

2019



Support for Civil Society Organizations

ACTIVITY REPORT

#WorldInCommon





A

FD has been supporting the initiatives of French civil society organizations (CSOs) and their partners in the Global South for 10 years, with financing delegated by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs. This financial package continues to expand, having increased from €38 million in 2009 to €93 million in 2019.

This enhanced collaboration has been generally established at AFD, which has allocated CSOs €341 million in grants in 2019 (a total consisting of funding from the CSO Initiatives Fund, the Operations Department and the French Facility for Global Environment - FFEM, excluding funds delegated by the European Union).

The capacity of CSOs to take action in complex situations, their expertise and their responsiveness (demonstrated during the Covid-19 crisis) make them key AFD partners in the realization of supported development programs.

Introduction

In recent years, AFD has collaborated increasingly with CSOs, offering them a wide and diverse range of instruments tailored to their needs and capacities.

The **CSO Initiatives Fund** is managed by the Civil Society Organizations Division (DPA/OSC) with financing delegated by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE). It finances development projects identified, designed and led by French CSOs (associations, foundations and unions).

These initiatives are implemented in countries eligible to receive Official Development Assistance, with the aim of responding to the needs of vulnerable populations. As part of its core mandate, the CSO initiative strengthens CSO partners in the countries of operation to help build and develop civil societies around the world.

Among the supported initiatives, some are implemented in France. They contribute to structuring and strengthening CSOs or raising the awareness of French citizens and young people about issues related to international solidarity, respect and tolerance.

The DPA/OSC Division also coordinates AFD's strategic dialogue with French CSOs. It thereby plays an active role in strengthening relations between these CSOs and AFD.

Every year, AFD also issues a number of calls to CSOs for projects via various mechanisms, including: The Facility for Sectoral Innovation for NGOs (FISONG), FFEM financing, and financing for operations in fragile, crisis and post-crisis contexts via the Minka Peace and Resilience Fund.

CSOs may also be selected by national contracting authorities (States, public or parastatal entities) for the implementation of AFD-funded projects via calls for bids. This allows them to implement projects on behalf of the contracting authorities or to assist them.

CSO Initiatives Fund in 2019



97 projects
Co-financed

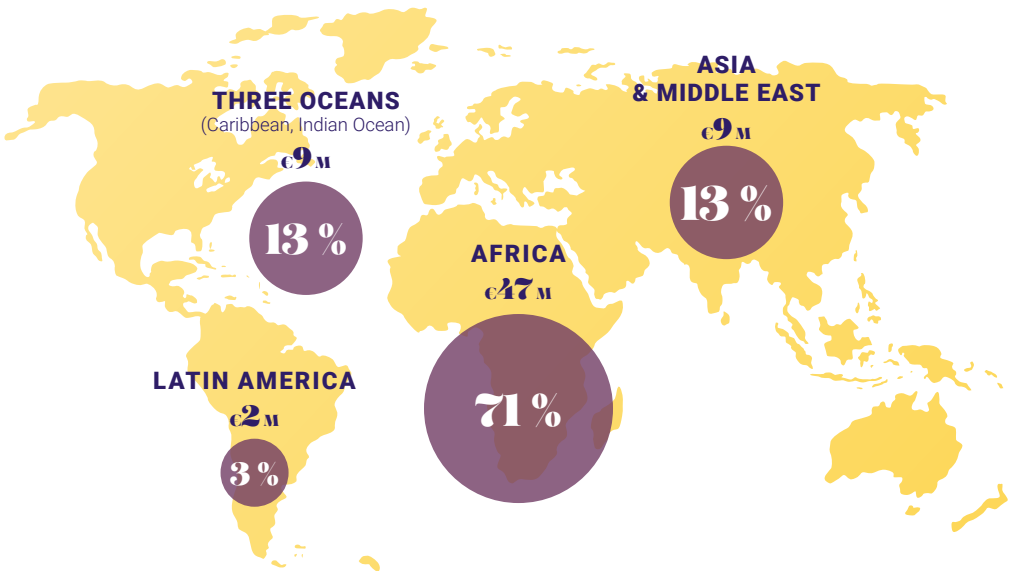


€93 M
allocated by AFD
(total project amount:
€175 M)



460 projects
ongoing

Geographical breakdown of field projects

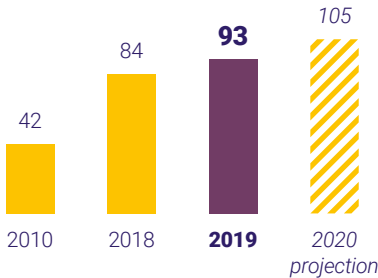


The five most supported countries over the past three years:

Madagascar (€15 million), Haiti (€14.6 million), Burkina Faso (€13.8 million),
Mali (€13.6 million) and Senegal (€9.8 million)

Constant growth in commitments

for 10 years (in €M):



In 2019

82 FRENCH CSOs supported

2,150 LOCAL PARTNERS financed through them

10 NEW CSOs gained access to the CSO Initiatives Fund (for a total of €4.8 million)

€ 960,000 : average amount of grants allocated by AFD in 2019

Project sizes varied considerably, from €150,000 for “small” projects to over €3 million for the largest projects.



In 2019, 36% of financing supported programs and the implementation of thematic strategies

- **2 ongoing multi-stakeholder concerted programs**, one in Tunisia (**Solidarité Laique** | €3.1 million*), the other in the Republic of Congo (**Comité français pour la Solidarité Internationale** | €1.9 million) Multi-stakeholder concerted programs are cooperation programs between France and a partner country. They are coordinated by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and bring together civil society, regional and local authorities and public authorities from both countries. The objective is to foster public policy dialogue and support citizen initiatives concerning themes that are decided jointly (as regards education or youth, for example). AFD has conducted a capitalization-assessment on these programs. In 2019, 4 concerted programs were being carried out.
- **2 new multi-year partnership agreements**, which, following a dialogue with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and AFD, allow French CSOs to operate in a strategic area, in line with the international agenda:
 - Strengthening farmers’ and civil society organizations in 15 countries in the South to support the agro-ecological transition and resilience of rural areas (**AVSE** | €7.2 million, including €3.5 million for 2019-2020).
 - Supporting training and integration systems in 10 countries to provide young people and entrepreneurs with access to sustainable employment (**IECD** | €7.7 million, including €3.3 million for 2019-2020).

The multi-year partnership agreements already financed are led by Action Against Hunger, CCFD-Terre Solidaire, HI - Humanity & Inclusion and Médecins du Monde.
- **11 programs for a total of €22 million for the fight against HIV/AIDS, community medicine, the defense of journalists, the development of agricultural sectors**
These programs build the capacities of CSOs and their partners, while allowing them to carry out field, advocacy and capitalization activities in several countries in their area of expertise.

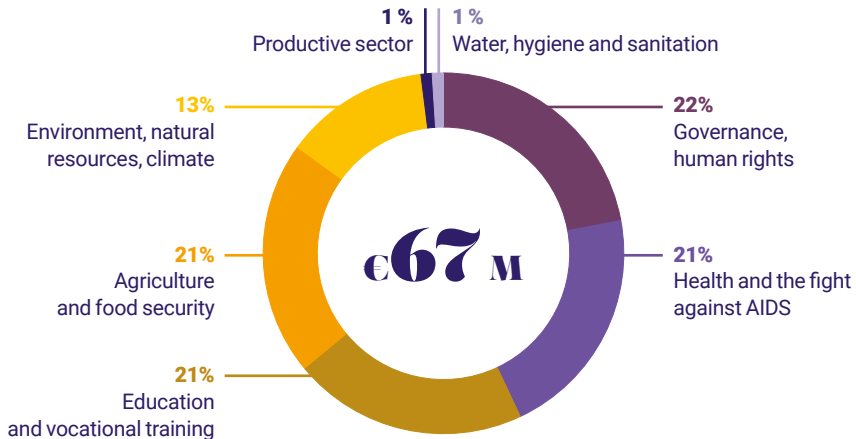
* The amounts mentioned are for financing provided by AFD

Sectoral breakdown of projects

In 2019, **85%** of financing for field projects co-finances projects in four sectors:



Field projects



Human rights

Reinforcing the protection of the most vulnerable human rights defenders

Human rights defenders are protected under international law and recognized for their role in the development and promotion of peace and the rule of law. Yet they continue to be harassed and oppressed. The project led by the [FIDH - International Federation for Human Rights](#) is supporting 2,000 defenders in 30

countries, improving their overall environment for action and human rights work (advocacy, training, communication) and protecting them in the event of threats and violations of their rights (including material assistance, shelter, documentation and support). (FIDH | €748,000).

Projects of general interest (in France)



Education in citizenship and international solidarity

ECIS projects encourage citizens to learn about contemporary issues and get involved in solidarity and cooperation activities. They are led by either a single CSO or a group, and target all audiences (the general public, educational communities, young people, schoolchildren, older people, and people in urban and rural areas) across the country. Initiatives include awareness-raising campaigns, regional and national festivals, the creation of educational tools, activities in classrooms, community centers and prisons.



Education in fair trade

10 CSOs inform, train and empower young people to develop their skills and enable them to become actors in changing our consumption and production patterns ([Commerce équitable France](#) | [FAIR Future](#) | €1.2 million).

Consolidating associative networks

By supporting CSO platforms, providing financial backing or launching collective initiatives, projects aimed at strengthening the non-profit sector and build the capacities of French international solidarity organizations, focusing on expertise, coordination, advocacy and participation in the major national and international debates.



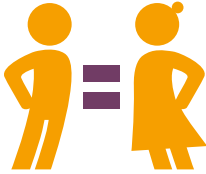
Making French CSOs more inclusive

[E3E](#), which is specialized in improving international solidarity practices, increases the understanding and mainstreaming of gender in the operation of CSOs and the design, monitoring and evaluation of their projects ([Gender & Territories](#) | €1.8 million).

The Youth Commission of Coordination SUD, an association gathering over 170 French international solidarity CSOs, reinforces the integration of young people into CSOs and their projects ([E&D](#) | [Making Way for the Young](#) | €280,000).

Focus on...

Gender



In 2019, **70% of financing (€65 million)** was allocated to projects for which gender equality was a central or significant objective (DAC 1 and DAC 2)

€312 M

was allocated by AFD to 356 projects for gender equality between 2014 and 2019

Proportion of projects with gender as the main objective:



2017

€6 M
1 project
in 10



2018

€7 M
1 project
in 10



2019

€10 M
1 project
in 7

Climate



In 2019, **€31 million** was allocated to 38 projects that have a climate benefit

28%

of this financing with a climate benefit preserves local biodiversity



18 projects for adaptation to the impacts of climate change

4 mitigation projects for climate change

16 "mixed" projects (mitigation + adaptation)

Gender and climate projects

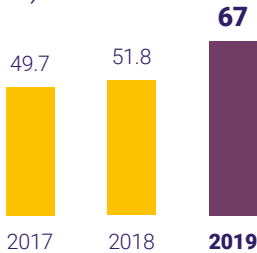
While women are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, they also play a key role in energy transitions. About 24% of financing of the CSO Initiatives Fund helps **reduce gender inequalities by combating climate change. It is also the main objective of three projects financed in 2019**, including the project of the CSO *Women Engage for a Common Future (WECE)*, which is helping women's cooperatives for argan oil production in Morocco adopt solar solutions and sustainable production methods (€380,000).

Youth



Financial commitments that mobilize and/or benefit youth

(in €M) :



39% of financing (€35.8 million) helps make young people conveyors of change...

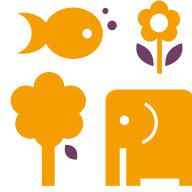
- **In health, with the NGO Solthis:**

Young men and women in Niger are taking action to defend their right to sexual and reproductive health and encouraging decision-makers to adopt a national strategy to meet their needs on the subject (*Young people and adolescents in health* | € 700,000).

- **In the Mediterranean, with REF - Euromed France Network:**

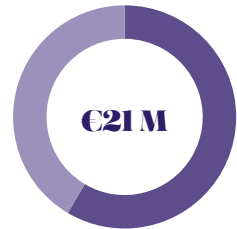
Young people in the Euro-Mediterranean region are taking action to voice the concerns of their societies. Through contacts and social networking, they are involved in debates about key regional issues: employment and vocational training, free movement, social and climate justice, citizenship and the freedom of expression (*French civil society working on both sides of the Mediterranean* | € 340,000).

Biodiversity



Financing allocated to projects for agriculture, livestock farming, the environment and waste management

including
€8.7 M
to protect
biodiversity



WWF Flagship biodiversity program

WWF is promoting the value of natural capital by mobilizing and raising the awareness of policy-makers and the general public. The project targets young French people in particular, but also people in the countries where WWF operates, including Cameroon, Gabon, Madagascar, Morocco and Tunisia.

In Gabon and Madagascar, WWF is supporting activities to conserve and restore local biodiversity (*"Nature 2020": Reversing Biodiversity Loss by 2030* | €3 million).

2019 events and highlights

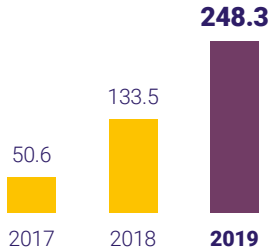
Every year, the CSO Division promotes and shares the projects and knowledge produced by CSOs. Here are a few examples:



AFD grants for CSOs, outside the CSO Initiatives Fund

Trend since 2017

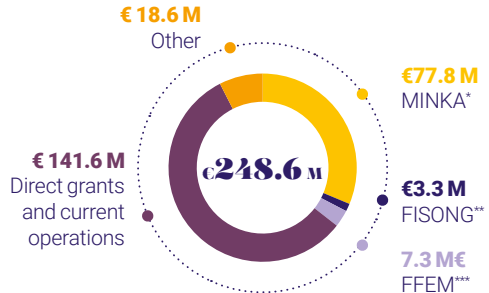
(in €M)



In addition to these grants, AFD has allocated €29.9 million to CSOs from funds delegated by the European Union

Breakdown of CSO grants in 2019

outside CSO Initiatives



*MINKA – Peace and Resilience Fund

**FISONG – Facility for Sectoral Innovation for NGOs

***FFEM – French Facility for Global Environment



Assisting victims of sexual and gender-based violence in Bangui

Sexual violence was already rife before the crisis in 2013 and is being used in the conflict in the Central African Republic as an instrument to terrorize and punish civilians. The Pierre Fabre Foundation, Panzi Foundation DRC, Dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation and Francophone

Institute for Justice and Democracy are joining hands to set up a medical, psychosocial and legal support center for victims

([Pierre Fabre Foundation](#) | €3 million).



€341M

Total allocated to French and international CSOs in 2019

(CSO Initiatives Fund, FFEM and Operations Department, excluding financing delegated by the EU)

Towards a world in common.

Agence Française de Développement Group (AFD Group) implements France's policy in the areas of development and international solidarity. It finances, supports and accelerates transitions towards a more coherent and resilient world.

With our partners, we are building shared solutions with and for the people of the Global South. Our teams are active in more than 4,000 projects in the field – in overseas France, in some 115 countries and in crisis areas, working to promote the "common goods" that are climate, biodiversity, peace, gender equality, education and health.

It's our way of contributing to the commitment France and the French people have made to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Towards a world in common.



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