



Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

FRENCH SUPPORT FOR MYANMAR

FOR THE COUNTRY
WITH THE PEOPLE
BUILDING THE FUTURE

France is committed to work hand-in-hand with the civil society and in partnership with the Government of Myanmar to support the on-going political, economic and social transition of the country. We are dedicated to foster sustainable development and enable communities to build their future.



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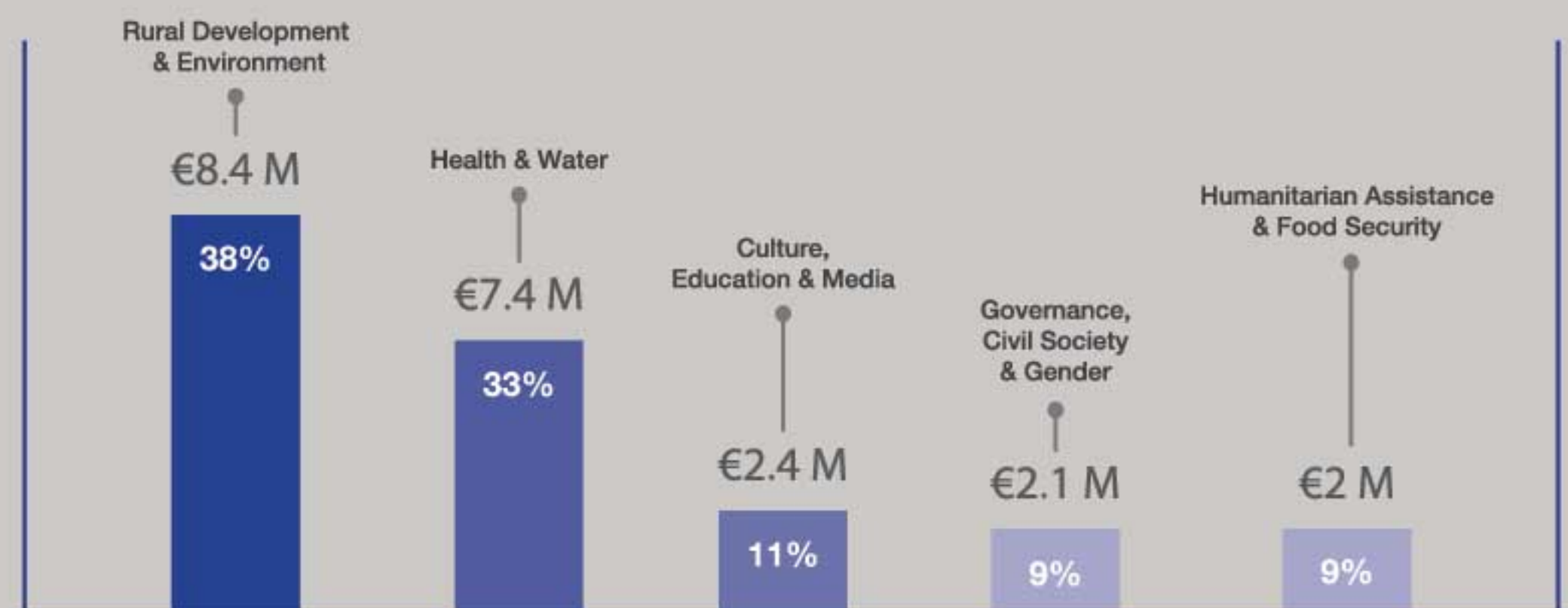


French bilateral cooperation at a glance

French bilateral cooperation is implemented through two main complementary channels:

1. Direct contributions of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs mainly delivered via the French Embassy in Myanmar.
2. Since 2012, the French Development Agency (AFD) has financed additional important development programs. AFD is currently extending its mandate to the provision of soft loans.

As of today, French bilateral support focuses on the following strategic areas:



More than
€22,3 million

in grants in 2013 -2014.

As of 2015 this support is expected to substantially grow with the extension of AFD's mandate

€440 million of bilateral debt cancellation in favor of Myanmar

Second contributor to the EU global budget in Myanmar which represents up to **€1 billion** for the period 2014-2020

Second contributor to the Global Fund to fight Aids, Malaria and Tuberculosis, with **€11, 2 million** funds allocated for Myanmar in 2014.

FRANCE WITH THE PEOPLE

Civil society and social innovation

- The "Social Development Fund" (FSD) finances poverty alleviation projects in Myanmar. A first grant of €500 000 has been allocated for the period 2012-2014. Five projects are currently being implemented in the following sectors: media, environment, agriculture, and gender. The next grant for 2015-2018 is currently being decided to keep supporting direct civil society projects.
- The "civil society grants program" is another tool used by the French Embassy to provide small grants to civil society projects. 2013-2014 budget amounts to €120 000.
- In 2013, the French Embassy initiated the "Women's Forum Myanmar 2013", co-organized with the Women's Forum for the Economy and Society, which gathered more than 600 participants. A second edition is taking place in December 2014.
- France is co-chairing with UNFPA the "Enhancing of women's empowerment (EWE) Sector Working Group", a forum for the practical coordination of an array of development partners to support the promotion of gender equality and advancement of women in Myanmar.



€2.1 million

in 2013-14 for civil society projects.

France supports the direct implication of the people in the political, social and economic transition.



France, a key actor for Democracy in Myanmar

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION – MEDIA

- France initiated the creation of the Myanmar Journalism Institute, in close partnership with Germany (D.W.A.), Denmark (I.M.S.), Sweden (Fojo), Forever Group and UNESCO. The French Embassy and Canal France International are now closely involved in this program (€500 000 allocated by France in 2014).
- A technical cooperation agreement was signed between Canal-France International and MRTV4 (150 hours/year of training and a budget of €750 000 in 2013).

CULTURE

- Since 1961, the French Institute has been a very special place for culture. It hosts more than 20 artistic events with about 10 000 visitors per year.

- With more than 1000 students per year (French and Burmese language courses) the French Institute works closely with companies to develop new partnerships and scholarship program opportunities.
- French cultural experts have been cooperating for decades in Myanmar on social sciences issues as well as on archaeological (Bagan) and paleontological conservation projects (through French research Institutes).

EDUCATION

- Develop the university exchange programs: France encourages its universities to develop direct relations with Myanmar: Nine French universities have established partnerships with universities in Mandalay and Yangon and 34 scholarships were granted to Burmese students in 2013 (PANACEA program). Meanwhile a bilateral program was launched in 2013 with the support of French companies and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development.

€2.4 million

in 2013-14

To strengthen democracy through culture, education and media.



Building a bridge between humanitarian aid and development assistance

- Since the Nargis disaster in 2008, France has been very active in the field of humanitarian and emergency relief. €2 million were allocated to various projects over the past two years.
- In 2013 and 2014, €1 million was granted by the French Ministerial Committee for Food Aid (C.I.A.A.) to French N.G.O.s such as Action Contre la Faim, ACTED, Solidarités International and Triangle in Rakhine, Kachin and Chin States.
- The Crisis Center (C.D.C.) based in Paris keeps continual watch on events abroad and coordinates humanitarian policy. It takes part in international humanitarian funding through a flexible and reactive humanitarian fund. The most vulnerable regions of Myanmar have received more than €1 million from the CDC since 2012.
- Several French N.G.O.s supported by France and its international partners are working in Myanmar on humanitarian and development programs (Action Contre la Faim, Médecins du Monde, Acted, PU-AMI, Triangle, Solidarités International, le Gret, PlaNet Finance, Entrepreneurs du Monde, Partenaires, Green Lotus, etc.)



€2 million

in humanitarian and food security programmes for 2013-14

France does not forget that Myanmar is also facing humanitarian challenges and we are willing to bridge the gap between emergency humanitarian aid and long-term development aid.



Water resources and Health: focused levers of action for social progress

French support is dedicated to strengthen the capacities of Health and WASH (Safe drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) sectors. An Action Plan is currently designed around Yangon and Mandalay. Together with public and private French actors, we mutualize our know-how, our products and our funds in order to bring collective and adapted solutions towards better Health and Water Access in Myanmar.

Health

- French contribution to Global Fund in Myanmar (fight against 3 pandemics HIV, Malaria and Tuberculosis) represents more than €11.2 million for 2014. The "Initiative 5%" will support up to €1million international organisations in the coming three years. The "Initiative 5%" is also envisaging to launch an audit in order to assess the capacities of the Ministry of Health to directly monitor Global Fund grants in the medium term.
- AFD has extended to Myanmar the regional E.C.O.M.O.R.E. project ("Economic Development, Ecosystem Changes, and Emerging Infectious Diseases Risks Evaluation") in partnership with the Pasteur Institute (€700 000).
- A partnership has been developped between Yangon university and the University Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris. Each year high level training of two HIV specialists is co-financed by France and the company Total.
- French medical cooperation has developed activities around the training of nurses and doctors, orthopaedics, cardiology, surgery, etc. in the field of epidemiological research (Institut Pasteur and Fondation Mérieux).
- A Project from PU-AMI was funded by AFD to improve mother, neonatal and child health care through health education and support to the community health workers and health education volunteers.



Water supply and Infrastructure

- Diagnostic work and preparation of a program to reduce non-revenue water in three priority areas of Yangon carried out by the French consulting and engineering company EGIS Eau and financed by the French Government (€900 000). In continuity, AFD contemplates providing additional financing to further support the improvement of Yangon water services.
- Development and optimization of infrastructure and municipal services (mainly in the water and solid waste treatment sector) in Mandalay, carried out by the French consultancy firm SAFEGE, and financed by the French Government (€1 million). Water supply system improvement in Mandalay city proposed by AFD (€2,5 million). Within the framework of a sustainable city project, France is mobilizing its efforts in Mandalay.



- AFD is co-financing with the Asian Development Bank a preparatory study (€350 000) for a large-scale "Mandalay Urban Services Improvement Project". AFD is currently evaluating the financing for the water supply component for a contemplated amount of €40 million.



€7.4 million

funding in 2013-14

Convergence of French actors to strategically strengthen the capacities of Health and Wash (Safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene) sectors

BUILDING THE FUTURE



Support rural development, environmental sustainability and poverty alleviation

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

- AFD participates (€1 million) in the LIFT (Livelihoods and Food Security Trustfund), which channels aid to implementing partners in order to improve the food and livelihood security of the poor and vulnerable population in Myanmar.
- Rehabilitation of irrigation schemes in the Central Dry Zone (Magway Region), with a specific focus on agricultural extension and the promotion of participatory irrigation management. (€3 million financed by AFD).
- (In preparation) Rehabilitation of smallholder rubber plantations in Mon State through the implementation of a rural credit scheme and the provision of agricultural extension services, along with technical assistance for the sector structuring (soft loans and associated grants under examination by AFD).
- AFD is also directly supporting French N.G.O.s projects in Myanmar regarding capacity building and civil society development. Three projects are currently being implemented for

a total amount of €1.2 million (Planet Finance in Kayin State, GRET, and Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH) in Chin State).

- (In preparation) Sustainable management of Myanmar fisheries and marine resources through satellite and radar data exploitation (soft loan under examination by AFD).

ENVIRONMENT

- AFD is extending to Myanmar different regional initiatives towards environment conservation and agro-ecological practices. These projects mobilize international organizations such as W.C.S. (Wildlife Conservation Society), F.G.E.F. (French Global Environment Facility), and regional partners.

€8.4 million

in 2013-14

working with the communities in rural areas to reduce poverty and protect eco-systems in Myanmar



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French cooperation in Myanmar at a glance 2013-2014



ONGOING ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY FRANCE

-  Rural Development & Environment
-  Water
-  Health
-  Culture, Education & Media
-  Governance, Civil Society & Gender
-  Humanitarian Assistance & Food Security

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