

## A word from the editor...

I have the pleasure of presenting you with the first issue of *The Co-development Newsletter*. This Newsletter is published by the co-development team at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and aims to increase awareness about French cooperation priorities and action concerning co-development.

It also strives to be a **forum for exchange**, sharing viewpoints and experiences, and debates, **for all co-development actors** (migrants' associations, municipalities, Departments and regions, companies, education and research institutions, and more). Its aim is to be an instrument at the service of all those involved in co-development projects who want to raise their project profiles or to find out about initiatives being taken in other places by participating in discussions on "best practices".

Lastly, the **newsletter** would like to provide its foreign readers living in France **with practical information** for their everyday lives.

**These aims are the backbone of the newsletter, which will include five sections in addition to this word from the editor:**

- ❖ The first section will be devoted to **programmes launched by the co-development team** and funded by French cooperation. In every issue, you will be given an overview, in a news article format, of:
  - ➔ **New programmes, or Reports on ongoing programmes**, depending on what's currently in the news;
  - ➔ Then, in the **Projects in the spotlight** section, concrete examples of projects conducted within the programmes that are particularly characteristic or innovative;
- ❖ On the main pages, two more sizable special reports will provide our foreign friends with **practical information** that will be particularly useful in their dealings with the French administration (the topic for this month is the Reception and Integration Contract - CAIE). The reports will **expound on a topic**, which could be addressed in another section, but seemed to warrant more **in-depth treatment**. You will find a special report on the Forum of Migrations International Solidarity Organizations (FORIM) in this issue;
- ❖ **Co-development, a shared concept**, as in the first section, gives an overview of initiatives being taken outside the French Foreign Ministry by associations, municipalities, Departments or regions, companies, in France and abroad;
- ❖ Finally, on the last page we would like to raise the profile of **our partners** (operators responsible for implementing our programmes and providing support to those with projects) with a brief biography on their lives. Since it is the first issue, the **members of the co-development team** are featured.


The newsletter will be published four times a year, in early January, April, July and October. 2000 copies will be circulated in electronic or printed version.

**The newsletter will be sent to official bodies** involved in co-development whether they be French (officials in the central administration of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs or other ministries, ambassadors and heads of cooperation departments or economic missions, consuls-general and consuls, French Development Agency officials), foreign (embassies and consulates in France, central administrations in interested capital) or multilateral (international organisations interested in development and migration issues). **But the newsletter will also, and especially, be sent to those who are likely to take initiatives in co-development: migrants' associations; foreigners intending to invest in their countries of origin; members of technical, scientific and economic diasporas** (teachers, researchers, doctors, executives in the private sector, etc.). For this newsletter targets practitioners first and foremost.

**Feel free to write us** to tell us about interesting projects that you would like our readers to know about, to suggest topics for special reports, or of course, to give us your comments, criticisms and suggestions regarding the content and presentation of our newsletter. We would be grateful for the names of any associations or persons whom you know that currently do not subscribe to our newsletter but could be interested in doing so in the future.

**Christian Connan**  
Ambassador delegate for co-development

<b>In this issue</b>	<b>A word from the editor...</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>New programmes</b>	<b>Projects in the spotlight</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Projects in the spotlight</b>	<b>This month's special report</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>This month's special report</b>	<b>Practical information</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Practical information</b>	<b>A shared concept</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>A shared concept</b>	<b>News from abroad</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>News from abroad</b>	<b>Ours partners</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Ours partners</b>	<b>Contact information</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Contact information</b>		<b>9</b>

 People are often reluctant to use the term "diaspora" because it evokes an experience in history marked by tragedies and suffering, and at times stigmatised. If we decided nevertheless to employ this term, it is because it is increasingly used by scientists themselves and there is a lack of a better alternative to express this idea that is twofold: encompassing the fact that scientists and/or engineers are organising their own networks and the wish of those interested to put these networks at the service of their countries of origin. This dual concern is at the heart of discussions on co-development. It was decided to use the term DSTE (scientific, technical and economic diasporas), believing that it would soon find its place on the international scene (this seems to be the case, for it is increasingly being employed by major international organisations).

## CONTACT

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## New programmes

*In this column, we will present you with newly adopted co-development programmes funded by French cooperation: Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DGCID) of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the French Development Agency (AFD).*

As a follow-up to the **Mali co-development programme** that has been in effect for two years, a **second bilateral programme** designed by the Embassy and the DGCID in connection with the CODEV team, is being implemented in Senegal. This programme adopted by the joint French-Senegalese Committee for Co-development and Migrations, is a programme amounting to €2.5-million (roughly 1.6 billion CFA francs) spread over three years.

**It has three parts:**

❖ **Co-funding projects of Senegalese associations in France conducted in their villages or regions of origin.** Up to 70% of the funding for extremely varied projects (e.g. schools, health centres, small-scale dams for farming, water supply systems, etc.) could be granted. The association and recipients are asked to contribute to cover at least 30% of the projects' costs.

❖ **Project funding** (mainly for missions and certain logistical expenses) **designed and carried out by highly qualified members of the Senegalese diaspora in France.** *Three priority areas have been defined: agribusiness, new technologies, and management.*

❖ Economic reintegration assistance for Senegalese nationals living in France, but who would like to return to Senegal to start up an income-generating activity there (farming, crafts, taxi, etc.). The people with projects could obtain:

- technical assistance for setting up their project;
- a grant of €4,000 to €7,000 (2.5 to 5 million CFA francs) depending on the nature of the project and the level of their personal involvement (a personal contribution of at least 30% is requested);
- training;
- management assistance for a period of one year.

**Management of this new programme is decentralised.** A technical unit was set up in Dakar and the project selection committee will be located in Dakar.

If you wish to submit a project, please contact the technical unit in charge of the programme in Dakar, Mr Stéphane Gallet (stephane.gallet@diplomatie.gouv.fr).

**Pour en savoir plus**

[www.pseau.org](http://www.pseau.org)

## Projects in the spotlight

*In this section, you can find some examples of projects that have been in the pipeline in recent months with the help of French cooperation (co-funding, technical advice).*

### Concerning associations

The ARLF (Association for natives of Lany in France), made up of 460 members, French cooperation and Télécash Mali are co-funding a post office-telephone-telepayment office in Lany (in the Kayes region in Mali) in conjunction with the ONP (National Postal Corporation in Mali) and the Sotelma (Mali's national telecommunications company). With this facility, inhabitants can:

- Receive mail and packages by post. Up until now they have had to go to Kayes, the region's capital 75km away, to do this.
- Have public telephone booths at their disposal that are connected to the Sotelma network and GSM.
- Receive money by way of the telepayment system. Families can receive money their relatives living in France send them and retired persons can receive their retirement pension on the spot (whereas again, up until now they had to travel to Kayes or Kidira - or Senegal - to receive money transfers or their retirement pensions). The beneficiaries will be the 7,333 people living in the commune of Sony, of which Lany is the biggest village, but also those living in the six neighbouring municipalities (with a total of 38 villages): Tafacirga, Fégui, Falémé, Kéméné Tambo, Guidmaxa, Xéria, Kaffo.

The project costs about 60 million CFA francs (€90,000). Télécash Mali is financing 50% of the project; migrants and inhabitants are financing 20%; and French cooperation (Mali Co-development Priority Solidarity Fund) is financing 30%, which amounts to just over 18,000 CFA francs (€28,000). This project will have a multiplier effect because as Sotelma considers that the region represents a significant market, it has decided to build relay transmitters and booths in several other neighbouring villages.

### Concerning young people

The municipality of Gentilly built a community health centre in the village of Kolobo in the municipality of Duguwulowila in the Koulikoro region in Mali. An association of young second generation French Malians, *Association des Jeunes du 162*, who have already built a cultural centre in this village were behind this project. The facility cost €182,000 (120,000 CFA francs). The city of Gentilly financed 42% of the cost with the municipal budget amounting to €77,000 (50 million CFA francs) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Cooperation financed a third amounting to €60,000 (40 million CFA francs). The *Association des Jeunes du 162* along with the Malian community of Gentilly raised 11% of the financing amounting to €20,000 (13 million CFA francs).

The inhabitants of Kolobo can now benefit from a health centre equipped with a clinic, a maternity ward and a pharmacy. An exhibition organised by the city of Gentilly and the *Association des Jeunes du 162* helped raise awareness about Mali in Gentilly and was shown to a number of schools. The project also helped to better integrate French-Africans from Gentilly, thanks to the cooperation that was established between the Malian Community and the Mayor of Gentilly, Mr Yann Joubert and his services when putting together the exhibition. One of the young organisers of the project, Mr Bamadi Sanokho even became the Deputy Mayor, delegate for international relations. It is also worth noting that cooperation between Gentilly and Duguwulowila is going to be formalised by the upcoming signature of a charter on cooperation so that it can continue in the future.

**For more information**

<http://www.ville-gentilly.fr>

## Reintegrating into the country

Nahatouma received a grant of €4,500 (or 3 million CFA francs) to create a multimedia centre within the scope of economic reintegration assistance for co-development at the French International Migration Office (OMI) in Mali. She invested €1,500 (1 million CFA francs) coming from her own personal contribution and assistance from relatives and friends.

Ms Diawara (38 years old, mother of three children), worked in France as a secretary until 2001; her parents paid for her travel and moving expenses. After experiencing health problems, Ms Diawara had difficulties finding a permanent job. Her friends sent her to the OMI and she decided to return to Mali in April 2004.

After conducting a market study, she designed a multimedia centre in her neighbourhood of Yirimadio (12 km from Bamako) providing the following services: Internet access and on-line games;

- training sessions on Microsoft Office and the Internet;
- secretarial skills;
- various office duties (making photocopies, office skills).

To develop her project, Ms Diawara received business development assistance from the co-development programme (feasibility study, the drawing up of technical specifications), as well as training on how to use the Internet by Techno-Lab ISTA, a technical training institute in Mali.

Ms Diawara is the only provider of multimedia services in Yirimadio. Her project is helping to bridge the digital divide in her neighbourhood. Her centre especially caters to students who now no longer need to go to the Bamako centre for Internet access.

Her centre now has six computers, versus three when it opened, and it employs a full-time attendant and two part-time trainers. Ms Diawara's enthusiasm and her capacity to diversify the products in her multimedia centre will increase the chances for the project's success.

**For more information**

[www.omi.social.fr/](http://www.omi.social.fr/)

## Distance Investing

Distance investments are those that foreign nationals who are permanent residents in France make in their countries of origin in tandem with a relative or a friend living there.

The French Development Agency (AFD) is introducing a programme in Morocco with European Union funds that aims to facilitate the creation of innovative small and medium-sized companies in Morocco by Moroccans or French-Moroccans carrying out their main activity in France and who intend to continue doing so.

The operator is the Moroccan investment funds Sindibad, a product of the Moroccan Deposit and Management Fund and the French Deposit and Consignment Office.

The European Union funds, implemented by the AFD (which ensures the programme is carried out vis-à-vis the European Union), entrusted the Sindibad Fund with deciding which projects are chosen. The funds are paid to the person with the project in the form of a grant as an the initial allocation. This should facilitate the start-up of the company (the sums in question should be used to buy material).

To date, two companies have been created:

- A computer company specialised in the design of integrated and programmable channels (Lead Design Ltd.). This company created 18 engineering jobs in Morocco, many of which are occupied by engineers that returned from France or the United States) and plans to create approximately ten more;
- A company (SN2B) that implements innovative technology to reinforce the bases of works and buildings that risk falling in ruins. The development plan of this company foresees the creation of two engineering jobs and ten skilled workers in Morocco.

Another company is being created in the field of biotechnology.

Another eight potential projects are being studied.

**For more information**

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

## Concerning scientific and technical diasporas

The Mali Co-development Priority Solidarity Fund had a Scientific, Technical and Economic Diasporas component that is being implemented in collaboration with the UNDP. The UNDP Transfer of Knowledge through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) Programme shares the same goals with French co-development policy.

The TOKTEN programme finances missions for qualified expatriate workers (academics, doctors, engineers) who return to Mali by way of this programme for short, possibly repeated missions in order to attain expertise, teach or perform surgical operations there.

The missions as a general rule are for one to three weeks. The Malian Government provides the accommodation for those interested and the TOKTEN programme covers their travel expenses and provides them with a daily allowance of 20,000 CFA francs (€30) and a wage of 2,250 CFA francs (€3.5) an hour for their work.

Under an agreement, the Mali Co-development Priority Solidarity Fund provides the UNDP with 43 million CFA francs (€65,000) that replenishes the TOKTEN programme. To date, 40 missions were financed thanks to the contribution of the Priority Solidarity Fund.

The example of professor Eloi Diarra, senior lecturer in Public Law at the School of Law, Economic Sciences and Management at the University of Rouen, illustrates the type of action the TOKTEN programme can finance.

Since 1999, he has been travelling to Bamako regularly (on average every six months, for two- to three-week visits). He thus was the director of theses, helped create three DEAs (a DEA is a post-graduate preparatory research qualification that precedes a doctorate degree) at the School of Legal and Economic Sciences and introduced a chair for supervision. This School welcomes outside professors, who train the part-time lecturers themselves. Professor Diarra ensures the coordination of teachers who participate in this training for lecturers (all qualified by the African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education-CAMES) and course content for the DEA.

**For more information**

[www.undp.org.lb/tokten](http://www.undp.org.lb/tokten)

# This month's special feature

*In this section, we will give you an overview of a French or foreign institution, involved in co-development actions, or a programme (financed for example by a multilateral organisation), likely to finance co-development projects, or even any other subject with a direct interest for all those who are interested in co-development..*

## FORIM

### (Forum of Migrations International Solidarity Organisations)

FORIM is a national platform bringing together networks, unions and groups of migrations international solidarity organisations) involved in reintegration or integration actions in France and development actions abroad. It is an association governed by the law of 1901, which was created in Paris in March 2002. Today it represents at a national level some 700 associations taking action in some twenty countries in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific.

#### Background

FORIM was the culmination of two working groups that have worked in succession since 1997 within the Cooperation and Development Commission. This Commission was presided by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which enhances cooperation between the government and the NGOs involved in cooperation actions with countries of the South. Since co-development now has become a dimension in French development assistance policy, the government wants to focus on taking into account the contribution from persons from immigrant families to the development of their countries of origin. This new direction is reflected in a new political desire to stress immigrants' dual citizen involvement. This is what the support given, particularly through the FORIM, means to the migrations international solidarity organisations, structures put into place by migrants to carry out cooperation projects with their countries of origin.

#### Objectives

- To identify the migrations international solidarity organisations and ensure their representation in national associative bodies, the government and all other interested institutions;
- To be a place for exchange and information for the migrations international solidarity bodies so that they can acquire knowledge and skills required in international cooperation and local development and to promote joint action with the migrations international solidarity organisations, international solidarity organisations, local authorities and governments;
- To foster migrations international solidarity organisations' access to various development support systems in France, Europe or internationally and to value their support in international cooperation and their role in integration in France.

#### Actions and programmes

Ongoing projects are as follows:

- Setting up an Observatory and Resource Centre, a structure that will include a database on the migrations international solidarity organisations and a documentation and information centre at their service;
- The programme in support of migrations international solidarity organisations' projects (PRA/OSIM), an experimental system for accompanying and co-financing local development projects of the migrations international solidarity organisations and conducted in Priority Solidarity Zone countries, apart from Mali and Senegal, that receive a State budget appropriation of €150,000 and are managed in collaboration with the French Catholic Committee against Hunger and for Development (CCFD);
- A programme for exchange and training. Training sessions (meetings, workshops, internships and so on) target migrations international solidarity organisations and aim to enhance their skills and those of their members. The programme also aims to boost the migrations international solidarity organisations' participation in different meetings organised at national and international level with a view to promoting exchanges and developing a partnership between the international solidarity organisations, civil society and government.

#### Financing

In addition to the €150,000 devoted to financing the PRA/OSIM programme, the FORIM receives grants from the government amounting to a total of €150,000, with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the French Ministry of Employment, Labour and Social Cohesion each contributing half of this sum.

The FORIM has become a unique and exemplary institution as a forum for dialogue on development assistance policy between migrants' associations and French administrations. It also helps migrants better integrate in both places by fostering their cooperation with members of civil society, regional and local authorities and governments in the North as well as in the South.

**For more information**  
<http://www.forim.net/>



# Practical information

*In this section, we provide you with information that is not directly related to co-development, but that interests our foreign friends living in France.*

## The Reception and Integration Contract

**The President of the French Republic has designated the successful reception of new immigrants a priority of the government since 2002.**

It is a crucial part of integration policy. If it fails, national cohesion will be threatened. In the French approach, integration naturally has an economic and social dimension (access to employment, housing, education for children, etc.) in order to ensure genuine equal opportunities for new migrants.

But it also has a political dimension since it is based on the respect of shared values that lay the foundations for the community of this country's inhabitants and shape the rules for living together in France (democracy, secularism, personal freedom, gender equality, etc.). This concept does not accept sectarianism because it marginalizes, confines, and fragments society.

Thus France has undertaken a balanced immigration policy that is based on an enhanced firmness when dealing with illegal aliens. It is also based on the implementation of an ambitious integration scheme for those who come to France legally so that they can settle in France on a long-term basis.

In France there exists a High Council for Integration, composed of prominent members of society that advise the government in these matters and an Interministerial Committee for Integration, chaired by the Prime Minister, that takes the most high-level decisions to favour integration of foreigners. On 10 April 2003, this Committee enacted an action programme comprised of 55 measures.

### **The principal measures include:**

- ❖ **Reinforcing the fight against discrimination with the creation of a High Authority to Fight Discrimination and to Promote Equality;**
  
- ❖ **Setting up a public service to welcome foreigners that includes:**
  - **Creating reception platforms all over France to welcome migrants on an individual basis:**
  
  - **Creating the Reception and Integration Contract (CAI), which offers newly arrived immigrants in France civic and language training courses if the migrant undertakes to respect the values of the Republic and to attend the courses offered. 90% of newly arrived migrants sign this contract, although it is not mandatory.**

A specialised agency called the National Agency for the Reception of Foreigners and Migration (ANAEM) has also been newly created to organise this public service to welcome foreigners. Considerable resources have been devoted to this mission as ANAEM groups together 900 agents and has an annual budget of €65 million.

**For more information**

**<http://www.social.gouv.fr/htm/actu/anaem/presentation.htm>**

# Co-development abroad

*Co-development involves by definition active participation on the part of members of civil society, who are in most cases the ones to initiate the projects. In this section, we will present you with projects that are designed and carried out without backing from the government. The aim is to further the sharing of "best practices" and to promote synergies between the different participants who are implementing co-development projects.*

## Associations

The P.S. Eau Association (*Programme Solidarité Eau*) is the operator in France for co-development programmes funded by French cooperation for Mali and Senegal. It also conducts its own VALEPRO programme (*Valorisation de l'Épargne des Migrants par l'appui des activités productives*).

The European Union granted € 800,000 to this programme over three years with the experimental B7 667 budget line, which is designed to finance the fight against illegal immigration, but in the broad sense of the idea of prevention also finances co-development projects.

The programme concerns five African countries. The PS-Eau Association implements this programme together with the Belgian OCIV (Flemish Refugee Council). PS-Eau supports projects of migrants from Benin, Cameroon, (Conakry) Guinea and Togo and the OCIV supports those of migrants from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The assistance can comprise:

- advice on setting up their projects;
- training;
- a grant of € 600 (or 363,000 CFA franc) to enable the promoter of the project to carry out a mission in the country and to conduct a feasibility study with the support of a local operator the programme has approved;
- a subsidy to facilitate the start-up of the project, this grant can be € 3,500 (or 2.3 million CFA francs), it being understood that the personal contribution towards the project should be at least equal to that of the grant;
- monitoring the business for a year by the local operator the programme has approved.

**The first meeting for the committee to allocate grants for the VALEPRO programme was held on 19 April 2005. Five of the seven projects presented were chosen:**

- Three resettlement projects (the people with these projects returned to their countries to manage it themselves): renting furnished apartments for tourists in Cotonou, Benin, a company that creates and hosts websites, also in Cotonou, creation of a urban and long-distance transportation agency in Cameroon;

Two long-distance investment projects (the promoters live and intend to stay in France and are going to entrust a relative or a friend in their countries of origin to manage their projects): Creation of a support organisation for women's associations which would like to develop income-generating activities in Sakiété (Benin); creation of a fashion and clothing atelier in Conakry (Guinea).

**For more information**

[www.pseau.org](http://www.pseau.org)

## Entreprises

### **Rural electrification in the Kayes region (in the west of Mali).**

The EDF (*Electricité de France*) and Total created a joint company, Korayé Kurumba, which means "new light in Soninke". It has a project to develop rural electrification projects in the north of the Kayes region in conjunction with Malian migrants in France. **Migrants pay some 70% of the standing charges for their relatives who live in Mali.**

The first network that was put into place services four municipalities: Tambacara, Yelimane, Lakanguémou and Ambidébi, and Koré. The installation combines small diesel power stations and the photovoltaic kits.

Some 400 households receive electricity; they can choose between various options for paying standing charges, two to 18 lamps (some family concessions group together 80 people) and two electrical sockets.

**The installation price ranges from just under 30,000 CFA francs (€45) to 180,000 CFA francs (€275), depending on the option chosen. The monthly standing charges range from 5,000 CFA francs exclusive of taxes (just under €8) and 41,000 CFA francs exclusive of taxes (€63).**

The network also supplies electricity for street lighting (75 illuminated points) and a small area for craftsmen.

It is planned to broaden the programme's reach to new villages, in conjunction with the newly created Malian Agency for the Development of Rural Electricity (AMADER), which benefits from considerable financial backing from the World Bank.

**For more information**

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

[www.total.com/fr/](http://www.total.com/fr/)

## **PADY, the programme to support development in Yelimane**

The PADY programme was developed on the initiative of the city of Montreuil, whose Deputy Mayor is Mr Jean-Pierre Brard. It is a programme concerning the *cercle* of Yelimane (Kayes region, West Mali). This *cercle* (the administrative equivalent to a French *arrondissement*) has a surface area of 5,800 km<sup>2</sup> and includes 34 villages in 21 municipalities, for a total population of 168,000 inhabitants. The climate is very dry and the *cercle* has a major cereal shortage; a large part of the population is living in precarious conditions bordering on poverty. The migrants' remittances (nearly 10,000 of the 15,000 of whom are living in Montreuil) are greatly contributing to the families' livelihoods. Yet the region is irrigated by the Senegal River and the land is potentially very rich on account of fertile alluvial deposits.

The city of Montreuil has conducted longstanding active cooperation with Yelimane. PADY is a new and ambitious programme. It intends to take all of the region's needs into account. It targets first and foremost water control and irrigation development, in addition to the promotion of rice farming and the introduction of new income-generating activities. But it also aims to provide technical capacity building for both the different populations (village associations) and municipalities.

The estimated cost for the programme stands at some €10 million (nearly 7 billion CFA francs). Yelimane citizens in France provide a portion of the funding (which justifies the programme's being considered as a co-development programme). The city of Montreuil participates, and other partners are sought to provide additional funding. The Ministry of Cooperation and multilateral organisations in particular will be asked to provide additional funding on a project by project basis.

One of the most original aspects of the programme is the fact that many partners are collaborating on it: the French municipality of Montreuil, the Malian municipality of Yelimane along with neighbouring municipalities, the Malian community in Montreuil, most likely the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and also the FAO, which provides technical support. A third country, Vietnam, is participating within the framework of a cooperation agreement between Mali, Vietnam, the FAO, Montreuil and the Hai Duong province in Vietnam providing two experts and five technicians (water control, rice farming).

This South-South dimension is clearly one of the most innovative characteristics of the PADY programme.

**For more information**

[http://www.montreuil93.net/ville\\_pratique/solidarite/cooper.htm](http://www.montreuil93.net/ville_pratique/solidarite/cooper.htm)

## **Co-development abroad**

### ***Mexico: The Tres por uno (Three for one) programme***

#### **🇲🇽 Overview 🇲🇽**

In 1986, the newly elected governor of the Mexican State Zacatecas decided to travel to Los Angeles to meet the migrant workers from Zacatecas living in California. This invitation gave rise to a programme with two objectives: Supporting associations of Zacatecanos (natives of Zacatecas) living in California and the funding of local development projects in Zacatecas in the regions of origin of those concerned.

Zacateca authorities and *Zatecanos*' associations in California worked together to choose the projects that were to be funded. The State committed to matching each peso contributed by the migrants to the funding of the programme, which is why the programme is called ***Dos por uno (Two for one)***.

In 1992, the federal government of Mexico decided to join the programme, matching each peso contributed by the native of *Zacatecanos* living in the United States. Thus, the programme became ***Tres por uno (Three for one)***.

## ■ ■ Implementation of the programme ■ ■

To implement the programme, the cooperation structures for the State of Zacatecas and the migrant communities were put into place and several mayors from Zacatecas visited the United States to propose projects to the *Zacatecanos* living there. The State of Zacateca also created a ministerial post for the regional government to which a migrant who returned from the United States was appointed. His job entails supervising the region's relationship with communities abroad. The programme also financed projects to help *Zacatecanos* living in the United States to assemble and to train activists in associations that they formed. But there are some that criticise *Tres por uno*, accusing it of being an instrument at the service of the political party in power whose aim is to enhance its influence in emigration circles.

## ■ ■ Programme results ■ ■

The programme has financed dozens of very diverse projects: urban planning, water supply systems, renovating churches, asphaltting roads, installing street lighting, renovating schools, etc.

The projects has helped improve the quality of life of the those living in these regions and to alleviate poverty.

The programme has also helped transfer knowledge that *Zacatecanos* living in the United States have acquired to those still living in Mexico. Strong ties between migrants' communities and the University of Zacatecas have furthered this transfer of knowledge and experiences, facilitated the success of certain projects thanks to technical advice given by academics, and reinforced the training of activists in associations. By urging more and more Mexicans to assemble in associations, training their activists, and giving them the opportunity to exchange their experiences, the programme has finally had effects on daily life of those concerned in their host country. They have at times obtained pay rises, more favourable working conditions and better career advancement from their American employers.

**However, there is one important objective that has not been achieved:** the economic development of their regions of origin. Although the projects conducted have improved people's quality of life, few have created wealth directly (save in the field of construction and civil engineering), and very little endogenous development process has been detected.

**It should be noted however that the programme has also helped finance an embryonic network of distributors for products made in Zacatecas.**

**For more information**

<http://www.zacatecas-capital.gob.mx/index.htm>



## The co-development team



**Christian  
CONNAN**

Assistant in German language studies at the universities in Brest and Rennes (1974-1980)

### Ambassador Delegate for Co-development

58 years old, married with three children

#### Education:

Graduate of the *Ecole Normale Supérieure* (a prestigious French university to prepare for careers in general and technological teaching or basic and applied research) in Saint Cloud (1968-1972)

Graduate of the French National School of Public Administration (1980-1982)

Highest teaching certification in German

Doctor in post graduate studies in German Literature

Associate's degree in Law

#### University work experience:

Lecturer of French language studies at the University of Regensburg (1968-1969)

#### Diplomatic work experience:

Desk Officer at the Legal Directorate

Deputy Diplomatic Counsellor at the Ministry of Defence

Diplomatic Counsellor of the Chief of Defence Staff

Auswaertiges Amt (exchange of diplomats),

Cultural Counsellor in Bonn

Head of the Office of the Minister Delegate for Cooperation and Francophony

Head of the Berlin Office at the Embassy of France in Germany

Deputy to the Head of the Office of the Minister Delegate for Cooperation and Francophony

Ambassador of France in Mali

Since December 2002

Ambassador Delegate for Co-development



**Colette  
METAYER**

### Special Assistant to the Ambassador Delegate for Co-development

63 years old, married with two children

#### Education

Master's degree in Law

Post-graduate diploma in Public Law in 1971 (*DESS*)

#### Work experience:

Public Treasury in Algiers (1958-1960)

Centre Director in the Youth Training Department in Algiers (1960-1962)

Special Assistant at the Association for the Training of African and Malagasy Workers living in France (1962-1965)

#### From 1974 to present:

Special Assistant at the Ministry of Cooperation (then at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after the two ministries merged in 1998)

Special Assistant for administrative cooperation police and judicial cooperation, human rights, good governance, decentralisation, and urban development

Director of the Department of Non-governmental Cooperation

Cooperation with NGOs and decentralised cooperation (relations with consultation bodies, volunteer associations, and the NGO Liaison Committee to the European Union Commission)

#### Since September 2003

Special Assistant for the Ambassador Delegate for Co-development



**Anne SUARD**

Successful candidate in the Foreign Affairs competitive entrance examination in 1982

### Special Assistant to the Ambassador Delegate for Co-development

45 years old, married with five children

#### Education:

Bordeaux Institute of Political Studies – Public Service Section (1997-1980)  
Bachelor's degree in Law (1981)

Posted to the Embassy of France in Djibouti,

Desk Officer in the African and Indian Ocean Directorate

Leave of absence

Since September 2004:

Special Assistant for the Ambassador Delegate for Co-development



**Marie-Laure  
PETROT**

### Secretary to the Ambassador Delegate for Co-development

37 years old, single

#### Education:

Certificate of Proficiency in English, University of Cambridge (1988)

Bachelor's degree in Applied Modern Languages – English/Spanish (1991)

Vocational competency certificate in Banking (1994)

#### Work experience:

Administrative officer in the *Société Générale* Group (1992 – 2003), International relations department

Financial and cost-benefit analyses department

International monetary bonds department

Successful candidate in the Foreign Affairs competitive entrance examination in 2003

#### Since January 2004

Administrative assistant to the Ambassador Delegate for Co-development

#### CONTACT

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