

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) helps advance France's policy on sustainable investment and international solidarity. Through its public sector and NGO financing operations, research and publications (Éditions AFD), sustainable development training programs (AFD Group Campus) and awareness-raising activities in France, AFD finances, supports and drives the transition to a fairer, more resilient world.

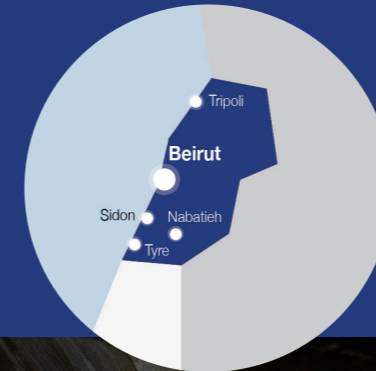
Alongside our partners, we provide sustainable solutions for—and with—communities. Our teams are working on over 2,700 projects in the field, in over 115 countries, including France's overseas departments and territories, to support projects for the climate, biodiversity, peace, gender equality and global health. Together with Proparco and Expertise France, AFD supports the commitment of France and the French people to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Working by your side, toward a world in common.



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 Agence Française de Développement in the Middle East
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AFD AND Water in Lebanon



€68.7M
 committed since 2018

37
 water facilities supported since
 2018 across the Lebanese
 territory

Over **1.7 million**
 people benefiting from improved
 water services since 2018

Since 1999, AFD has maintained its emblematic commitment to the water sector, adapting to the evolving challenges of the local context. In close collaboration with public institutions, its current action aims to support access to services, improve their quality and sustainability, and promote better sector governance.

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OUR ACTIONS IN THE WATER SECTOR IN Lebanon

In Lebanon, despite the availability of water resources and significant investments made, the population still does not benefit from a reliable and continuous water service. Since 2019, the profound socio-economic difficulties the country has been experiencing have accentuated the fragilities of a public water and sanitation service, threatening its continuity and sustainability. This sector is characterized by a vicious cycle of insufficient service and financial imbalance, within a governance framework poorly suited to modern and efficient management of resources and infrastructure. Added to these structural difficulties are external factors such as the Syrian crisis and climate change, as well as issues of informal and illegal competition.

In response to these issues and challenges, France, through the Agence française de développement (AFD), is actively engaged in Lebanon to support and strengthen the water sector according to an overall strategic vision, which aims to ensure service continuity, its financial viability and the improvement of its governance.

1 Improving Service for Users Throughout the Lebanese Territory

€56 M

Increasing the geographical coverage of public water services and improving their reliability constitute one of AFD's intervention priorities in Lebanon. Projects thus aim to complete unfinished drinking water systems across the entire chain and to rehabilitate facilities and equipment, having a direct impact on the quality of service provided to users.

In partnership with the European Union, UNICEF, ICRC and the NGO WW-GVC, the **Enhanced Drinking Water Service in Lebanon (SEPAL) project** enabled **37 localities across the country** to benefit from a tangible improvement in drinking water service, even during the socio-economic and security crisis. Interventions focused on **modernizing pumping stations, replacing pumps, installing solar systems and extending transmission and distribution networks**.

Results:

- +5 hours of water per day on average for users
- 40% energy costs for operators
- Trust restored between users and public service

These results have laid the foundations for a **new economic balance of the service**. This approach, focused on service rather than large infrastructure, has demonstrated its effectiveness and resilience in the face of successive crises in Lebanon.

It now inspires the **Performance Improvement, Access to Infrastructure and Water Services (APAISE) project**, conducted with the Beirut and Mount Lebanon Water Establishment, which continues this momentum to strengthen performance, access and service quality.

2 Strengthening Water Sector Governance

€12.7 M

AFD works, in **close partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Water and the Regional Water Establishments, to strengthen governance and modernize the sector's institutional framework**.

A **structural reform support program**, funded by the European Union and implemented by AFD, supports the **sector's recovery** by improving its organizational framework, resilience and capacity to provide quality water and sanitation services.

Interventions focus notably on strengthening the organizational and regulatory framework, supporting digital transformation and developing public policy.

In parallel, AFD plays a driving **role in sector coordination and dialogue on public policies** related to water and sanitation. The **EU-AFD technical assistance program for sector reform**, conducted in collaboration with local actors and donors, helps orient policies and programs toward sustainable solutions meeting the priority needs of the Lebanese population.

KEY FIGURES FROM OUR INTERVENTIONS IN THE WATER SECTOR IN Lebanon

Present throughout the Lebanese territory, AFD supports the country in its response to the structural challenges of its water and sanitation sector. Its actions aim to guarantee a more reliable and sustainable service, meeting current needs while preparing the future for generations to come.

€35.7 M
in delegated European funds

Since 2019, AFD has mobilized European Union funds to finance infrastructure and governance support.

146
main water sources monitored through our projects

Since 2024, AFD has been installing **volumetric meters** at main drinking water production sites across Lebanon, in order to better **monitor volumes produced and distributed, and optimize investment planning** for more efficient resource management.

Geographic Distribution of AFD Interventions in the Water and Sanitation Sector Since 2018

