



Fonds Français pour
l'Environnement Mondial

Financing **biodiversity** preservation



French Facility
for Global
Environment





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l'Environnement Mondial

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→ The FFEM - working for the global environment



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The French government created the FFEM in 1994, in the wake of the Rio Summit, in order to bring **its commitment to protection of the global environment in developing countries into practice.**

The FFEM encourages developing countries to implement sustainable **development strategies, programmes and projects that address key issues** for the global environment:

- biodiversity,
- climate change,
- international waters,
- land degradation, including desertification and deforestation,
- persistent organic pollutants,
- the stratospheric ozone layer.



The FFEM's missions are:

- to encourage preservation of the global environment in developing countries,
- to promote innovation,
- to foster multiple partnerships.

FFEM grants are awarded:

- to support practical projects in beneficiary countries,
- to foster a learning approach by testing innovating or exemplary ideas
- on request from its five institutional partners,
- as minority co-financing,
- in addition to French foreign assistance, and included in its ODA budget.



A financial instrument

Working to support French cooperation and development policy for protection of the global environment, the FFEM awards grant financing to sustainable development projects in topic areas that are relevant to undertakings made in multilateral agreements signed by France.

FFEM resources for 1994-2014, including its State budget allocation, amount to €354 m.

The FFEM's resources are renewed every four years. They are additional to the French contribution to the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Generating synergies between French bilateral aid and multilateral assistance

The FFEM is a primary partner and financing institution for action against environmental degradation.

Promoting North-South partnerships

The FFEM promotes projects that are innovative and replicable. It encourages technology transfers based on multi-player cooperation and involving a wide range of French organisations (public, private, NGOs, local authorities, etc.).



The FFEM has six French member institutions

- the Ministries for:
 - Finance and Public Administration
 - Foreign Affairs and International Development
 - Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy
 - National Education, Higher Education and Research
 - Agriculture, Food and Forestry
- the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the French development agency, which is also in charge of FFEM administration.



At the end of 2013, a total of **258 projects** were approved for funding, including **126** for Biodiversity



Priority regions: Africa and the Mediterranean

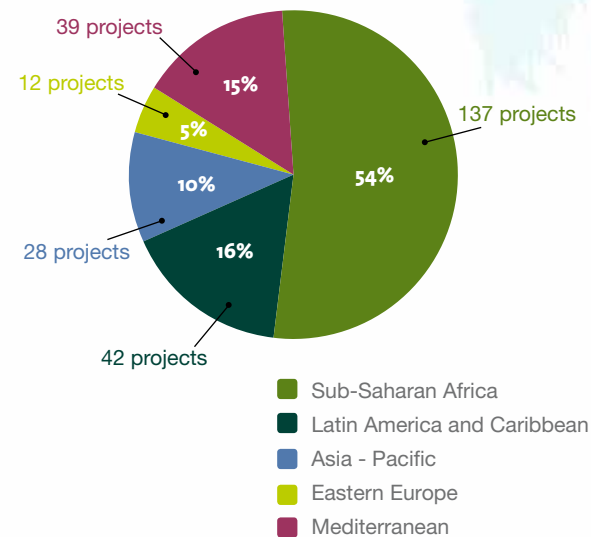


Key project figures, excluding ozone

At the end of 2013, the FFEM approved funding for

258 projects amounting to
€299 millions.

FFEM projects by region as of 31/12/2013



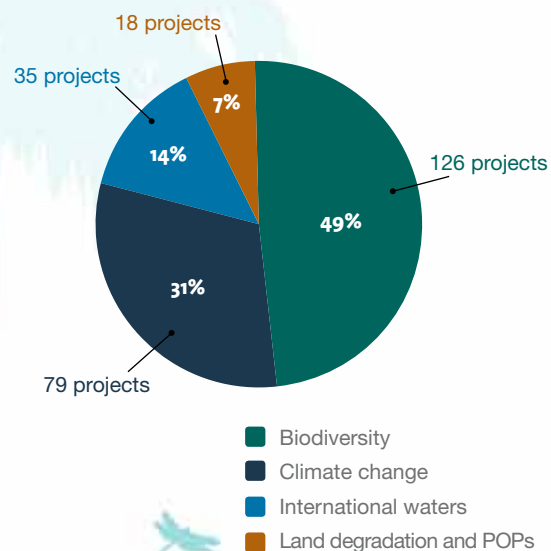
FFEM grants average about

1,1 million euros each
or about **9,5% of the total
project cost**





FFEM projects by topic area
as of 31/12/2013



Two additional financing mechanisms for the benefit of the global environment

Activities of the FFEM differ from its multilateral counterpart, the Global Environment Facility, by the priority given to operations in Africa and the Mediterranean.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is the result of a 1991 policy decision of the United Nations whose intervention issues are, just like those of the FFEM, biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, persistent organic pollutants, and the stratospheric ozone layer.

The FFEM was created to complete the amount of GEF funding allocated to the French cooperation priority areas, which are Africa and the Mediterranean.

The FFEM being a bilateral mechanism and not multilateral as the GEF, its response is more direct and rapid.



→ The FFEM responds to the challenges of the global environment



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Biodiversity

Biodiversity includes all genes, species and ecosystems existing on our planet, as well as their reciprocal interactions.

This biodiversity must be protected so that it continues to provide resources and natural conditions essential to the survival of human beings.

That is why the FFEM has given priority to the protection of biodiversity for the past 20 years. Its intervention strategy is aligned with the international obligations of France on the Convention for Biological Diversity.

The FFEM focuses on sustainable management of natural resources, the establishment of innovative financing mechanisms for protected areas, and the conservation actions for biodiversity.

They also contribute to the conservation of species and spaces, the traditional use of natural resources by the population, and the sustainable management of natural resources to make them an asset for economic and social development.

The projects must take the local population into consideration, involve them in protecting their environment, and allow them to benefit from the corresponding outcomes.

The FFEM is a partner stakeholder for the preservation and sustainable management of natural resources.

Its funds are aimed at involving local communities, civil society, and the private sector in the protection of their ecosystems or in the creation of innovative and revenue-generating activities.

The FFEM finances the expansion of protected marine and land areas worldwide, and strengthens trust funds dedicated to the sustainable financing of these areas. It develops the sharing of experiences and networking of available funds.





Climate change

Global warming results from the strengthening of the greenhouse effect resulting from the increase in the concentration of gases in the atmosphere, mainly carbon dioxide.

The FFEM mission is to support developing countries in their efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The FFEM encourages innovation and promotes the transfer and diffusion of technology and expertise. It also seeks to integrate international regulation mechanisms and funding in national strategies to fight against climate change.

This mission is in line with the international commitments made by France during multilateral negotiations, particularly the United Nations conferences on climate change.



International waters

The objective of FFEM is to contribute to improved management of international waters. International waters, continental or open ocean, are often shared by several states or belong to no single party as marine areas go beyond areas of national jurisdiction.

These waters are especially threatened by the overexploitation of natural resources and the accumulated effects of climatic variations and human activities on ecosystems.

The FFEM favors projects that:
help to consolidate or build shared resource governance

- enhance knowledge of environments,
- pressures, and monitoring systems,
- reduce the vulnerability of the territories facing
- natural hazards and pollutants
- support sustainable use of natural resources.



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→ The FFEM responds



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Land degradation **Desertification - Deforestation**

Land degradation is a phenomenon resulting in the loss of a land's fertility and a reduction in agricultural and forest crop production. The impacts on agricultural output are considerable, and there is a loss of productivity of up to 50%. This degradation can be caused by over-cultivation and pollution by outsiders, but also by deforestation and climate change.

The FFEM finances as priority those projects that improve the resilience of ecosystems or that set up of methods for reversing the process when desertification is not irreversible. In particular, it favors the development of sustainable agricultural production systems.

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

These are twelve hazardous substances (pesticides, industrial chemicals, chemical by-products) with a long life and that migrate into soils and water, sometimes over very long distances.

Accumulating throughout the food chain, they are ingested by living beings, and these substances are then responsible for immunity problems and genetic defects.

Given the significant impact of **POPs** on the environment and health, the FFEM has been supporting projects to eliminate these pollutants since 2004.





The ozone layer

The **stratospheric ozone** layer acts as a protective shield absorbing virtually all ultraviolet rays produced by the sun, which are harmful to living organisms. A significant drop in stratospheric ozone concentrations was observed in the early 1980s. This was linked to the production of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) used in refrigerant fluids, solvents, spray cans, insulating foam and fire extinguishers.

The Montreal Protocol aims to eliminate ODS. There is a Multilateral Fund to help developing countries whose consumption of CFC (chlorofluorocarbon) gas per capita was lower than 0.3 kg on the date of entry into force of the Protocol, that is, essentially, developing countries.

On behalf of the Treasury, the Secretariat of the FFEM sees to the monitoring of strategies and to the consulting regarding the guidelines submitted by the 196 Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

It represents France as a member of the **Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund**, which provides funding in the form of **donations to phase out ODS in developing countries**. It also participates in the international negotiations that result.

From 1991 to 2013, France has contributed nearly 236 million US\$ to the Multilateral Fund.

The Secretariat of the FFEM is responsible for controlling the implementation and management of the projects presented by France to the Multilateral Fund, and works on the preparatory studies for projects (including research partnerships and co-financing), the provision of equipment, technical assistance, and training.

The FFEM - a collegiate instrument for intervention

The FFEM is run by three bodies:

the steering committee

An interministerial system of governance

The steering committee comprises six member institutions : the ministries for Finance, for foreign Affairs, for sustainable Development, for Research, for Agriculture and the Agence Française de Développement. It is chaired by the representative from the Ministry of Finance (Directorate-General for the Treasury and Economic Policy).

the scientific and technical committee

A rigorous analysis and evaluation process

The FFEM has an independent scientific and technical committee. Its ten members are key figures recognised for their economic, environmental and social expertise in the topic areas addressed by the FFEM.

the secretariat

A flexible and reactive management structure

Consisting of 10 permanent staff, the role of the Secretariat of the FFEM includes the appraisal and monitoring of projects, the preparation and implementation of decisions of the steering committee, sector relationships with the various institutional, scientific, economic and associative partners, and the monitoring of GEF.

➔ The Secretariat of the FFEM is attached to the AFD Department of Strategy, Partnerships and Communication.

The fund benefits for its management of its **accounting, financial services** and **human resources** as well as its **network of local agencies**.

The FFEM co-financing for a project

→ Eligibility criteria for FFEM funding

To be eligible, a project must:

- have a positive and significant impact on the global environment,
 - contribute to the economic and social development of the countries of operation and beneficiary populations,
 - be innovative and create a demonstrable and reproducible effect,
 - present social, institutional, economic and environmental sustainability after its completion,
 - be implemented by an effective and competent body
- be financed mostly by other financial backers (including local backers), the FFEM providing minority funding (30%),
 - be consistent with priorities of the French policy of cooperation and development.

The following are not eligible:

- *programs limited to capacity building and research not related to a development project,*
- *recurrent activities, and operating costs of institutions or agencies.*



Eligible countries are all developing countries eligible for official development assistance as per the OECD, with a focus on Africa and the Mediterranean.

The communities and the French overseas territories can mobilize the financing of the FFEM through regional projects.

The share allocated to the communities and the French overseas territories is always limited to 25% of the FFEM funding.

The strategy of the FFEM in the field of biodiversity

During the last fifty years, humanity has transformed the biosphere in a manner that is unprecedented in human history, with a current average retention of 25 to 35% of total net production of terrestrial ecosystems. During this period, global consumption of fish, meat, cereals and wood has multiplied 2.44 on average, which is slightly faster than the world's population growth which increased during the same time from 3 billion to 6.9 billion.

At the current rate, two thirds of the species would disappear by 2100. In addition, many experts describe the current period as the **6th global extinction crisis**

■ **The forest disappears** at a rate of about 0.5% per year, or 9.8 million hectares per year. This represents more than one-fifth the size of metropolitan France.

■ **Protected areas** now cover 12.7% of the landmass of the planet, or 17 million square kilometers, and only 1.6% of the seas and oceans, or 6 million square kilometers.

The aim is to reconcile the conservation of natural and cultural diversity and social and economic development.

■ Despite international initiatives and efforts, **just over 1% of the ocean is now protected**. There is an overall loss of marine biodiversity due to the expansion of aquatic invasive species, the disappearance of coral reefs, and overfishing.

The field of **biodiversity** is historically **the most important** FFEM field.

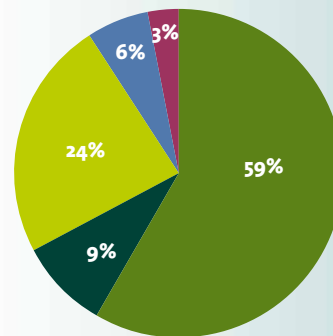


- Wetlands **zones humides** cover **less than 1% of the Earth's surface** yet are home to over 25% of vertebrates. However, wetlands are probably the type of ecosystem most severely affected by the loss and degradation of ecosystems and the loss of biodiversity.

This loss of biodiversity is due to an increase in pressures:

the degradation of natural habitats and change in land use, increased chemical and organic pollution, overexploitation of natural resources and the intentional or accidental introduction of invasive species

Distribution of the Biodiversity project portfolio by region



- Sub-saharan Africa
- Mediterranean
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Asia - Pacific
- Eastern Europe

Between 1994 and 2013, nearly 50% of FFEM resources were allocated to biodiversity,

with a portfolio of **126 projects** and a total commitment **amount of €136 m.**



→ The strategy



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Develop financing mechanisms in favor of biodiversity

The FFEM action on this theme falls under three main objectives of the **Convention on Biological Diversity**, and in particular, in relation to the target of 20 Aichi objectives for 2020 regarding the mobilization of financial resources.

FFEM assists funding mechanism implementation operations for the conservation of biodiversity by associating possible economic mechanisms with the strengthening of legal regulatory frameworks as much as possible.

It aims to encourage the emergence of a sustainable ecosystem funding method **based on the value of the ecosystems themselves and encouraging positive dynamics of usage and management.**

Projects must seek a balance between consolidation of regulatory frameworks and innovation, by **the development of innovative financing mechanisms to mobilize additional resources.**

→ In 2013, the FFEM committed **10,15 millions of Euros** to the domain of biodiversity, or nearly **45% of financing committed over the year**



➔ In order to promote innovation,
the FFEM encourages innovative financing:

- it promotes the setting up of trust funds for the long-term financing of conservation, the development of compensation mechanisms for the loss of biodiversity, and payment for environmental services
- it promotes public-private partnerships (co-management of protected areas, for example), tools for the economic evaluation of conservation, and approaches for landscape management and regional planning.

The FFEM encourages

the implementation of exemplary, innovative and reproducible projects. Since its creation, it has supported innovative approaches reconciling the conservation of natural resources and local development. Its operations cover both the terrestrial and marine environment.



→ The strategy



Linking biodiversity
with other areas of the global environment

The field of biodiversity is intrinsically linked to other areas of the global environment. In addition to services directly related to biodiversity, **ecosystems provide vital regulatory functions.**

→ **Protecting** the global marine environment

Since 1994, during its first intervention at sea, **the FFEM has implemented 20 marine projects with a total funding of €25.7 m.** The FFEM acts in the seas and oceans of the world that touch nearly 50 countries: the Mediterranean, the Pacific, the Indian Ocean and the Caribbean.

The FFEM has allowed the creation or the direct reinforcement of nearly 120 MPAs (Marine Protected Areas), covering about 20,000 km², not to mention support for the creation of one of the largest MPAs in the world (Phoenix Island).





→ The FFEM's main activities:

- **The development of ecological networks of MPAs** by participating in the identification and/or evaluation of sites that are the most notable and the most representative of regional biodiversity at the scale of an ocean basin or an eco-region.
- In order to ensure proper management, the projects are based on **scientific research, ecological and socio-economic follow-ups, the raising of awareness and environmental education, and promoting the strengthening of managing capacities.**
- Through integrated management of coastal and marine areas, the FFEM supports the institutions responsible for the management of the land/sea interface to improve the coordination of the stakeholders, the effectiveness of management measures, and environmental quality.
- **The creation and management of MPAs** with the support of the development of regulatory frameworks, managing institutions, and management tools as management plans, business plans, and management assessment in order to periodically review orientations.
- **The development of alternative income generating activities** (AIGA), intended to support economic activities around protected territory and to propose alternatives to stakeholders disadvantaged by the setting up of the MPA.
- **Support for the development and sustainable management of fisheries and the promotion of tourism.**
- **Identifying sustainable funding of MPAs** by sharing benefits drawn from economic activities that benefit protection, and through dedicated financial tools such as trust funds



The strategy

A diversified portfolio
to cover the field of
protection requirements
in the field of the global
marine environment

Eastern Pacific (€1.1 m)

- Costa Rica
- Protection of the MPA of Coco Island

South Pacific (€4 m)

- Samoa, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Marshall, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Tonga, Tuvalu, Niue, Phoenix, Wallis and Futuna, New Caledonia, French Polynesia
- Coral Reef Conservation (CRISP)
 - Capture and rearing of fish larvae (CRISP)
 - Restoration of Ecosystem Services (RESCCUE)

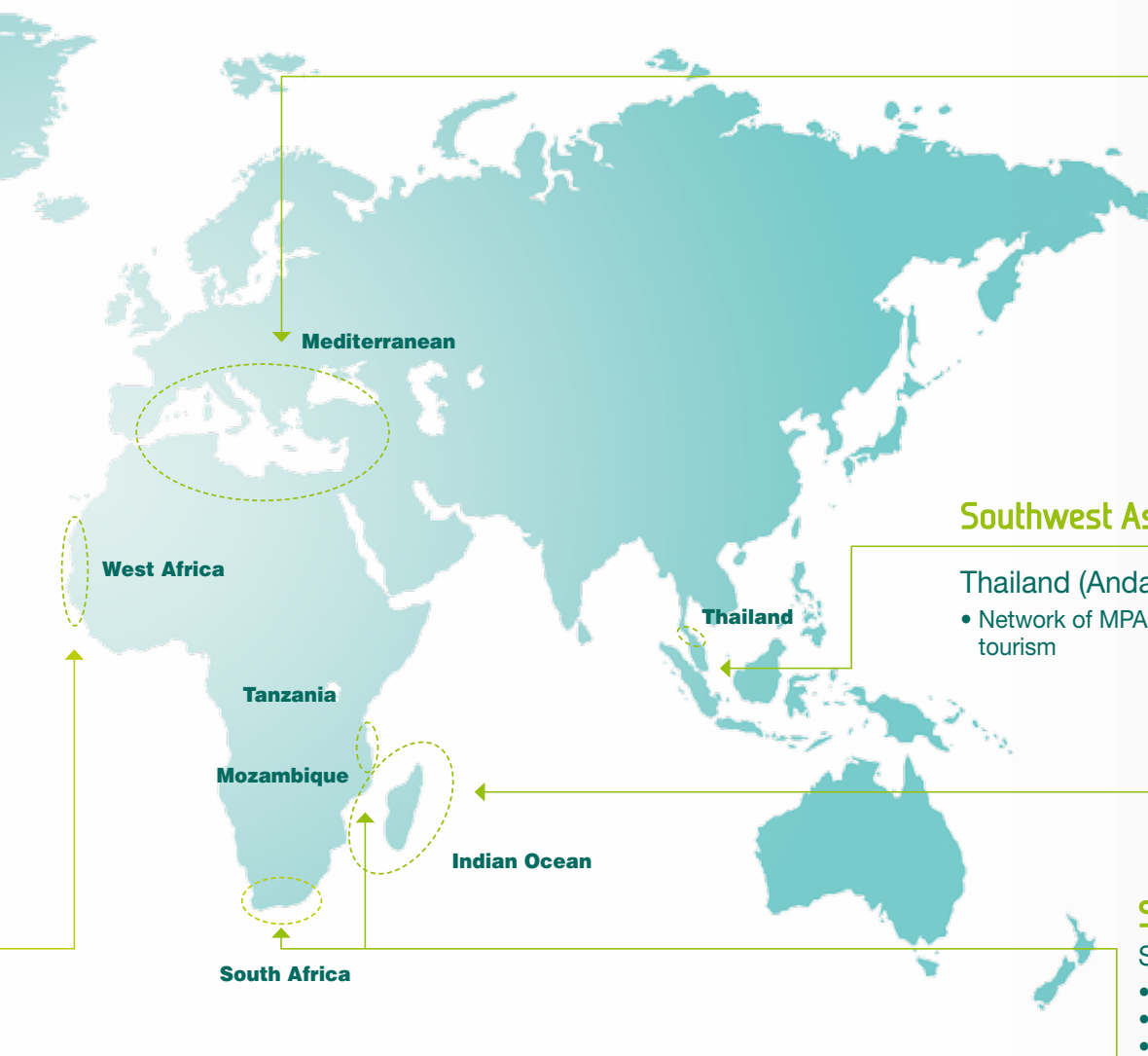
Mesoamerica and the Caribbean (€3.4 m)

- Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, Mexico
Organization of Eastern Caribbean States:
St. Lucia, Dominica, St. Vincent, Grenadines,
St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua, Barbuda
- MPA and benefit sharing (Caribbean)
 - Support to MPAs of the Mesoamerican Reef
 - Trust fund to protect the Mesoamerican Reef (MAR FUND)

West Africa (€3.2 m)

- Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Sierra Leone, Cape Verde
- Strengthening of MPAs
 - Preservation of fisheries resources through fishing communities
 - Trust Fund of the Banc d'Arguin for the coastal and marine biodiversity (BACOMAB)





Mediterranean (€7.2 m)

Turkey, Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco

- Conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity
- Development of the network of MPAs
- Support network of MPA managers (MedPAN)
- Capacity building of managers by exchanging experiences
- Pilot Small Islands project of the Mediterranean (PIM)
- Ecosystem-based fisheries management
- Exemplary management of coasts, islands and marine areas

Indian Ocean (€3.2 m)

Seychelles, Mauritius / Rodrigues, Madagascar, Comoros, Réunion, Mayotte

- Support for the MPA network and development of a network of managers (RAMP-CIO)
 - Integrated coastal zone management: sharing of experiences and the application sites
 - Contributing to the evaluation and monitoring of regional fish stocks and the impact of high seas fishing
- High seas
- Knowledge and governance of deep-sea ecosystems (sea-mounts, hydrothermal vents) that are beyond areas of national jurisdiction.

Southwest Asia (€1 m)

Thailand (Andaman Coast)

- Network of MPAs and sustainable tourism

Southeast Africa (€2.1 m)

South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique

- Creation of the Quirimbas National Park (Mozambique)
- Support for Marine Park Mnazy Bay and the estuary of the Ruvuma (Tanzania)
- Marine area of Addo Elephant National Park (South Africa)

→ The strategy



© G. Chiron

Conserving forest resources

Forests fulfill essential ecosystem functions. Forests currently cover more than 4 billion hectares, representing about 30% of the world's landmass, and they contribute to the storage of more than 20% of carbon emissions. **Deforestation has a considerable impact on greenhouse gas effects.**

Furthermore, deforestation destabilizes the water cycle by accelerating the runoff process and accelerates land degradation mechanisms.

→ The FFEM's main activities:

- **The great forests of the world**
The Congo Basin and the Amazon, wherein are focused the key issues in terms of biodiversity as well as in terms of climate. This is without neglecting the other forests where human/forest relations have a fragile balance.
- **Protected areas**
The FFEM supports the creation, expansion and/or management of forest spaces under legal protection status. The FFEM also supports the

setting up and development of legal and financial instruments to ensure sustainable management systems for protected areas.

- **Forestry**
The FFEM provides support to states as well as to businesses of this sector to ensure that forest exploitation methods are compatible with the conservation of biodiversity, as well as to ensure the well-being of local people, and to maintain carbon stock.

→ Globally, **deforestation** has increased from **16 million** hectares per year in the 1990s to around **13 million** hectares per year in the last decade. (Source: FAO)





→ Developing and enhancing the sustainability of agriculture

Agriculture is faced with the challenge of feeding a world population estimated to be 9 billion by 2050, while meeting the challenges of natural resource conservation and climate change.

Projects funded by FFEM on this topic align with a common goal of improving agricultural practices in order to develop and strengthen sustainable agriculture.

Sustainable agriculture is intended to meet the dual challenge of conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity.

The FFEM focuses its funding on projects that take this dual challenge into account.

On the scale of plots, farms and agricultural areas, enhancing biodiversity in production systems should allow both the preservation and promotion of this challenge of biodiversity.

The FFEM's activities are also focused on projects for the sustainable intensification of agricultural areas and spatial and land management allowing, in particular, the reduction of deforestation due to the expansion of agricultural areas, and therefore its impact on biodiversity.

→ Promoting sustainable development of territories

In its search for innovative or exemplary approaches, the FFEM has supported several urban development projects aimed at strengthening cities' resilience to climate variations.

Through the projects which it finances, the FFEM offers a city and its people a vision of urban development built on the principles of sustainable development.

It provides a strategic planning approach with specific developments that take into account the richness of the site's specific natural environment, as well as actions to support nearby economic activities.

It also seeks to incorporate the vulnerability of the territory and demonstrate that sustainable urban ecosystem development is a source of wealth and a factor of economic development.



• Non-timber forest products

The FFEM contributes to the development of sectors such as hunting and gathering products and genetic resources in the context of the sustainable development of natural resources for the benefit of local people.

• Wood energy

Wood is a source of renewable energy and is the main energy source in numerous regions of the world.

• The fight against climate change

Through its financing, the FFEM participates in capacity building for forests' storage capacity vis-a-vis carbon dioxide emissions. Moreover, the FFEM contributes to the study and evaluation of climate change adaptation measures in forest ecosystems.



Focus on actions of the FFEM

The FFEM assess the issues, organizes priorities, and supports implementation in pilot project countries.

Through studies and programs, it supports the **definition of** policies of assistance, their measurement, and the dissemination of experience acquired.

The FFEM focuses on the **sustainable management of natural resources and the setting up of innovative financing mechanisms** for protected areas and actions conserving biodiversity.

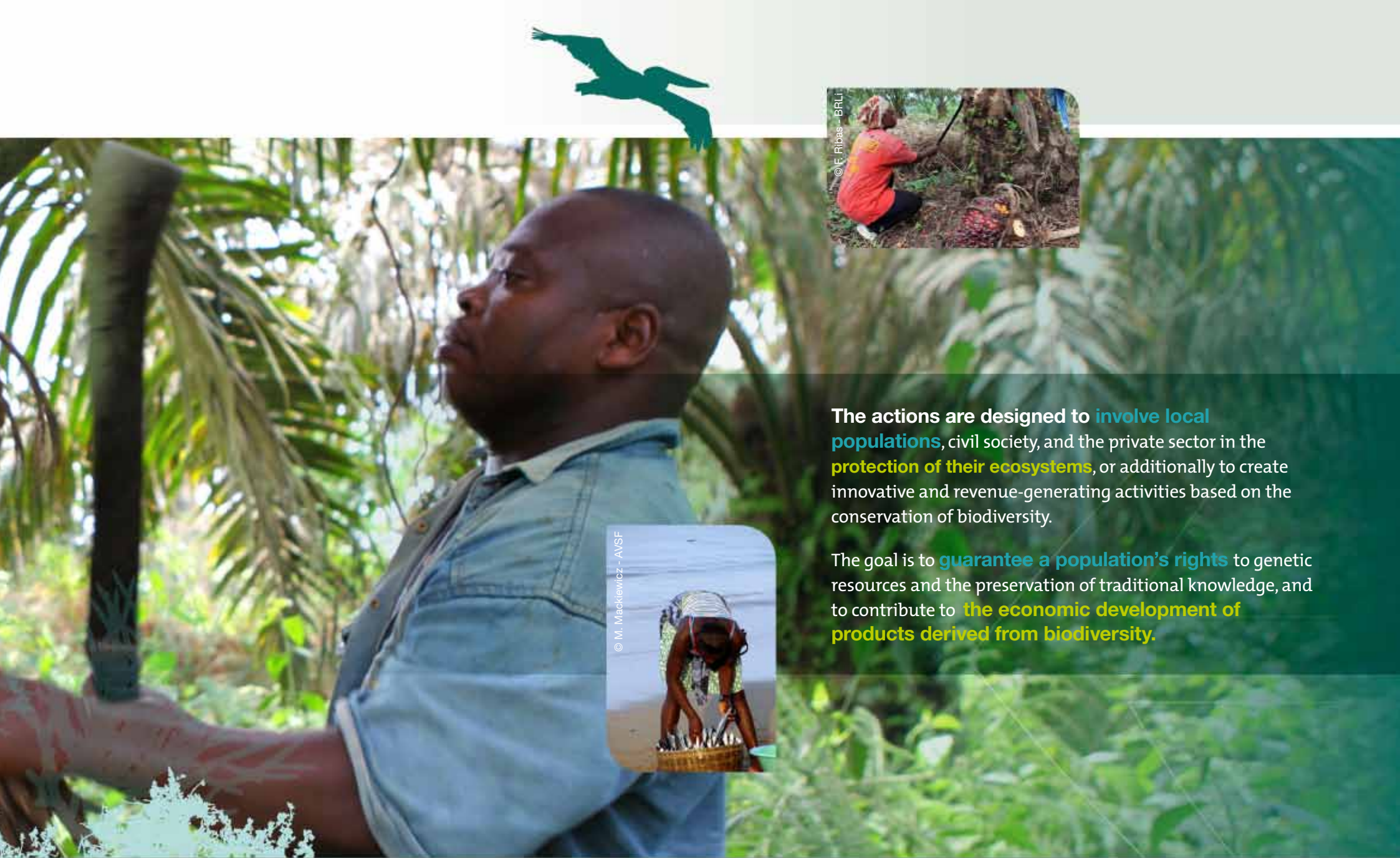


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The actions are designed to **involve local populations**, civil society, and the private sector in the **protection of their ecosystems**, or additionally to create innovative and revenue-generating activities based on the conservation of biodiversity.

The goal is to **guarantee a population's rights** to genetic resources and the preservation of traditional knowledge, and to contribute to **the economic development of products derived from biodiversity**.





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Encouraging the setting up of innovative financing

Promoting member institution of the project: AFD

CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FOUNDATION FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND THE BIODIVERSITY OF MADAGASCAR

FFEM contribution: €1 m - July 2005

Total project cost: €24.6 m

Beneficiary: Foundation for Protected Areas and the Biodiversity of Madagascar

Partners: AFD, BMZ / KfW, WWF, CI, Malagasy Government, GEF, World Bank / IDA

The primary mission of this foundation is to enable sustainable financing of the management of existing protected areas and the creation of new protected areas.

For this purpose, the foundation's capital is invested in non-speculative financial markets so as to produce a stable return, and only the income from these investments are used to fund protected areas.

The contribution of the Foundation aims to complete the coverage of recurrent management costs of protected area.

By the end of 2013, the foundation will have funded 17 protected areas management units (each unit can cover one to two protected areas) for an amount of US\$ 5.3 million, despite the international financial crisis and despite the Malagasy political crisis. At its inception, the foundation had the ambitious goal to collect capital worth US\$ 50 million. This funding goal of US\$ 50 million was reached in late 2012. Today the foundation is actively involved in disseminating its experience in the African Consortium for Environmental Fund (CAFE) to other foundations being created in Africa, particularly French speaking ones.



Promoting member institution of the project: AFD

CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TRUST FUND OF THE BANC D'ARGUIN AND OF COASTAL AND MARINE BIODIVERSITY (BACOMAB)

FFEM contribution: €1.2 m - October 2013

Total project cost: €17.2 m

Beneficiary: Trust fund of Banc d'Arguin and of the coastal and marine biodiversity

Partners: MAVA Foundation, KfW, AFD, Mauritanian State

The project helps to develop an endogenous, independent and sustainable financing tool for an eco-systemic service for the renewal of fishery resources.

The BACOMAB is an endowment fund whose assets are invested in perpetuity in "ethical or socially responsible" international financial markets. Only the interest is used to fund the activities of management and conservation of biodiversity at target sites, ensuring the sustainability of the tool.

The Mauritanian government has already made an initial contribution to BACOMAB in accordance with the fishing agreement with the European Union (EU).

Funding for the protection of biodiversity originating from the fisheries agreement is a "first" for Africa and the European Union.

This project allows France to implement its commitments for the protection of the global marine environment in Mauritania, announced in October 2013 by the Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, on the occasion of the 3rd International Congress of Marine Protected Areas.





Promoting member institution of the project: Ministry of Sustainable Development

SUSTAINABLE FINANCING FUND FOR THE PROTECTED MARINE AREAS OF THE MESOAMERICAN REEF (MARFUND)

FFEM contribution: €1 m - November 2012

Total project cost: €21 m

Beneficiary: MARFund

Partners: KfW, Overbrook-NOAA and other financial backers

The Mesoamerican Reef Fund (MAR Fund) is a private nonprofit organization between four countries (Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico) whose primary objective is to protect the Mesoamerican reef eco-region by strengthening the management of protected marine and coastal areas. Its mission is to inspire innovative and transnational solutions to regional pressures affecting the Mesoamerican Reef by providing long-term technical and financial assistance.

The MAR-Fund is an endowment fund whose assets are invested in perpetuity in international financial markets, and only the interest is used to support small projects implemented by civil society and local communities for the benefit of coastal and marine protected areas.

The original feature of MAR Fund is its ability to support the conservation of a regional space: the ecosystem of the Mesoamerican reef stretching along the coasts of four riparian countries. To act at this regional scale, it federates and operates through the national conservation trust fund of the four countries concerned, namely the PACT Foundation in Belize, Guatemala's FCG foundation, Fundación Biosfera Honduras (Honduran Biosphere Foundation), and Mexico's FMCN foundation.

To face the challenges of degradation of the Mesoamerican reef, the four countries have created 63 marine and coastal protected areas. These areas are representative of different ecosystems (coastal forest and mangroves, lagoons, sea grass beds, coral reefs) and high-priority protected species. To avoid inefficient allocation of small amounts of financing to various beneficiaries, the MAR-fund conducted a participatory prioritizing exercise to select 14 priority protected areas on which to focus MAR-fund support in order to secure an initial, functional and interconnected network to maintain the overall effectiveness of environmental services. These 14 priority MPAs cover 34% of the total network of 63 MPAs of the MAR.



Promoting member institution of the project: AFD

SUPPORT TO VERDE VENTURES INVESTMENT FUNDS

FFEM contribution: €0.99 m - July 2009

Total project cost: €7.04 m

Beneficiary: Conservation International

Partners: AFD, Starbucks Coffee Co., CI, SMEs

Verde Ventures is an investment program run by the NGO Conservation International, which grants funds of credit to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) involved in the conservation of biodiversity in order to offer lasting economic solutions that will benefit local biodiversity for future generations in biodiversity hot spots, wild natural areas of high biodiversity, and marine areas of global importance.

Verde Ventures supports economically viable businesses, contributing to the protection of biodiversity and improvement of living conditions of the local population (objective being the so-called "triple result"). This program was launched in 2000, primarily in Latin America. In partnership with AFD and through a loan of US\$3.5 million granted in December 2008, Verde Ventures extended its activities with a particular focus on Africa. The FFEM grant allows Verde Ventures to grant SMEs technical assistance support for the development of their businesses and monitor the impact of SME investments in biodiversity conservation and in well-being of the population.

As of March 31, 2014, more than US\$23 million have been invested in SMEs since the start of Verde Ventures with a repayment rate of 92.5%.

Thanks to the investment, over 914,000 hectares were directly protected by SME-financed projects; 11.7 million hectares were also indirectly impacted, and 287 species listed on the IUCN Red List have been protected. The total revenue generated by all SMEs amounted to more than US\$202 million, and this has allowed the raising of over US\$4.7 million of additional private investment. All of these SMEs have provided employment to more than 59,000 people, allowing the support of more than 245,000 people when taking their families into account.





Contributing to the eradication of poverty

Since its inception, FFEM has acted on worldwide issues of **biodiversity conservation** and on the search for practical and pragmatic development solutions at a local level. **Reconciling the conservation of natural resources** with improved standards of living **by developing income-generating activities is a priority.**

Promoting member institution of the project: Ministry of Finance

LIVELIHOODS FUNDS SUPPORT PROGRAM

FFEM contribution: €1.2 m - November 2007

Total project cost: €30 m

Beneficiary: Livelihoods Venture

Partners: Danone, Crédit Agricole, Hermès, Schneider Electric, La Poste, Voyageurs du Monde and CDC Climat

Livelihoods Fund is an innovative initiative of private and institutional investors permitting local organizations that do not have access to investment to restore their ecosystems.

The fund invests primarily in the restoration of natural ecosystems by planting forests and soil restoration in different contexts in terms of ecosystems, model farms, types of resource or method of land governance. It also aims to disseminate effective domestic energy facilities in rural areas to curb deforestation and forest degradation.

The fund's objective is thus contributing to the preservation of biodiversity and the improvement of living conditions of rural populations through revenue mobilization of carbon finance that helps to fund investments and provide the support required for ecosystem restoration.

As much as possible, the FFEM aims **to identify projects that ensure qualifiable lever effects** in mobilizing additional private funding for **the development and conservation of biodiversity.**



Support local development

Promoting member institution of the project: Ministry for Foreign Affairs

SUPPORT FOR THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS OF THE CARIBBEAN REGION OF GUATEMALA (2004-2009)

FFEM contribution: €0.8 m - 2004 / Total project cost: €2.03 m
Beneficiary: Foundation for eco-development and conservation (FUNDAECO)

Promoting member institution of the project: Ministry of Sustainable Development

SUSTAINABILITY OF CO-MANAGEMENT MECHANICS AND COMMUNITY CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE GUATEMALAN SYSTEM OF PROTECTED AREAS (2012-2015)

FFEM contribution: €1.5 m - 2011 / Total project cost: €3.57 m
Beneficiary: Foundation for eco-development and conservation (FUNDAECO)

Guatemala, the deployment of a pilot experience after 10 years

A pilot experience

- Between 2004 and 2009, the FFEM funded a first pilot project of co-management system of protected areas with Indian communities with the NGO FUNDAECO.

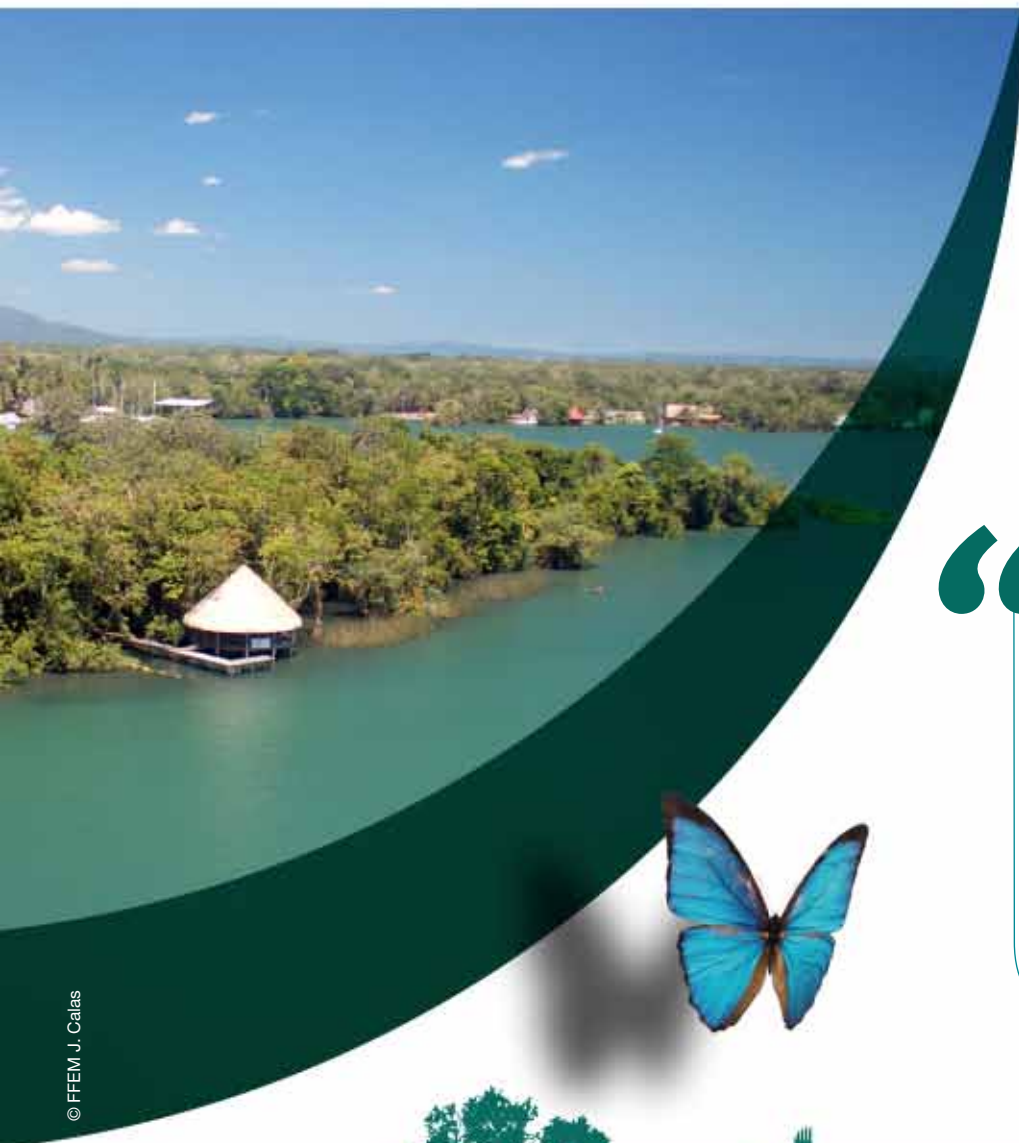
which changes scale...

- From 2012 to 2015, FFEM will be financing a new project for the replication of the model in several regions of Guatemala using a more global approach (innovative financing of biodiversity protection, reproductive health, and the integration of biodiversity and Mayan cultural heritage).

and which builds new partnerships

- In November 2013, Livelihoods Fund decided to fund the NGO Fundaeco in order to conduct an extensive program of agroforestry plantations on one of the sites of protected areas previously supported by the FFEM.





- Between 2004 and 2009, the FFEM funded **a first pilot project with FUNDAECO** which allowed the transition from a system of protected areas excluding Indian communities to **co-management system of sites with local communities**.

This previous pilot project was subject to an independent external evaluation which could measure the major economic impacts of the project through the household income monitoring system that was already in place:

One of the key results of the previous pilot project was to provide income generating activities for more than 33% of the peripheral populations of protected areas (representing over 10,000 people) with an average increase in revenue of 52% over 10 years which is, in the opinion of the evaluators: “A remarkable, even exceptional, achievement.”

The external assessment in October 2010 of this pilot supported by the FFEM has concluded:

“

Overall, the project is considered a success and is a milestone in Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, since it helped initiate a major change in the relationship between protected areas and the riverside communities. The process of legalization of land, the setting up of effective mechanisms for co-management, and large-scale payment distribution mechanisms for environmental services are the three pillars of this project, which has helped seal a real alliance between biodiversity conservation, natural resources, and local development.

”





which changes

- The 2012-2015 project, “**Sustainable Mechanisms for Co-Management and Community Biodiversity Conservation in the Guatemalan Protected Areas System**” with FUNDAECO is innovative because it
 - links the **effective co-management of protected areas** with local Native American Indian populations (in a country still recovering from a civil war in the 90s),
 - the development of **innovative financing mechanisms for biodiversity conservation, local development of peripheral populations of protected areas**,
 - the development of models **of protected areas linking natural and cultural heritage** (Maya archaeological sites of the Mirador National Park), and for the first time **support for reproductive health and education**.

which builds new partnerships

- As proof of the soundness of the results achieved and the dynamics of development created, in mid-November 2013, Livelihoods Fund decided to fund the NGO Fundaeco in order to conduct an extensive program of agroforestry plantations on one of the sites of protected areas previously supported by the FFEM (Cerro San Gil Reserve).

In mid-November, the Livelihoods Fund, an investment fund created by large French and European companies (including Danone, Crédit Agricole, Hermès, Schneider Electric, La Poste, Voyageurs du Monde and CDC Climat), launched a major project for the restoration of natural ecosystems which are the creators of economic activity for local communities in the presence of Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Elmer Rodríguez López.

The project consists of a planting program of over 3 million forest trees, fruit trees and agroforestry systems over an area of 4,000 hectares in the Cerro San Gil biodiversity area in the department of Izabal in eastern Guatemala. Reforestation activities will be implemented by 20 local communities, that is, more than 500 families.

The objectives of the project are to ensure food security of the local communities by generating economic income from the marketing of agricultural products while preserving the surrounding vulnerable ecosystems. Envisioned over a period of 20 years, the project represents an investment of €2.4 million by the Livelihoods Fund.

The 20-year program is expected to capture 1.8 million tons of carbon, of which the associated credits represent the shareholder returns of the Livelihoods Fund.



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Strengthening the capacities of civil society

Civil society organizations are now considered key players in the management of natural resources and biodiversity.

Their involvement in the development process, and in particular, in the **protection of natural resources**, is reaffirmed by all international conventions and national policies.

Along with state structures, they carry the aspirations and expectations of local communities.

In order to provide themselves the means of positioning themselves as performers of public policies, civil society organizations Southern Hemisphere countries must develop their skills. It is essential that they professionalize, affirm their added value, and develop their skills on emerging themes in order to implement policies of environmental protection and fight against climate change.

This assumes that they demonstrate their technical capacity to implement concrete projects in the field, ensure monitoring and evaluation of their results, and ensure transparency in resource management and good governance of their structures.



Promoting member institutions of the project:
Ministries of Sustainable Development, of Foreign Affairs

STRENGTHENING AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The 4th phase of the small-scale initiatives program

FFEM contribution: €2.5 m (42%) - July 2013

Total project cost: €5.15 m

Beneficiary: IUCN-French Committee and IUCN-PACO

Since 2006, FFEM has supported African civil society with the small scale initiatives (SSI) program in order to contribute to the protection of biodiversity and to the fight against climate change through the implementation of concrete field projects.

The program strengthens African civil society on environmental issues in countries where it is historically less active on these issues.

The fourth phase of the small scale initiatives program will be funded over the period 2013-2016 and aims at strengthening the capacity of national NGOs in seven high-priority countries of West and Central Africa by assisting in the formulation of projects, and by monitoring and consulting closely during their implementation. It also covers the establishing of a competent network of national experts and the coordination of exchanges between NGOs regarding the assessment of their actions and centered around public policies at national and regional level.

The selected projects will be managed by NGOs and/or local authorities over a period of 2 years. The program expects to fund 35 projects while promoting projects from the 7 priority countries, but without a predefined cash quota.

Number of small projects funded or in-doing of the SSI

Phase 1 56 projects funded between 2005 and 2009

Phase 2 47 projects amounting to 1.7 M€

Phase 3 47 projects selected



Promoting member institutions of the project:
Ministries of Sustainable Development, of Foreign Affairs

STRENGTHENING OF EMERGING CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs) IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT IN NORTH AFRICA (SSI-NASCO PROGRAM)

FFEM contribution: €1 m (42%) - November 2013

Total project cost: €2.4 m

Beneficiary: Center of Cooperation for the Mediterranean of the IUCN (IUCN-Med)

Partner: MAVA Foundation

The Mediterranean is home to vast wealth in terms of biodiversity and natural resources. In four countries of North Africa (Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia), these resources are threatened by increased tourism and population growth, leading to overexploitation of natural resources and increased pressure on ecosystems, to which are added the effects of climate change.

The SSI-NASCO program, inspired by the Small Scale Initiatives Program funded in sub-Saharan Africa, aims at strengthening the technical, administrative and financial capacity of emerging CSOs in these four North African countries through training actions and guidance for the implementation of small projects.

In the short term, specific and concrete land initiatives will be developed. In the longer term, the goal is to contribute to the implementation of action strategies for national biodiversity and conservation enhancement and sustainable management of natural resources.

The SSI-NASCO will support field projects consistent with this long-term goal, financing about 40 small projects led by emerging CSOs of four beneficiary countries. In addition, this program will foster networking and participation of CSOs in the areas of dialog with governments to finally capitalize and disseminate experiences at national and regional levels.



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Mobilize funding for direct actions in favor of biodiversity

Promoting member institution of the project: Ministry of Sustainable Development

DESERT ANTELOPES

FFEM contribution: €1.4 m - March 2002

Total project cost: €15.6 m

Beneficiary: Bonn Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Partners: European Union, Sahara Conservation Fund, Noé Conservation.

The project is part of an overall approach by the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), which takes the form of a Regional Action Plan for the Conservation and Restoration of desert antelopes adopted in Djerba (Tunisia) in February 1998 by the fourteen states in the desert antelope area of distribution.

Following the regional project to support the knowledge of the population of antelope and to identify priority management sites, Niger decided on March 6, 2012 to create the largest protected area on the African continent: the Termit and Tin Toumma Natural and Cultural Reserve (100,000 km², more than 14% of Niger's territory)

This is a major step to safeguard the flagship species of the Sahara.

The FFEM took a leading role, as it funded the setting up of the first activities and scientific studies in the Termit region.

However, the Termit and Tin Toumma Reserve depends on the active participation of local people, one of the pillars of the first project funded by the FFEM.



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Promoting member institution of the project: Ministry of Sustainable Development

DEVELOPMENT OF URUGUAY'S NATIONAL PROTECTED AREAS NETWORK (SNAP)

FFEM contribution: €1 m - April 2014

Total project cost: €8.8 m

Beneficiary: Eastern Republic of Uruguay

Partners: MVOTMA, GEF, Spanish Cooperation (AECI), UNDP, other

A first project implemented between 2007 and 2013 by the government of Uruguay, in partnership with the French and Spanish Cooperation, the Global Environment Facility (FEM), and UNDP has contributed to the design and the initial implementation of Uruguay's National Protected Areas Network.

It has set up ten protected areas representative of national biodiversity and created two parks, Laguna de Rocha Park and Quebradas del Norte Park, corresponding to a French regional park model adapted to Uruguay.

This new project sets up a network of protected areas projected to cover 300,000 hectares.

The project will contribute to the economic and social development of Uruguay, through supporting the local rural production (livestock, fishing ...) and through supporting the development of rural tourism. The project acts as a catalyst for methods of development of territory, reconciling the environment and local development beyond the scope of protected areas across municipalities and stewardships (equivalent to a prefecture).

The FFEM support has allowed the mobilization of the French Federation of Regional Nature Parks (PNR) and the PNR network, especially at two pilot sites: Quebradas del Norte and Laguna de Rocha.



© G. Riebel - Laguna de Rocha



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Fonds Français pour
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Editor: The FFEM
Graphic Design: Bluelife
Print: Impact imprimerie - Legal depot: september 2014
Printed on PEFC - FCBA / 08-008892 paper - September 2014
Photo credits: G. Chiron - N. Goupille - M. Borghese - F. Ribas