




ACTIVITY REPORT

Education Training Employment

2020



Education, lifelong training and access to employment are the cornerstones of more sustainable economic and social development.

In 2020, AFD mobilized its financing to respond to the urgency of the Covid-19 health crisis, while anticipating its consequences on learning and employment. It also contributed to meeting the commitments made by the French President by strengthening partnerships between African and French higher education institutions under its mandate to develop the capacities of stakeholders in the South.

2020 was marked by a strengthening of working relations with the various members of AFD Group and closer cooperation with the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in Burkina Faso, Burundi, Guinea, Niger and Senegal.

AFD's education, training and employment strategy

AFD considers that education, vocational training, higher education and employment go hand in hand: they shape the economic and social development of countries, the feasibility of transitions, as well as improvements in people's living conditions and standard of living. AFD Group's common strategy for education, training and employment is based on three areas:

1

Promote high-quality education and training pathways and access to decent jobs. The objective is to empower people, by ensuring equal access to lifelong learning opportunities, improving the quality and relevance of education and promoting decent work, while contributing to strengthening the governance of systems.

2

Support transitions and adapting to their consequences through skills and employment.

The objective is to create conditions to ensure that transitions provide both individual and collective opportunities. AFD Group helps build these opportunities by reconciling social and environmental requirements.

3

Reduce vulnerability and increase the resilience of people and systems in the face of fragile and situations and crises.

AFD takes a phased approach to crises, focusing on a transition from a short-term response to more traditional medium-term action for development. Its action is at the intersection between emergency and development.

The **2016-2020 strategy** had an **activity volume objective of €1.7 billion** for the sector over the period.

€1.7 BN



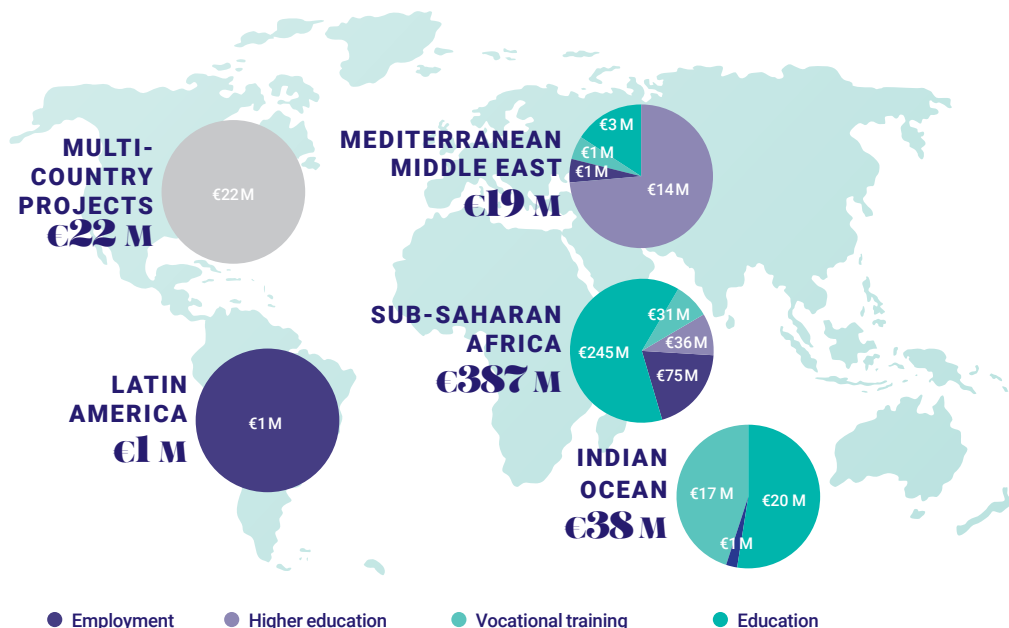
€1.8 BN



AFD has exceeded its objective for this period with €1.8 BN committed.

AFD's education, training and employment activity in 2020

Breakdown by region



€467 M / 28 projects

Total of new commitments in 2020,
approximately **4%** of total
AFD Group commitments



including **€292 M**
concentrated on **priority countries** for French Official Development Assistance (excluding multi-country projects), accounting for **62% of commitments** in the sector.



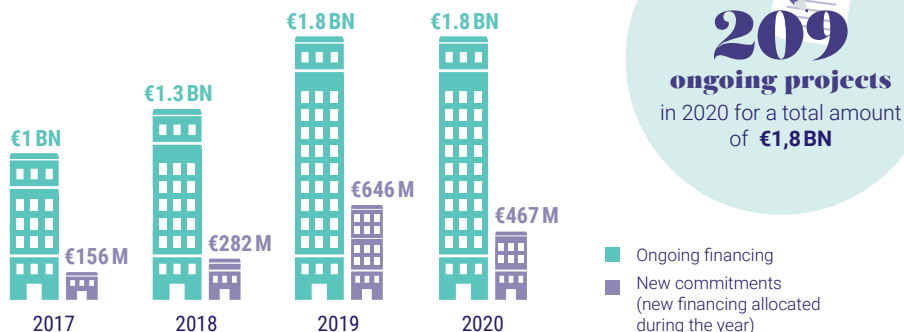
€130 M
transferred from
the **Global Partnership for Education (GPE)**



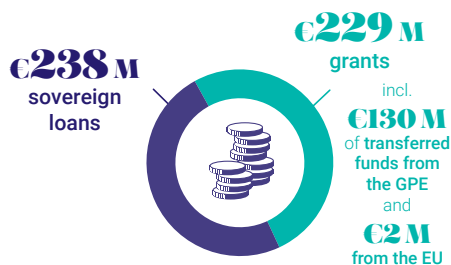
€2 M
transferred
from the **European Union (EU)**

Trend since 2017

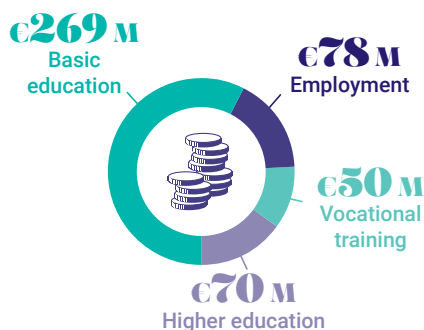
Trend in new commitments in the sector and ongoing financing



Breakdown by financial tool



Breakdown by strategic area



Impact of the Covid-19 crisis on learning and employment

The health crisis has lasting effects on learning, especially in countries in the South and even more so for the most vulnerable. The pandemic has also shaken up the world of work. The sharp fall in economic growth has caused a sudden loss in income. Young people, women and informal workers have been particularly hard hit.



AFD's response To mitigate the effects of the crisis on education, vocational training and employment, AFD has implemented short and medium-term response measures to support countries by refocusing projects: in Ethiopia (€70 million) and Tunisia (€8 million) in the employment sector, and in Senegal (€2 million) in the education sector. AFD has also mobilized funds from the GPE in Burkina Faso, Niger and Senegal to support government actions.

Basic education

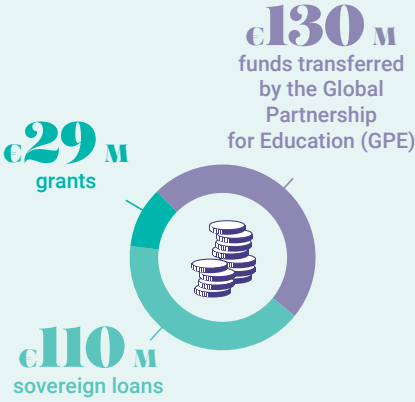
AFD supports the universalization of access to basic education, particularly in lower secondary school, and the improvement of the quality of teaching-learning approaches. It mainly supports countries' national policies, particularly in least developed countries (LDCs). It prioritizes encouraging the enrollment of girls and the most vulnerable populations, the professionalization of teachers and the effectiveness of managing education systems.



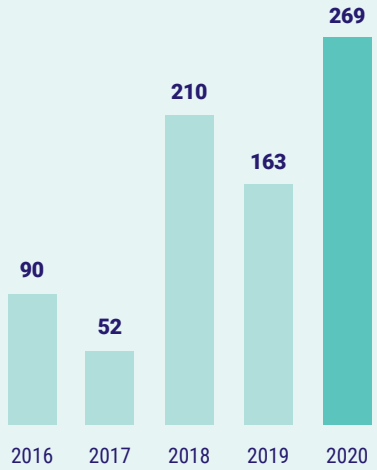
€269 M
committed
in the sub-sector



Breakdown by financial tool



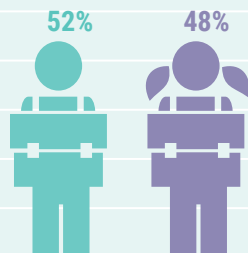
Trend in commitments (In €M)



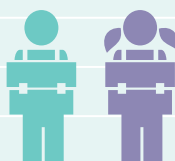
Impacts of ongoing financing operations

Through AFD-funded programs:

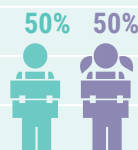
2.73 million children,
including 1.3 million girls,
are enrolled in primary
school



1.12 million children
are completing
primary school



1 million children
including 500,000 girls,
are **enrolled in lower
secondary school**



Project focus

Support for the implementation of the Education and Training Sector Transition Program



Niger €77.3 million transferred grant

In 2020, AFD became a grant agent of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in Niger and Guinea. In Niger, the financing is supporting the implementation of the Education and Training Sector Transition Program (PTSEF). The program aims to reduce inequalities in access to education and improve the quality of learning and effectiveness of the education system. The financing is based on two components:

- Support the implementation of the annual action plans of six ministries in relation to the PTSEF, via the Education Sector Common Fund, to which LuxDev, Swiss cooperation, Norway and UNICEF also contribute
- Build national capacities and ensure the effective implementation of the program via financing directly managed by AFD.

Vocational training

AFD supports the development of diversified training provision, which encourages lifelong learning and responds to the needs of the labor market. AFD also supports the design and leadership of global training strategies, particularly for agriculture and rural training, and the participation of economic actors in the governance of vocational training systems.



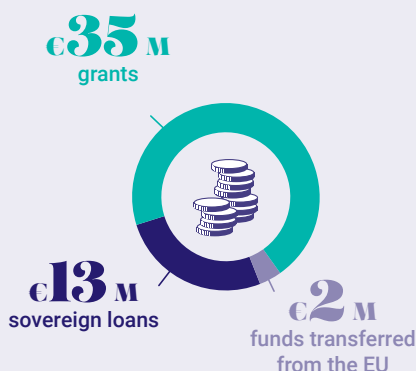
€50 M
committed
in the sub-sector

Intellectual output

In 2020, AFD financed research on the forms of learning and their recognition through a partnership with the Center for Studies and Research on Qualifications (CEREQ). It led to the production of:

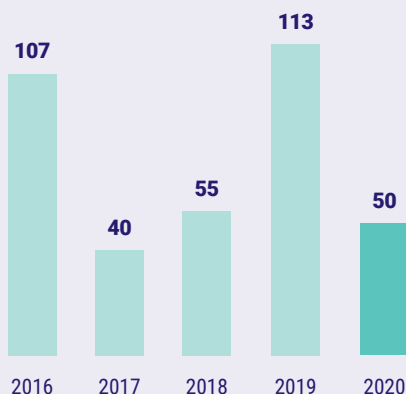
- A technical note on improving the quality of vocational training
- A collaborative research project between CEREQ and partner institutions in Argentina, Morocco and Senegal.

Breakdown by financial tool



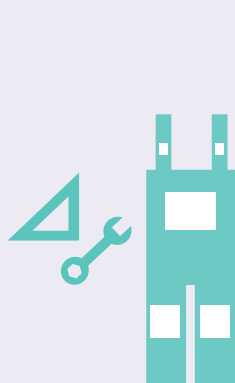
Trend since 2016

Commitments in € M



Impacts of ongoing financing operations

Through AFD-funded programs:



89,000

beneficiaries
of vocational
and technical training



17,600

places created
at supported sites



Project focus

CAP Compétences

Multi-country **€1 million grant**



Since February 2020, AFD has been financing the Cap Compétences program managed by Expertise France. The project aims to help prepare AFD's vocational training projects. At AFD's request, Cap Compétences mobilizes its expertise to conduct identification, opportunity and feasibility studies to prepare the implementation of activities.

In 2020, the program launched five studies in Africa. In 2021, it aims to work in new geographical areas, while developing the capacities of its pool of experts and synergies with AFD's project cycle. It is an example of the complementarity between the two institutions in the lead up to Expertise France joining AFD Group.

Higher education

AFD supports equal access to quality career-centered higher education, which is also a driver of innovation. Its objectives: strengthen the sustainability and governance of the sector, improve the quality and relevance of training provision and support the continuity between higher education, research, innovation and entrepreneurship.



€70 M
committed
in the sub-sector



An increasing use of calls
for proposals:

42%
of funds allocated in 2020
used this method

Breakdown by financial tool

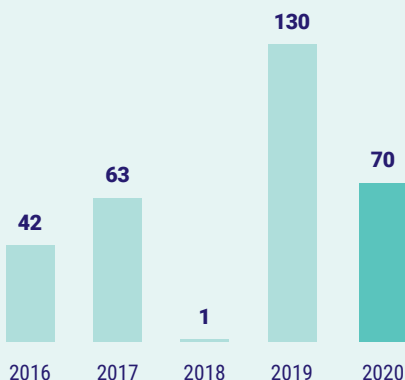
€45 M
sovereign
loans

€25 M
grants



Trend since 2016

Commitments in € M



Impacts of ongoing financing operations

Through AFD-funded programs:



103

higher education
institutions supported

including **11**
new institutions in 2020



74

higher education institutions
supported with a **science
and technology cooperation**
program with France,

including **7**
new institutions in 2020



Project Focus

Partnerships with African Higher Education Program (PEA)

Multi-country

Sub-Saharan Africa

€20 million grant managed by the French National Research Agency



This program aims to build the capacities of African higher education institutions through long-term partnerships with French counterparts. Each partnership is selected through a call for proposals and will develop quality training, from degrees to Ph.Ds, to meet the needs for skills and innovation in a training pathway identified as a priority for developing countries. The program will contribute to strengthening the international outreach of African and French institutions and creating training programs, as well as joint research.

Employment

AFD supports the development of labor market policies, access to employment and entrepreneurship for individuals, especially women, the improvement of job quality and the employability of the most vulnerable people. AFD Group, through its subsidiary Proparco, also supports private sector job creation, as well as the reinforcement of companies' financial systems and the regulatory environment and social protection.



€78 M
committed
in the sub-sector



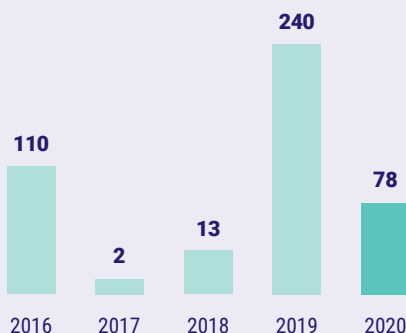
97% of commitments
in 2020 for employment target
women's economic empowerment¹
(DAC 1 commitments: €75 M
DAC 2 commitments: €1 M)

Breakdown by financial tool



Trend since 2016

Commitments in € M



¹ DAC 0 Project: the project does not aim to reduce gender inequalities.

DAC 1 Project: gender equality is an important objective of the project but is not the main purpose of its execution.

DAC 2 Project: gender equality is the main objective of the project.

Impacts of ongoing financing operations

Through AFD-funded programs:



7,050

individual beneficiaries
of employment services
and programs (excluding
entrepreneurship)



660

beneficiary enterprises
for support in recruitment,
consolidation of job quality
or gender sensitivity



1,100

individuals supported
in their **company**
start-up or self-employment
procedures



Project Focus

Mercy Corps: Maigo Ti a Masseka project



Central African Republic

€10 million grant

AFD is financing the Maigo Ti a Masseka ("Hope for Youth") project led by Mercy Corps, in a consortium with Triangle Génération Humanitaire and the International Organization for Migration. This project will last four years and aims to strengthen the socioeconomic integration of the most vulnerable young people, and particularly women, by improving vocational training and employability in and around Bangui, as well as in the west-southwest area. It is supporting assistance and incubation for young entrepreneurs, to help them gain access to microcredit and basic training in financial education and entrepreneurship.

Our gender and climate change commitments



Gender

Contribution of education, vocational training and employment projects to gender equality



Objective: 70% of the volume of commitments in the sector help reduce gender inequality

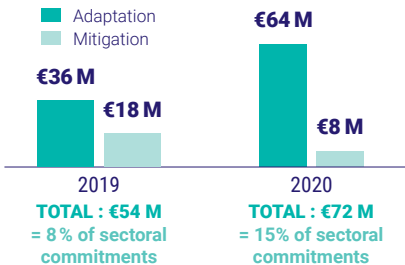


Climate

Contribution of education, vocational training and employment projects to climate change mitigation and adaptation



9% of the volume of commitments in the sector contribute to climate change adaptation or mitigation



Focus project



Gender at the Center Initiative

Multi-country

Sub-Saharan Africa

€1.5 M grant

The financing is strengthening the support of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs to UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning for the implementation of the "Gender at the Center" Initiative. The initiative gathers G7 donors, governments in beneficiary countries, international organizations, including UNESCO, UNICEF, UNGEI, GPE, and a consortium of civil society organizations. It will provide structural and long-term support to governments in countries that commit to gender issues at school through technical expertise and increased resources to design and sustainably implement gender-responsive education policies in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Partnerships and networking

In 2020, AFD established several technical partnerships with:



The Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE), to increase the outreach and commitment of the linguistic community members of INEE, in particular INEE's French language community.



The High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES), to promote peer-to-peer diagnostics and evaluations on all the activities of higher education institutions (such as management and governance, student life, training policy, international focus).



Partnership-based response to the Covid-19 crisis

In addition to refocusing projects that are ongoing or in the start-up phase, AFD, as a partner of the GPE development funds, has helped the governments of Burkina Faso, Niger and Senegal submit three financing requests. These requests aimed to support the implementation of the emergency response to Covid-19 and help increase the resilience of education systems to crises.



Burkina Faso

\$6 M



Niger

\$11 M



Sénégal

\$7 M



Launch of the Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Employment Sectoral Platform



AFD Group, which comprises Expertise France, Proparco and AFD, has launched a sectoral platform for education, vocational training, higher education and employment. It has created new spaces for exchanges and joint work in the Group. Nine webinars have been organized through the creation of a dedicated virtual space, with the aim of facilitating the dissemination of expertise and knowledge.

Towards a World in Common

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) implements France's policy on international development and solidarity. Through its financing of NGOs and the public sector, as well as its research and publications, AFD supports and accelerates transitions towards a fairer, more resilient world. It also provides training in sustainable development (at AFD Campus) and other awareness-raising activities in France.

With our partners, we are building shared solutions with and for the people of the Global South. Our teams are at work on more than 4,000 projects in the field, in the French Overseas Departments and Territories, in 115 countries and in regions in crisis. We strive to protect global public goods – promoting a stable climate, biodiversity and peace, as well as gender equality, education and healthcare. In this way, we contribute to the commitment of France and the French people to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Towards a world in common.



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