



RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité

EXPERTISE FRANCE  
GROUPE AFD



# Expertise France in the Near and Middle East



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Countries covered:  
(Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria,  
Palestinian Territories, Yemen)

24

projects  
implemented

€86m

Business  
volume

**In the Near and Middle East, Expertise France's multi-sector action is helping to strengthen the resilience of territories by supporting public institutions and private sector development, by supporting the provision of essential services to the population, particularly in Syria and Yemen, and by making stability and social cohesion in the face of crises and natural disasters a major issue.**

**In all these areas of tension, the participation and contribution of women to public life and national economies complements the humanitarian, stabilisation and development work carried out by all French players.**

Know how in common

# A fragile region affected by crises and disasters

In the Near and Middle East, Expertise France helps to identify and initiate sustainable development projects in order to reduce the vulnerabilities that compromise the future of generations to come.

In the countries of the Middle East, plagued by conflict and instability, Expertise France supports state authorities and non-state players in their efforts to achieve greater stability and development. In Lebanon, the Palestinian Territories and Iraq, there are still many challenges to be overcome, affecting the management of public finances, the governance of strategic infrastructures and the fight against corruption.

The countries of the Middle East face a multitude of political, economic, social and environmental challenges and needs.

The region is affected by multiple crises - economic, climatic and security - resulting in population displacement, damage to essential infrastructure such as schools and hospitals, and widespread instability that is hampering the region's social and political development.

A regional context undergoing simultaneous change on several fronts: economic, political, social, environmental and security.

A strong desire, particularly among young people, to create a more equitable and sustainable economic development model and social contract, and to reduce inequalities.

- Growing environmental and climate pressure: a region exposed to the impacts of climate change, and increasing vulnerabilities, particularly in terms of water stress, which is spreading throughout the region with potentially serious consequences for food security, agriculture and the livelihoods of local populations.

- A diverse range of means and causes of travel: legal (work, retirement, expatriation, etc.), illegal (illegal immigration, human trafficking, brain drain), temporary (students, tourists, etc.) and permanent (families, diasporas, etc.).

- The need to pursue, develop and reinvent open and innovative partnerships with civil society, young people, local authorities and the private sector.

## Our impact in 2023

**63**  
organisations were supported in the provision of social protection services

**1,475**  
people whose training or professional integration was supported

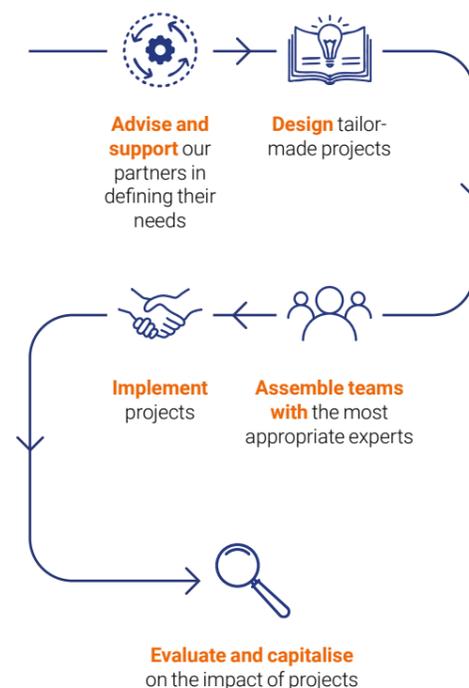
**274**  
staff from structures benefiting from enhanced skills in security, stability and/or crisis management

**1,552**  
staff from structures trained in the mobilisation of domestic resources

**98**  
companies supported

**7,575**  
people trained or made aware of issues relating to gender and/or gender equality

## Our business



## Our tools

**Methodological and technical advice:** diagnostics, recommendations, action plans, etc.

**Capacity building:** training, coaching, change support.

**Networking:** peer exchanges, study visits, consultation workshops, etc.

**Supply of goods, services and works:** drawing up specifications, awarding contracts, coordinating work, etc.

Number of staff **101**

### Turnover 2023

**18.2** million euros

Number of projects in progress **24**

### Multi-year business volume

**86** million euros

**€15.2m**  
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

**€1.4m**  
Other



# Expertise France's areas of intervention

## Area 1

### IMPROVE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT REFORMS

By reinforcing the transparency, accountability and efficiency of government institutions, this approach seeks to create an environment conducive to investment, economic growth and job creation. The planned reforms aim to:

- Strengthen institutions by promoting transparent and inclusive governance, the fight against corruption, and the promotion of competition in markets to contribute to economic prosperity and strengthen the bond of trust between the state and its citizens;
- Increase the mobilisation of domestic resources;
- Support the introduction of responsible, gender-sensitive budget policies;
- Improve the capacity of public administrations, by investing in staff training and adopting effective public finance management practices.



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## Area 2

### CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF A SOCIAL CONTRACT, A VEHICLE FOR STABILITY AND THE REDUCTION OF INEQUALITIES

- Support the modernisation of the State: Promote democratic, open and transparent institutions and encourage the transition to e-government;
- Support social protection models that are inclusive and promote social cohesion;
- Support non-state players in providing quality services to the public;
- Promote a high-quality, diversified healthcare offer that is accessible to the most vulnerable;
- Help to reduce gender inequality;
- Support quality education and French-language teaching in the region.



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## Area 3

### PROMOTE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INNOVATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SECTORS THAT CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES AND NEW HORIZONS

- Promote the development of an ecosystem of shared innovations, including digital innovations;
- Support entrepreneurship, a major driver of social inclusion and economic development, particularly for women and young people;
- Support the development of agricultural, cultural and craft production sectors to strengthen regional competitiveness and capitalise on the comparative advantages of each country;
- Finally, by promoting inclusive economic growth, support for the private sector, value chains and the sustainable and inclusive economy aims to reduce social inequalities and ensure that economic benefits reach all segments of society, including marginalised populations.

## Area 4

### STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL AND OPERATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR RISK AND CRISIS PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT

- Support countries in the region in their strategy to adapt to climate change;
- Build institutional and operational capacity for safety, risk and crisis management in the face of natural or man-made disasters, by implementing risk management strategies;
- Promote coordination and cooperation between the various players at national, regional and international level to ensure an effective and coordinated response to crises;
- Invest in building these capacities to increase the resilience of societies and regions, protect the population and thus ensure a safer and more stable future for all.



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# Improve economic and financial governance and support reforms

**PALESTINE**

**SUPPORT PROJECT FOR THE PUBLIC FINANCE INSTITUTE (PFI) - PHASE 2**

**AFD, €1.4m**

The aims of this project are to support Public Financial Management reforms and associated institutional changes, and to ensure the skills and capabilities of those involved in the governance of public finances through professional training and university study programmes.

**LEBANON**

**PROJECT TO SUPPORT REFORM OF THE LEBANESE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**EU, €12m**

This four-year project, funded by the EU, is aligned with the national anti-corruption strategy (2020-2025), the reform opportunities identified by the IMF's agreement in principle, and the principles of modern public administration. Expertise France supports the supervisory bodies in their mandated role in the fight against corruption. Support for public procurement reform is also at the heart of the project, which also aims to preserve the integrity of public administration, particularly in the area of public human resources management.



**JORDAN**

**PROJECT STARTUP, PREPARATION AND MONITORING FACILITIES (FAPS) - SUPPORT FOR THE CITIES AND VILLAGES DEVELOPMENT BANK (CVDB)**

**AFD, €0.5m**

The aim of this project is to support the CVDB in implementing its investment and funding diversification policy and in proposing a range of services for municipalities, in line with the new law governing its action in response to the economic and financial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**MULTI-ZONE**

**EU GLOBAL FACILITY ON ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM (AML-CFT)**

**EU, €20.1m**

In support of the regional fight against the terrorist threat, this project aims to cut off the financing of terrorist individuals or organisations and to introduce enhanced measures to combat organised crime by supporting greater compliance by partner States with the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

## Contribute to the consolidation of a social contract, a vehicle for stability and the reduction of inequalities (Area 2)

## Promote economic, social and cultural innovation and the development of sectors that create new opportunities and new horizons (Area 3)

**SYRIA**

**HERNES 4**  
 Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), €5m

The 4th phase of the HERNES project, financed by the CDCS, aims to continue to meet the needs of the population in terms of maternal and reproductive health, harmonising protocols and improving care practices and access to care in north-eastern Syria in the context of conflict, in particular by redeploying basic services and contributing to the resilience of the population, by compensating for medical deserts and by training gynaecologists, obstetricians, midwives and nurses.

**SYRIA**

**SABIR 4**  
 Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), €5m

The 4th phase of the SABIR project, also funded by the CDCS, is continuing, extending support to 19 Syrian CSOs to implement projects to support the population as part of an integrated regional approach. The project focuses on community clusters in the governorates of Raqqa, Deir-ez-Zor and Hassakeh, financing the rehabilitation of basic infrastructure (electricity, water), support for income-generating activities - agriculture in particular - adaptation to climate change and social cohesion.

**LEBANON**

**SHABAKE 2**  
 AFD, €10m and CDCS, €3m

Shabake 2 aims to improve the resilience of Lebanese civil society, supporting its role in crisis prevention and management by building the capacity of Lebanese NGOs.

**JORDAN**

**GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL COHESION (GESC)**  
 AFD, €10m

The aim of this project is to support the Jordanian Ministry of Social Development, at both central and local level, in coordinating and implementing services for vulnerable Jordanian and Syrian refugee populations. It is helping to transform the Local Community Development Centres in the governorates of Karak and Jerash, as well as the most disadvantaged areas of Amman, into one-stop shops to facilitate access to integrated and inclusive services.

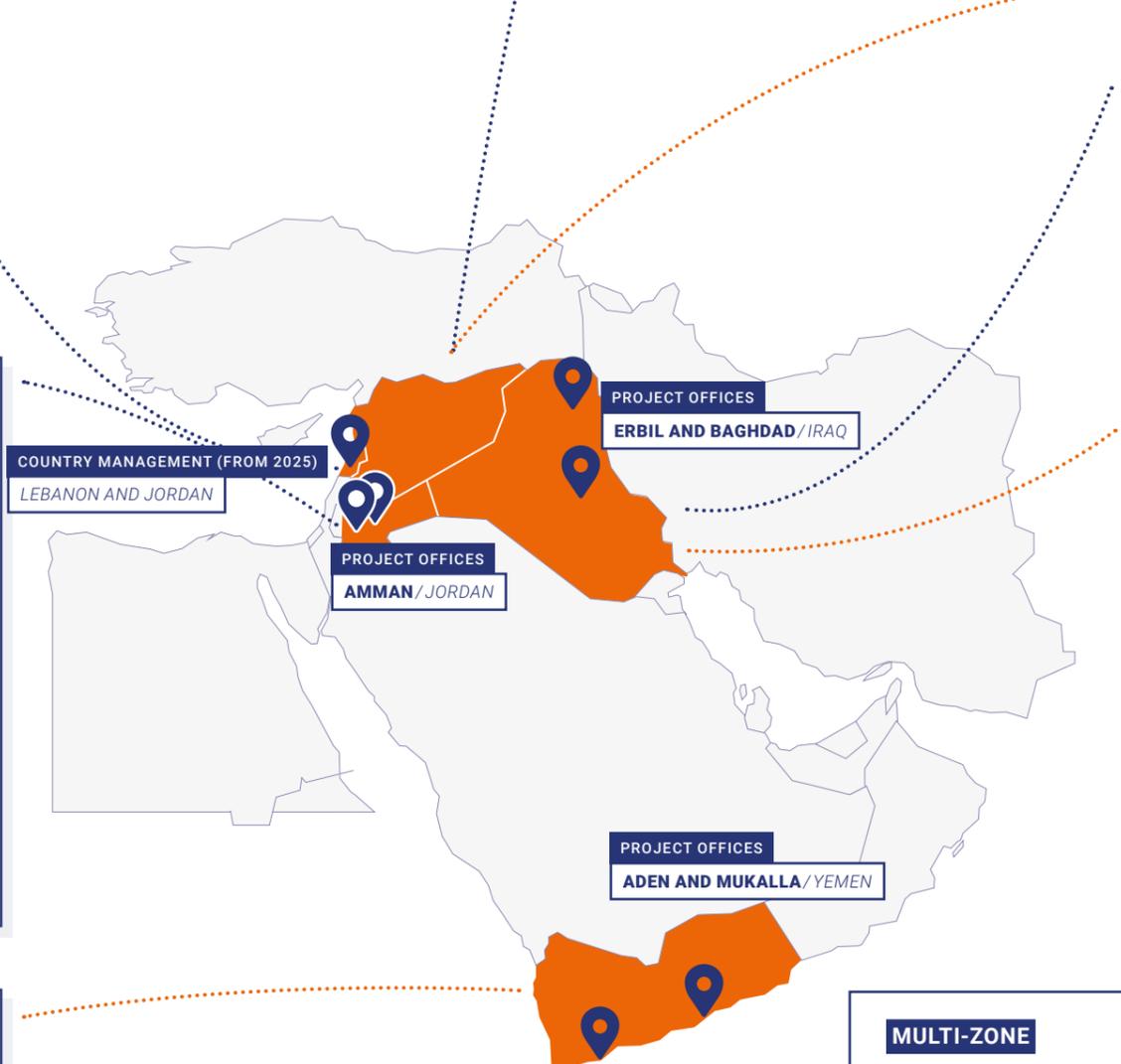
**SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS IN JORDAN**  
 EU, €6.4m

As part of the State modernisation agenda decided by the Royal Court, this project aims to support Jordan's political reform efforts to promote a more participatory, inclusive and accountable democratic process. More specifically, the project encourages the political participation of young people and strengthens the role of democratic institutions.

**YEMEN**

**FISH2DEV**  
 Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), €1m

The Fish2Dev project aims to strengthen the resilience of the fishing sector in Al-Mukalla in order to help preserve the livelihoods of artisanal fishermen and local communities, improve food security and facilitate prospects for post-crisis recovery.



**IRAQ**

**MRCC - STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS**  
 AFD, €10m

The aim of this project is to rehabilitate and bring into service the Medical Research and Care Centre (MRCC) at the University of Mosul (UoM). It will involve rehabilitating and equipping the centre with medical and non-medical equipment, as well as providing specific support in terms of hospital governance and research through twinning arrangements with French university hospitals.

**IRAQ**

**REHABILITATION OF THE HISTORICAL AND RELIGIOUS HERITAGE OF THE TOWN OF AMEDI**  
 ALIPH Foundation, €1.4m

The aim of the project is to restore and enhance Amedi's historical and religious heritage and to support the local authorities in preserving it and integrating it into the town's economic development strategy, in partnership with the Institut Français du Proche-Orient (French Near East Institute), the Department of Antiquities in the province of Dohuk, and the town of Amedi.

**IRAQI WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT**  
 AFD, €10m

Expertise France supports the creation and development of businesses run by women entrepreneurs by providing training and access to funding through local organisations, and contributes to the debate on the role of women in the economy and society in Iraq.

**MULTI-ZONE**  
 Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Libya and Tunisia (project team based in Jordan)

**GREEN FORWARD**  
 EU, €4m

This project aims to strengthen the principles of the green and circular economy in the southern Mediterranean countries by developing the institutional and legislative framework.

# Renforcer les capacités institutionnelles et opérationnelles de prévention et de gestion des risques et des crises

## LEBANON

### SUPPORT FOR THE PHYSICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PORT OF BEIRUT

AFD, €1.2m

This support comes in the wake of the explosion at the port of Beirut in August 2020. It includes technical assistance for the Ministry of Public Works and Transport and the Port of Beirut on various issues such as the physical rehabilitation of the port and the reform of port governance. This support is also helping to bring the port into line with international port safety and security standards. The Port of Marseille Fos and HAROPA Port are involved in this project.

## JORDAN

### CIVIL PROTECTION IN JORDAN

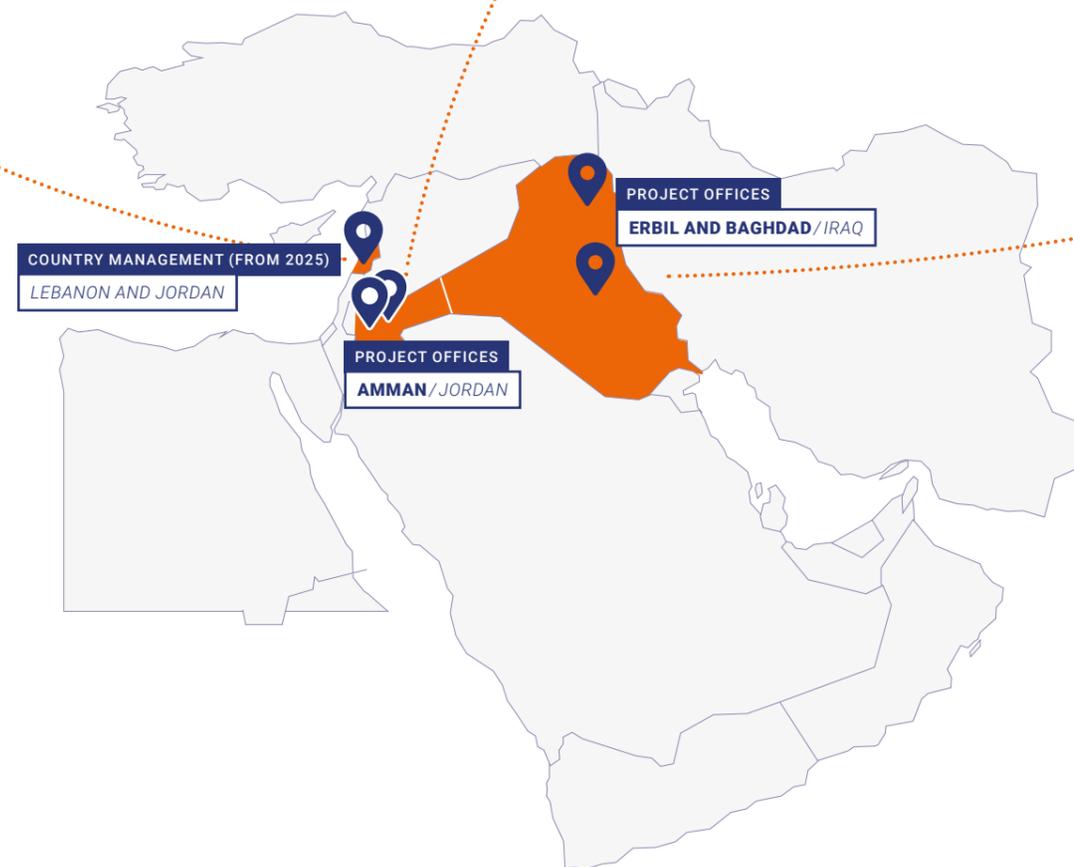
AFD, €600k

Expertise France is mobilising technical assistance to support and strengthen the institutional and operational capacity of Jordan's civil defence for the prevention and management of disaster risks through risk assessments (floods, drought, earthquakes, etc.), contingency plans, and the development of training capacities specific to the Jordanian Civil Defence.

### SECFRON 2 - SUPPORT FOR BORDER SECURITY

NL/DCSD, €1.9m

Support Jordan's security and socio-economic stability by improving border management and increasing the power of the Ruwashid hub to ensure the military presence of the Jordanian Armed Forces in the region.



## IRAQ

### NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT - PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF NRBC RISKS

EU - DG INTPA, €1.7m

Through technical expertise from the French National Agency for Radioactive Waste Management (ANDRA) and the French Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN), this project aims to support the Iraqi Ministry of the Environment, and more specifically the Radiation Protection Centre (RPC), in ensuring a level of efficiency that meets international standards and the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency. All training takes place in a third country such as Tunisia, Jordan or Turkey.

### DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT FOR IRAQ

DG ECHO, \$1.5m

The aim of the project is to help the autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan to put in place an effective operational risk and disaster management system to serve the population, in particular to deal with the risks of flooding and urban fires. Support for Iraqi Kurdistan's civil defence and other rapid response organisations is planned through the implementation of emergency plans, the strengthening of response capabilities and the supply of training equipment.

Expertise France is the inter-ministerial public agency for international technical cooperation and a subsidiary of the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Group. The second largest agency in Europe, it designs and implements projects that sustainably strengthen public policies in developing and emerging countries. Governance, security, climate, health, education... It works in key areas of development and contributes alongside its partners to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

For a world in common.



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