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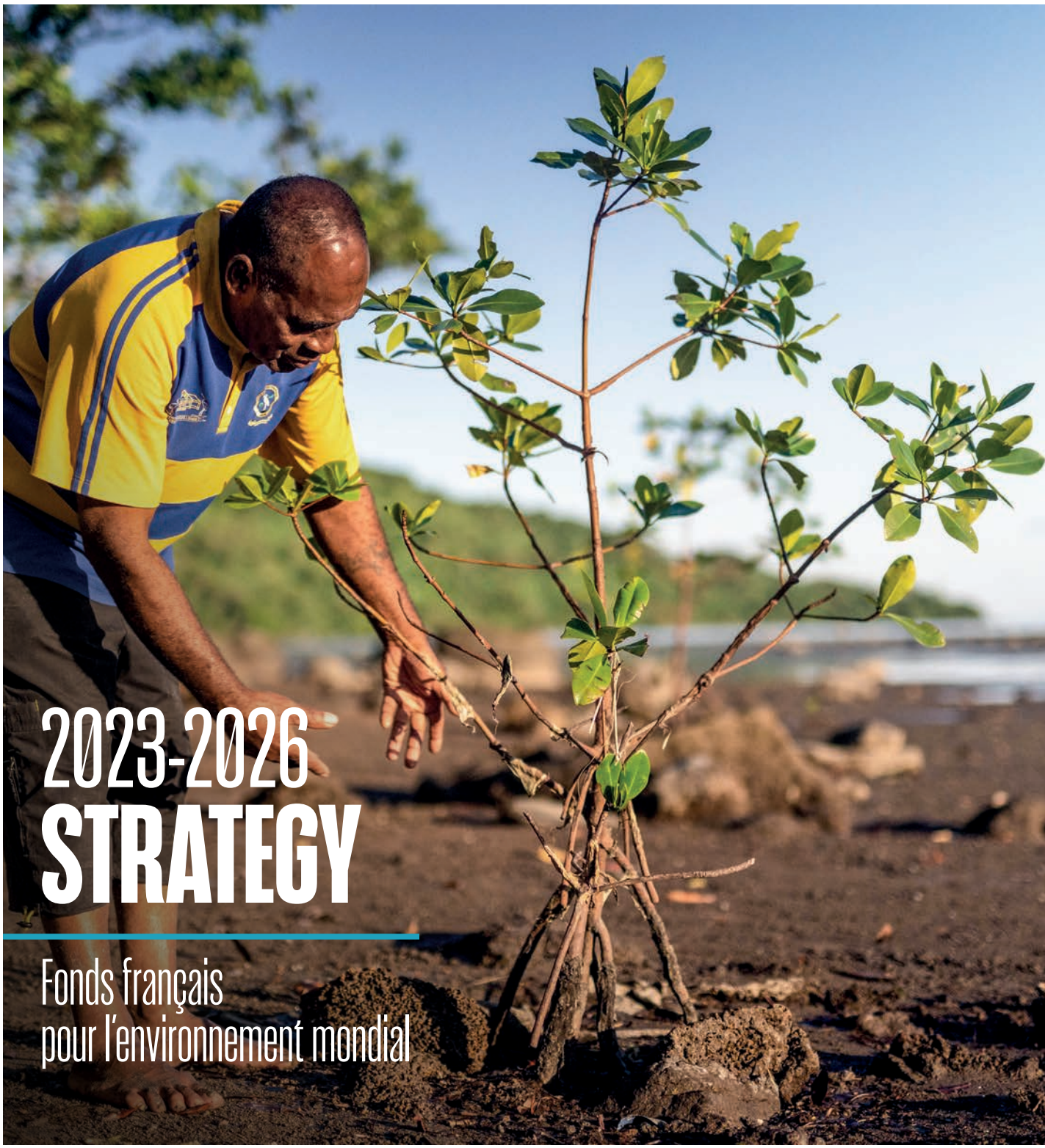
FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL



2023-2026 STRATEGY

Fonds français pour l'environnement mondial

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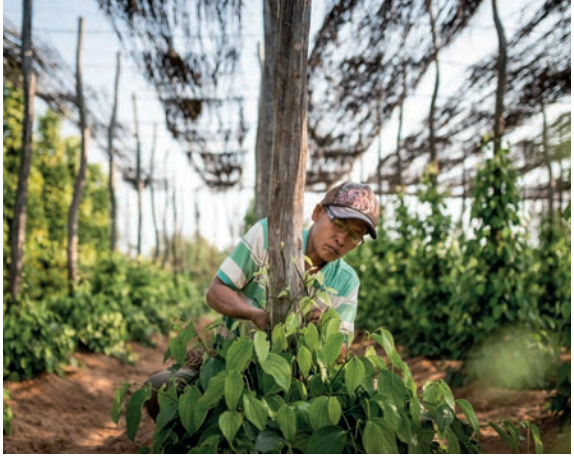


In summary

This strategy document outlines the priorities of the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) for 2023–2026. It is an extension of our previous strategy, while also considering emerging issues and risks and incorporating new innovation areas. Populations and ecosystems are becoming increasingly vulnerable because of the climate change emergency, accelerated biodiversity loss, the economic and health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, and current difficulties with raw materials and energy supplies. To address these issues, the FFEM aims to further promote innovation to protect the global environment and support sustainable development in developing countries.

The FFEM has five priority themes for 2023–2026:

- Biodiversity conservation and enhancement.
- Aquatic ecosystems resilience.
- Sustainable management of agricultural and forests landscapes.
- Adaptation and low-carbon transition in cities and territories.
- Circular solutions and fight against pollution.

Innovation is critical to the FFEM's work and one of our unique characteristics. However, we are not interested in innovation for innovation's sake. Rather, we aim to spark transformational approaches and scale up effective solutions to benefit people and the environment. These approaches may be based on innovation drivers such as:

- Nature-based solutions and the "One Health" approach.
- Knowledge and expertise.
- Citizen participation.
- Mechanisms to mobilize sustainable financial resources.
- Science to policy.

The FFEM funds projects only through co-financing.
Our project funding ranges from €500,000 to €2,000,000, with a maximum co-financing rate that varies from 30% to 50% depending on the applicant.
Projects submitted to the FFEM must meet nine eligibility criteria:

- contribute to global environment protection
- contribute to local sustainable development in one or more developing countries
- are innovative
- have demonstrative value and replicability
- are economically and financially sustainable once funding ends
- are ecologically and environmentally viable
- are socially and culturally acceptable, with local ownership
- have an appropriate institutional framework
- have a monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

We will also look at whether projects also:

- incorporate the Theory of Change
- include partnerships
- consider inequalities, women, youth and vulnerable populations
- share knowledge gained by the project
- have sustainable funding and co-financing.

The FFEM

Supporting innovative projects
that benefit people and the environment

As part of a dual mandate to protect the environment and support sustainable development, the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) supports innovative pilot projects that contribute to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Since our founding in 1994, we have supported over 400 projects in over 120 countries.

A fund financed by the French government

The FFEM promotes innovation that supports global environmental protection and sustainable development in developing countries. The French government created the FFEM in 1994, after the Rio Earth Summit, as a public financial instrument whose budget is renewed every four years. It is replenished for 2023-2026 with 132 million euros. The FFEM's actions fall within the French government's guidelines and France's Interministerial Committee on International Cooperation and Development (CICID)[1], in conjunction with international environment and development initiatives.

A dual mandate for the environment and development

The FFEM's funding is at the crossroads between environmental and development objectives. We fund projects that generate co-benefits for people and nature, foster local development and global environmental protection, and simultaneously meet several Sustainable Development Goals. The FFEM also seeks out projects with significant social and environmental impact that help protect biodiversity, the climate, international waters, and land and/or fight against pollution.

A framework for action that contributes to international objectives

The latest reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) reveal the urgency of the crisis facing ecosystems. Yet humans and economies need these ecosystems to function properly. Through the projects we finance, the FFEM aims to provide concrete solutions to help stakeholders implement the main international conventions on climate (mitigation and adaptation), biodiversity, international waters, the fight against desertification and pollutant[2], and the achievement of the SDGs.

Governance founded on multiple perspectives

The FFEM's governance is organized into three bodies that work together to identify the most pressing issues and innovative solutions:

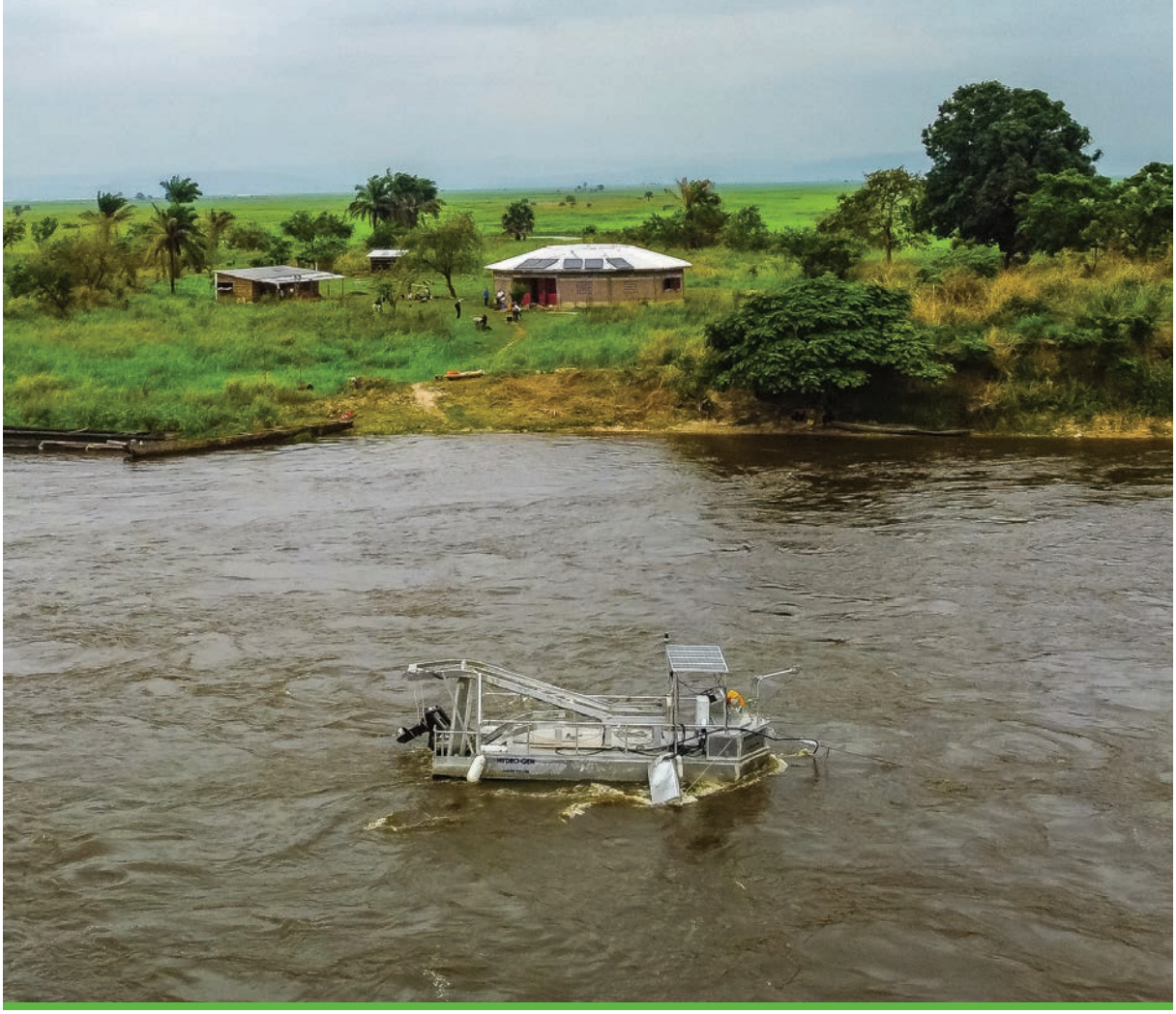
- **The Steering Committee** verifies that the project's innovations are consistent with national and international environmental and development objectives.
- **The Scientific and Technical Committee** identifies new innovation niches and takes a critical look at the FFEM's actions, the projects, and the innovations presented.
- **The Secretariat** supports project initiators to help them capitalize on the solutions implemented.

(1) As such, the FFEM is accountable for our activities, which we describe in our annual report.

(2) For the list of conventions, agreements, and international initiatives that the FFEM's work falls under, see the Annex.

EVEN MORE RELEVANT DURING THE PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted the FFEM's work and that of our partners but has also increased awareness of the interconnections between ecosystem health, animal health, and human health. Environmental degradation accentuates health, natural, and climate risks and facilitates the emergence of pandemics. The global pandemic particularly weakened some territories and populations due to economic and trade restrictions, income loss, and greater food insecurity among the poorest. Many FFEM-funded projects have already provided lessons on the causes of this pandemic and the responses to its consequences. As a result, the FFEM now pays even closer attention to the impacts of the projects we finance to boost the resilience of ecosystems and populations.



Strategic goals

Support innovations,
from experiments to knowledge sharing

The FFEM supports innovation from the experimental stage through scaling up. We target transformational innovation processes that drive change and the transition to more sustainable societies.

Support innovation to drive change

Innovation is central to FFEM's work. However, innovation for innovation's sake is not the point. Rather, we want to disseminate relevant and effective solutions. The FFEM supports transformational innovations that can be scaled up at the geographic, sectoral, or political level. We want niche innovations to spark deeper transformations in a sector or at the regional or national scale. This is how the FFEM intends to strengthen our support of a successful transition to more sustainable development models.

In the pilot projects we fund, we look closely at the conditions that ensure solutions are scalable. The theory of change is a key component of the FFEM's work and the projects we finance. More than just a conceptual tool, it helps project leaders plan and implement the scaling up of their innovations. For the FFEM, scaling pilot projects means improving their innovations, approaches, and means at different levels:

- **Strengthens local ownership** and empowerment.
- **Improves governance** and the institutional framework in place to support projects as well as their ability to influence public policies.
- **Disseminates solutions on a broader scale** (territorial or sectoral), in greater numbers, or with a wider scope.

To successfully scale up an innovation, project leaders must plan to do so from the design of the pilot project by using the theory of change to identify all the necessary steps and resources. Project leaders must also draw lessons from the solutions tested to identify good practices and learn from any mistakes or failures, and then share these lessons with their counterparts.

INNOVATION AT THE FFEM

The FFEM supports innovation in multiple forms: technological, social, organizational, or economic. Innovation can mean implementing new technologies, new uses, or new methods. In the OECD[1] definition, innovation can take the form of a product, process, organizational method or implementation method, particularly in terms of public policy and financing. Innovation must be recognized as such, and go beyond a simple invention; it can be radical or gradual. Innovation is thus part of a process of change that it also triggers. For the FFEM, a project's innovative nature can only be assessed via an analysis of the project and/or territory according to the particular geographic, socioeconomic, political, institutional, or ecological context. We also look at how the project expects to prompt change to benefit the environment and sustainable development.

(1) OECD, Oslo Manual, 2005.

WHAT IS THE THEORY OF CHANGE?

The Theory of Change is a method that explains how given actions are expected to lead to a specific change through analysis of causal linkages based on lessons learned from past experiences. It guides decision-making about the approach to adopt and clarifies stakeholder contributions by taking into account the complexity of the change process in its specific context. It helps identify hypotheses, obstacles, and underlying risks to understand the entire process. This ensures that the chosen approach contributes to the desired change in the project, with possibilities for later extension.

Operationalising the Theory of Change approach for sustainable impact

PREPARE TO SCALE UP

- End goal
- Targets to convince
- Risks and obstacles
- Timeline and steps

MEANS REQUIRED

- Consultative governance
- Communication, education, training, awareness-raising
- Monitoring and evaluation, demonstration

EXPECTED IMPACT

- Removal of obstacles to change
- Public policies and private activities that contribute to change
- Appropriate solutions from local populations and stakeholders

Evaluate, capitalize, and share knowledge

The FFEM promotes evaluation and capitalization to learn lessons from projects and disseminate solutions and knowledge. Innovation, evaluation, and capitalization are interconnected: project evaluations and capitalization are critical for illustrating scientific, technical, and organizational knowledge, local know-how, and innovative practices to inspire future actions.

The FFEM especially supports project cluster approaches that are deeply rooted in knowledge sharing and dissemination within communities of practitioners so different stakeholders can share their knowledge and experience on common environmental issues.

- **A monitoring and evaluation system** must be set up from the start of a project to observe the results obtained compared to a baseline to build factual arguments demonstrating the effects of the innovation. Observations stemming from the monitoring and evaluation system will inform discussions with partners during the life of the project as well as mid-term and ex-post reviews.

- **The mid-term review** is an opportunity to compare the situation on the ground with the project's strategic framework, to notice progress made since the start of the project, and to discuss priorities for continuing the project.

- **The *ex-post* evaluation** will identify the successes and benefits of the project and explain why any activities may have failed. Thanks to this feedback, the FFEM can report on the results of the projects we finance and improve our funding strategy and the support we offer new projects.

- **Knowledge capitalization and promotion** aim to save and compile knowledge, know-how, and feedback from the field that is held by the FFEM's stakeholders and partners.

These learnings can then be promoted, made accessible, disseminated, and shared widely through various channels (articles and publications, guides, discussion platforms, training courses, lectures and workshops, etc.).

The FFEM regularly participates in regional and international events to present learnings from projects we support and to give a voice to project leaders, beneficiaries, and partners to inspire others.

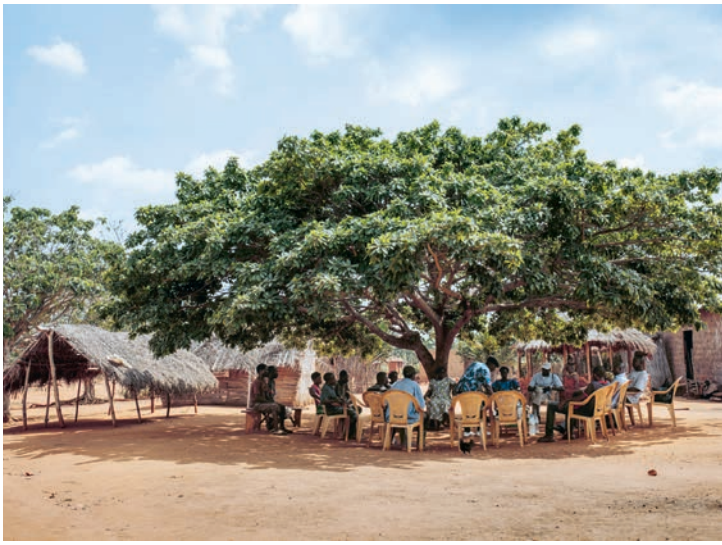
CAPITALIZATION TO DISSEMINATE LESSONS LEARNED

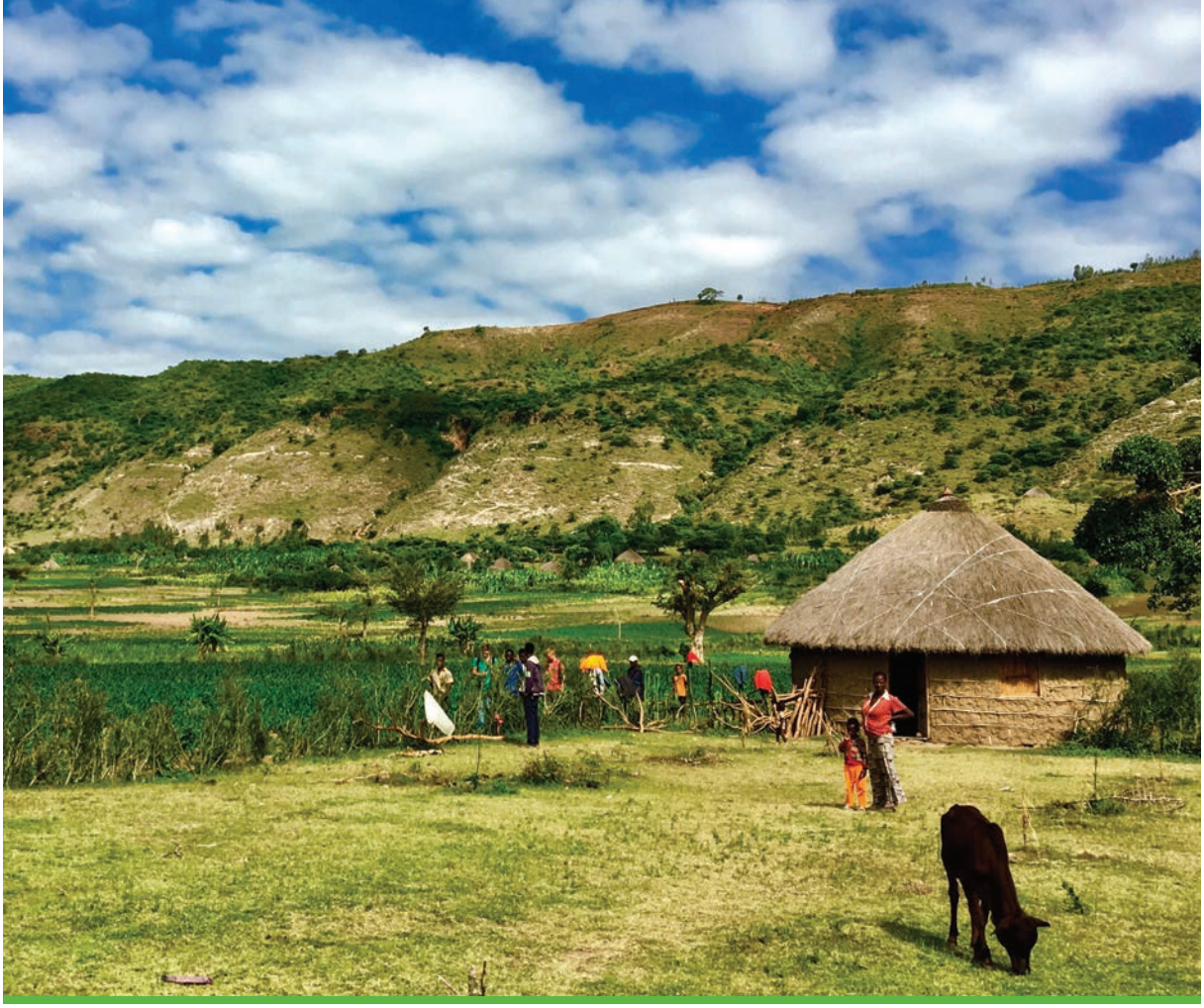
To help transform approaches and practices and scale up solutions, the FFEM aims to promote and disseminate the knowledge and lessons learned from the projects we fund.

The FFEM support various forms of capitalization to better share learnings:

- **Cross-capitalization** between several projects or programmes.
- ***In itinere* capitalization** during project implementation.
- ***Ex-post* capitalization**.

The FFEM's capitalization process also gives pride of place to innovations in how knowledge is shared. This process is participatory, as project leaders are directly involved in capitalization.





Action principles

The FFEM: more than a funder

The FFEM prioritizes integrated approaches at the level of territories or value chains. The fund works in partnership with many stakeholders from the public and private sectors, civil society, and the research community. To ensure our actions are relevant and sustainable, we prioritize local ownership of projects and ensure benefits are shared equitably with local communities.

Promote environmental cobenefits

The FFEM encourages an integrated approach to environmental issues to ensure true sustainability and effectively support global environmental protection and local development. The themes outlined in this strategy are complementary and synergistic.

Though the FFEM has always sought climate and biodiversity cobenefits in the projects we fund, since they are the key to fighting effectively against both climate change and biodiversity loss, our aim now reaches even further. We seek broader convergences to obtain cobenefits for the climate, biodiversity, the fight against pollution, the fight against desertification and land degradation, and/or the protection of international waters.

Meet local stakeholders' needs

The FFEM funds projects that generate both environmental and socioeconomic benefits in developing countries. We support public, private, and civil society stakeholders at the local level. To ensure our actions are relevant and sustainable, we emphasise co-construction, local ownership of projects, and equitable sharing of project benefits, particularly for the most vulnerable individuals and communities. The FFEM also wants to address socioeconomic challenges around the ecological transition. We support training and retraining initiatives to provide local populations and stakeholders with better access to the jobs of the future relating to sustainable development.

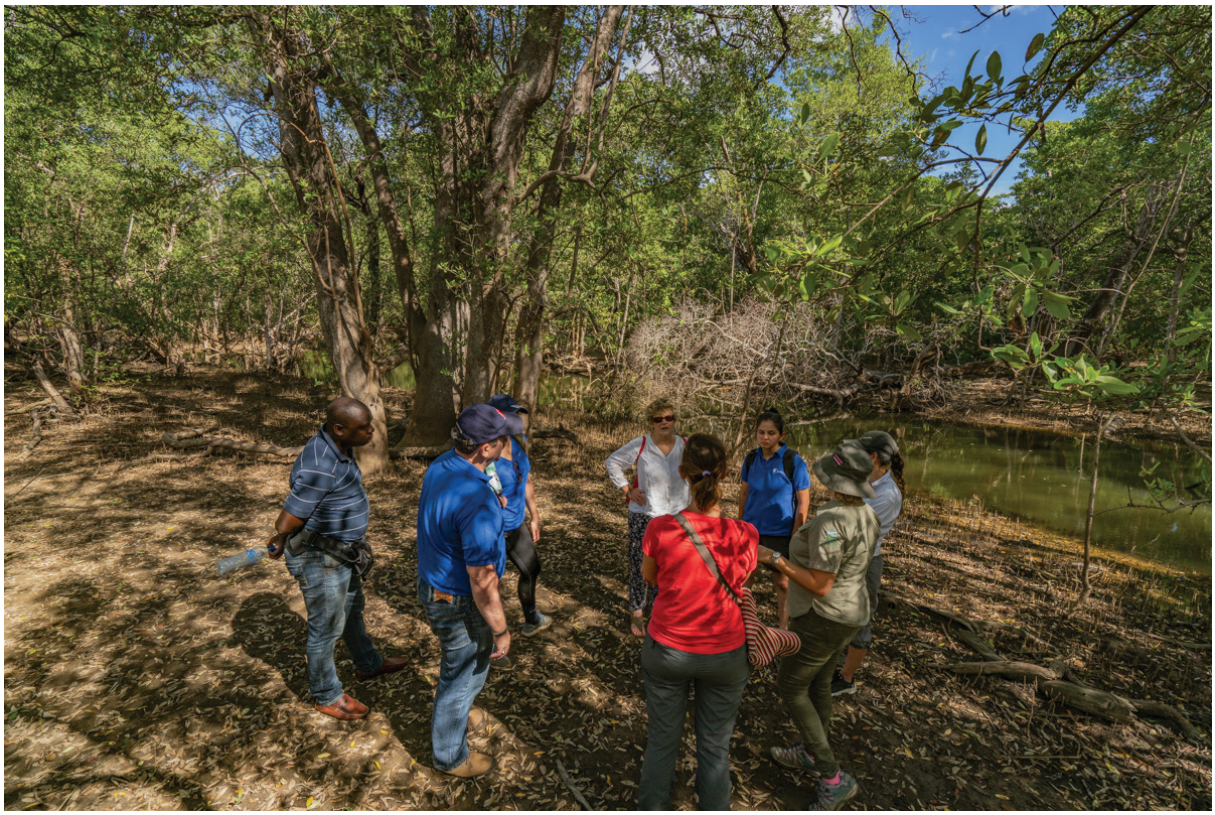
THE SMALL-SCALE INITIATIVES PROGRAMME (PPI)

This FFEM-funded programme helps organize new civil society stakeholders around environmental issues and provides support for project implementation. The PPI, in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and its French committee, has launched calls for projects in biodiversity conservation and climate action to benefit CSOs in West and Central Africa and the Maghreb. Since 2006, the PPI has supported more than 250 projects led by 190 CSOs in 33 countries.

Target the level of territories or value chains

The FFEM prioritizes integrated and partnership-based approaches in a particular territory or sector. The goal is to improve the project's results and impacts and reinforce the demonstrative value of its solutions. The first step in scaling a project can be to disseminate an innovation in a territory or a value chain so it can take hold and be tested by a greater number of stakeholders at the national or regional level and even influence public policies.

The territorial approach that the FFEM advances often requires working at the interface between different types of spaces: between land and sea in coastal areas, or between urban and rural areas in city outskirts. Through its value chain approach, the FFEM seeks positive environmental and socioeconomic benefits for local populations to guarantee that new practices are sustainable.



Develop partnerships and synergies

Create synergies and share expertise within projects

To ensure projects are transformational, we encourage participatory methods that combine various forms of expertise. To support the emergence of sustainable and resilient societies, the FFEM promotes partnership-based, coordinated, and inclusive approaches in the projects we finance. This helps bring together all the relevant stakeholders to combine local knowledge with civil society actions, scientific recommendations, and the decisions taken by local, regional, and national governments.

Develop networks of stakeholders and communities of practice

The FFEM encourages approaches that enable the cross-fertilisation of expertise and help establish and strengthen stakeholder networks or communities of practice. For example, we support regional or South-South cooperation initiatives and cross-border collaboration.

The FFEM also continues to support decentralised cooperation approaches that mobilize the skills and expertise of French local authorities (municipalities, competitiveness clusters, etc.) and other French authorities working at the local level (natural parks, coastal protection agencies, etc.) to help their counterparts in the South.

Strengthen connections to civil society

The FFEM funds projects led by environmental civil society organizations (CSOs), in partnership with local stakeholders. The FFEM also encourages the creation and strengthening of local environmental CSOs that initiate innovation and can influence local and national policies relating to global environmental issues, particularly through the Small-Scale Initiatives Programme (PPI).

Work with the research community

The FFEM promotes cross-disciplinary approaches to applied research or action research at various project stages. Innovations are contextualised using diagnoses that are often informed by scientific data. During the implementation phase, FFEM-funded projects must use robust monitoring and evaluation systems to quantify the results and impacts of these innovations. The FFEM also encourages the creation of public decision-making tools based on scientific data. Lastly, the FFEM supports the dissemination of results and learnings to encourage others to replicate solutions. The goal is to foster a systemic approach so that project learnings spread to societies, lifestyles, economic activities, and public policies. This process also requires the emergence and enhancement of research activities in the South. To do so, the FFEM is building closer ties with the research community in France and in developing countries.

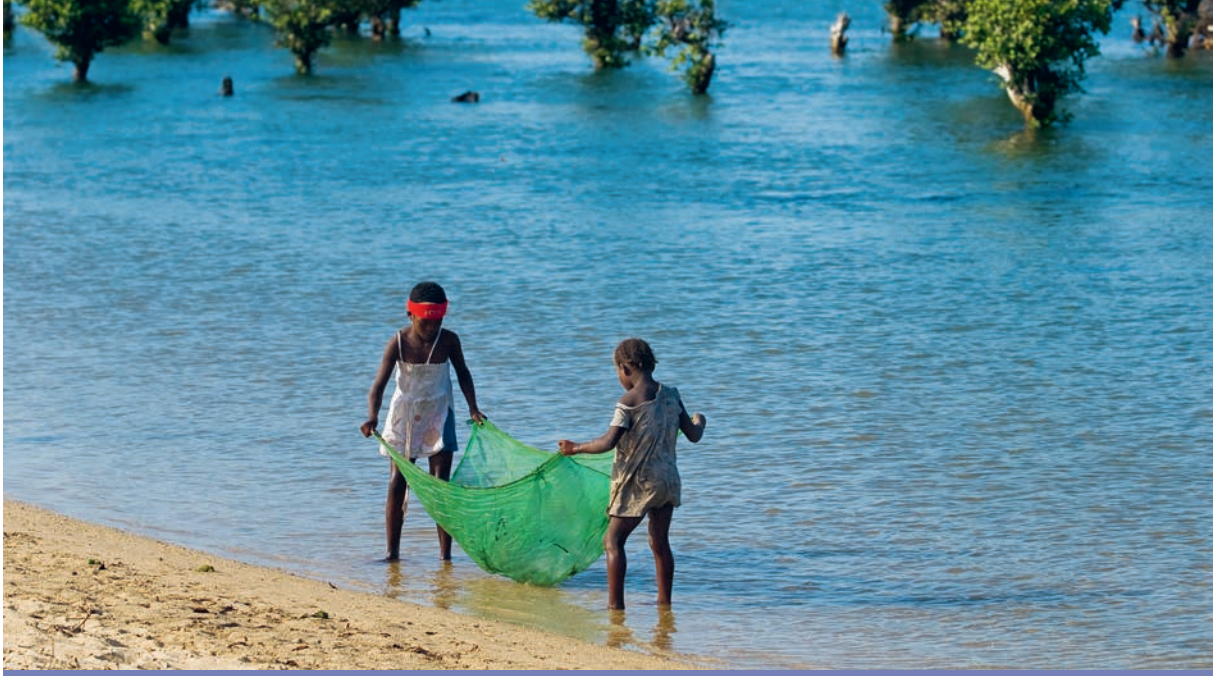
Mobilize the private sector

We must mobilize the private sector to develop more respectful practices and fund projects that benefit the global environment and sustainable development. To do so, the FFEM supports certain private sector innovations in collaboration with the work of CSOs or through specific calls for projects.

RAISE AWARENESS AMONG FUNDERS TO ENCOURAGE LEVERAGE AND REPLICATION

To foster the deployment of innovative, relevant, and effective solutions, the FFEM and project leaders must promote their activities and share their results and learnings with other funders (public and private, local, bilateral and international).

→ **Know more about projects' cofinancing, see the Annex.**



Priority themes

Fostering both environmental protection and local development to build resilient societies

The FFEM has five priority themes for 2023–2026. These themes are consistent with previous strategies but include emerging issues and risks as well as new innovation niches.

As such, the FFEM is continuing to support sustainable development and global environmental protection by setting out guidelines based on learnings from past projects.

These themes are not mutually exclusive. The FFEM encourages projects that cover different themes to foster convergences between biodiversity-climate-pollution, biodiversity-climate-desertification, biodiversity-climate-water, and associated co-benefits. In doing so, the FFEM seeks to support sustainable socioeconomic development per the core international agreements that guide actions to protect the environment.

Also, projects that help reduce climate hazards and variations (mitigation) and exposure and vulnerability to extreme events (adaptation) are useful in preventing, reducing, and responding to the risk of loss and damage.

A multidisciplinary approach for protecting the environment and supporting development

COBENEFITS FOR THE CLIMATE, BIODIVERSITY, AND POLLUTION

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT

Shared and equitable governance of protected area systems

Outstanding biodiversity led value chains or territories

Connectivity and ecological restoration

ADAPTATION AND LOW-CARBON TRANSITION IN CITIES AND TERRITORIES

Sustainable solutions to feed cities and adapt them to climate change

Energy conservation and efficiency

Fair and sustainable energy transition models

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTS LANDSCAPES

Agroecological performance of value chains and territories

Outstanding approaches to fight deforestation

Integrated forest management

CIRCULAR SOLUTIONS AND FIGHT AGAINST POLLUTION

Source reduction and circular economy

Preventing the risks associated with chemical products

Sustainable channels to manage hazardous waste

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS RESILIENCE

Ocean governance

Socio-environmental resilience of coastal areas

Freshwater ecosystem preservation

CROSS-CUTTING INNOVATION DRIVERS

Nature-based Solutions The "One Health" approach

Knowledge and expertise

Citizen participation

Mechanisms to mobilize sustainable financial resources

Science to policy

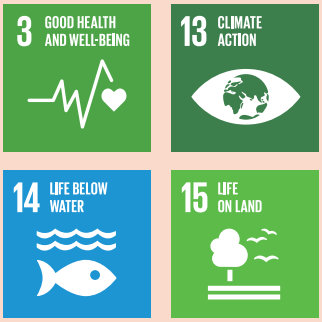
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT

The IUCN World Conservation Congress, hosted by France in Marseille in September 2021, called for urgent action to address the unprecedented biodiversity crisis. Human activity has significantly altered 75% of the world's land surface and 66% of the marine environment, and nearly one million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction[1]. In response, the FFEM funds projects that are in line with France's commitments under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the 2030 conservation targets in the new global biodiversity framework. The FFEM contributes to global biodiversity targets by ensuring that local residents participate in the management of natural resources and protected areas so that conservation can be compatible with development.

(1) According to IPBES: ipbes.net/global-assessment

PRIORITIES

- Protected area **systems and networks.**
- **Innovative financing tools** for biodiversity.
- **Model territories and sectors** regarding conservation with equitably shared benefits.
- **Ecosystem restoration approaches** that ensure ecological connectivity.



A multidisciplinary approach

Climate change and biodiversity loss are not separate crises, as they influence each other and have the same causes. Biodiversity is strongly affected by changes in how land and seascapes are used, the exploitation of natural resources, climate change, pollution, and invasive species. This means that to protect biodiversity, conservation efforts must work hand-in-hand and aim to create co-benefits with other environmental issues, particularly relating to climate change and pollution

Shared and equitable governance of protected area systems

Protected areas help preserve biodiversity and provide essential ecosystem services. However, examining the current state of conservation efforts shows that much remains to be done since the Aichi Targets have not been met. This is because there are significant gaps in ecological connectivity and little data on whether protected areas are managed effectively. Today, only 7% of the world's protected areas are both protected and connected, and nearly 25% are inadequately or poorly managed.

To overcome this challenge, the FFEM encourages the creation and long-term viability of terrestrial and marine protected areas that benefit local communities while ensuring that conservation measures do not harm those who depend on the area's natural resources. The FFEM supports:

1. **The development of shared and equitable governance in protected areas** by encouraging:

- innovative forms of governance that are adapted to the local context, equitable, stable, effective, and include all stakeholders;

- initiatives to (co)manage protected areas that involve communities, local authorities, or CSOs.

2. **The development of sustainable protected area systems with strong environmental performance,** via:

- support to protected area systems and networks at sub-regional, national, or multi-country levels;

- building the capacity of protected area managers to fight against poaching, reduce human-wildlife conflicts, and monitor illegal fishing;

- tools to ensure increased and continued mobilization of human and financial resources for biodiversity over the long term (conservation funds, offsetting schemes, payments for environmental services [PES], etc.).

3. **The sharing of knowledge and best practices to make protected areas effective,** via:

- support to alliances, stakeholder networks and communities of practice to help build regional and global communities around protected areas;

- mentoring and tutoring, peer-to-peer discussions.

Outstanding sectors and territories in terms of biodiversity

Biodiversity can be protected while simultaneously contributing to local, equitable and sustainable development. It can produce co-benefits for economic and social development, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and human health.

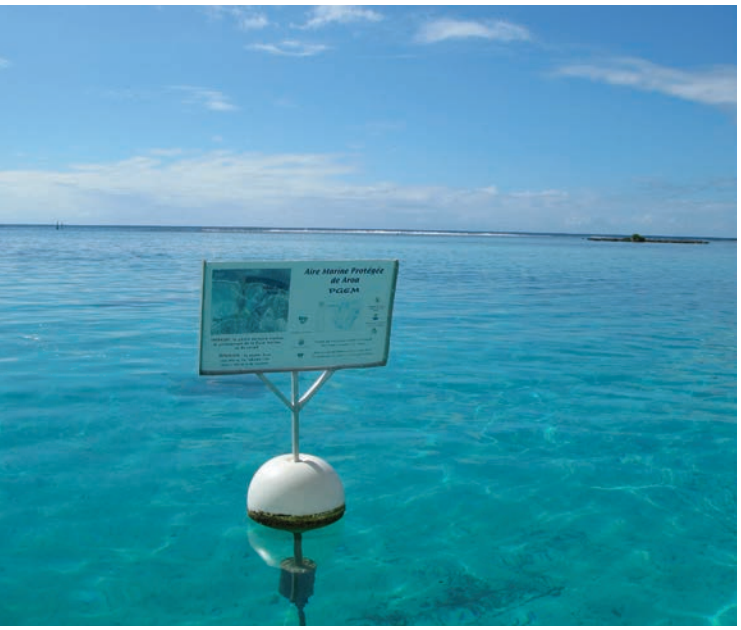
The FFEM promotes innovative approaches by local stakeholders to protect biodiversity in their territory and in specific sectors. We encourage approaches that are strongly committed to biodiversity-based sustainable development grounded in the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources while simultaneously promoting local expertise. The FFEM supports:

1. The promotion of outstanding areas that effectively combine biodiversity conservation and local development by:

- co-developing local governance that integrates all environmental issues and sustainably manages flows (waste, water, energy, transport, tourism, etc.);
- incorporating biodiversity into land-use planning;
- certifying and introducing specific labels.

2. The development of biodiversity-based industries with a positive impact on ecosystems and populations, with a focus on:

- green industries, non-timber forest products, ecotourism, and marine products;
- applying BioTrade principles and certification or labelling;
- equitably sharing the added value and benefits between the actors upstream of the value chains (SMEs, cooperatives, especially women's cooperatives, etc.).



Connectivity and ecological restoration

Most biodiversity loss is caused by the degradation and fragmentation of natural ecosystems. Ecological corridors and protected area networks allow species to move around and adapt to the changing climate.

Ecological restoration of degraded, damaged or destroyed ecosystems helps restore essential ecosystem functions and improves connectivity. It is also an effective way to prevent invasive species that are more likely to colonise degraded natural habitats.

The FFEM encourages approaches that promote ecological connectivity between natural protected areas and restore degraded sites that are important to connectivity. The FFEM supports:

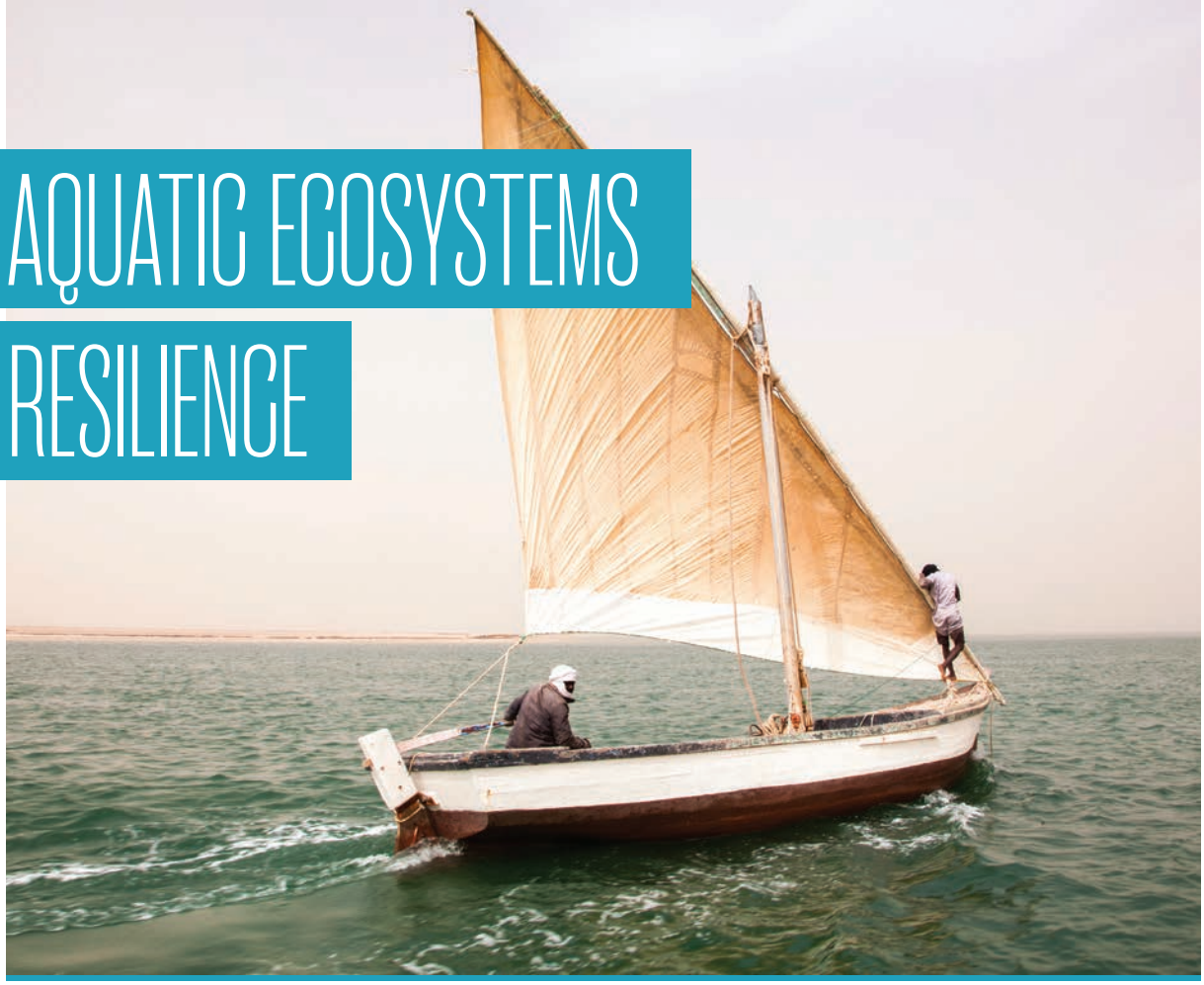
1. Approaches that foster ecological connectivity and species mobility, based on:

- planning and prioritizing conservation choices using territorial diagnoses;
- a territorial approach across protected areas using a periphery-to-core conservation gradient;
- creating mobile protected areas that are adapted to the effects of climate change.

2. Innovative organizational and technical methods for ecological restoration, such as:

- implementing restoration and/or natural regeneration solutions that provide ecological connectivity and environmental co-benefits, including nature-based solutions (NbS) and ecological engineering;
- contractual approaches with users to foster ecological regeneration and restoration;
- restoration measures that effectively combat invasive species.

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS RESILIENCE



The IPCC report published in 2022 confirmed the effects of climate change on marine ecosystems and freshwater resources (ocean acidification, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and water shortages) as well as the critical role that oceans play in regulating the climate. Several international conferences also took place in 2022, including the One Ocean Summit, the UN Conference on the Oceans in Lisbon, and the 5th round of negotiations on the future international agreement for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ). The FFEM's work is guided by this future agreement as well as France's commitments, particularly in the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the conventions and strategies of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Regional Seas Conventions (RSC). In this context, the FFEM supports projects to manage and restore aquatic ecosystems, particularly via NbS and by bolstering the resilience of local populations.

PRIORITIES

- **Protect biodiversity** in the high seas.
- **Fight against pollution** that threatens oceans and freshwater ecosystems.
- **Consider the role of blue carbon** in mangroves and seagrass beds.
- Use **NbS to build socio-environmental resilience** in coastal and freshwater ecosystems.
- Use **Blue Solidarity Economy models.**

A multidisciplinary approach

Unsustainable human activities threaten aquatic ecosystems both directly (e.g., unsustainable fishing) and indirectly (e.g., plastic or chemical pollution spread via runoff, waterways, wind or rain). To protect aquatic ecosystems, their biodiversity, and their essential role in climate regulation, restoration and conservation efforts must go hand-in-hand with changes in human behaviour. The FFEM therefore supports aquatic ecosystem projects that address the convergence between biodiversity, climate, and pollution.

Ocean governance

In the oceans, climate change does not only lead to sea-level rise and coral bleaching. Combined with increased pressure on natural resources, it is also changing the structure of fish communities, with affects the economy and food security. This is exacerbated by pollution (particularly plastic and noise pollution) and the appearance of invasive species. To protect oceans, the FFEM is calling for improved practices in exclusive economic zones (EEZs) and the creation of high seas protected areas. To date, marine protected areas cover an estimated 8.1% of the world's oceans[1], and many of them do not seem to be managed appropriately or effectively.

(1) According to the World Database on Protected Areas.

To foster better ocean governance, the FFEM promotes an improvement in scientific knowledge that can guide decision-making to better protect deep seabed and high seas ecosystems. The FFEM supports:

1. The establishment of effective tools to protect important ecosystems and marine biodiversity, with a focus on:

- creating and sustaining conservation areas, particularly marine protected areas (MPAs) on the high seas;
- adapting MPAs to climate change.

2. Building capacity for marine ecosystem governance and preservation by:

- creating specific tools and transferring technology;
- supporting regional stakeholders (regional seas, regional fisheries management organizations [RFMOs], etc.), to promote discussion, improve knowledge, and share best practices.

3. The long-term reduction of pollution in marine environments by:

- changing industrial practices that generate pollution, such as noise pollution or hydrocarbons and plastics;
- raising awareness and improving household practices.

The socio-environmental resilience of coastal areas

Coastal areas and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are particularly vulnerable to climate change due to mean sea-level rise and the increasing frequency of extreme weather events. This vulnerability is exacerbated by the deepening degradation of coastal ecosystems, caused by the artificialisation of coastlines, the extraction of marine materials (sand and coral), and the increasing number of dams. The pandemic has also greatly affected coastal and island economies, making it more important than ever to increase support for blue industries that protect biodiversity.

To strengthen the resilience of land-sea interface areas and their populations, the FFEM funds projects to protect, restore, and rehabilitate coastal ecosystems (mangroves, seagrass beds, reefs, and coastal forests). This also helps strengthen the social resilience of local populations. The FFEM supports:

1. **The preservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems with social and environmental co-benefits,** by:

- improving the management and restoration of degraded ecosystems (mangroves, seagrass beds, reefs, etc.) to restore their functionality;
- using NbS (restoration, natural regeneration, reforestation, etc.), including in coastal wetlands;
- combining blue-green and sustainable innovative solutions to adapt coastal areas to climate change and natural hazards.

2. **The sustainable development of coastal ecosystems, including seagrass beds, mangroves, and reefs,** by:

- supporting a social and solidarity economy (SSE) based on local and sustainable blue industries;
- implementing blue carbon pilot projects in mangroves and seagrass beds.

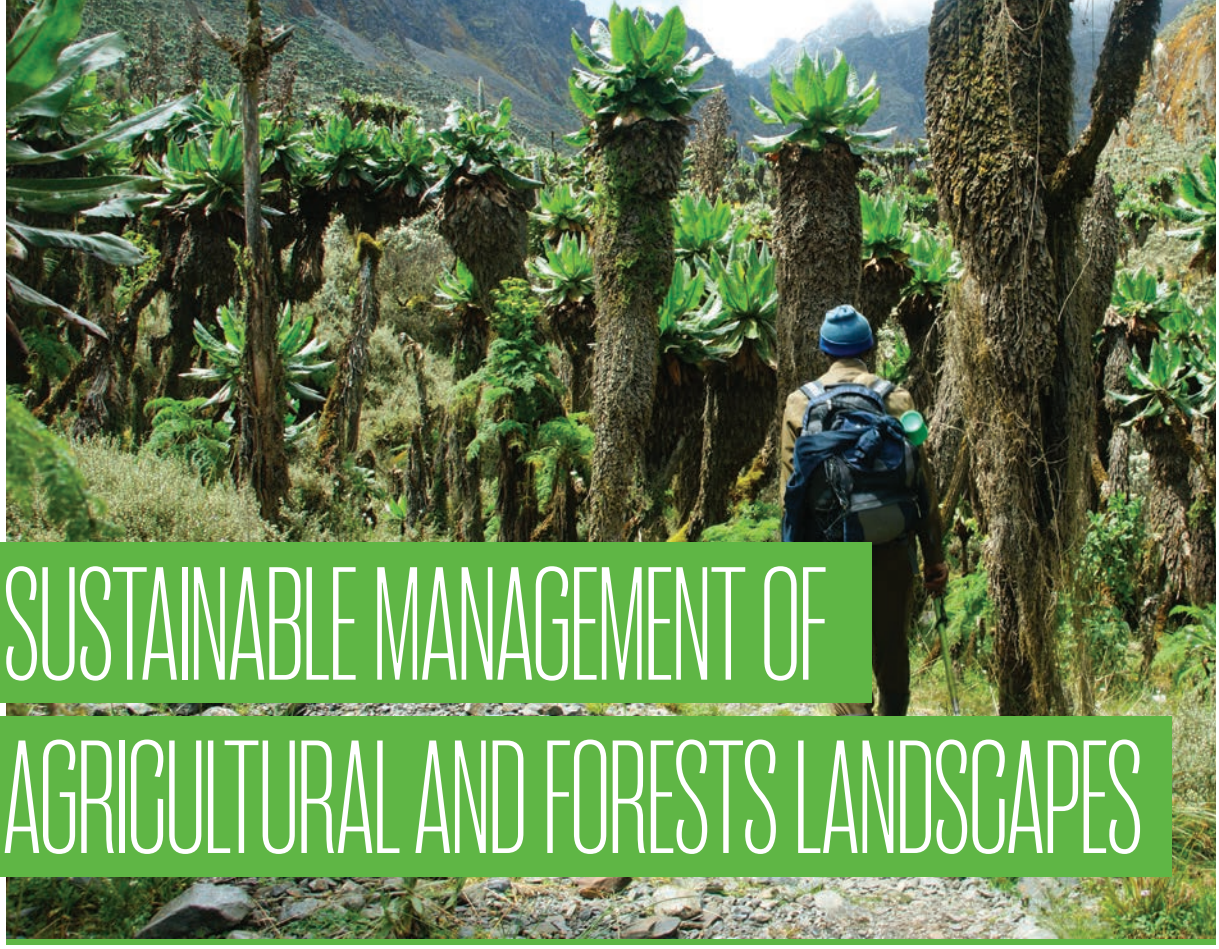
Freshwater ecosystem preservation

Though freshwater ecosystems represent just 2.8% of the total quantity of water available worldwide, they are critical to biodiversity and human health. However, they are now heavily impacted by the effects of climate change (droughts, floods) and human pressures such as urbanisation, poorly planned infrastructure, and pollution. The intensification of farming and other activities in watersheds increases the risk that surface and groundwater quality will be degraded.

The FFEM aims to conserve freshwater ecosystems to ensure the quality and availability of freshwater resources, along with equitable access. We are particularly interested in NbS and the freshwater-saltwater interface to improve flood risk management, groundwater replenishment, and the preservation of biodiversity reservoirs. The FFEM encourages:

1. **The protection and effective management of freshwater ecosystems, their functions, and associated services,** through:

- the protection of inland wetlands, their functions and associated services while prioritizing connectivity to foster resilience to global changes;
- integrated management of catchment areas and water resources to protect and replenish groundwater;
- actions to preserve surface water quality;
- the management of transboundary river basins.



SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTS LANDSCAPES

As the greatest reservoir of terrestrial biodiversity, land and forests are powerful tools for climate regulation. Today, urbanisation and unsustainable agricultural practices have considerably diminished their ability to support biodiversity and store carbon. Agriculture is the primary cause of deforestation and land degradation. The FFEM addresses forestry and agricultural issues together, as they are closely linked. Our goal is to simultaneously protect biodiversity, take climate action, and fight against desertification and land degradation. The FFEM's work contributes to France's international commitments, particularly the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and its 2018–2030 strategic framework, the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel and the "4 per 1,000" initiatives, and the Alliance for the Conservation of Rainforests. Furthermore, the French National Strategy to Combat Imported Deforestation (SNDI) and the future European reference framework on deforestation emphasise the need for greater efforts to help producer countries in the South shift to agriculture that does not contribute to deforestation.

PRIORITIES

- **Produce information** on the performance of agroecological, agroforestry, and forestry systems.
- **Implement models** to restore land, agricultural soils and forests.
- **Promote zero-deforestation approaches** at the territorial or sectoral level.
- **Use geospatial data** to monitor ecosystems and measure the impact of practices in place.

A multidisciplinary approach

Forests and agricultural land are both strongly affected by the environmental crisis and at the centre of the many human activities that contribute to it. We must therefore promote sustainable agricultural and forestry production methods to complement ecosystem conservation and restoration efforts and climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives. Furthermore, converting agricultural and forestry products into energy or compost can contribute to circular models. This is why the FFEM encourages cross-cutting forestry and agriculture projects – including those connected to cities and energy access – that take action on biodiversity, land degradation, climate, and pollution.

The agroecological performance of sectors and territories

Food production contributes to local economic development but has negative environmental impacts (greenhouse gas [GHG] emissions, biodiversity loss, groundwater pollution, etc.). Sustainable agricultural approaches offer solutions to respond to climate change (particularly in dry areas) and help preserve biodiversity and food security.

The FFEM supports the development of sustainable agricultural systems that are adapted to local conditions, such as agroecology and agroforestry. We are particularly interested in systemic and integrated approaches for building sustainable sectors and territories, giving smallholder producers their fair and equitable share of added value, and promoting practices that do not use chemical inputs. The FFEM supports:

1. **Demonstrating the positive impacts of agroecology to promote scaling up** by:

- evaluating the results of agroecological practices and their effect on the environment and soil as well as on the economy, income, health, and well-being of populations;
- creating networks of stakeholders to share knowledge and good practices;
- lobbying public decision-makers on the contributions of agroecology to promote national, regional and international development.

2. **The creation of an environment that fosters the development of agroecology** by:

- building the capacities of local stakeholders (civil society, public authorities and smallholder producers);
- promoting and selling agroecological products, particularly through certification systems.

3. **Agroecological solutions that restore agricultural lands and agroecosystems that combat desertification and land degradation.**

Outstanding approaches to fight deforestation

Most of the world's forest regions face deforestation, particularly in tropical areas that boast the greatest biodiversity and play a key role in carbon storage. The main cause of deforestation is the expansion of agriculture and livestock breeding to meet growing food and energy demands. By 2021, tropical regions had lost 11.1 million hectares of tree cover[1], one-third of which were in tropical forests.

To address this crisis, the FFEM supports projects that fight against deforestation, forest degradation, and changes in how land is used. We promote systems to monitor and control deforestation and help producers implement sustainable zero-deforestation practices. We also pay close attention to threats posed by local causes of deforestation (food production, fuelwood, etc.) and slash-and-burn practices. The FFEM supports:

(1) Data from University of Maryland available on Global Forest Watch.

1. Zero-deforestation experiments in territories or sectors (local or export), by:

- helping producers and stakeholders adopt no-deforestation practices;
- considering land use dynamics and helping clarify and stabilise land use;
- supporting effective traceability and data management systems that are adapted to each context, with a focus on data ownership and accessibility;
- implementing tools to monitor no-deforestation commitments (such as monitoring systems and geospatial tools).

2. The creation of additional and lasting financing tools for producers engaged in zero deforestation, such as:

- marketing products through labels and certifications;
- developing relevant financing tools (microfinance, bank financing, etc.) or premium/support mechanisms that involve downstream actors in value chains;
- setting up PES, carbon finance, or biodiversity finance mechanisms.

Integrated forest management

Given the increasing loss and degradation of natural forests, we must integrate forests into land use planning approaches that aim to reconcile environmental protection, social and land use dynamics, and needs and uses around forest resources (timber, fuelwood, non-timber forest products, agroforestry products). Management of these areas must also prioritize the restoration of degraded forests so they may recover their production and adaptation capacities.

The FFEM therefore supports projects that aim to protect and restore forest landscapes. This requires finding an equilibrium between various uses and the need to conserve forests, their social value, and economic interests. It is also important to recognize the rights of local populations. The FFEM aims to:

1. Support integrated and coordinated approaches to sustainable forest management by:

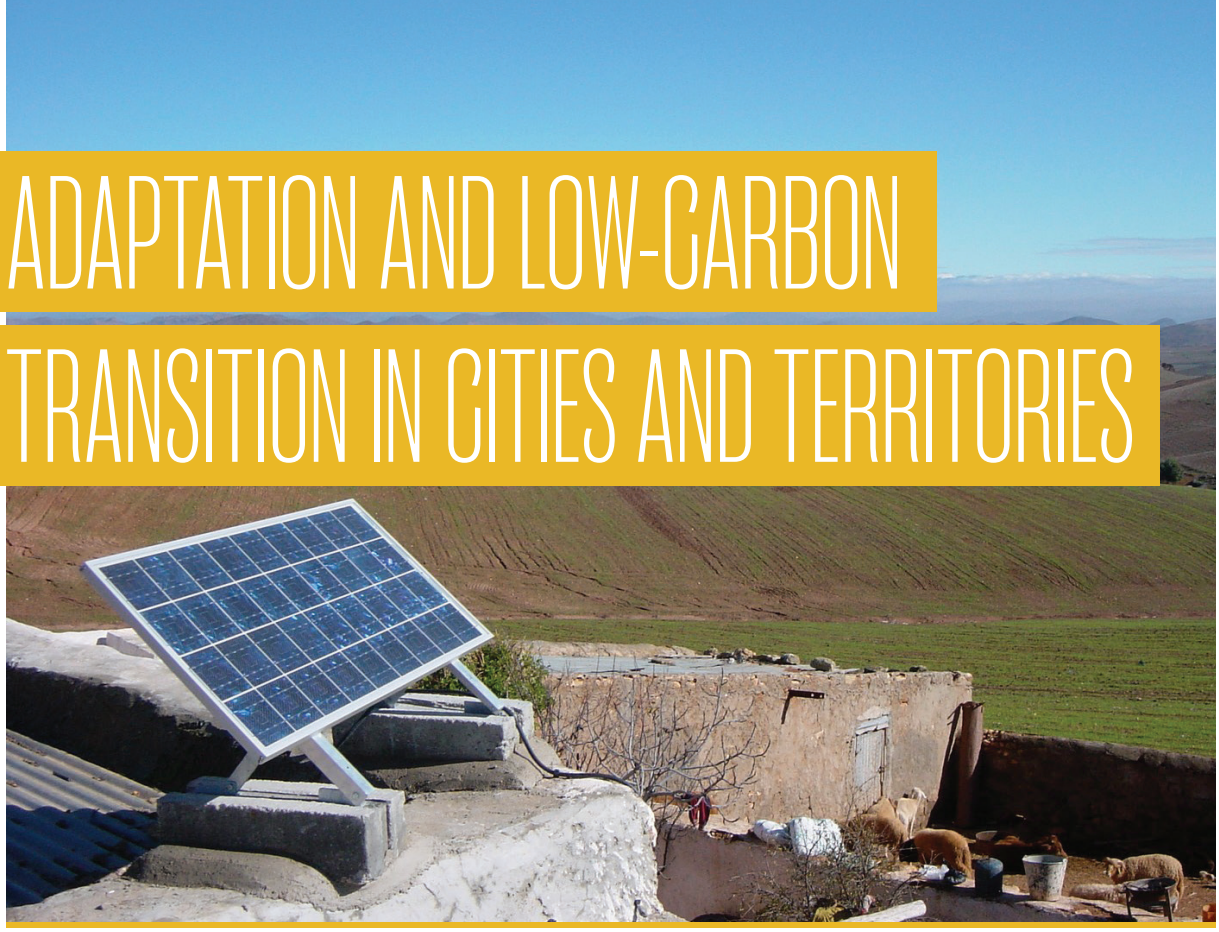
- preserving forest ecosystems and their equilibrium;
- securing land tenure while diversifying and clarifying land use at the territorial level to benefit local populations;
- using geospatial data and mapping tools while building the capacity of local stakeholders.

2. Develop sustainable forest management models by:

- enhancing the sustainability of forest management methods (industrial, artisanal, or social forestry);
- setting up forest restoration or reforestation pilot projects that take into account biodiversity, land tenure, and socioeconomic sustainability;
- implementing fair and sustainable local solutions to mobilize carbon finance, biodiversity finance, and PES;
- ensuring that forest management choices take climate change adaptation into account (effects on biodiversity, forest dynamics, fire frequency).

3. Develop sustainable agro-sylvo-pastoral systems in dry areas that contribute to economic development and the sustainable management of land and natural resources.

ADAPTATION AND LOW-CARBON TRANSITION IN CITIES AND TERRITORIES



All the countries that ratified the Paris Agreement committed to pursuing their efforts to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 °C. However, the IPCC[1] showed that net anthropogenic GHG emissions have continued to rise in all relevant sectors (industry, energy, transport, agriculture, construction, etc.). An increasing share of emissions comes from urban areas, which are also particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts. More than 55% of the world's population now lives in urban settings. This figure is expected to increase to 68% by 2050, representing more than two-thirds of the world's population. The FFEM's work in this area falls under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, which give equal weight to adaptation and mitigation. The FFEM also seeks to create synergies through implementation of the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment by promoting improved energy efficiency in the cooling sector. To do so, the FFEM address the energy transition and adaptation of cities and territories

(1) IPCC, «Summary for Policymakers» in Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change, Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2022.

PRIORITIES

- **Green and blue corridors in cities.**
- **Sustainable practices** for urban and peri-urban agriculture.
- **Decarbonisation models** with social and environmental co-benefits.
- **Eco-design approaches** to construction and bioclimatic buildings.
- **Active mobility** solutions in urban areas.
- **Integrated approaches** to decarbonise and develop territories.
- **New sustainable models** for access to electricity.

at the same time to promote low-carbon development and enhance climate resilience.

A multidisciplinary approach

Human activities, particularly in urban areas, contribute to climate change as well as the loss of biodiversity and agricultural land. The energy transition and electric mobility play a critical role in reducing GHGs, but can also generate pollution and waste, with major impacts on the health of humans and ecosystems. To effectively respond to these challenges, the FFEM believes they must be addressed simultaneously. We therefore support projects in the fields of urban and territorial planning and development, energy access, and urban agriculture that take into account the convergence of climate, biodiversity and pollution.

Sustainable solutions to feed cities and adapt them to climate change

Rapid urbanisation is putting increasing pressure on natural ecosystems, which can no longer play their regulating role (microclimate, drinking water supplies, flood reduction, food security, etc.). Urban areas are particularly vulnerable to climate change, and the Covid-19 pandemic revealed their vulnerability to disruptive events, with breakdowns in supply chains and increased inequalities.

To make cities more resilient to natural hazards and climate change, the FFEM encourages solutions that preserve or restore ecosystem functions and maintain sustainable urban and peri-urban agriculture to help ensure food security. We are particularly interested in intermediate cities and areas with high urban growth, including the outskirts of capitals. We also encourage inclusive adaptation projects since poor neighbourhoods and informal activity zones are often located in areas that are highly vulnerable to climate change. The FFEM supports:

1. **Green and blue solutions to preserve and restore ecosystem functions and reduce cities' vulnerability to climate change,** particularly:

- integrated urban planning approaches that include social and environmental components;
- NbS and green and blue corridors that also reduce air and water pollution.

2. **The promotion of sustainable and lasting agro-urban systems that contribute to food security** by:

- protecting agricultural land in cities and outskirts and securely integrating this priority into planning tools;
- strengthening sectors and local stakeholders' ability to promote healthy, sustainable, and circular agricultural practices that are adapted to the effects of climate change.

3. **Inclusive approaches for the sustainable management and planning of urban areas** through:

- multi-stakeholder consultation and planning processes that bring together local authorities, civil society, the private sector, and urban laboratories that develop green innovation;
- territorial approaches that consider environmental, climate, and socioeconomic issues.

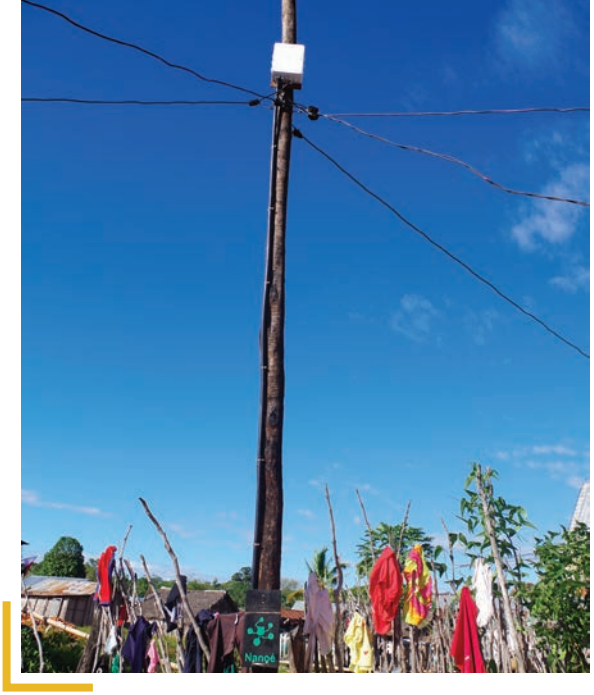
Energy conservation and efficiency

The energy sector is responsible for about two-thirds of global GHG emissions, making it the primary contributor to climate change. Transitioning cities and territories to low-carbon models requires reducing energy consumption.

The FFEM supports projects that target energy efficiency and demand-side management, especially in sectors with scattered consumption such as transport, buildings, cooling, and public lighting. We are also careful to ensure that low-carbon and energy-efficiency projects provide significant social and environmental co-benefits. As such, we encourage integrated approaches that respond to the global challenges of climate change, conserving natural ecosystems, and local development. The FFEM funds:

1. **The development of low-carbon technical solutions for homes, industry, and the tertiary sector** through:

- eco-design approaches for construction and bioclimatic buildings that use biosourced materials and local knowledge while guaranteeing thermal comfort for users by considering potential temperature increases and variations due to climate change;



- energy efficiency in cooling, cooking appliances, and agricultural processing activities (for homes and small industry).

2. The deployment of active mobility in conjunction with local development to reduce GHG emissions and air pollution by:

- planning and organizing urban mobility to encourage the expansion of public transport systems and active transport modes (such as walking and cycling);

- helping the informal and small-scale transport sector (minibuses, taxis, etc.) become more sustainable, efficient, and resilient.

3. Integrated approaches to decarbonise territories and improve their energy efficiency through climate-biodiversity-development models with co-benefits that combine sustainable natural resource management with innovative approaches to mobility, housing, jobs, services, resilience, and energy security (e.g., for fuelwood).

Fair and sustainable energy transition models

Long-term low-carbon transition plans must be drafted to decarbonise energy mixes and uses. The energy transition requires gradually eliminating fossil fuels, which means a large part of the local workforce will need to be retrained. There are many social, political, and technical obstacles to this transition that perpetuate the use of unsustainable energy resources. It is therefore particularly important to address social issues (particularly relating to employment) and environmental issues when planning and implementing the energy transition.

Given that nearly one person in seven has no access to electricity, expanding affordable access to reliable, sustainable, and modern energy services remains a major challenge.

The FFEM supports a fair and sustainable energy transition through which access to low-carbon energy drives development and local employment. The FFEM supports:

1. The development of sustainable and non-polluting solutions to drive the energy transition, with a focus on:

- research on and implementation of innovative economic models that provide access to sustainable electricity;

- approaches and initiatives that support local development, fight pollution, and protect ecosystems, particularly via end-of-life management of energy transition equipment.

2. Socioeconomic planning for the low-carbon transition in territories through pilot energy transition projects centred on local employment and retraining for sustainable jobs, particularly in coal-mining areas.

CIRCULAR SOLUTIONS AND FIGHT AGAINST POLLUTION

Pollution generated by chemicals and hazardous waste threatens ecosystems and human health. 92% of pollution-related illnesses and deaths occur in developing countries.[1] The FFEM therefore supports projects that fight pollution and introduce circular solutions using integrated approaches that consider the entire product life cycle. The FFEM's actions are consistent with France's international goals and commitments, particularly as part of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), which launched negotiations on a legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution. They are also in line with the various international conventions on chemicals and waste and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and the Montreal Protocol. To help developing countries enact these conventions and treaties, the FFEM supports projects to strengthen governance and regulatory frameworks while facilitating collaboration between stakeholders and the implementation of operational pilot actions.

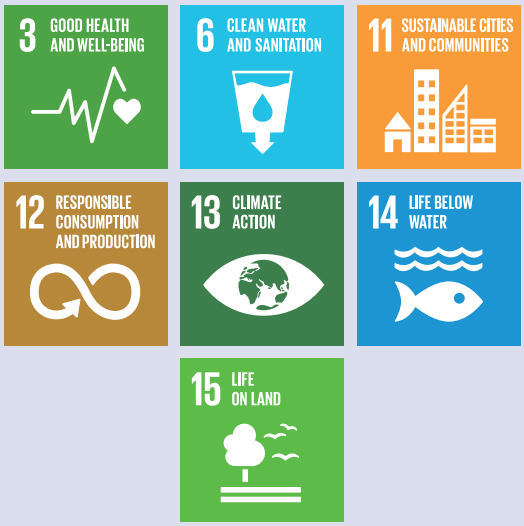
(1) According to The Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health: bit.ly/health-pollution.

A multidisciplinary approach

Given that humans are the origin of most waste and pollution, with devastating consequences on the health of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, wildlife and human populations, the FFEM encourages projects that tackle these problems in conjunction with our other priority themes. In particular, the FFEM promotes an integrated approach to sustainable consumption and production that focuses for instance on waste and pollution reduction in the agri-food, energy and construction sectors.

PRIORITIES

- **Solutions to reduce** waste and pollution at the source.
- **Eco-design,** circular economy, and industrial and territorial ecology approaches.
- **Sustainable**, viable, and lasting waste management systems.
- The **protection of at-risk populations** and those exposed to chemical products.
- The **integration of informal sectors.**
- **Solutions to address emerging risks,** including waste from the energy and digital transition.



Source reduction and the circular economy

Today's consumption and production patterns generate pollution and waste, most of which is burned in the open air or dumped into natural ecosystems. Due to inadequate management, an estimated 4.8 million to 12.7 million tonnes of plastic waste end up in oceans each year.[1] These observations confirm the urgent need for source reduction and better waste management. Better management of solid waste and recycling could cut global GHG emissions by 10-15%. Preventing waste production could further increase this reduction from 15 to 20%.[2] This shows the potential of the 3R strategy (reduce, reuse and recycle) to improve ecosystem and population health and limit climate change.

The FFEM therefore promotes the transition from a linear economic model (manufacture, consume, discard) to a sustainable circular model based on source reduction. The FFEM supports:

1. Sustainable circular solutions to reduce and recover waste using the following hierarchy of waste management methods:

- prevention or source reduction as the top priority, particularly by developing alternatives (eco-design, industrial and territorial ecology, etc.) and raising awareness;
- organic waste recovery, particularly via sustainable organizational approaches to composting;
- the emergence of bioeconomy opportunities for waste recovery, including bioenergy sectors;
- plastics management using a product life cycle approach.

2. Changes in practices and behaviours, especially through:

- education and awareness-raising for producers and consumers;
- incentive and certification schemes (environmental information or logos, ecolabels, etc.).

(1) Jambeck J.R. and al., "Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean", Science 347(6223), 2015, p. 768-771.

(2) PNUE and ISWA, Global Waste Management Outlook, 2015.

Preventing the risks associated with chemical products

Chemicals are a source of pollution that can harm people and other living organizms (cell mutagenesis, neurological damage, reproductive and developmental damage, metabolic effects, immunotoxicity, pulmonary inflammation, emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria[1]). Rational management of the chemical life cycle (extraction, production, consumption, treatment, and disposal) is key to guaranteeing the health of ecosystems and populations.

The FFEM is particularly interested in approaches that help achieve the goals of the Stockholm Convention to eliminate the use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) by 2025 and the environmentally sound management of waste liquids containing PCBs and equipment contaminated by PCBs by 2028, as well as initiatives that promote alternatives to mercury use in gold mining. These issues are both extremely important in places where the FFEM provides funding.

To address these challenges, the FFEM supports projects that encourage the rational use of chemicals. We emphasise awareness-raising and training to change practices, strengthen governance frameworks, co-develop alternatives, and transfer skills and technologies. The FFEM supports:

1. Reducing the use of chemicals by changing practices, with a focus on:

- developing and promoting alternatives to these products, especially persistent organic pollutants (POPs), heavy metals, and pesticides;
- sharing knowledge, raising awareness, and training stakeholders, at-risk and exposed populations, and the general public;
- setting up adequate organizational, institutional, and regulatory frameworks to make sure actions and achievements are sustainable.

(1) UNEP, Towards a Pollution-Free Planet: Background Report, Nairobi (Kenya), 2017.

2. Preventive approaches and remedial measures to minimise exposure to chemicals by:

- reducing chemical exposure to protect ecosystems, wildlife, and humans;
- protecting at-risk and exposed populations (personal protective equipment, product labelling, information sharing platforms, awareness raising and training, etc.);
- launching pilot projects to decontaminate sites (phytoextraction, phytoremediation).

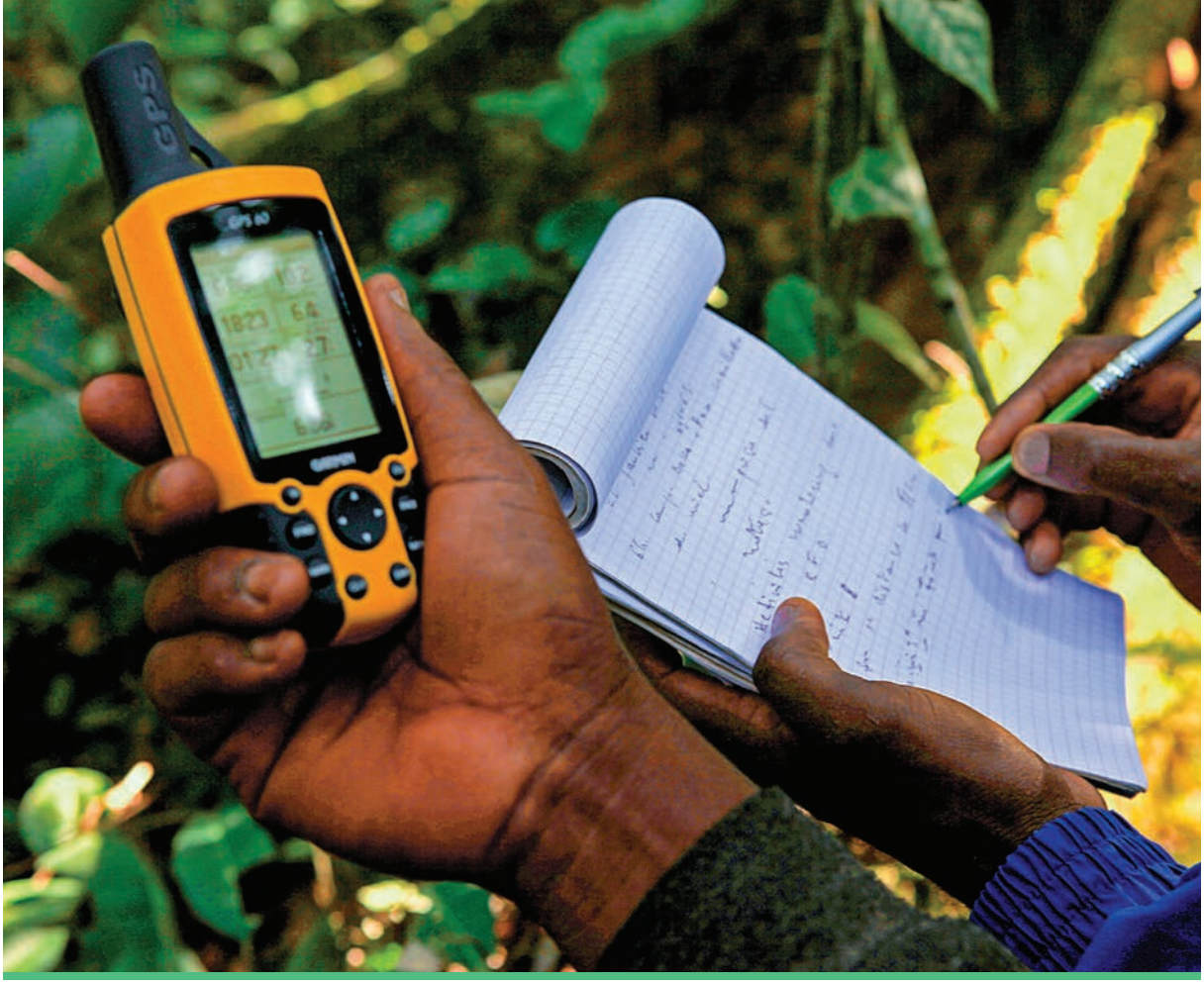
Sustainable channels to manage hazardous waste

Hazardous waste presents major risks to health and the environment. This is particularly true in developing countries, which still have very limited access to adequate and effective hazardous waste management services. In many cases, organizational, institutional, and regulatory frameworks need to be strengthened to foster an environment that allows for the development of hazardous waste management channels. The digital and energy transitions and the growth of electric mobility have also led to risks associated with the increased production of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).

The FFEM therefore supports projects to prevent hazardous waste production; promote its reuse, recycling, or recovery; and develop effective and sustainable waste management channels (from collection to treatment). We are particularly interested in WEEE; waste containing POPs, mercury, or other heavy metals; and obsolete stocks of pesticide and plastic waste. The FFEM supports:

1. Effective solutions to reduce hazardous waste and manage it appropriately and sustainably through:

- education, awareness-raising and training to promote prevention;
- skills and technology transfers and the co-development of solutions to implement better management techniques and practices;
- the creation and structuring of sustainable, economically viable, and lasting hazardous waste management channels that use a circular economy approach, taking the informal sector into account;
- the strengthening of organizational, institutional, and regulatory frameworks to foster an environment that encourages the creation of sustainable waste management channels.



Innovation drivers

Supporting cross-cutting approaches
that spark innovation

The FFEM is interested in a variety of innovation methods (which we call innovation drivers) that cut across the priority themes in this strategy. Incorporating them into projects should foster innovation while ensuring both local ownership and wider dissemination. These innovation drivers include but are not limited to the following.

Nature-based Solutions and the "One Health" approach

To address the damage anthropogenic activities cause to both people and ecosystems, the FFEM supports solutions that generate co-benefits for humans and nature. We are particularly interested in two complementary approaches: Nature-based Solutions (NbS)[1] and the "One Health" approach.[2]

Knowledge and expertise

The FFEM encourages the use of knowledge and expertise to drive sustainable development. We support integrating awareness-raising, education, and training approaches into projects to help create more socially and environmentally resilient societies. The FFEM also strives to recognize the contributions of local and traditional knowledge and expertise in the development of innovative solutions.

Citizen participation

Citizen participation in public decision-making is a form of innovation that strengthens connections between citizens, decision-makers, and public policies. These connections are critical to the scaling and sustainability of the actions we fund. As such, the FFEM supports collective and participatory intelligence approaches as well as other tools to strengthen dialogue between civil society and public authorities.

Mechanisms to mobilize sustainable financial resources

Many local authorities lack the necessary financial resources to take environmental action in their communities. This is why the FFEM supports experiments to mobilize sustainable resources with positive impacts on the environment and development, including domestic, private and mixed financing.

Science to policy

Scientific approaches are critical for contextualising and giving rise to innovations, then ensuring scalability. The FFEM supports data production and modelling approaches. We also encourage the integration of cognitive and social science approaches to address the challenges of transforming public behaviours and policy decisions. For science to inspire and influence policy strategies, the link between research and government needs to be strengthened. To that end, the FFEM encourages the creation of decision support tools, as well as science-driven arguments, demonstrations, and advocacy.

(1) Based on the IUCN's definitions and the UNEA resolution on 2 March 2022.

(2) The "One Health" initiative promotes a multidisciplinary approach to human, animal, and environmental health.

Submitting a project

Any legal entity[1] may submit a project, as long as it falls under the FFEM's mandate and guidelines and meets the eligibility, funding, and geographic criteria described below.

Project eligibility criteria

To receive FFEM funding, a project must meet nine eligibility criteria:

- contributes to global environmental protection;
- contributes to local sustainable development in one or more developing countries;
- is innovative;
- has demonstrative value and replicability;
- is economically and financially sustainable once funding ends;
- is ecologically and environmentally viable;
- is socially and culturally acceptable, with local ownership;
- has an appropriate institutional framework;
- has a monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

We are also interested in seeing whether a project addresses any of the following points:

- uses the Theory of Change;
- includes partnerships;
- considers inequalities, women, youth, and vulnerable populations;
- will share knowledge gained by the project;
- has sustainable funding and co-financing.

Research funding

The FFEM may fund applied research or action research relating to development activities. However, basic research is not eligible for FFEM funding.

(1) Excluding individuals or natural persons.

Geographic priority: a focus on Africa

The FFEM funds projects in any developing country eligible for official development assistance.[1] However, Africa is our priority and we aim to commit two-thirds of our resources there.

Eligibility of French overseas territories

Except for Wallis and Futuna, the French overseas collectivities are not eligible for official development assistance.[1] However, the FFEM may contribute funding to regional projects working on global environmental protection that include French overseas collectivities in partnership with eligible countries. In this case, funding to the French overseas collectivities may not exceed 25% of the FFEM's contribution to the project.

(1) Based on the rules established by the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

FFEM funding amounts and terms

FFEM funds projects only through co-financing. Co-financing is financing that directly contributes to a project's specific objectives and is needed for its implementation. The co-financing bodies, including the FFEM, work in close synergy in the steering and/or management of the project, which is handled by one of the co-financing bodies on behalf of the others. FFEM funding complements co-financing identified by project initiators, direct beneficiaries, or any other financial partner.[2] Operational costs are shared, and local or other financial resources must be mobilized. This both promotes and demonstrates ownership of the project by its initiators and local beneficiaries, helping to ensure activities continue once FFEM support has ended.

(1) Based on the list of developing countries as defined by the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC), see the Annex.
(2) So the financing situation can be assessed in its entirety, project initiators may indicate the use of additional project resources that are in line with overall objectives but not considered co-financing as defined above.

At each stage of the examination process, beneficiaries must indicate whether co-financing has been requested, will be requested, or has been received. In general, co-financing amounts matching the required percentages mentioned below must be confirmed before the FFEM Steering Committee grants its funding, and no later than when the FFEM's first payment is made. During project implementation and at the end of the project, project initiators will need to make sure they comply with the initial co-financing rates. Project evaluation will include an analysis of whether the expected co-financing was mobilized.

In-kind contributions may be included in the project budget as co-financing, but may not exceed 25% of the total project budget. An "in kind" contribution is a voluntary contribution through which a natural person or legal entity provides another with work, goods, or other services free of charge. Examples include partners providing employee time, equipment, volunteers, or any other assistance or service, free of charge. "Valuating" these expenses means estimating their actual cost

The FFEM's contributions range **from €500,000 to €2,000,000** per project. The FFEM's co-financing rate is:

- **a maximum of 50%** for NGOs, local public stakeholders, research institutions, and firms from social and solidarity based economy (which does not include mission-based firms);
- **a maximum of 30%** for profit-making companies and international organizations.

Specific terms for profit-making companies

The FFEM uses repayable advances for the private sector, except for firms from social and solidarity economy.

Mobilizing co-financing

In the short term, applicants must search for co-financing from other financiers and donors to activate FFEM financing and foster the replication of solutions in the longer term. When funding projects, the FFEM takes other donors into account and verifies that projects fall within the scope of developing countries' national strategies to guarantee the quality, effectiveness, and predictability of the aid provided.

The projects are thus a collaboration between many funders and donors in France (such as the Agence Française de Développement), Europe (European Commission, European Investment Bank, bilateral bodies, charitable foundations, etc.) and at the international level (Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Fund, Green Climate Fund, Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, foundations, etc.).

The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The FFEM is particularly committed to projects that are co-financed by the GEF. This complementary funding may cover actions with local stakeholders working on the ground combined with actions targeting public policies. This co-financing must provide visibility for the FFEM's actions and, if possible, mobilize French partners such as researchers, public and private institutions and companies, local authorities, NGOs, and foundations. Furthermore, when an innovative pilot project co-financed by the FFEM has proven its efficacy, project initiators are encouraged to apply for GEF funding to help achieve scale.

Project duration

The FFEM funds projects for three to five years. The maximum duration may not be exceeded without formal justification.

It is not the FFEM's duty to ensure a project is sustainable beyond the period initially provided for. It is up to project initiators to identify financial resources to ensure the continuity of the project beyond the initially planned duration.

However, after implementation of an initial project phase, the FFEM may consider new funding as long as:

The Montreal Protocol

The Montreal Protocol regulates and seeks to reduce the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances. Following the adoption of the Kigali Amendment (in 2016, then entered into force in 2019), it also helps fight against climate change by phasing out hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), alternative substances with high global warming potential. A Multilateral Fund, to which France contributes, was established to help developing countries comply with the protocol's objectives and amendments. Contributing countries can deliver up to 20% of this contribution through bilateral projects. The FFEM Secretariat supports the development, implementation, and monitoring of these projects for France as a complement to FFEM project financing. It also supports the French government in protocol-related negotiations.

- an external evaluation showcases the relevance of continued FFEM support;
- objectives for deployment, scaling, and the introduction of innovations have been defined;
- the FFEM's share of the total budget has been revaluated if needed.

Project cycle

To submit a project to the FFEM, project initiators must receive support from one of the six FFEM member institutions (see page 39). Updated contact details for each institution are listed on the FFEM's website: www.ffem.fr/en/our-governance.

The Secretariat and Scientific and Technical Committee both examine and give their opinion on the project, while the Steering Committee approves the project and makes the final decision regarding FFEM funding.

Updated supporting documents for each stage of the project cycle are available at www.ffem.fr/en/submit-project: project opportunity note (NOP), project identification note (NIP), and project engagement note (NEP).

Project cycle

PRE-IDENTIFICATION

- → The project initiator **drafts a project opportunity note (NOP).**
- → The NOP provides an overview of the project.
- → One of the six member institutions of the Steering Committee **supports** the project.
- → The project's **eligibility is verified.**

IDENTIFICATION

- → The project initiator **drafts a project identification note (NIP).**
- → The NIP provides details about the project.
- → The Scientific and Technical Committee and the Secretariat give their **opinion**.
- → The Steering Committee **authorises** appraisal of the project.

FEASIBILITY

- → An independent consultant conducts a **project feasibility study.**
- → **A project engagement note (NEP)** is drafted for the Steering Committee.

CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT

- → The Steering Committee **approves** project funding.
- → The agreement is **signed**.

IMPLEMENTATION/SUPERVISION

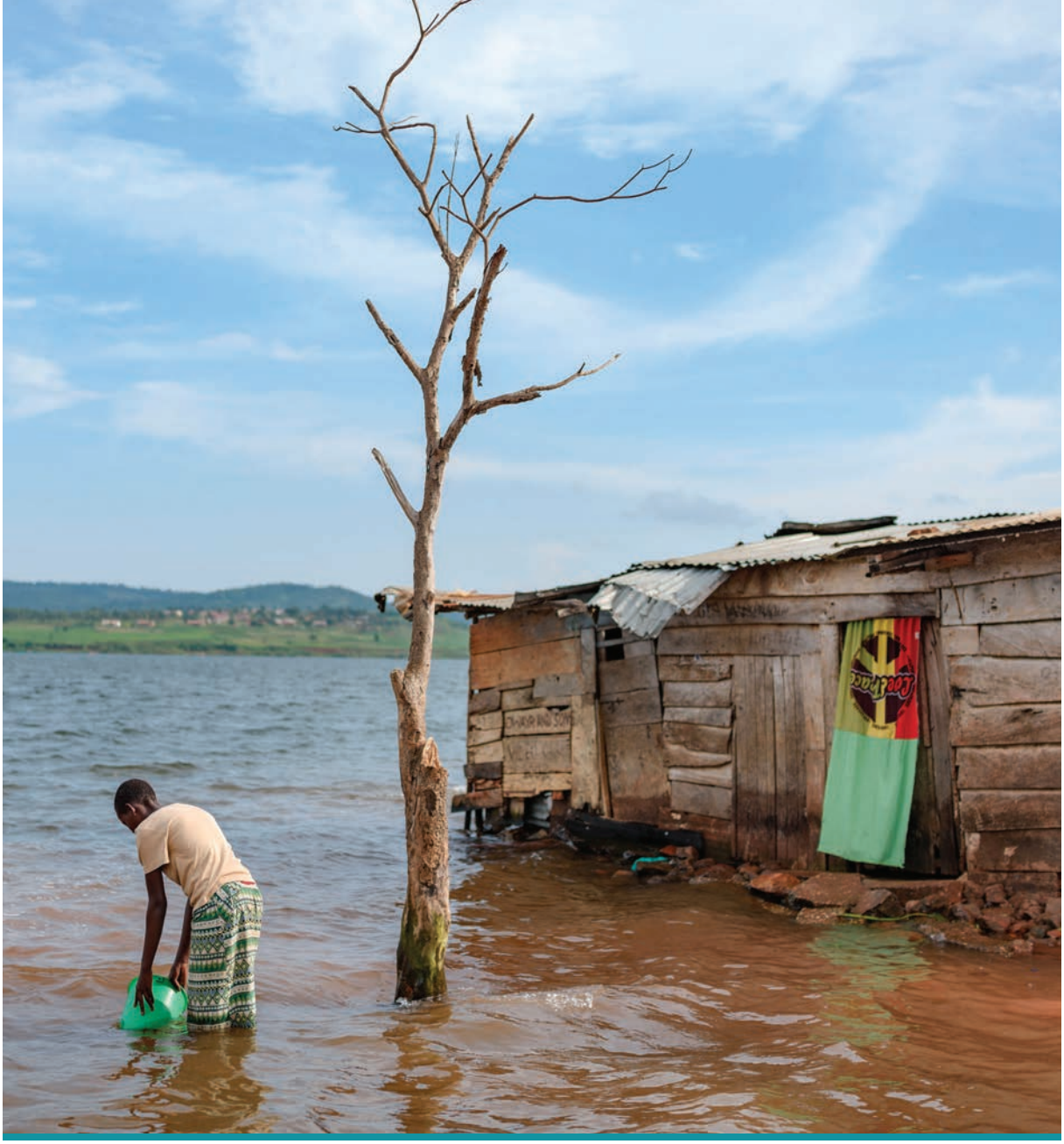
- → The beneficiary **launches the project** and drafts implementation reports.
- → The Secretariat makes **payments and monitors the grant,** with the support of the member institution.
- → A system to **monitor and evaluate** results and impacts is put in place.
- → If applicable, a **midterm review** is conducted.

CAPITALIZATION

- → The beneficiary submits a **completion report**.
- → The beneficiary and/or the FFEM conduct **retrospective evaluations** and capitalization exercises.
- → **Seminars and conferences** are organized to present findings.
- → **Communication** on the outcomes of the project.

COMMUNICATION

Communication throughout the project by the project initiator and/or the Secretariat, starting with the signature of the agreement.



Appendices

The FFEM's governance

FFEM's governance is based on three bodies which interact right from the definition of its strategy up to the operational implementation of projects.

DECISION-MAKING BODY

THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Comprises the FFEM'S six member institutions. Develops the FFEM's general policy and determines project funding after consulting with the Scientific and Technical Committee and Secretariat.

- → **French Ministry of Economy, Finance, and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty**
  Directorate-General of the Treasury
- → **French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs**
  Directorate-General for Global Affairs, Culture, Education and International Development
- → **French Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion**
  Department of European and International Action
- → **French Ministry of Higher Education and Research**
  Directorate-General for Research and Innovation
- → **French Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty**
  The General Directorate for Economic and Environmental Performance of Enterprises
- → **Agence Française de Développement (AFD)**

ADVISORY BODY

THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Reunites 12 qualified experts on the themes covered by the FFEM. Helps develop the strategic guidelines, makes sure funded projects are relevant, and contributes to project monitoring and evaluation.

OPERATIONAL BODY

THE SECRETARIAT

Participates in each stage of the project cycle: appraisal, monitoring of implementation, capitalization, and communication. Composed of 14 members, project managers and management officers under the supervision of the secretary general.

Countries that receive FFEM co-financing

List of countries and territories recipients of official development aid as defined by the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- Angola
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Bangladesh
- Belarus
- Belize
- Benin
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cabo Verde
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- China
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Djibouti
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Fiji
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Honduras
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Jamaica
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Marshall Islands
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldavia
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Niue
- North Macedonia
- Pakistan
- Panamá
- Papua-New-Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Rwanda
- Saint Helena
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent et the Grenadines
- Samoa
- São Tomé-et-Príncipe
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Sierra Leone
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Corea
- South Sudan
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Venezuela
- Viet Nam
- Wallis and Futuna
- West Bank and Gaza Strip
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Contributions to international objectives

International conventions, agreements, and initiatives

The FFEM's activities fall under the framework of international environmental conventions, agreements, and initiatives and contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)
- Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (SFDRR)
- 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP)
- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Basel Convention)
- Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa (Bamako Convention)
- Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Stockholm Convention)
- UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework focusing on implementing SDG target 15.3 to achieve land degradation neutrality in countries affected by desertification
- UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention)
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (1992 Helsinki Convention)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Convention on the Law of Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses (UN Watercourses Convention)
- Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including:
  - the New York Declaration on Forests
  - the Paris Agreement
- Regional Seas Conventions (RSC)
- New York Declaration on Forests and Amsterdam Declaration Partnership (ADP) to combat deforestation
- 4 per 1000 Initiative for food security and climate change adaptation and mitigation (4p1000)
- Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel initiative (GGWSS)
- One Health Initiative
- New Urban Agenda adopted at the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)
- Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)
- United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Strategic Plan
- Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Montreal Protocol) and the Kigali Amendment
- Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS)
- Resolutions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly, including UNEA-5
- French National Strategy to Combat Imported Deforestation (SNDI)
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)

Projects funded between 2019 and 2022

2019	Commitments
Ethiopia – Small Coffee Growers Project (FISP-PUR)	€499,824
Kenya – North Kenya Ecological Connectivity	€2,000,000
Mongolia – Integrated Production Systems for Sustainable Cashmere (SPI-CD)	€850,000
Mozambique — Chimanimani Conservation Area	€1,200,000
Multi-Country – Sustainable Management of Wetlands in the Mediterranean	€662,500
Multi-Country – OCE – Climate Change Education	€1,100,990
Multi-Country – Energy Production via the Gasification of Cashew Nut Shells in West Africa (Agro-Gazelec)	€2,200,000
Multi-Country – Environmental Performance of Fair-Trade Supply Chains in West Africa	€2,500,000
Uganda – Deployment of Solar-Powered Electric Motorcycle Taxis, Zembo Project	€600,000

2020	Commitments
Côte d'Ivoire – Restoring Soil and Multifunctionality in Forest Landscapes (Terri4Sol)	€1,500,000
Madagascar – Towards a Lateral Electrification Model for Rural Areas in Northern Madagascar	€2,440,000
Multi-Country – Collective and Contextualised Strategies to Promote Resilient and Sustainable Agricultural Production in Rural Mediterranean Areas (SUPMED)	€1,700,000
Multi-Country – Agroecology and Safe Food System Transitions in South-East Asia (ASSET)	€2,871,000
Multi-Country – Water Information Systems for Climate Change Adaptation in the Congo Basin	€1,000,000
Multi-Country – Integrating Scientific Output on Coastal and Marine Areas into Decision-Making in the Western Indian Ocean (DIDEM)	€952,322
Multi-Country – A Territorial Approach as a Lever for Socio-Environmental Resilience in Six African Landscapes of Priority Interest for Biodiversity (Nitidae)	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Conservation, Mitigation and Biodiversity Offsets (COMBO+ Programme)	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Promoting Sustainable Opportunities in the Premium Cocoa Value Chain (Cacao Andes)	€2,650,000
Multi-Country – Hybrid Governance to Protect and Manage Remarkable Areas on the High Seas: The Thermal Dome and Sargasso Sea (SARGADOM)	€3,000,000
Philippines – Sustainable Development of the Shark Fin Bay Coral Triangle	€527,054
Senegal – Additional Covid Funding to Support Pastoralism in the Ferlo	€120,000

2021	Commitments
Colombia – Preservation of the Colombian Massif	€1,101,887
Mali – Risk Prevention and Alternatives to Pesticides and Certain Veterinary Products in Cotton-Growing Zones	€1,055,787
Multi-Country – Small Initiatives Program for Civil Society Organisations in North Africa – Phase 3 (PPI-OSCAN 3)	€1,264,255
Multi-Country – Improving Knowledge of Plastic Waste Pollution and Promoting the Circular Economy in the Indian Ocean – Indian Ocean Plastic Expedition (ExPLOI)	€1,700,000
Multi-Country – Sahel Wood Energy (BES)	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Strengthened and Innovative Participatory Forestry to Benefit Local Communities Near Protected Areas in the Congo Basin (RIFoP)	€1,999,800
Multi-Country – Supporting Pro-Nature Community Initiatives in Southern Africa	€2,627,116
Multi-Country – Quiet Western Indian Ocean Project (QWIO)	€3,000,000

Multi-Country – Sixth Small-Scale Initiatives Program (PPI6)	€3,000,000
Multi-Country – Ecological Connectivity in the Central Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean (PACÍFICO)	€2,560,000
Multi-Country – Increasing Protection of Indigenous Territories and Peoples to Preserve the Amazon (Terr'Indigena)	€1,720,000
Multi-Country – RedLAC and CAFÉ Initiative to Encourage the Private Sector to Participate in Conservation (BRIDGE)	€2,227,500
Multi-Country – Caribbean Regional Architecture for Biodiversity (CRAB)	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Pacific Ecosystem-Based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC+)	€1,800,000
Senegal – Promoting Affordable, Resilient and Sustainable Housing (PHARD)	€1,452,000
Tunisia – Sustainable Disposal and Management of Plastic Waste on the Islands (Plast'ile)	€500,000

2022

	Commitments
Bangladesh – Capacity Building to Reduce Lead Contamination	€839,336
Brazil – Developing Innovative and Sustainable Production Models to Protect Biodiversity in Brazil's Pampa Biome (Alianza Mais)	€2,000,000
Cameroon – Women and Sustainable Energy	€870,000
Costa Rica – Rethinking Plastic Consumption: Putting Ideas into Practice	€2,000,000
Gambia – Strengthening National and Municipal Capacity for the Rational Management of PCBs and UPOPs	€999,788
Guatemala – Biodiversity Conservation, Ecological Connectivity and Integrated Coastal Zone Management	€2,550,000
Madagascar – Sustainable Management of Coastal Ecosystems in the Bays of Ambaro, Tsimipaika, Ampasindava and the Archipelago of Nosy Be (GECP BATAN)	€2,050,000
Morocco – Outdoor Activities to Support Biodiversity in Ifrane National Park	€1,800,000
Mauritius – Installation of a Pilot Airborne Wind Energy System Connected to the National Grid (Skysails Power)	€849,338
Mauritania – Support to the Nouakchott Region for Resilient and Equitable Sustainable Development (ARENDDRE)	€1,100,000
Mexico – Blue Innovation to Foster Resilient Coastal Communities and Marine Ecosystems in Mexico (COBI Blue Innovation)	€1,200,000
Mozambique — "One Limpopo One Health" Project	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Call for Projects for Sustainable and Resilient Coastal Ecosystems and a Sustainable Blue Economy in West Africa (RESILAO)	€2,600,000
Multi-Country – Spatial Biodiversity Assessment, Prioritisation and Planning in Southern Africa (SANBI)	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Creating Sustainable Blue Tourism That is Adapted to a World in Crisis in the Covid Context	€2,165,900
Multi-Country – Developing a Sustainable Regional Financing Mechanism for the W-Arly-Pendjari (WAP) Transboundary Ecological Complex	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Enhancing Ecosystem Resilience in the Mediterranean (RESCOM)	€1,520,000
Multi-Country – Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Obsolete RAC Equipment in West Africa (AGORA)	€2,484,600
Multi-Country – Strengthening the Governance of Biologically and Climatically Significant Ocean Areas Through Knowledge of the Marine Microbiome (Plankt'Eco)	€2,199,084
Multi-Country – Strengthening Capacity in Cape Verde and Senegal to Monitor, Manage, And Reduce Plastic Waste in Line with the Provisions of the Basel Convention	€2,000,000
Multi-Country – Strengthening the Contribution of Seagrass Beds to Socio-Ecological Resilience and the Blue Economy in the Western Indian Ocean (WIOCOR)	€3,000,000
Nigeria – Developing and Deploying an Affordable, Eco-Friendly Solar Refrigeration Product (Koolboks)	€1,430,580
Senegal – Comfortable Construction Without Air Conditioning (CoCliCo)	€837,540

The FFEM contributes to Sustainable Development Goals

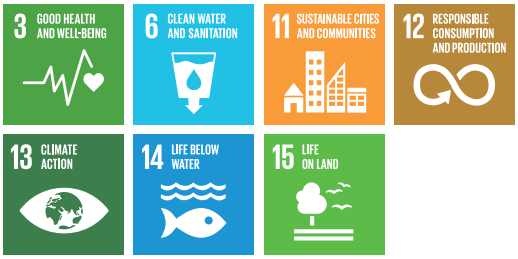
Biodiversity conservation and enhancement

Aquatic ecosystems resilience

Sustainable management of agricultural and forests landscapes

Adaptation and low-carbon transition in cities and territories

Circular solutions and fight against pollution



Acronyms and abbreviations

AFD | Agence Française de Développement

BBNJ | Marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction

CBFP | Congo Basin Forest Partnership

CICID | French Interministerial Committee on International Cooperation and Development

CSO | Civil Society Organization

EEZ | Exclusive Economic Zone

FFEM | French Facility for Global Environment

GEF | The Global Environment Facility

GHG | Greenhouse gas

HFCs | Hydrofluorocarbons

IMO | International Maritime Organization

IPBES | Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

IPCC | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

ISWA | International Solid Waste Association

IUCN | International Union for Conservation of Nature

MPA | Marine Protected Area

NbS | Nature-based solutions

NGO | Non-governmental organization

OECD | Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

PCBs | Polychlorinated biphenyls

PES | Payments for Environmental Services

POPs | Persistent organic pollutants

PPI | Small-Scale Initiatives Programme

RFMO | Regional Fisheries Management Organization

SAICM | Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals

SIDS | Small Island Developing States

SME | Small and medium-sized enterprise

SNDI | French National Strategy to Combat Imported Deforestation

SSE | Social and solidarity economy

STC | Scientific and Technical Committee

UNCCD | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNCTAD | United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNEA | United Nations Environment Assembly

UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme

UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

WEEE | Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

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