RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité

EXPERTISE FRANCE
GROUPE AFD



Expertise France

between EU enlargement and the European neighbourhood



12 countries covered

33 projects implemented

€191m business volume

From enlargement to the European neighbourhood, Expertise France supports countries in aligning with the standards, values and ambitions of France and the European Union by strengthening their institutional capacities and supporting sustainable development pathways. Within this geographical context, Expertise France operates at the intersection of several key issues: security, resilience, sustainable development and regional influence.

Know how in common

Convergence and cohesion: the challenges facing an enlarged Europe

Enlargement and European neighbourhood countries are facing major demographic, migration, socio-economic, climate, energy and institutional challenges. The invasion of Ukraine has also highlighted the urgent need to rethink our security investments in order to strengthen stability in this region. Enlargement is now seen as a strategic investment in the continent's peace, security, stability and prosperity. Income levels and human development remain significantly lower than those in the European Union, while there is a considerable need for investment and capacity-building, particularly in relation to the energy transition, climate adaptation, economic competitiveness and strengthening the rule of law.

Social and cultural issues are also a key driver of stability, reconciliation and closer ties with the European Union, by strengthening ties between societies and supporting young people, student mobility, academic exchanges, cultural cooperation and the Francophonie.

Expertise France works alongside civil society organisations, independent media and civic initiatives to promote democracy, the rule of law and social cohesion. Combating disinformation, promoting our shared heritage and fostering intercultural dialogue help to strengthen the resilience of societies and prepare them for European integration, whilst consolidating France's influence and long-term partnership in the region.

In this region, Expertise France works in close collaboration with AFD and Proparco to implement the group's full range of instruments: public and private financing, technical assistance, expertise and peer-to-peer cooperation. This integrated approach helps to support investment, infrastructure modernisation, reforms and institutional capacity-building.

Expertise France is aligned with the strategic priorities of France and the European Union. From the Western Balkans to the Eastern Partnership, via Turkey, Expertise France supports countries in their efforts to build closer ties with the European Union, with the shared aim of strengthening stability, resilience and alignment with European standards, whether through institutional reforms, increased regional cooperation or sustainable economic and environmental transitions.

Our impact in 2025

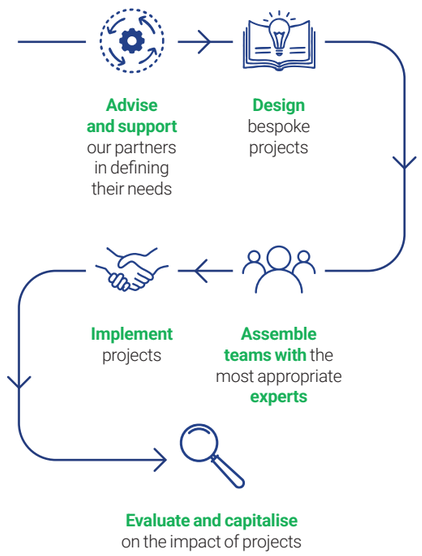
44,026
people whose training or professional integration was supported.

447
staff from structures benefiting from enhanced skills/knowledge in security, stability and/or crisis management.

293,943
people made aware of their rights and responsibilities.

7,388
areas benefiting from improved biodiversity management practices.

Our business



Our tools

Methodological and technical advice: diagnosis, recommendations, action plans, etc.

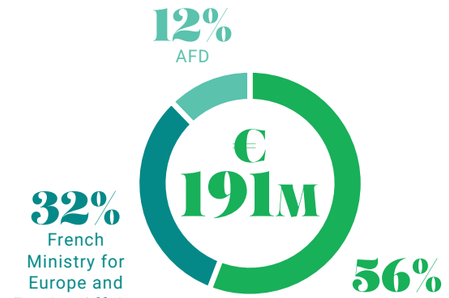
Capacity building: training, coaching, change support, etc.

Networking: peer exchanges, study visits, consultation workshops, etc.

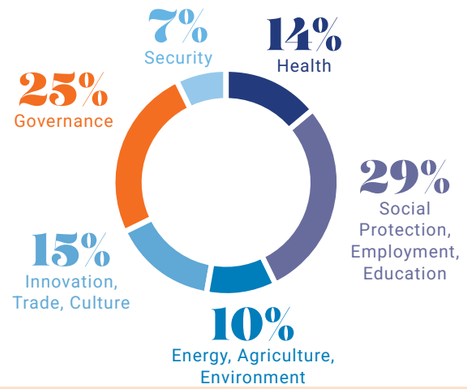
Supply of goods, services and works: drawing up specifications, awarding contracts, coordinating work, etc.

Multi-year business volume

Breakdown by funder



Breakdown by sector/theme



40
International Technical Experts

160
staff members

Expertise France's focus areas for action


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Area 1

STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONS AND THE RULE OF LAW

Expertise France supports European neighbourhood countries in consolidating the rule of law, modernising their institutions and strengthening public governance. Our projects support judicial reforms, the fight against corruption and the protection of fundamental rights, particularly in Moldova and the Western Balkans. We also help to improve corporate governance in state-owned enterprises and the management of public finances – from taxation to public procurement – in Ukraine and Armenia. By promoting more transparent, efficient and accountable public administrations, we are bringing partner countries closer to European standards.

Area 2

SUPPORT REGIONAL RESILIENCE AND ENERGY SECURITY

In the face of climate, energy and environmental challenges, Expertise France supports partner countries in their transition towards more sustainable development models. We support reforms in the energy sector and alignment with the EU acquis, whilst promoting energy efficiency in public buildings and homes. Our work also helps to preserve biodiversity, restore ecosystems and strengthen the resilience of local areas. In Moldova, Albania and Kosovo, or through regional initiatives, we also support the development of a more competitive and sustainable agricultural sector that is resilient to the effects of climate change. By supporting economic sectors, such as Geographical Indications in Armenia, we help to enhance the attractiveness of local areas.


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Area 3

BOOSTING THE ECONOMY AND HUMAN CAPITAL: COMPETITIVENESS, INCLUSION AND HEALTH

Expertise France promotes inclusive growth by strengthening skills, innovation and economic opportunities. We support the development of vocational training programmes tailored to the needs of the labour market, with a view to facilitating the integration of young people and the most vulnerable groups, particularly in Turkey, Georgia and Ukraine. In the health sector, we support the modernisation of healthcare systems, the training of healthcare professionals and the rehabilitation of critical infrastructure, as in Ukraine. We also support more inclusive social protection systems, as well as entrepreneurship and innovation, which are key drivers of competitiveness.



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Area 4

CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY IN THE REGION

Security is an essential prerequisite for development and closer ties with the European Union. Expertise France supports partner countries in the fight against organised crime, human trafficking and illicit trafficking, whilst strengthening the capacities of security institutions. In response to the evolving nature of hybrid threats, we are also developing projects focused on cybersecurity, cyber resilience, combating disinformation and the control of sensitive exports. Both in Ukraine and at regional level, our actions help to strengthen the stability, resilience and security of states and their citizens.

Area 5

STRENGTHEN HUMAN AND CULTURAL TIES BETWEEN SOCIETIES

Expertise France places people-to-people exchanges, culture and civic engagement at the heart of its work in the European neighbourhood. We support young people, civil society organisations and initiatives that promote dialogue, social cohesion and reconciliation, particularly in the Western Balkans. Our projects also encourage freedom of expression and media independence, whilst promoting youth mobility, sport and the exchange of ideas as ways of bringing societies closer together. Finally, we help to preserve and promote cultural heritage by supporting the restoration of iconic heritage sites in Ukraine, Armenia and Moldova.


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Strengthen institutions and the rule of law AREA 1

ALBANIA, NORTH MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO

JEC BALKANS

AFD – €2m (2024–2026)

The project aims to improve the effectiveness of climate and environmental justice in Albania, North Macedonia and Montenegro, in particular through public participation in environmental issues, thereby contributing to alignment with European standards.

UKRAINE

SUPPORT FOR JUSTICE SECTOR REFORMS AND DIGITALISATION (PRAVO-JUSTICE III)

EU – €13.3m (2024–2026)

Following the victory of Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity, the Pravo-Justice project has become one of the driving forces behind the promotion of the rule of law in Ukraine, bringing the country's legislative framework into line with European standards. The current phase is aimed, in particular, at reforming the public prosecutor's office in relation to the enforcement of sentences and the prosecution of war crimes, as well as ensuring that property rights are upheld. The project plays a major role in Ukraine's EU integration process in the field of justice.

MOLDOVA

ANTI-CORRUPTION IN MOLDOVA

EU – €7m (2026–2030)

The main objective is to support the establishment of effective, efficient, independent and accountable justice, prosecution and investigation systems capable of combating corruption and curbing the growth of organised and financial crime (including money laundering) as part of Moldova's EU accession process and its alignment with European standards. The project involves CIVIPOL as a consortium partner and draws on French expertise in the fields of justice, policing and the fight against corruption, with the support of the Ministry of Justice, specialist agencies, the courts, training institutions and the relevant professional bodies.

SUPPORT FOR THE REFORM OF STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES IN MOLDOVA

EU – €2.5m (2026–2030)

The main objective, in partnership with the Czech and Slovak cooperation agencies, is to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of the Moldovan authorities, so as to enable them to effectively design, coordinate and implement the reforms necessary for Moldova's alignment with the European Union's single market standards and for improving the governance of state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

NORTH MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, MOLDOVA

ANTI-CORRUPTION FUND

AFD – €5m (2024–2027)

The aim of the project is to strengthen public institutions in the fight against corruption and to fund projects led by civil society organisations.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

EU 4 JUSTICE PHASE II

EU – €4.5m (2022–2026)

The project aims to support the rule of law in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to combat corruption and organised crime by strengthening the functioning of the judicial system, strengthening the skills and expertise of justice-sector professionals and enhancing their working tools to help them meet European standards and fulfil the criteria for accession to the European Union.

ARMENIA

SUPPORT FOR FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND TAX REFORMS

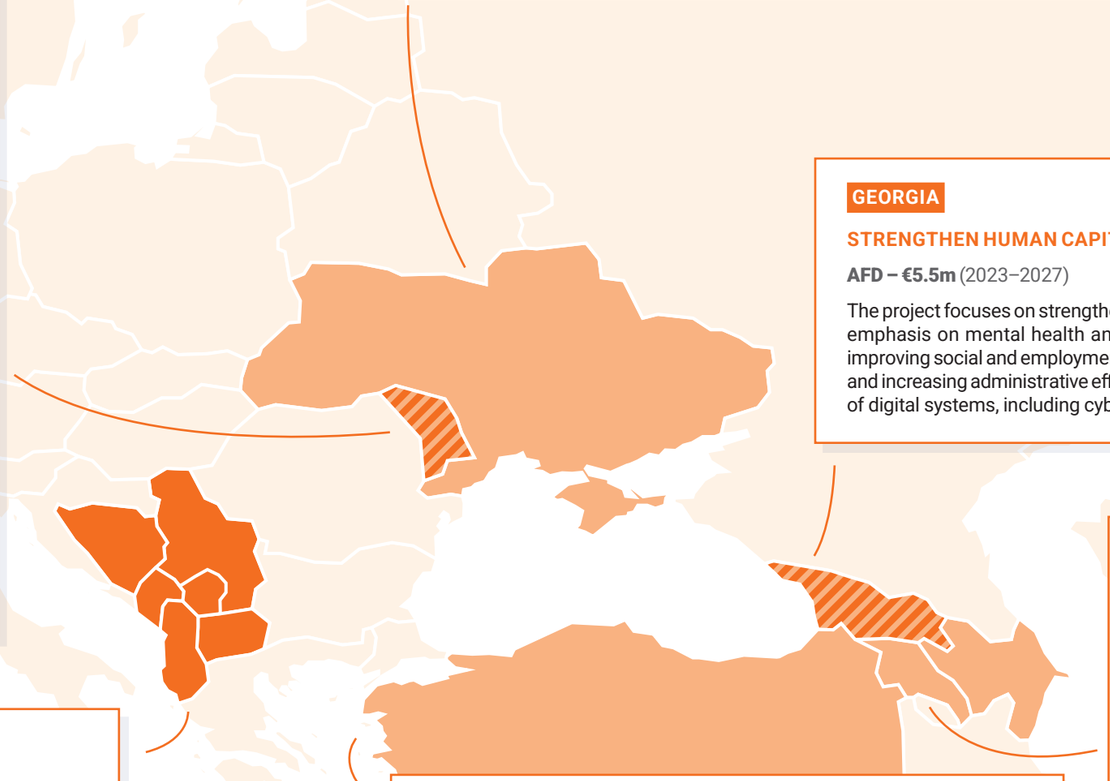
AFD – €1.3m (2023–2027)

This technical assistance project aims to strengthen Armenia's public financial management by supporting sustainable finance, budgetary reform, tax revenue mobilisation and improvements to public procurement. It thus contributes to greater fiscal transparency, improved revenue collection and strengthened institutional capacity, thereby bolstering Armenia's economic resilience and governance standards.

Regional coordination	Turkey, Istanbul
Country office	Ukraine, Kyiv
Project offices	Moldova, Chisinau
	Turkey, Ankara
	Georgia, Tbilisi
	Armenia, Yerevan
	Albania, Tirana
	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo

Support regional resilience and energy security AREA 2

Boost the economy and human capital: competitiveness, inclusion and health AREA 3



ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, KOSOVO, NORTH MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA

JUST TRANSITION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AREA 2

EU – €5m (2025–2028)

The project aims to support the countries of the Western Balkans in their transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy, with a particular focus on a just transition away from coal-based and high CO_2 emission industries.

MOLDOVA

ENERGY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AREA 2

AFD – €4.2m (2023–2028)

The main aim of this technical assistance, funded by the AFD through EU delegated funds, is to support the Moldovan Ministry of Energy, as well as other energy stakeholders in the country, in embarking on a green and sustainable transition of the energy sector, while complying with the EU acquis required for accession.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND IRRIGATION PROGRAMME AREA 2

AFD – €3.8m (2026–2032)

Technical assistance for an AFD loan to ANIF (Agency for Land Improvement) for the implementation of an integrated agricultural development and irrigation programme in the Republic of Moldova. Its aim is to enhance the resilience of agricultural systems, boost the sector's productivity and competitiveness, increase employment and household incomes in rural areas, and contribute to the sustainable development of the agri-food sector.

MOLDOVA, UKRAINE, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA

EU4INNOVATION EAST AREA 3

EU – €22m (2024–2028)

Led by Expertise France in the Eastern Partnership countries, this project aims to strengthen the region's innovation and start-up ecosystems, promote their convergence with the EU market and provide targeted support to the digital technology sector.

ALBANIA

ENERGY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AREA 2

AFD – €0.5m (2026–2027)

The programme aims to contribute to the implementation of a targeted set of measures relating to sectoral energy reforms in Albania, as part of the Public Policy Loan for the 2025–2026 period. It builds on the previous phases of technical assistance, providing support to the Albanian Ministries of Infrastructure and Energy, as well as to the Albanian Energy Regulator.

UKRAINE

REHAB: MENTAL HEALTH AND PHYSICAL REHABILITATION AREA 3

AFD – €5m (2025–2027)

The REHAB project aims to strengthen the Ukrainian healthcare system by focusing on mental health and physical medicine and rehabilitation. It includes the establishment and equipping of specialised centres, including a mental health centre in Odesa, support for reforms and training (Franco-Ukrainian cooperation, reconstructive surgery and 3D prosthetics), and feasibility studies to facilitate access to local financing through AFD loans.

HEALTH SUPPORT: PRIORITY ASSISTANCE IN EMERGENCIES AREA 3

MEAE – FR – €18m (2024–2026)

The project aims to improve access to essential healthcare in Ukraine. It is structured around three key areas: the mobilisation of French expertise (oncology, mental health, rehabilitation), the restoration of infrastructure (air-raid shelters, hospitals, mental health centres) and the provision of specialised medical equipment (angiography systems, laparoscopes).

GEORGIA

STRENGTHEN HUMAN CAPITAL IN GEORGIA AREA 3

AFD – €5.5m (2023–2027)

The project focuses on strengthening primary healthcare, with an emphasis on mental health and a gender-sensitive approach; improving social and employment services for vulnerable groups; and increasing administrative efficiency through the development of digital systems, including cybersecurity.

TURKEY

VET4JOB PHASE 2 AREA 3

EU – €44m (2024–2028)

The main objective of this second phase of the project is to improve the livelihoods and employment prospects of refugees and host communities in Turkey. To this end, Expertise France supports the development of their skills through apprenticeships and vocational training, in line with the needs of the labour market.

ARMENIA

TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR THE ARMENIAN BRANDY SECTOR AREA 2

EU – €3m (2024–2026)

The project aims to support the Armenian brandy industry and strengthen producers' resilience by establishing a robust, unified geographical indication system. By ensuring quality through control and certification mechanisms, and by defining the requirements for laboratory infrastructure, the project safeguards the operations of Armenian brandy producers and promotes their cultural heritage.

Contribute to peace, security and stability in the region AREA 4

Strengthen human and cultural ties between societies AREA 5

ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, KOSOVO, NORTH MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA

COMBAT MIGRANT SMUGGLING AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AREA 4

EU – €0.3m (2023–2027)

The programme, funded by the European Union, aims to strengthen the fight against migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the Western Balkans.
As part of the consortium comprising GIZ, CIVIPOL, the Italian Ministry of the Interior and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (CILC), the agency is responsible for the justice component to enhance the authorities' capacity to conduct more complex investigations, prosecutions and trials, as well as to improve inter-agency and intra-regional cooperation in investigations and prosecutions.

SHARED HORIZONS AREA 5

MEAE - FR – €2m (2024–2026)

This youth-focused project, which aims to promote the reconciliation of historical narratives across the wider Balkans, brings together the Western Balkan countries that are candidates for European Union membership. The project is structured around four key areas: sport as a unifying force, in partnership with Play International; the promotion of heritage and places of remembrance, in partnership with ALDA and the "Museum of the 90s"; the fight against disinformation, in partnership with CFI (Canal France International), and culture through travelling events to foster dialogue on "shared memories", in partnership with the Institut Français in Paris.

MULTI-COUNTRY – ENLARGEMENT AND EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD

EUP2P DUG GLOBAL – EASTERN/ CENTRAL EUROPE AREA 4

EU – €3m (2024–2026)

This project, a flagship initiative of the European Union, aims to strengthen controls on exports of dual-use goods and the arms trade, whilst supporting international trade in a safe and peaceful manner. Supported by the European Commission and the European External Action Service, the programme provides technical assistance and training modules, and promotes the exchange of best practice.

MOLDOVA

CULTURE AND HERITAGE IN MOLDOVA AREA 5

EU – €6m (2027–2030)

This Culture and Heritage programme aims to promote the potential of the cultural sectors as drivers of economic growth through the implementation of sector-specific public policies, support for the conservation of cultural and religious heritage, and the promotion of the arts and culture as tools for human development and for unlocking the economic potential of the creative industries.

UKRAINE

CYBER UKRAINE AREA 4

MEAE - FR – €0.5m (2024–2026)

The project aims to support, within the framework of the Tallinn Mechanism, civilian staff in public administrations and critical infrastructure in the field of cyber defence, through the implementation of a structured programme of training courses designed to foster the development of cyber resilience and encourage the alignment of Ukrainian practices in this area with international standards.

ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, KOSOVO, NORTH MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA, TURKEY

SUPPORT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY AREA 5

EU – €15m (2026–2029)

The aim is to strengthen participatory democracies and support the process of integration into the European Union in the Western Balkans and Turkey; This requires the involvement of civil society, with a more gender-sensitive approach, and the promotion of media independence and pluralism through an environment more conducive to freedom of expression, improved internal governance of media organisations and the establishment of professional and ethical standards for the production of high-quality content.

ARMENIA

FEF HERITAGE AND HISTORY MUSEUM IN ARMENIA AREA 5

MEAE - FR – €0.2m (2025–2026)

In collaboration with the Armenian Centre for Scientific Research on Historical and Cultural Heritage, the aim is to carry out a structural and geotechnical assessment of the Great Hermitage of Tatev site;
The project also supports the preservation of Armenian cultural heritage by organising a restoration training workshop focusing on 22 artefacts from the History Museum, aimed at heritage professionals and students.
It also supports the production of a documentary and an exhibition showcasing this work, and helps to raise the profile of careers in the catering industry, in particular by highlighting the role of women in this sector.

Expertise France is the inter-ministerial public agency for international technical cooperation and a subsidiary of the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Group. The second largest agency in Europe, it designs and implements projects that sustainably strengthen public policies in developing and emerging countries. Governance, security, climate, health, education... It works in key areas of development and contributes alongside its partners to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

For a world in common.



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October 2026

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EXPERTISE FRANCE

Regional Coordination for the European Neighbourhood and Enlargement

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