

Égalité Fraternité





AFD Group has become a key player in the Lebanese landscape thanks to the historical relationship between France and Lebanon. Over the years, AFD has established itself as a recognised partner for Lebanon's institutional actors and civil society, as well as for international donors. Its action aims to reduce vulnerabilities and assist the country towards a more balanced and sustainable development path in a context of regional crisis. AFD works closely with a wide range of stakeholders especially Lebanese Civil Society actors to achieve five strategic goals.

#WorldInCommon

# OUR ACTION IN Lebanon

## 1

#### Improve equitable access to quality education and vocational training, and to employment

The Group builds up on its longstanding action in this sector to support education and vocational training for vulnerable populations in order to empower young people and offer them prospects in Lebanon, devoting special attention to the promotion of the French language. The Group's activities aim to maintain access to education (public and private) and training, with a priority set on the integration into the labour market.

AFD therefore supports the development of vocational training provision through technical baccalaureate curricula and shortterm courses benefitting 2 200 people. AFD is also financing the construction and equipment of a new building for the National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts (CNAM) in Beirut to accommodate 5 800 students. AFD helps maintain vulnerable students in the school system through a school feeding program which benefits 4 000 students and a school retention support program which improves the school environment and the quality of teaching and learning for 7 500 students, 3 800 families and 800 teachers. The Group also supports entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises to preserve employment and reduce social tensions.

# 2

#### Promote equitable access to quality healthcare

AFD Group is taking decisive action to help consolidate Lebanon's public health systems by ensuring support for its institutions and public policies and by strengthening equitable access to quality care, with a special emphasis on mental health.

AFD supports 12 primary healthcare centers which improve access to health care services for 200 000 people. It also sustains 2 public hospitals (Rafic Hariri University Hospital, securing emergency care access for 9 000 patients yearly, and the Quarantina hospital, providing 2 000 hospitalizations and 25 000 consultations yearly). Our support covers the medical fees of vulnerable patients as a direct response to their urgent needs. We integrate in our projects activities that have a structural impact on public health policies in order to strengthen the sustainability of the system. AFD also supports the development of a standard healthcare offer designed for countrywide deployment by the Ministry of Public Health (MPH), as well as the institutionalization of the National Mental Health Programme.

## 3

#### Develop access to quality water supply and sanitation services

The Group supports access to the related services and the good governance of the water and sanitation sector in order to:

- Maintain service quality in covered areas and extend access across country. AFD plays a key role in improving the sector's coordination.
- Improve the sector's governance (legal, financial and administrative), enhance the performance of services and operators (with a focus on capacity-building for the Water Establishments), and improve equitable access to services across the country (scarcely covered areas where vulnerable populations reside). Special attention is paid to the protection and resilience of water resources.



#### Prioritise inclusive territorial development

The Group's action, in rural areas, aims to develop territories and support sustainable agriculture in order to create jobs and ensure the country's food security. AFD finances actions to maintain employment and local production as well as projects to strengthen the social resilience of the most vulnerable populations. These actions are coordinated with land-use planning programs (including access to basic services) and natural resources management (including disaster risk management).

In urban areas, the Group encourages economic regeneration and social cohesion, particularly through "double-dividend" neighbourhood-based approaches, combining infrastructure construction (housing, access to services, public/shared spaces) and strengthening social cohesion. It reinforces the residents' goals in governance and investment choices.

# 5

#### Support reforms to achieve good economic and financial governance

AFD Group assists Lebanon in the essential reforms namely public procurement, economic and financial ones. The actions financed aim to:

- Consolidate the foundations of a sustainable and appropriate management of public resources, and improve the institutional context so that the public sector is able to provide the services expected by Lebanese people,
- Support the public sector's modernisation efforts, strengthen its role as regulator in the various economic sectors, and enhance market efficiency.

AFD also supports independent civil society stakeholders, such as the media, as they are vectors of improved accountability and transparency of public authorities.

### **OUR KEY FIGURES IN LEBANON**

Operating in Lebanon since 1999, AFD has granted upward of €1.23 billion in loans and grants to finance over 87 projects. In 2017, with the launch of Minka, the Peace and Resilience Fund, designed to mitigate the impacts of the Syrian crisis, AFD has redirected part of its action towards grants to support Lebanon in delivering basic services for vulnerable populations.



## €238,6 M

total amount of AFD Group signed of total commitments of AFD projects from 2016 to 2021

group in the Middle East

projects in Lebanon

#### **Financial Commitments Chart** from 2016 to 2021

#### AFD and Proparco Financial Commitments Breakdown\* 2016-2021



#### BY SECTOR ■ €59,6 M (25 %) Health Education €49 M (21 %) €47,7 M (20 %) Water and waste water management Private Sector ■ €36,9 M (15 %) Governance ■ €16,8 M (7 %) Agriculture ∎ €15 M (6 %) NGO ■€10 M (4 %) Infrastructure and Development €2 M (1 %) Non-sectorial €0,7 M (0,3 %) Environment €0,65 M (0,3 %) \*Cumulative amounts of signed projects

Since 2016, Proparco has financed 3 projects in Lebanon for an amount of

### €34,6 M

in favor of the Lebanese productive base and the energy efficiency of telecom towers.

**Expertise France Intervention** 

peace,

partners, Expertise France conducts

technical assistance projects in four

priority areas: democratic, economic

and financial governance, stability,

sustainable development and human

The agency works with a wide range

of stakeholders, institutional and civil

society as well as the private sector

on two pillars: (i) supporting reforms

and good governance, (ii) and capacity

building of the Lebanese civil society for

an effective prevention of and response

international security and

development.

to crises.

Strongly committed to its Lebanese : ► Social cohesion:

• Over 8,000 children and adults (Lebanese and Syrian) benefitted directly from social cohesion activities.

► Financial transparency (governance)

- 1,138 expertise days spent to promote anti-corruption and provide training to control bodies;
- 30 Lebanese supervisors in control bodies received capacity building trainings to strengthen transparency of public action.

#### ▶ Entrepreneurship:

30 women In 2020 and 2021, entrepreneurs and 200 businesses : supported.

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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