



RÉPUBLIQUE  
FRANÇAISE

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

EXPERTISE  
FRANCE  
GROUPE AFD



## Expertise France in the **Indo-Pacific**



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**55**

States and  
territories covered

**51**

regional  
projects

**€141,5m**

business volume  
in 2023

**Reconciling economic development with environmental performance, governance, safety and the digitalisation of activities.**

As a strategic area that has become the world's economic and political centre of gravity, the Indo-Pacific is a concentration both of development opportunities and of numerous sources of risks, particularly with regard to the effects of climate change. The world's busiest trade routes are concentrated in this region, while territorial disputes threaten freedom of navigation; some of the world's richest natural reserves are found in the Indo-Pacific, while almost half of all greenhouse gases come from this region.

Know how in common

# Indo-Pacific: two interconnected oceans at the heart of global issues

A region with strong economic and demographic dynamics, representing 40% of the world's GDP, more than half the world's population and a transit route for 80% of international trade. These dynamics, however, tend to exert additional pressure on the region and exacerbate the effects of climate change, making the countries of the Indo-Pacific even more vulnerable, despite the fact that the region is home to exceptional terrestrial and marine ecosystems, such as the third largest tropical forest basin and the world's largest coral reef.

France is the only European power-nation in the Indo-Pacific with five overseas territories: Mayotte and La Réunion in the Indian Ocean; New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna in the Pacific Ocean. These departments and collectivities are home to 1.6 million French citizens. The regional integration of these territories is a priority of France's strategy in the Indo-Pacific, particularly through support for regional organisations. Expertise France supports its partners in the region to promote development that is more respectful of the environment, focusing on innovation for sustainable prosperity and based on strong regional cooperation.



## Our impact in 2023

**336**

structures supported in the provision of health services

**1920**

final beneficiaries of actions to ensure maritime safety

**793**

staff members trained in domestic resource mobilisation

**6.9**

million hectares benefiting from improved marine biodiversity management practices

- **The Indian and Pacific oceans lie at the heart** of inter-state tensions that regularly erupt over control of marine resources (fisheries, energy, etc.) in this region, which is home to major energy and goods highways, and where securing these resources is a major issue for world trade.
- **The resilience of ecosystems, communities and economies to climate change is at the heart of the challenges affecting the region:** terrestrial and marine biodiversity, which is particularly rich in the region, is threatened by increasing pollution (between 5 and 13 million tonnes of marine waste dumped every year), rising ocean temperatures and deforestation. These tensions call for a redirection of economies towards more sustainable practices and strong measures, inspired in particular by nature-based solutions in Oceania, where economic development and respect for the environment go hand in hand.

- **Dynamic regions, driven by proactive young people and cutting-edge technologies:** with 75% of the ASEAN population under the age of 35, these young people are working to modernise their economies, in particular by positioning the region as a leader in digital technology.



### Our objective

To contribute to the achievement of the sustainable development objectives by helping to unite a vast area facing common challenges.

Expertise France implements projects in key sectors such as the low-carbon transition, biodiversity conservation, digital transition, governance, maritime safety, support for the structuring of local economic sectors and human security, and encourages the development of regional and international dialogue on these issues.

As part of France's strategy for the Indo-Pacific, Expertise France's activities are in line with the AFD Group's regional strategy, which focuses on resilience to climate change and disaster risk reduction in particular.

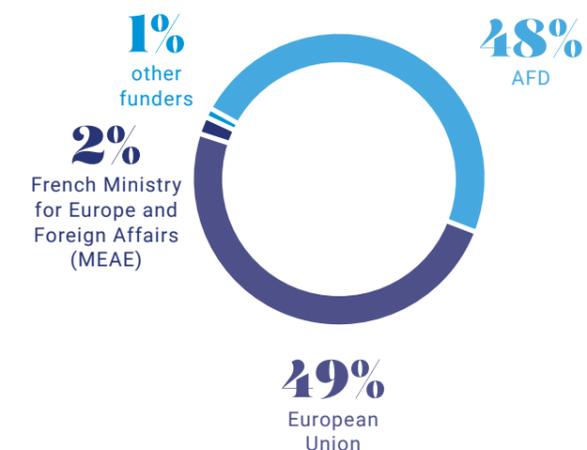
Expertise France is also helping to implement the European Union's Global Gateway strategy, which aims to build quality infrastructure, improve connectivity and support a just energy transition.

**85** International Technical Experts (ITEs)

**211** of which 118 are French

employees in the area

### Breakdown by funder



# Expertise France's areas of intervention



## Area 1

### STRENGTHEN MARITIME AND PORT SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Promote the development of safe maritime transport by strengthening the capacity of national maritime agencies to manage incidents in ports involving the transportation of hazardous goods;
- Improve the exchange of information and knowledge at regional and inter-regional level, in particular through joint operations, the construction of a regional network of expertise and by using the neutral and secure information-sharing platform IORIS;
- Promote the European Union and its Member States as strategic players in security and defence in the Indo-Pacific, and encourage regional cooperation;
- Support local authorities in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

## Area 2

### HELP TO REDUCE THE RISK OF DISASTERS AND MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

- Support governments and regional organisations in adopting preventive measures to combat the risk of disasters and assist with the implementation of risk-preparedness activities, in particular the setting up of multi-hazard early warning systems and the training of first responders;
- Raise awareness of disaster risks and the effects of climate change throughout civil society, in both the private and public sectors, and among the general public;
- Improve capacity in the field of biosafety and biosecurity, by revising the legislative framework or conducting national risk assessment studies;
- Strengthen local air quality monitoring capabilities.



## Area 3

### PRESERVE BIODIVERSITY AND SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE OCEAN MANAGEMENT

- Help partner countries to achieve their objectives in terms of sustainable ecosystem management by integrating the challenges of ecological transition into all economic sectors;
- Strengthen public policy in the field of marine debris by facilitating policy dialogue and structuring capacity-building at national and regional level;
- Promote the green and blue economies as sources of sustainable economic growth that is inclusive, creates jobs and generates human capital;
- Support farming practices that respect biodiversity and are resilient to climate change in order to ensure sustainable food systems;
- Support the energy transition and increase regional resilience to climate change by strengthening public policies and promoting best practice.

## Area 4

### DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND SUPPORT THE DIGITAL TRANSITION

- Strengthen digital cooperation between the European Union and partner countries by facilitating dialogue to develop joint initiatives;
- Encourage the digitalisation of public services throughout the region, optimise procedures between the various administrations and simplify administrative procedures for the public;
- Direct the commitment from the private and financial sectors towards green recovery and the circular economy in order to help the emergence of inclusive eco-businesses, for example by establishing a regulatory policy framework for sustainable finance;
- Reform public finance to include green budgeting and the issue of green sovereign bonds in practice.



## Strengthening of multilateralism through support for regional cooperation institutions

Expertise France is helping to strengthen multilateralism in the Indo-Pacific region by encouraging regional and inter-regional cooperation in order to promote the emergence and continuation of constructive and peaceful dialogue between the countries in this vast area. Promoting European expertise and good practice within these institutions is also a way of working towards convergence of institutional standards and practices that respect the environment and human rights. Expertise France supports regional cooperation institutions through projects such as the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) support project, the CRIMARIO project, which benefits the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and the Pacific

Islands Forum (PIF), among others, and ASEAN-related projects (AQIP, SSWM, etc.).

In addition, Expertise France deploys International Technical Experts to various multilateral organisations: an expert placed with ASEAN as part of the development partnership between France and ASEAN, a technical adviser on international economic regulation to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, a "climate and green transition" adviser to the Director General of the African Union Commission, among other expert missions in the region.

## Strengthen maritime and port safety and security (Area 1)

## Help to reduce the risk of disasters and mitigate the effects of climate change (Area 2)

**MULTIPLE COUNTRIES IN ASIA (SOUTH KOREA (REPUBLIC OF), INDIA, INDONESIA, JAPAN, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, VIETNAM)**

**ESIWA**

EU - €5m

ESIWA is the EU's flagship security and defence programme in the Indo-Pacific. The central objective of the project, in line with the EU's Indo-Pacific strategy, is to promote Europe as a relevant player in security and defence issues in this vast area.

**THAILAND, CAMBODIA, VIETNAM, PHILIPPINES, SRI LANKA, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, BANGLADESH**

**GLOBAL PORT SAFETY**

EU - €6.72m

The GPS project aims to build regional capacity for the prevention and management of accidents involving hazardous materials in ports (12 ports, 8 countries) through training activities, raising awareness of international standards and decarbonisation, and the purchase of equipment.

**KENYA**

**GO BLUE**

EU - €5m

The purpose of the Go Blue Component III project is to strengthen the governance and operational capacities of Kenyan stakeholders in charge of maritime safety, as well as the collaboration between all these stakeholders, with a view to promoting an environment conducive to the development of the blue economy in Kenya.

**ALL INDO-PACIFIC COUNTRIES**

**CRIMARIO**

EU - €7.5m

Crimario II supports the EU's partners and organisations in the Indo-Pacific region in the management of their maritime spaces by encouraging cross-sectoral, inter-institutional and trans-regional cooperation in the fields of maritime safety and security.

**HORN OF AFRICA (KENYA, DJIBOUTI, SOMALIA)**

**INITIATIVE FOR DIGITAL GOVERNANCE AND CYBERSECURITY (IDGC)**

EU - €3.5m

This programme aims to support partners in improving their digital service delivery by strengthening and securing distribution channels.

**BASED IN MAURITIUS FOR ALL COUNTRIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN + OVERSEAS FR**

**SUPPORT PROJECT FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF RIPARIAN STATES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN - PHASE 2**

AFD - €3m

Expertise France is supporting the IORA in the implementation of guidelines on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, as well as in the development of a mechanism to strengthen cooperation and interoperability in order to increase aid effectiveness.

**GREEN OVERSEAS**

EU - €17.8m

Support the energy transition and improve the OCTs' resilience to climate change.

**MULTIPLE COUNTRIES IN AFRICA (KENYA, TANZANIA, SEYCHELLES)**

**BIOCAP-ECA - STRENGTHENING BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY**

EU/FPI - €3.5m

BIOCAP-ECA aims to help 11 countries in East and Central Africa to improve their capacity for detecting and mitigating the risks associated with biological materials/agents and the risks associated with facilities or sites.

**PHILIPPINES**

a maritime safety advisor to the Maritime Industry Authority of the Department Of Transportation.



**DJIBOUTI**

An expert at the East African Regional Observatory on global change



**PHILIPPINES**

**DRREALL - IMPROVING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES.**

AFD - €4m

The DRREALL project aims to strengthen the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to improve disaster risk reduction (DRR) at local government level in the Philippines.

**ASEAN COUNTRIES**

**AQIP - AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

AFD - €2.5m

AQIP is designed to support ASEAN Member States in their efforts to develop comprehensive public policies to improve air quality at national and regional levels, by raising awareness of these issues, improving air quality monitoring or building local capacity.

**VANUATU**

An expert deployed to the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO)



# Preserve biodiversity and support sustainable ocean management (Area 3)

**ASEAN**

**SUSTAINABLE SHIP WASTE MANAGEMENT - IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**AFD - €0.5m**

The aim of this project is to support the ASEAN Member States in implementing a regional strategy for managing ship-generated waste, and in implementing it at national level.

**COMORES**

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE GREEN AND BLUE PACT**

**EU - €2m**

This technical assistance is part of the European Union's Green and Blue Pact, which aims to strengthen the environmental and food resilience of the Comoro islands.

**COMOROS, MADAGASCAR, MAYOTTE, LA RÉUNION, SEYCHELLES**

**VARUNA - WORKING TOGETHER FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN**

**AFD - €10m**

VARUNA is an innovative pilot programme aiming to halt the erosion of biodiversity on the islands of the southwest Indian Ocean, for the benefit of the region's inhabitants.

**MULTIPLE COUNTRIES (15 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING: MOZAMBIQUE, KENYA, MADAGASCAR, FIJI, VIETNAM)**

**BIODEV 2030 PHASE II**

- Encourage the adoption of productive practices that combine biodiversity and development

**AFD - €10m**

Since 2020, the BIODEV2030 project has been experimenting with a biodiversity mainstreaming method based on science and multi-party dialogue.

**MAURITIUS**

A Regional advisor ITE on the environment and natural resources to the Indian Ocean Commission.

**MULTIPLE COUNTRIES IN ASIA**

**(CHINA, INDONESIA, JAPAN, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, THAILAND, VIETNAM)**

**RETHINKING PLASTICS - THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY AS A SOLUTION TO MARINE POLLUTION**

**EU - €2m**

The aim of the Rethinking Plastics project was to support the transition to a circular economy and the reduction of plastic and marine waste in seven countries in east and southeast Asia, by building capacity, exchanging best practices and funding pilot projects.

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**NATIONAL COMPONENT OF THE "FORESTRY - CLIMATE CHANGE - BIODIVERSITY" PROGRAMME**

**EU - €33.5m**

The aim of the programme is to support the PNG government in implementing its priorities for the protection of forest ecosystems and for green, sustainable and inclusive growth.

**FRENCH AND BRITISH OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES**

**GREEN OVERSEAS - SUPPORTING THE ENERGY TRANSITION AND IMPROVING THE RESILIENCE OF THE OCTS TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

**EU - €17.8m**

The Programme aims to contribute to the sustainable, resilient and inclusive development of European and British overseas countries and territories, at both national/regional level (GO Facility) and regional/inter-regional level (GO Communities), in particular by supporting partners in their energy transition.

# Develop sustainable finance and support the digital transition (Area 4)

## MULTIPLE COUNTRIES

### DIGITAL KNOWLEDGE HUB IN SUPPORT OF SPACE AND EARTH OBSERVATION

EU - €1m

The project aims to promote an equitable, inclusive, gender-sensitive and environmentally friendly digital transformation worldwide, by leveraging space and Earth observation technologies.

## SRI LANKA

### GREEN RECOVERY FACILITY

- Contribute to an inclusive green recovery and transition in Sri Lanka

EU/DG INTPA - €5m

The Green Policy Dialogue Facility aims to support Sri Lanka's Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Finance in establishing an inclusive policy dialogue and raising awareness of the country's green economic recovery and transition.

## CAMBODIA

**GREEN PFM** - Implementing public finance reform including environmental and climate aspects in Cambodia

AFD - €0.8m

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Economy and Finance to continue and extend the implementation of the Organic Law on Financial Acts (LOLF) and the inclusion of environmental and climate criteria in the analysis of expenditure.

**AN ADVISOR ITE** on Entrepreneurship and Digital Innovation at the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications

## INDIA

### AN EXPERT ADVISOR ON THE BLUE ECONOMY TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEAN TECHNOLOGY

Digital for Development (D4D) Hub - Asia-Pacific Branch

EU - €1.3m

The Digital for Development (D4D) Hub is a strategic platform that aims to strengthen digital cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, as well as their partner countries around the world.

## DIGITAL FOR DEVELOPMENT (D4D)

Hub - Branch - Asia-Pacific EU - €1.3m

The Digital for Development (D4D) Hub is a strategic platform that aims to strengthen digital cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, as well as their partner countries around the world.

## SOUTH KOREA

**AN INTERNATIONAL EXPERT** in financial structuring for the Green Climate Fund.

## VIETNAM

### TRANSFORMATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN VIETNAM

MEAE - €0.6m

The project aims to encourage the digitalisation of digital procedures throughout Vietnam by supporting the deployment of the Vietnamese government's information and coordination centre, supporting the optimisation of relations and procedures between Vietnamese administrations, and helping to simplify administration procedures for the users of public services.

## PHILIPPINES

### EU - PH PARTNERSHIP FOR GREEN ECONOMY: GREEN BUSINESS, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND FINANCE

EU - €11m

The actions carried out by Expertise France as part of the Green Economy Programme in the Philippines (GEPP) consist of increasing the involvement of the private and financial sectors in the circular economy and reducing waste through the emergence of social and gender-inclusive eco-companies, the involvement of the private sector in municipal waste management, as well as support for the financial sector in the allocation of funding focused on the circular economy and the acceleration of innovative start-ups with high growth potential.

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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