas Departments and Territories. As part of the commitment of France and the French people to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, our teams are at work on 4,200 projects in the field. Our objective is to reconcile economic development with the preservation of common goods, from peace, the climate and biodiversity to health, education and gender equality. Towards a world in common.

