



RÉPUBLIQUE
FRANÇAISE

Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité



AFD Group in the Middle East



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A portfolio of
129 projects
financed since 2016

2.258 Billion€
financial commitments
between 2016 and 2021

1 246 931
beneficiaries of projects
funded by the Minka peace
and resilience fund in the
Middle East

AFD group is a major partner of Middle Eastern countries. Its action aims to identify and promote sustainable development pathways on the premise of mitigating vulnerabilities that compromise the future of next generations. The Middle East Regional Office manages and supports the Group's activities in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinian Territories. Its work on Syria and Yemen is limited to monitoring and analysis.

OUR ACTION IN THE **Middle East**

In a fragile region marked by protracted and compounding crises, and structural challenges, AFD Group committed to adopt a regional strategy on a ten-year timeframe. This long-term goal ensures strategic consistency and consolidates the Group's activity with its partners. The strategy's three objectives are:

1

Strengthen the social link

both vertically (quality of the relation between institutions and citizens – targeting mainly young people and women) and horizontally (quality of relations between the different societies that structure Middle Eastern communities). In line with its "Vulnerabilities to Crises and Resilience" Strategy and the models of the *Pathways for Peace* report, AFD Group will seek to support the inclusion of marginalized populations and territories, as well as increase access to more inclusive, participatory and transparent public institutions, to mitigate the upward pressure on basic services.

2

Sustainably and equitably manage shared areas and resources.

This action will be conducted i) at the local level, by working on issues of access to land or management of urban spaces, to create a sense of community when this is lacking, and encourage mixed spaces (social, community-based, generational); ii) at the national and regional levels, by working towards good resource governance (e.g., availability and quality of water resources, energy efficiency and renewable energies), as well as enhancing a shared historical and cultural heritage; and iii) at the global level, by contributing to the management of global common goods (climate, biodiversity, health safety) by raising awareness amongst the region's citizens and AFD Group's counterparts about the risks of rapid environmental degradation.

3

Support an equitable and sustainable growth trajectory.

by supporting i) both public and private investments in promising sectors that can boost employment locally, particularly for women and youth and ii) local economic development based on financial inclusion and support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). By bolstering entrepreneurship and innovation, these investments will encourage women's participation in the economy and will be ecologically sustainable, in line with the Paris Agreement.

AFD's approach in the region aims to create leverage to maximize and upscale project impacts. The Group is committed to financing sustainable, equitable and inclusive operations, with special emphasis on gender equality issues and to issues of adaptation and disaster prevention, which is critical in a region exposed to the effects of climate change.

Expertise France

Expertise France (EF) is the French public agency for the design and implementation of international technical cooperation projects. Strongly committed to its partners in the region (Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories, Syria and Yemen), EF designs and implements **technical assistance projects** in several **priority areas**: i) support for reforms and good governance, ii) strengthening social cohesion by promoting dialogue between government, civil society and youth, iii) prevention and management of risks of natural and industrial disasters and iv) early recovery and resilience of populations in crisis affected or fragile areas.

The Minka Peace and resilience fund in the Middle East is AFD's prevention-oriented response aiming at mitigating the vulnerabilities generated by the forced displacements caused by the Syrian and Iraqi conflicts and strengthening the resilience of the host countries. The **€ 272 million grants committed from 2017 to 2021** helped reduce vulnerabilities, tackle sources of violence and build peace. This initiative is a multi-sectoral approach, to respond to diverse needs of vulnerable populations, refugees, internally displaced and members of host communities (health, education, water and sanitation, etc.). This Initiative works to bring collectively quick results and lasting changes in people's lives: **89% of funding granted in 2017** was implemented by non-state actors and an increasing share of these are national actors (the civil society in particular).

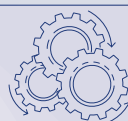
KEY FIGURES IN THE Middle East

With an investment portfolio of more than € 2.258 billion from 2016 to 2021, AFD Group funds projects for the benefit of States, the private sector or non-governmental organizations. Its designed solutions are adapted to leverage the development of the region through a range of financing structured tools to meet the needs of each partner in the form of loans, guarantees and grants. Our investment portfolio in 2016 and 2021 was distributed as follows: water supply and sanitation sectors (42%), (14%) private sector, (13%) governance, (12%) infrastructure and urban development, (6%) agriculture, (4%) health, and (3%) education.



2.258 Bn €

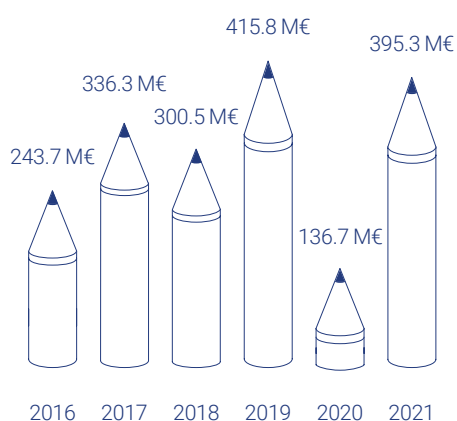
Total amount of AFD Group signed projects from 2016 to 2021



129 projects

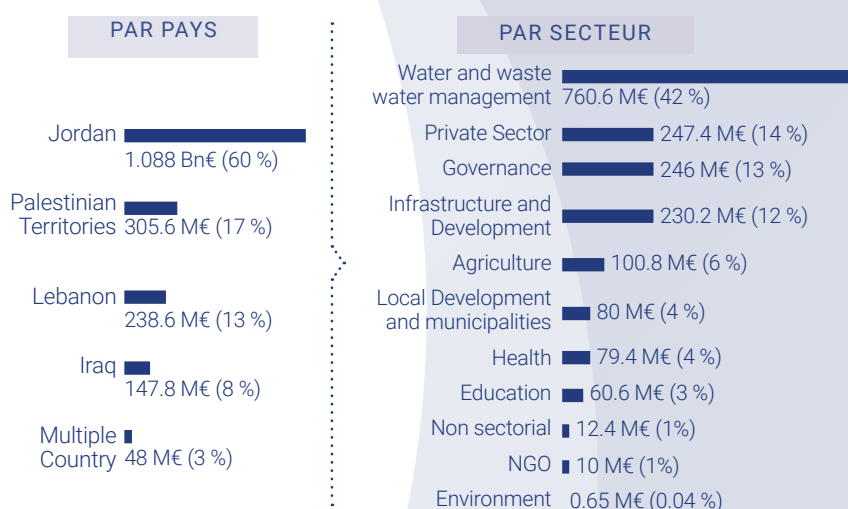
Total number of AFD Group signed projects from 2016 to 2021

Financial Commitments Chart* from 2016 to 2021



*Cumulative amounts of signed projects excluding Iraq budgetary support of 430M € in 2017

AFD and Proparco Financial Commitments Breakdown* 2016-2021



*Cumulative amounts of signed projects excluding Iraq budgetary support of 430M € in 2017

PROPARCO

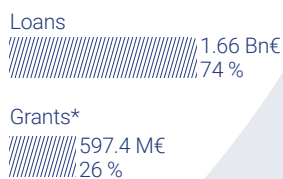
Since 2016,

Proparco has provided funding for a portfolio of 17 projects

with total commitments of **€ 245 million**, in the **4 countries** covered by the Middle East Regional Office.

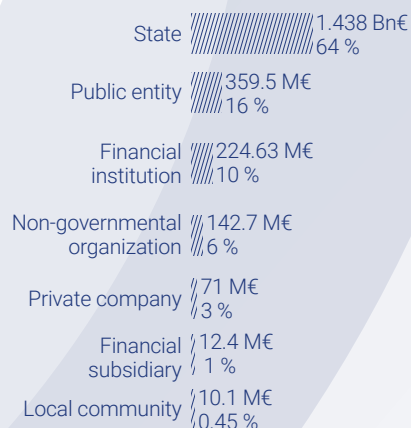
BY TOOL

Financial commitments



*Including 209.5 M€ in delegated funds

BY COUNTERPARTY



AFD Group implements France's policy in the areas of development and international solidarity. The Group includes Agence Française de Développement (AFD), which finances the public sector and NGOs, as well as research and education in sustainable development; its subsidiary Proparco, which is dedicated to private sector financing; and soon, Expertise France, a technical cooperation agency. The Group finances, supports and accelerates transitions towards a fairer, more resilient world.

With our partners, we are building shared solutions with and for the people of the Global South. Our teams are at work on more than 4,000 projects in the field, in the French Overseas Departments and Territories, in 115 countries and in regions in crisis. We strive to protect global public goods – promoting a stable climate, biodiversity and peace, as well as gender equality, education and healthcare. In this way, we contribute to the commitment of France and the French people to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Towards a world in common.

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