

# AFD AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



Madagascar - Maroantsetra © AFD - Nicolas Fournier





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## CONSERVING MARINE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

Through the ecological services it provides to societies biodiversity plays a central role in supporting the economic growth and employment, the fight against poverty and for food safety as well as adaptation to climate change. It is considered a part of the cultural heritage of all humanity. Investing in development approaches based on the sustainable use of natural resources, favourable to economic growth, conservation of biodiversity and the well-being of the populations has become essential.

There is now a large consensus on the threats that weigh on the fishery resources and the marine environment. On a global scale, marine ecosystems are threatened by unsustainable fishing practices which could lead to the collapse of stocks. They are also suffering as a result of demographic densification, coastal pollution and the development of infrastructures on the coastline. Furthermore, global warming is having a major impact on marine and coastal environments which calls for the adoption of measures over the short term and long term.

The international community is committed to stopping the erosion of biodiversity, promoting its sustainable use and guaranteeing the sharing of its benefits in a fair and equitable manner. In order to fulfil its international commitments, in particular the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity, France has developed a strategy for the protection of marine and coastal biodiversity which has been implemented in its marine areas and across its international cooperation activities.

For 40 years, AFD has supported developing countries in the organisation of the fishing sector, particularly the small scale fishing sector, through investments in land infrastructures and in capacity building activities of the government for the proper monitoring of their marine resource. Since 10 years, AFD is being more and more engaged in marine biodiversity conservation projects.

### Excerpt from the Strategic Plan for biodiversity 2011-2020, Aichi Target 11:

*“From now until 2020 [...] at least 10% of marine and coastal areas, including areas that are particularly important for biological diversity and the services provided by the ecosystems, will be conserved through ecologically representative and well-connected networks of effectively and equitably managed protected areas as well as other effective conservation measures in each area, integrated into the broader landscape and seascape.”*

#### **The effective and coordinated management of protected areas: potential leverage for development.**

Marine protected areas are territories where the conservation of biodiversity should lead to economic benefits, especially for the local population. **AFD is focusing on three main objectives in the structuring of its projects: conservation of ecosystems, economic development of the region and improvement of living conditions for neighbouring communities.** Thus, a protected area becomes a territory that is set up and developed. AFD's funding, whether granted or loaned, is allocated to three types of activities: actions for the creation and protection of ecological habitats, the participation of users and local people living inside or on the periphery of the protected areas in the coordinated management of resources, and promotion of economic activities that generate revenue for this population and are compatible with sustainable management.

### MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAs), A FISHERIES MANAGEMENT TOOL

The World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 confirmed the importance of marine protected areas (MPAs) as a tool for the sustainable management of fisheries and marine and coastal ecosystems. Today, the international community, led by Europe and France, is calling for ecosystem based management practices, no longer focused solely on specific activities or resources and which will build on the fact that healthy ecosystems are key for the future of fisheries resources. The positions of fisheries managers and environmental organisations have also converged on the need to take into account the requirements and interests of local people from the creation of an MPA and throughout their implementation. **For an MPA to successfully contribute to the sustainable management of fisheries and to economic prosperity, its location and size, the habitats it contains, its connectivity to other MPAs as well as the the quality of local stakeholders's participation in its management are determining factors.**

## INVESTING IN ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

At the heart of the French international cooperation system, AFD contributes to the French government cooperation policy, by financing projects that encourage the responsible use of ecosystems and biological resources while sharing the benefits equitably. It operates in developing countries as well as in French overseas territories. Its projects can be cofinanced by the French Global Environmental Facility (FFEM), a preferred partner, one of whose key working areas is biodiversity.

AFD's support for the management of fisheries covers different areas: private sector funding, economic observatories, compliance with health standards, monitoring, support for professional organisations, plans for the development and management of resources, and landing sites for artisanal fishing. AFD's activities are in line with the concerns of the international community, especially those of NGOs and scientists.

While continuing to support small-scale fishing, AFD's focus is the strengthening of sustainable management practices connecting conservation with the promotion and optimisation of revenue generated by an increasingly limited resource.

Therefore, AFD's portfolio covers a wide range of activities: from infrastructures to productive activities and the development of tools and mechanisms for governance aimed at ensuring sustainable exploitation and the sharing of benefits derived from the commercialisation of fishery resources. Its support of both private and public sectors, fishery management plans and the development of marine protected areas contributes to the sustainable management of marine ecosystems, economic development of this sector and the involvement of local populations. In addition, AFD is involved in the development of innovative financing mechanisms such as trust funds aimed at securing long-term financing for the marine protected areas.

### AFD/FFEM funding in the fisheries sector from 1970 to 2012

Geography	Loans (M€)	Grants (M€)
West Africa	88.90	28.12
Central Africa	5.10	1.85
East Africa	0.06	3.45
North Africa/Middle East	27.00	9.90
Southern Africa	41.17	24.23
<b>Africa</b>	<b>162.23</b>	<b>67.55</b>
Oceania	12.26	
Asia	49.04	
Caribbean		0.74
North America	0.24	
Multi-country		14.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>223.76</b>	<b>83.22</b>



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West Africa

## MPAs, A DEVELOPMENT TOOL PRIMARILY FOR THE BENEFIT OF LOCAL POPULATIONS

*The protection of biodiversity and the management of fishery resources contribute to food safety and the improvement of the living conditions of local populations.*

### QUIRIMBAS NATIONAL PARK IN MOZAMBIQUE

Quirimbas National Park was created in 2002 at the request of local fishermen and with WWF's support in order to establish a dynamic of development through the conservation of natural resources. It covers a variety of ecosystems (mangroves, coral islands, coastal forests, inland forests and savannah) over an area of 7,500 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 20% is marine. Situated in one of the poorest provinces of Mozambique, it should ensure the development of a local population of around 150,000 inhabitants. In the marine area, the project has implemented mechanisms for the co-management of fisheries and has helped in drastically reducing the illegal exploitation of fishery resources, increasing the fish yields and boosting benefits in connection with tourism. Despite increasing pressures, these improvements will be continued into 2010-2014 thanks to the dissemination of sustainable fishing practices, control of marine sanctuaries, development of eco-tourism and strengthening of local committees for the management of natural resources. Since its creation, the park has benefited from the technical and financial support of AFD and FFEM whose cumulative funding has reached €7.5m and €1.7m respectively.

### BAMBONG MARINE PROTECTED AREA IN SENEGAL

In Senegal, the regional programme supporting freshwater, marine and coastal ecosystems in West Africa, co-funded by the FFEM, is aimed at protecting biodiversity at four sites while maintaining the revenue of professional fishermen. In the Bambong MPA, the project has had a positive impact on fishery resources as well as on bird and mammal populations. The monitoring revealed an improvement in terms of diversity, whose effects are extended to the periphery of the MPA: fishermen had better catches, showing evidence of the "cascade" effect of the MPA. The Bambong area is managed by the inhabitants of 14 surrounding villages which have developed new economic activities including an eco-tourism compound "Keur Bambong". A part of its profit is intended to finance the costs of maintaining and monitoring the MPA.

## MPAs AND REGIONAL INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTS

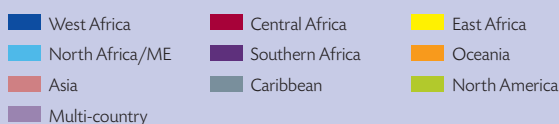
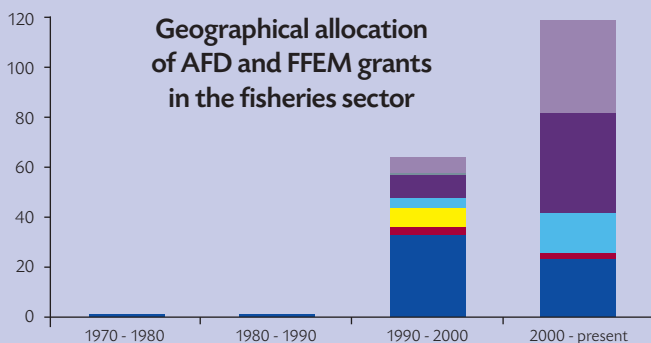
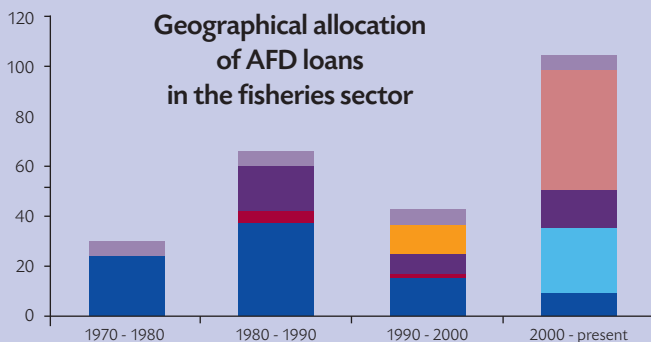
### *A regional approach to MPAs is vital as stocks are shared between multiple stakeholders.*

The integrated management of marine activities (transport, energy production, fishing, tourism) also enables a global and sustainable approach to the use and exploitation of territories that take into account the vulnerability of their ecosystems and the impact of marine and land activities on coasts and the landscape. As marine resources are often shared between nations in the same oceanic regions, integrated management is an approach that also allows dialogue and coordination. Thus, the ecological objectives involved in the creation of MPAs (representativity connectivity) translate into powerful tools for regional integration in West Africa or, as in the case of the RESCCUE Project, in the Pacific.

## REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC - RESCCUE

Following the initiative for the protection and sustainable management of coral reefs in the Pacific (CRISP), launched by France in 2005 and which has enabled the creation and strengthening of around 40 MPAs - accounting for approximately 10% of the MPAs in the South Pacific, AFD and the FFEM have decided in 2013 to co-finance (€4.5m and €2m in subsidies respectively) a regional cooperation project for the restoration of ecosystem-based services and adaptation to climate change (RESCCUE). In the context of islands vulnerable to the effects of climate change and to anthropogenic pressures, this project will help maintaining the functional ecosystems, boosting the value of their services and developing tools for the long-term funding of activities relating to MPAs. The project will be implemented in pilot sites on the islands of Fiji, New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Vanuatu. It will allow the dissemination of integrated approaches for the management of coastal areas "from the mountains to the reefs" in order to link the management of river basins, protection of coastlines and coral reefs and the implementation of mechanisms for payments of environmental services contributing to the long term conservation of ecosystems. The project will play a part in supporting fisheries, agriculture and tourism as well as the conservation of biodiversity at landscape level.

### FROM 1970 TO 2012



## TRUST FUNDS, SECURING THE FUTURE OF MPAs

*Trust funds for conservation are designed to ensure long-term funding for the conservation of biodiversity and the future efficiency of the system of protected areas both nationally and regionally.*

These funds rely on the yield from investments available from the start and which provide a regular income for the management of protected areas, conservation projects and the development of local communities. They limit the dependence of conservation activities on the variability of national funding or international aid from both private and public sectors. Alongside conservation NGOs and their southern partners, AFD and FFEM have been helping the creation of conservation trust funds since 2003, especially in Madagascar, Mozambique, Central Africa and West Africa.

### TRUST FUND FOR BANC D'ARGUIN IN MAURITANIA

The objective of the trust fund for the Banc d'Arguin and coastal and marine biodiversity (BACOMAB) is to guarantee the integrity of the system of marine and coastal protected areas in Mauritania. It aims at maintaining the services provided by these ecosystems, especially their capacity to support to renewing fishery resources. AFD and FFEM projects (€2.5 M and €1 M) will contribute to reach the funding objective of BACOMAB (€35 M in 2016) and to strengthen its governance, notably by developing its fundraising and investment strategies as well as its management system.



The capital income will cover some of the recurring costs: monitoring and control of MPAs, ecological monitoring, development activities for the benefit of local people and raising environmental awareness. These actions will play a part in the protection of the Banc d'Arguin whose shoals, mud flats and grass beds form an area of unique ecological value that is crucial for the biodiversity at a regional level (a nursery area and breeding ground for several species of fish and crustaceans) and globally (a gathering area for migratory birds).

## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE MPAs

***AFD partners to international initiatives contributing to the improvement of the well-being of MPAs'neighbouring communities as well as to participation of all stakeholder.***

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), to which AFD contributes, is dedicated to strengthening the involvement of NGOs and civil society in the conservation and management of ecosystems in areas of global importance for biodiversity ("hotspots"). This multi-donor fund finances activities that promote marine protected areas along with local stakeholders in the Caribbean, the Mediterranean basin, Southern Africa and Polynesia-Micronesia. In particular, the CEPF supports marine protected areas especially through community management and activities raising public awareness or advocating with government authorities. Between 2009 and 2012, it helped setting up a trust fund for the Phoenix Islands, a marine protected area in Kiribati, as well as financing several projects to combat invasive species on the islands of this archipelago. Covering more than 400,000 km<sup>2</sup>, the marine protected area of the Phoenix Islands is one of the largest in the world and home to significant whale, shark, sea bird and coral populations. At present, the trust fund has secured USD 5M, with an objective of USD 25M in order to secure long-term funding for conservation activities.

Conservation of oceans and coastal ecosystems is central to the framework partnership between France and the IUCN. Since 2009, with an average annual financing of €1.44 M, AFD has contributed up to 60% of its amount alongside the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Overseas France. The partners work according to three main strategic objectives (i) conservation and restoration of insular and coastal ecosystems (ii) improved governance of regional seas using European overseas territories as strategic outposts (iii) governance of the global ocean and in particular creation of MPAs in high seas. AFD central focus within this component is better understanding of the socio-economic impact of MPAs. During the first phase in

2009-2012, it financed a study on this subject in the archipelagos of the South Pacific. In the second phase in 2013-2016, this work will continue in other areas, especially in West Africa. [http://www.iucn.org/fr/france\\_uicn/](http://www.iucn.org/fr/france_uicn/)

## TOOLS EVALUATION, MONITORING AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT OF MPAs

***MPAs: good investments beyond conservation.***

As an aid agency, AFD must justify operations based on economic indicators. AFD has thus applied environmental and economic cost-benefit analyses to MPAs. These have demonstrated that MPAs could be a profitable investment for local, national and global communities. This approach allows evaluation of the costs and benefits for all stakeholders. It also helps the definition of compensation mechanisms, which contribute to a better acceptance and appropriation of MPAs.

Economic analysis also enables identification of areas of value creation which will be sources of endogenous financing via user charges or payment for environmental services. Through an approach based on transaction costs, this ultimately means ecological needs can be reconciled with social constraints. Cost-benefit analyses carried out for the Quirimbas National Park project in Mozambique showed an economic benefit of 30%, a positive result largely due to the taking into account of the effects of the project on carbon sequestration and on the development of tourism activities in addition to fishing.



MOZAMBIQUE – Quirimbas National Park Project



New Caledonia, *Acropora-Anthias* © CRISP

*Agence Française de Développement* (French Agency for Development – AFD) is a public development finance institution that has been working to fight poverty and foster economic growth in developing countries and the French Overseas Communities for seventy years. It executes the policy defined by the French Government.

AFD is present on four continents where it has an international network of seventy agencies and representation offices, including nine in the French Overseas Provinces and one in Brussels. It finances and supports projects that improve people's living conditions, promote economic growth and protect Earth, such as schooling for children, maternal health, support for farmers and small businesses, water supply, tropical forest preservation, and the fight against climate change.

In 2012, AFD approved EUR 7 billion to finance activities in developing countries and the French Overseas Communities. Main outcomes of AFD's funding are monitored every year. For instance, money delivered will help get 10 million children into primary school and 3 million into secondary school; they will also improve drinking water supply for 1.79 million people. Energy efficiency projects financed by AFD in 2012 will save nearly 3.6 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

## AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT (AFD)

5 rue Roland Barthes  
75598 Paris Cedex 12 – France  
Tél. : +33 1 53 44 31 31  
Fax : +33 1 44 87 99 39  
[www.afd.fr](http://www.afd.fr)

## AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BIODIVERSITY DEPARTMENT



[www.ffem.fr](http://www.ffem.fr)

The French Global Environment Facility/*Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial* (FFEM) is a bilateral public fund initiated by the French Government in 1994. The FFEM secretariat and its financial management are entrusted to the Agence Française de Développement (AFD). The FFEM co-finances projects that encourage the protection of the global environment in developing countries. Its co-financing is exclusively done as grants and is used for the implementation of pilot projects that combine environmental protection and economic development in the recipient countries. The FFEM is an influential strategic instrument for the French policy on Official Development Assistance regarding global environmental protection. Its activities focus on the topics of biodiversity, international waters, the climate change, land degradation and desertification, persistent organic pollutants and the stratospheric ozone layer. By the end of 2012, the FFEM has co-financed 237 projects with €276m. Two thirds were spent on sub-Saharan Africa and the Mediterranean.



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