

# Atlantic Ocean

ACTIVITY REPORT

2021

**D**espite their diversity, the territories around the Atlantic Ocean share common issues that call for a regional approach to development. This can consist in encouraging dialogue among stakeholders, finding sustainable solutions on a regional scale, and helping to improve living conditions for the local population. AFD's main objective in the region is to work together to build sustainable solutions benefiting everyone, and create a true economic, cultural, and societal "Atlantic Ocean" community.

# AFD's strategy in the Atlantic Ocean

- 1 Boosting resilience to natural and climate hazards
- 2 Contribute to the emergence of a «blue, green and circular» economy
- 3 Improving regional coordination to deal with health risks
- 4 Developing a regional partnership approach

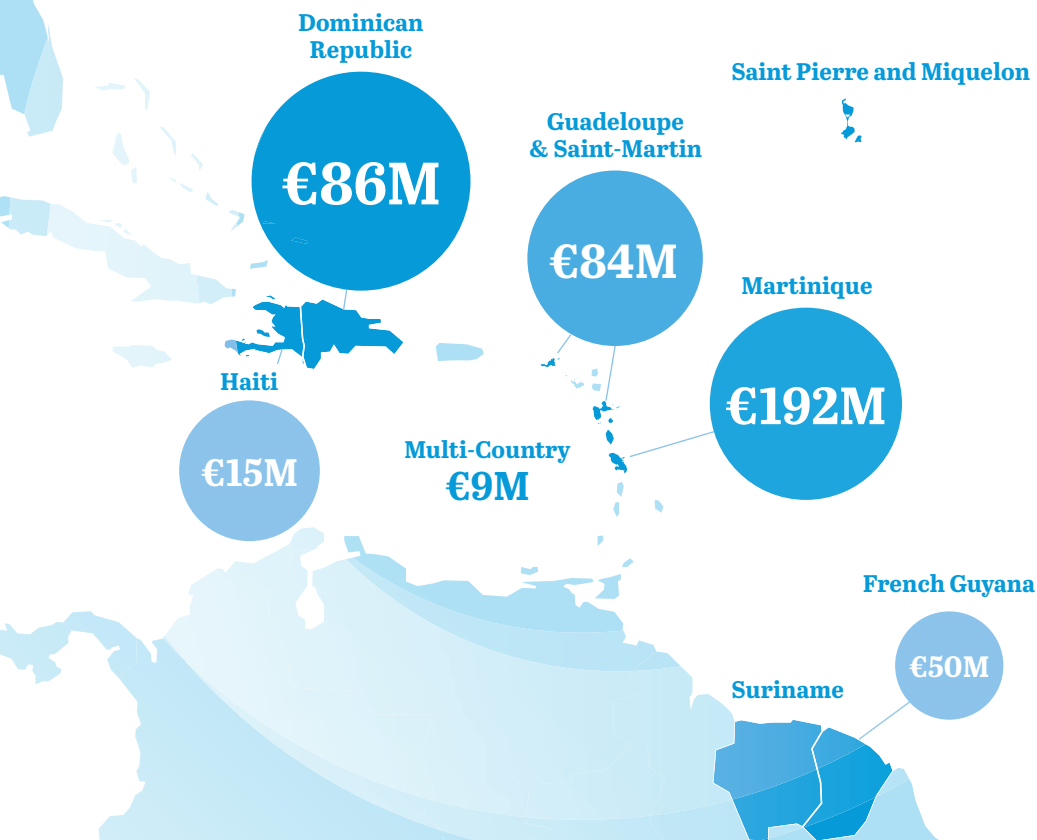
One of the specificities of the countries in the Caribbean, characterised by small island developing states (SIDS), is their vulnerability to the effects of climate change, with a high incidence of natural disasters due to the geography and size of these islands. These common challenges and the acceleration of global change make it necessary to act quickly, at the regional scale. In light of this observation, AFD has strengthened its presence in the Atlantic Ocean by creating the Atlantic Ocean Regional Office in 2018.

Despite a year 2021 still marked by the COVID crisis, AFD's activity in the Atlantic region remained very strong and reached €436 million in new commitments and €465 million in disbursements. Operational activity, which is growing strongly, diversified its sectors of intervention with €281 million for infrastructure and urban development, €48 million in renewable energy financing and €13 million for civil society and education. The Group has contributed to green and inclusive growth through the financing of more than €200 million for climate change in 2021. Exchanges with our privileged partners in the region continued.

The year 2022 and the gradual return to a normal working rhythm should enable us to increase the momentum. This is all the more important as the Group expanded at the beginning of the year with the arrival of a new subsidiary, Expertise France, specialising in the design and implementation of international technical cooperation projects. The year will also be devoted to the launch of a new strategic plan, which will set out the broad lines of our action for the period 2023-2027. The teams will also be heavily involved in the international agenda, including the European Union-African Union Summit and the Ocean Summit in Brest, the EU summit, followed by the COP15 on biodiversity and the COP on desertification.

# Our activities in the Atlantic Ocean in 2021

## ○ GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF COMMITMENTS



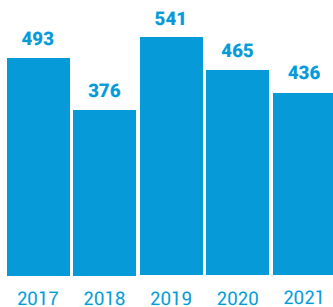
# €436M

Total commitments

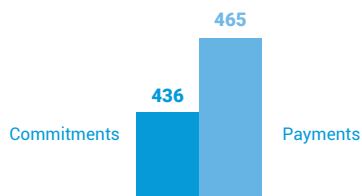
In the Atlantic Ocean, which includes foreign states and the French overseas territories, €3 billion has been committed to around 600 projects over 10 years. In 2021, around **one hundred** new projects have been financed in the region for a **total amount of €436 million**. They have mainly targeted urban development, education, health, transport, water and sanitation and the fight against climate change. At the same time, €465M was disbursed.



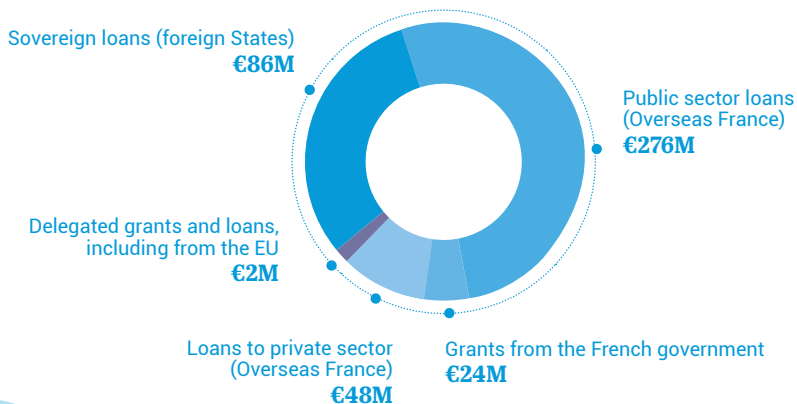
### DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITMENTS (IN € MILLION)



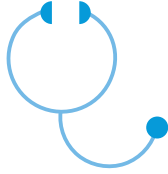
### COMMITMENTS/PAYMENTS (IN € MILLION)



### DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL (IN € MILLION)



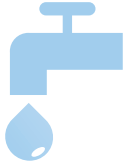
○ DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL



Health  
**€51M**



Infrastructure and urban  
development  
**€281M**



Water and sanitation  
**€2M**



Building the capacities of  
local public stakeholders  
**€41M**



Renewable energies  
funding  
**€48M**



Civil society  
and education  
**€13M**

# Our activity in the Ocean Atlantic region in 2021

Since its opening in September 2018, the Atlantic Ocean Regional Office has gradually taken over the monitoring of the regional project portfolio previously spread over several AFD agencies in the area, while also concretizing new financing operations.

More than €60 million were committed over the past five years at the regional level.

## ○ DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL



Health  
**€2.7M**



Infrastructure and urban  
development  
**€12.5M**



Water and sanitation  
**€1.7M**



Building the capacities  
of local public  
stakeholders  
**€0.3M**



Energy  
**€5.6M**



Biodiversity  
**€40M**

## ○ REGIONAL PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

In 2021, the European Union delegated to AFD a €2.5 million grant for a plastic waste collection and management project that will benefit several countries in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The objective is to capitalise on the «RePLAST OECS» project carried out in Saint Lucia and to duplicate it in other territories in the area. These pilot projects should make it possible to determine whether a regional treatment and/or recovery infrastructure could be viable in the zone.

# Our activities in Guadeloupe and the northern islands in 2021

Guadeloupe faces major economic and social challenges. Through its advisory and financing activities, AFD is pursuing its strong partnership approach with Guadeloupe's local authorities to support and improve infrastructure and promote inclusive and sustainable economic development. It also finances private sector projects that structure the economy (tourism, green energy, etc.).

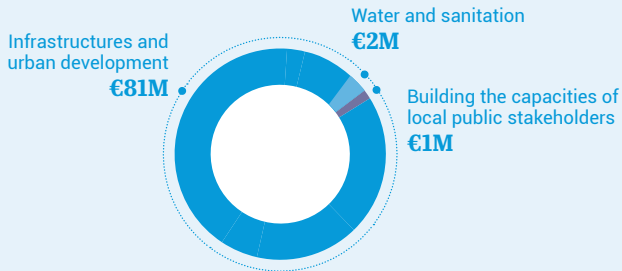


## TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021

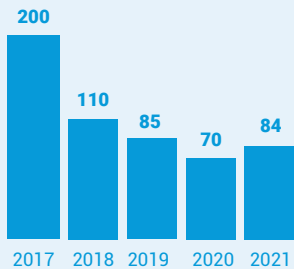
# €84M

€46M paid

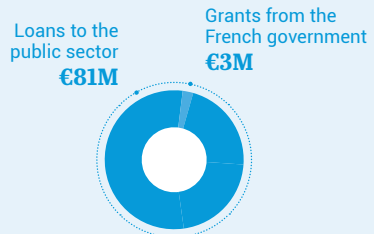
## DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR



## DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITMENTS (IN € MILLION)



## DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL



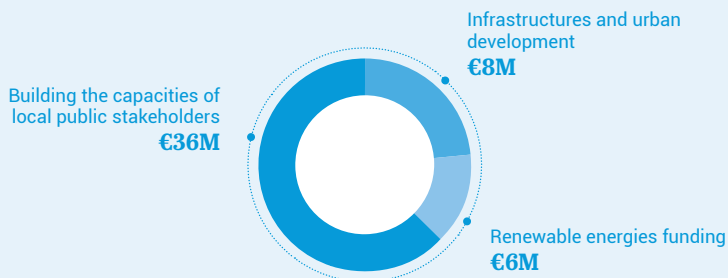


# Our activities in French Guyana in 2021

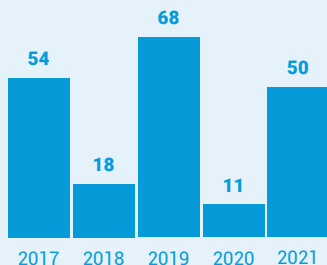
Located in South America, French Guyana, which is the size of Portugal, is 96% covered by the Amazon rainforest. The territory, characterised by strong demographic growth, is facing numerous social, health and economic challenges. AFD is working with local public and private sector actors throughout the country, from the coast to isolated areas.



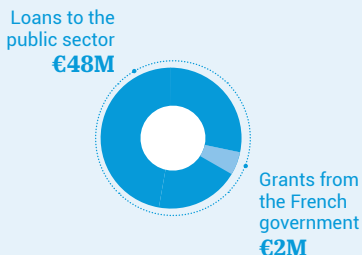
○ DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR



○ DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITMENTS  
(IN € MILLION)



○ DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL



# Our activities in Haiti in 2021

Poverty-stricken, Haiti suffers from significant needs in terms of basic public services. It is also vulnerable to climate change and prone to natural disasters. In 2021, in line with previous actions, health, governance and education were at the heart of AFD's support to Haiti through the strengthening of the quality of education and support for improving citizen participation in public policy decision-making. AFD has also consolidated its support in response to the Covid-19 health crisis and is participating in stabilization/reconstruction efforts following the earthquake in the south of the country last August.

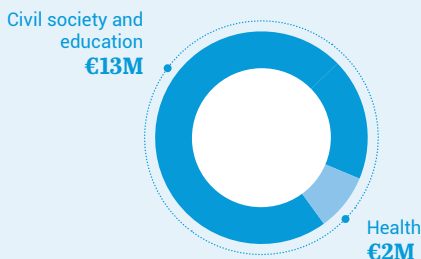


## TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021

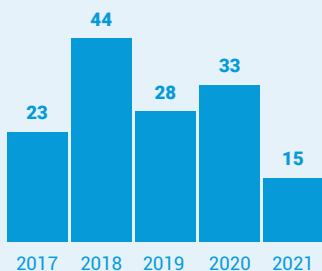
# €15M

€26M paid

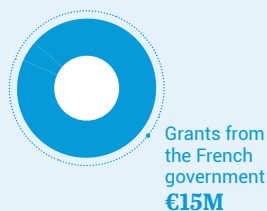
## DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR



## DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITMENTS (IN € MILLION)



## DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL



# Our activities in Martinique in 2021

Martinique is endowed with an exceptional natural heritage but faces major challenges. It must find new growth drivers and reduce the social and territorial inequalities that persist. AFD is a long-standing partner and is supporting the island's transformation towards a more inclusive and sustainable development model. AFD is the number one partner of the island's local authorities, but also the main provider of funding for the transition towards a 100% renewable energy Martinique, while it supports the health and medico-social sectors as well.

## TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021



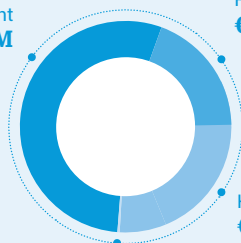
# €192M

€97M paid

## DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR

Infrastructures and urban development  
€103M

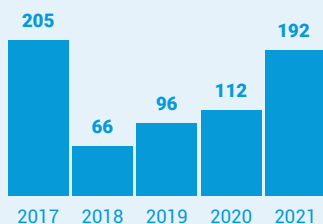
Renewable energies funding  
€38M



Building the capacities of local public stakeholders  
€2M

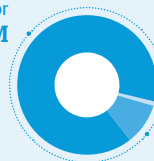
Health  
€49M

## DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITMENTS (IN € MILLION)



## DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL

Loans to the public sector  
€152M



Grants from the French government  
€2M

Loans to private sector  
€38M

# Our activities in Dominican Republic in 2021

In line with AFD's regional strategy for the Atlantic Ocean, which aims to «contribute to the sustainable and inclusive development of territories», AFD Group in Dominican Republic has set itself the following main objectives: to support territorial, ecological and energy transitions, to promote social transition in order to strengthen equitable access to essential services for populations and to support economic and financial transition for sustainable economies. To this end, it mobilises almost the entire range of its financial and technical support instruments for the benefit of the Dominican public and private actors.

## ○ TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021

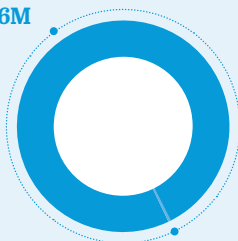


# €86M

€247M paid

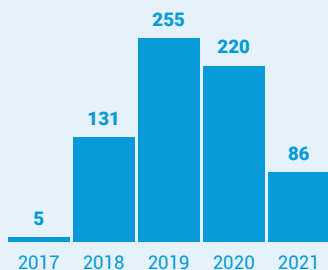
## ○ DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR

Infrastructures and urban development  
**€86M**



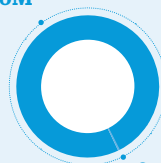
Grants from the French government  
**€0.2M**

## ○ DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITMENTS (IN € MILLION)



## ○ DISTRIBUTION BY TOOL

Sovereign loans  
**€86M**



Grants from the French government  
**€0.2M**

# Our activities in Saint Pierre and Miquelon in 2021

The only overseas collectivity in North America, the archipelago of Saint Pierre and Miquelon is made of eight islands and islets, two of which are inhabited year-round, benefits from a unique geography, close to Canada, and undeniable natural assets. However, it is looking for new economic orientations since the crisis of the big fishing industry. AFD, a loyal and regular partner, is supporting these transition efforts. In 2021, AFD has maintained a dialogue with local partners in order to structure support that will take concrete form in actions in the region as of 2022.

## ○ TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN THE LAST 5 YEARS



€19M

## ○ TOTAL PAYMENTS MADE IN 2021



€7M

---

# Our activities in Suriname and Guyana

Located in South America, on the Guyana Shield, Guyana and Suriname have a natural heritage to preserve, covered respectively by 87% and 93% of Amazonian forest. Suriname is currently facing major economic, health and social challenges. The economic crisis that the country has been experiencing for the past two years has led it to default on its public debt. AFD has therefore had to temporarily suspend its activities until discussions with the IMF and the Paris Club allow financing to resume.

In Guyana, AFD continued its prospecting activities with a view to future operations in this country where it has only been authorised to operate since 2019.

## ○ TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN THE LAST 5 YEARS



€22M

# Proparco

Proparco is AFD's subsidiary dedicated to the private sector to promote sustainable economic, social and environmental development in foreign states. Proparco is active in four Caribbean countries in the Atlantic Ocean area through three Regional Directorates: Santo Domingo, which covers the Dominican Republic and Haiti; Mexico City, which covers Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, , Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and; and Sao Paulo, which covers the Guiana Shield.

In 2021, Proparco continued to position itself in the financing of renewable energies. In Dominican

Republic, for example, it is contributing to the government's strategy of greening its energy mix by increasing the share of renewable energy injected into the national grid up to 25% by 2025, compared to 15% currently. Proparco has thus won two financial arranger mandates in 2021 for renewable energy projects totalling 140 MW.

In Haiti, despite active prospecting from afar, mainly in the financial sector in 2021, Proparco's activity has suffered from the consequences of the country's security, economic and social situation.

**○ PROPARCO SUPPORTS BANESCO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, A BANK COMMITTED TO SMES, IN ITS GROWTH STRATEGY.**

The \$15 million loan granted by Proparco will allow Banesco Dominican Republic, a financial institution founded in 2011 and specialised in SME financing, to strengthen its financing activity in the country. This is the second operation between Proparco and the Banesco Group after a first financing granted to Banesco in Panama in 2019. This operation is expected to support 185 SMEs and more than 4500 indirect jobs over the next few years. The project will thus contribute to the Sustainable Development Goal N°8 («Decent employment and economic growth»).

**○ KEY FIGURES FOR PROPARCO'S ACTIVITY IN ST. DOMINGO IN 2021 (IN € MILLION)**



# Expertise France

Expertise France is the French international technical cooperation operator and has been a subsidiary of AFD Group since 1 January 2022. The second largest agency in Europe, it designs and implements projects that sustainably strengthen public policies in developing and emerging countries. It operates in key areas of development and works alongside its partners

to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For a world in common.

Expertise France's work in the Caribbean concentrates on Haiti mainly, which is the focus of national projects implemented in the region, all of which are financed by the EU.

## ○ URBAYITI - URBAN GOVERNANCE AND RESILIENT CITIES

**Financed by European delegated funds to the tune of €11.7M, the Urbayiti programme supports the institutions in charge of territorial planning and management in order to promote the economic and social development of Haiti.**

The first phase of the programme consists in the renovation of the national, regional and local institutional framework to strengthen governance in the sector. Expertise France is supporting the coordination of the programme to ensure the coherence of interventions, continuous monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management in the field of urban development in Haiti. In a second phase, the town halls will be supported in carrying out feasibility studies and in monitoring and following up development operations.

## ○ RESEMBID - RESILIENCE, SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND MARINE BIODIVERSITY PROGRAMME MARINE BIODIVERSITY

**Despite their diversity, the The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) in the Caribbean face a number of common vulnerabilities and development challenges.**

In response, these island countries and territories have put in place various national and regional efforts and instruments aimed at developing and diversifying their economies while increasing their resilience. The ReSEMBID programme, financed by the EU to the tune of €36.94M, aims to support these efforts for sustainable human development. For the year 2021, the objective has been to mobilise all the funds of the programme (almost €26M) for the benefit of the OCTs. By the end of 2021, 99% of the funds had been programmed on the basis of project proposals drawn up by the OCTs themselves. 44 projects have been approved and implementation is planned to start in 2022.

# AdaptAction



Despite the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 crisis, the main AdaptAction Caribbean activities have progressed smoothly during 2021. Some of these activities are important milestones in the implementation of the programme.

**The portfolio of AdaptAction actions in the Caribbean** includes 12 studies and/or capacity building projects in execution in 2021, spread over the three axes of the Facility: support to climate governance (4), integration of adaptation into sectoral policies (5), preparation of investment projects (3). Seven actions have been finalized in 2021 and two new studies have been identified to be implemented during the first half of 2022.

**A capitalisation exercise** was carried out during this period. Its conclusions were presented at COP26 in Glasgow and contributed to the appraisal of a new phase of the programme, which is due to start in 2022.

---

## For a world in common

---

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 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.



[www.afd.fr/en](http://www.afd.fr/en)

Twitter : @AFD\_en - Facebook : AFDOfficiel - Instagram : afd\_france  
5, rue Roland-Barthes -75598 Paris cedex 12 -France

Tel. : +33 1 53 44 31 31