



RÉPUBLIQUE
FRANÇAISE

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

**EXPERTISE
FRANCE**
GROUPE AFD



Expertise France AND the Blue Economy



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12

projects ongoing in 2023

€130

million of multi-year
commitments in 2023

Marine and coastal ecosystems provide the basis for a number of human activities. The blue lungs of our planet, they store carbon and produce half of the oxygen we breathe, contribute to the food security of people and play a part in the development of a number of economic activities that generate growth and employment. Expertise France supports the development of a sustainable and inclusive blue economy in its partner countries.

Know-how in common

The blue economy at Expertise France

The "blue economy" approach developed by Expertise France is fully in line with the commitments of AFD Group, which recognises the ocean as a common space of life and development. The Group's objective is to contribute to restoring the balance between the preservation of its good environmental status and its many uses by humanity.

Marine and coastal ecosystems are among the most vulnerable, as they are exposed to multiple human pressures with cumulative impacts: pollution, coastal artificialisation and destruction of natural habitats, overexploitation of sand and gravel, deep seabed mining, destructive fishing practices, development of invasive species, increase in carbon-intensive maritime transport, etc.

Climate change weakens and affects the functioning of ecosystems. This impairs their capacity to provide essential services for the economic development of people and the protection of social well-being.

With the increase and growth in human activities in marine and coastal areas, there is an urgent need to establish **an appropriate, multi-sectoral, integrated and participatory governance** in order to restore the balance between the preservation of ecosystems, economic development and social well-being.

Expertise France supports the vision of the European Union and the strategy of AFD Group which recognises **the crucial role played by marine and coastal ecosystems for a sustainable future**. Its strategy for the deployment of the blue economy is based on **safeguarding the health of marine and coastal ecosystems** as a foundation for the development of our societies.

Carbon sink

The ocean is a major natural carbon sink. It absorbs almost a third of anthropogenic CO₂ emissions, mainly through the accumulation of carbon in marine and coastal areas.

Despite the climate change mitigation potential of oceans, and while the impacts of global warming are already visible and are expected to increase in the coming years, only 8 of the 192 countries with Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement have included quantifiable measures for marine carbon sequestration.

Expertise France's action in the field of the blue economy is based on four pillars of intervention

1

Develop an integrated and participatory governance of marine and coastal areas and contribute to the surveillance, prevention and repression of illegal activities at sea

3

Restore, protect and repair marine and coastal ecosystems

2

Improve knowledge about ecosystems to promote the transition towards the blue economy

4

Increase the socioeconomic resilience of coastal communities and develop sustainable economic activities



A cross-cutting and inter-sectoral range of services

The cross-cutting and inter-sectoral nature of the blue economy requires the establishment of a governance adapted to marine and coastal areas. This ensures that public policies are coherent and that these **issues are territorialised, from the supranational level to the local level, based on the principle of subsidiarity.**

Expertise France has developed a range of services covering all aspects of the blue economy.



Maritime and port security and safety



Entrepreneurship and innovation in the sectors of the blue economy



Development of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors



Biodiversity, protection and restoration of ecosystems



Sustainable resources management



Circular economy and waste management



Social protection and risk prevention



Legal and judicial systems

Expertise France takes action at several levels:

- Regional level: integration of the cross-border dimension of the blue economy
- National level: development of public policy tools dedicated to the blue economy, transcending sectoral approaches “in silos”
- Local level: definition and operationalisation of governance and planning mechanisms for coastal and maritime areas, such as integrated coastal zone management



Developing appropriate governance for marine and coastal areas

#1

Developing integrated and participatory governance

The blue economy promotes an integrated, multi-level and participatory governance of coastal and marine areas. At European level, several initiatives are working towards the development of an integrated planning of these areas. In 2014, the European Union adopted a Framework Directive on Marine Spatial Planning (FDMSP) which includes processes and tools, such as the planning of maritime areas and integrated coastal zone management.

Expertise France helps partner countries and institutions detect, investigate and prosecute maritime crimes and offences in their maritime areas (illegal fishing, pollution, trafficking, piracy...), especially by supporting regional and national maritime surveillance centres.

ALGERIA

BLUE ECONOMY PROJECT – FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

2021-2025 | €20.7m | European Union

The project aims to contribute to the economic development of Algeria by sustainably building the blue economy, with a focus on the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

Under the project, Expertise France is assisting with planning for coastal and maritime areas by mobilising tools, such as for marine spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management.

#2

Improving knowledge to promote the transition towards the blue economy

Converting the theoretical concept of the blue economy into public policies and development projects that address the specific issues of each territory is a real challenge. The development and mobilisation of new knowledge, as well as data collection and processing tools, must be central to approaches to the blue economy. It is essential to inform and convince all the stakeholders of the benefits of the blue economy, in order to trigger the political, financial and human commitments required for its implementation.

Expertise France assists partner countries and institutions with the implementation of knowledge production and management systems. In partnership with civil society, the agency also carries out awareness-raising activities among communities on marine issues.

GULF OF GUINEA

GOGIN+

2021-2023 | €4m | European Union

Expertise France supports the development of cooperation on the control and surveillance of maritime areas and activities to tackle all illegal activities and situations of crisis and distress at sea.

To this end, it organises inter-institutional training in crisis management with simulation exercises and real-life situations: piracy, maritime pollution, operations to fight against illegal, undeclared and unregulated fishing.

MEDITERRANEAN

ACTION PLAN FOR A MODEL MEDITERRANEAN

The deployment of an international technical expert is providing support to partner countries for international commitments, national policies and strategic documents related to the sea and coasts. This expertise aims to ensure the implementation of the four components of the Action Plan for a Model Mediterranean, dedicated to the conservation of marine biodiversity, sustainable fisheries, the reduction of marine pollution and the reduction of the impacts of maritime transport on the environment.

TUNISIA

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE SUPPORT PROJECT IN GABES

€4.2m | European Union

Expertise France assists civil society organisations with the implementation of awareness-raising activities on marine issues. The objective is to improve knowledge about the impacts of pollution on health and the economy in the Gulf of Gabes and promote the organisation of environmental activities.

INDOPACIFIC

CRIMARIO

2020-2025 | €17.5m | European Union

The CRIMARIO project aims to strengthen maritime safety and security across the entire Indian Ocean, by assisting coastal countries with the development of maritime situational awareness.

Expertise France helps partner countries develop, deploy and take ownership of information-sharing and coordination platforms to facilitate decision-making and manage crisis situations.

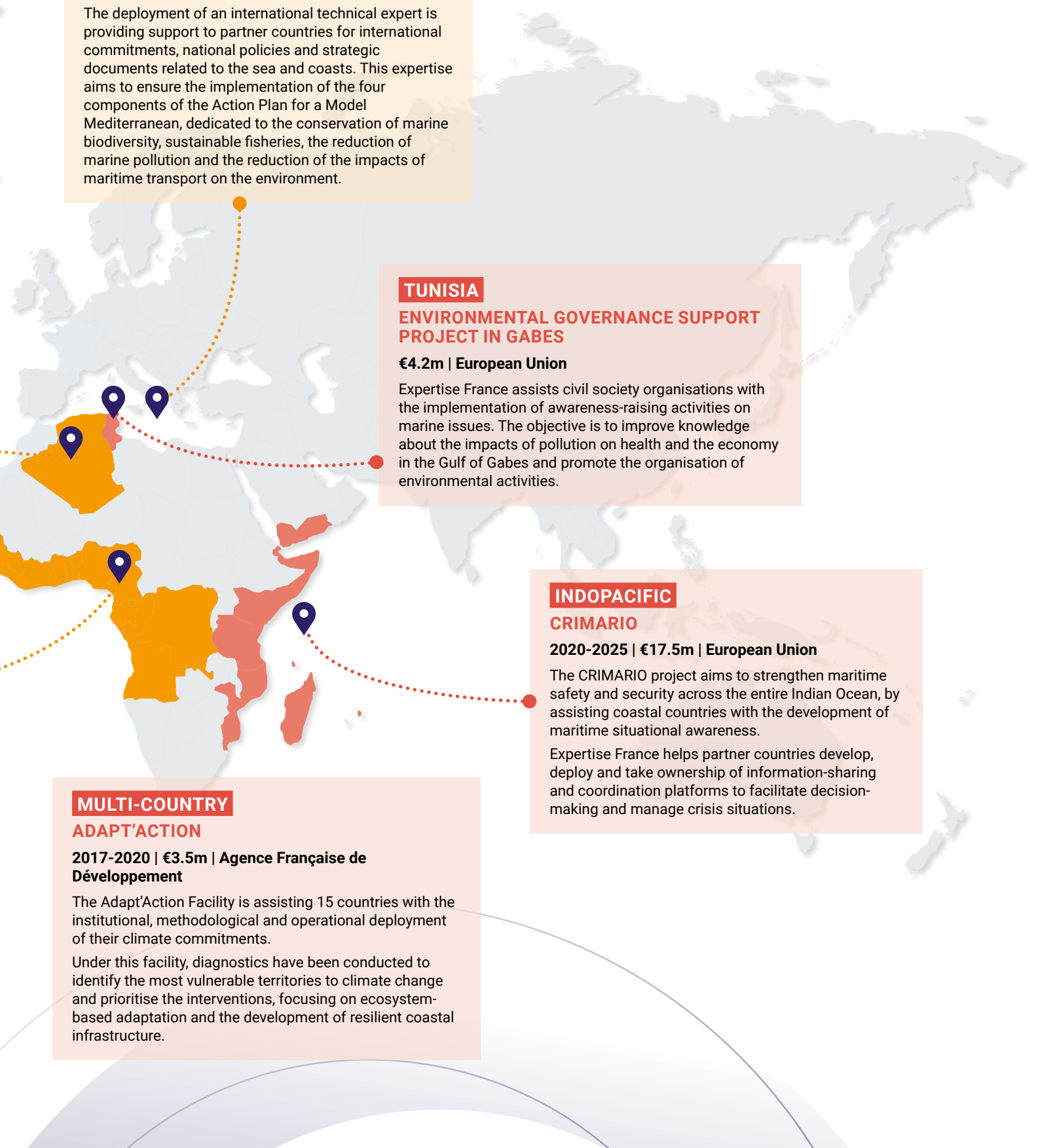
MULTI-COUNTRY

ADAPT'ACTION

2017-2020 | €3.5m | Agence Française de Développement

The Adapt'Action Facility is assisting 15 countries with the institutional, methodological and operational deployment of their climate commitments.

Under this facility, diagnostics have been conducted to identify the most vulnerable territories to climate change and prioritise the interventions, focusing on ecosystem-based adaptation and the development of resilient coastal infrastructure.



Working for resilient and productive marine and coastal areas

#3

Restoring and protecting marine and coastal ecosystems

The regulation of economic activities is not sufficient to maintain and/or restore the good environmental status of ecosystems. Concrete action for restoration and protection is essential.

Expertise France contributes to the preservation of marine and coastal ecosystems through awareness-raising, networking, capacity building and by pooling the efforts of all public, private and civil society stakeholders. Through its projects, Expertise France supports the managers of marine protected areas and assists with the restoration of degraded and endangered coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves and coral reefs, through grants allocated to local associations and by training field operators.

CARIBBEAN

RESEMBID

2018-2023 | €36.9m | European Union

With this project, Expertise France is assisting civil society with activities to protect and conserve marine and coastal areas. This involves financing about 20 civil society organisations and public institutions working for the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources.

#4

Strengthening the socioeconomic resilience of coastal communities

The diversification of economic activities, the promotion of investment and entrepreneurship, as well as the professionalisation of the various economic sectors of the blue economy offer real employment opportunities for people and the empowerment of young people and women.

Expertise France assists its partner countries with the development of inclusive and sustainable production models. This includes the implementation of the circular economy in marine and coastal areas.

MULTI-COUNTRY

BIODEV2030

2019-2023 | €10m | Agence Française de Développement

BIODEV2030 is helping 16 pilot countries adopt and ensure the sustainability of sector-based commitments to halt the loss of biodiversity and its consequences over the next decade.

To do so, a scientific diagnostic on the impacts and dependence of the sector in terms of biodiversity has been conducted in Senegal and Madagascar, in partnership with UICN and WWF.

ALGERIA

BLUE ECONOMY PROJECT – FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

2021-2025 | €20.7m | European Union

The project aims to contribute to the economic development of Algeria by sustainably developing the blue economy, with a focus on the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

For example, as part of the project, Expertise France is helping with the design and implementation of “start-ups and innovative companies in the blue economy” sub-programmes. It is also contributing to strengthening social protection systems and improving working conditions for employed and self-employed workers in the maritime sectors of the economy.

YEMEN

SUPPORTING THE RESILIENCE OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR

2021-2022 | €1m | Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

The project aims to promote competitive, sustainable and inclusive value chains in the maritime sectors of the economy. To this end, Expertise France is supporting the development of small-scale and industrial processing activities for fishery products and the strengthening of training services on activities related to fisheries and aquaculture.

EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

RETHINKING PLASTICS: CIRCULAR ECONOMY SOLUTIONS TO MARINE LITTER

2019-2022 | €10m | European Union

The project aims to facilitate the development of a circular economy and prevent plastic waste pollution. It is strengthening the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems by supporting the development of public policies to:

- Improve the treatment of pollution generated by maritime activities (industrial fishing and cargos)
- Inform and support local communities of small-scale fishermen to improve the management of plastic waste collected at sea and/or from their own activities.

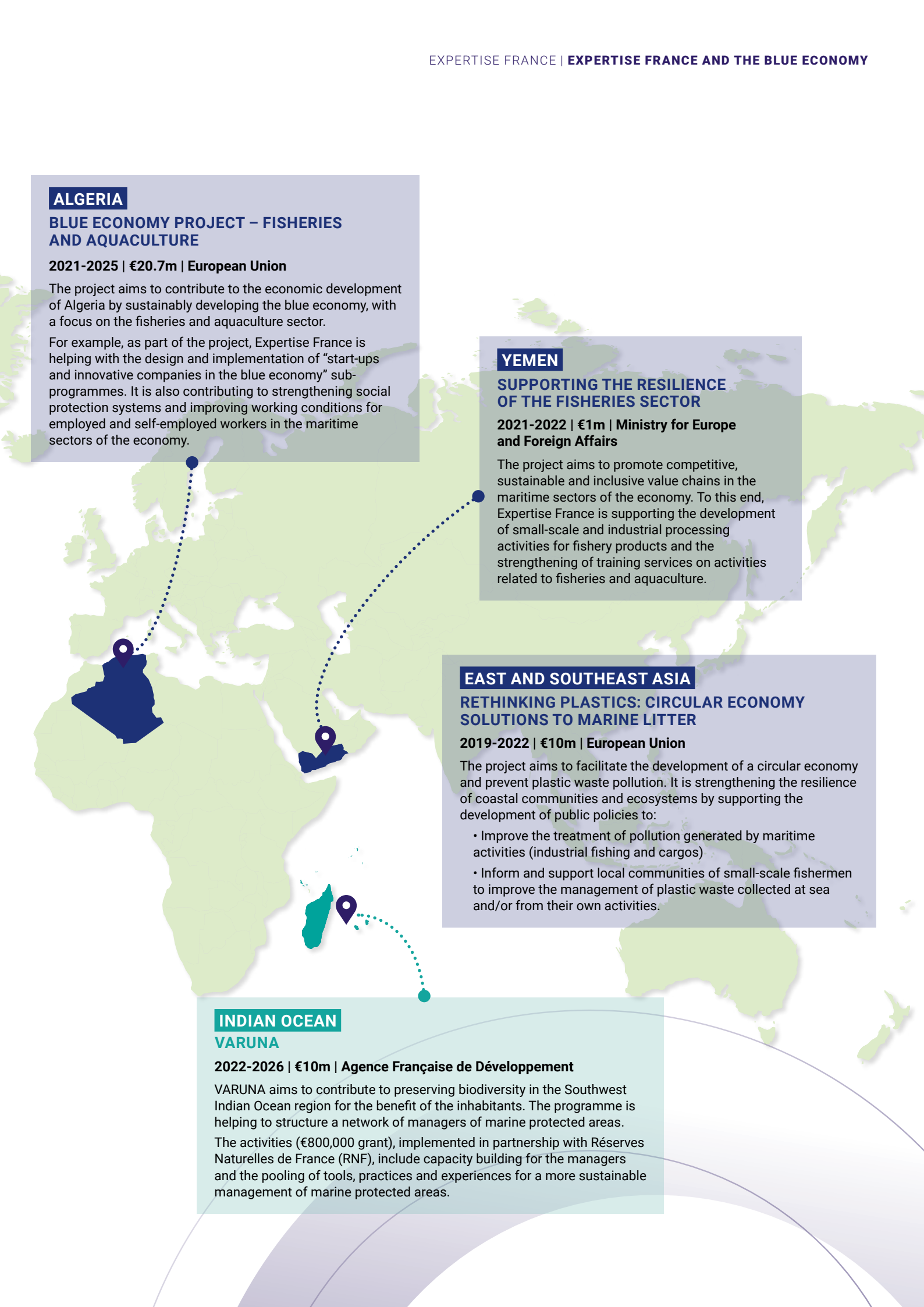
INDIAN OCEAN

VARUNA

2022-2026 | €10m | Agence Française de Développement

VARUNA aims to contribute to preserving biodiversity in the Southwest Indian Ocean region for the benefit of the inhabitants. The programme is helping to structure a network of managers of marine protected areas.

The activities (€800,000 grant), implemented in partnership with Réserves Naturelles de France (RNF), include capacity building for the managers and the pooling of tools, practices and experiences for a more sustainable management of marine protected areas.



Expertise France is a public agency and the interministerial actor in international technical cooperation, subsidiary of the Agence française de développement Group (AFD Group). As 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 operates in key areas of development and contributes alongside its partners to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For a world in common.

For more information: www.expertisefrance.fr



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Création Planet 7