

International symposium

# CHALLENGES OF RAW MATERIALS TRADE

Europe - Latin America - the Caribbean



Agence française de développement  
3 place Louis Armand, Paris

May 25<sup>th</sup>  
and 26<sup>th</sup> 2023



# **IdA-EULAC-MEAE-AFD 2023 Symposium**

## **CHALLENGES OF RAW MATERIALS TRADE Europe - Latin America, the Caribbean**

**May 25 and 26, 2023**

**Scientific coordination**

**Yvanne Bouvet (University of Bretagne Occidentale)**

**Audrey Sérandour (University of Haute-Alsace, CRESAT, PRODIG)**

In a context of increasing demand for resources, concerns about the finiteness of reserves and the desire for a socio-ecological transition, European countries are rediscovering the issues related to non-renewable raw materials (ores, hydrocarbons, sand, etc.) at the beginning of the 21st century. States are increasingly classifying minerals as critical or strategic and investors are seeking to secure their supplies. This reminds us of the extent to which transition scenarios are based above all on physical, material and localized realities. The regions of production, transformation and consumption are rarely the same; and the flows of raw materials, particularly energy, show that there are always relations of domination between these regions.

Latin America and the Caribbean are among the areas where important deposits of raw materials are located. The exploitation of these resources has structured an economic and socio-political system, established in colonial times, which has been consolidated over the centuries to become - in the context of contemporary globalization - dependent on the export of these resources and the world market. While transnational companies play a key role in the Latin American extractive industry today, a number of states are seeking to assert their participation and control over this sector, as mining activities are an important source of short-term revenue that can be used to support public policies in health, education, housing, etc.

On the other side of the Atlantic, Europe has above all been one of the areas of consumption of raw materials, which has largely shaped the historical relations forged with Latin America and the Caribbean. It is also one of the regions of the world where the injunctions to the energy transition are asserting themselves today, mobilizing an ever greater diversity of minerals. As an import zone for part of Latin American mining production, Europe and European actors - whether institutions such as the European Union or private investors - have a role to play in the development logic of the Latin American mining sector, particularly through the implementation of socio-environmental and technical standards. From one continent to another, raw materials are always an economic and political issue, but also an environmental and social one. How can we reconcile the need for a growing diversity of raw materials, which is leading to the advance of extractive fronts, with the imperatives of environmental protection and respect for social rights, but also the expectations of local actors in terms of economic benefits? What development and governance models can be set up around the exploitation of

resources? Is it possible to build regional and bi-regional cooperation, when at the national level the debate crystallizes around the issues of energy sovereignty or sovereignty over deposits? And, more broadly, how can we overcome the asymmetry of relations between the countries that supply raw materials and the countries that invest in, purchase and then transform these products?

At the crossroads between continents, public actors and private investors alike are deploying strategies to control the value chains of raw materials. In order to break their dependence on exports of raw materials, Latin American and Caribbean countries are focusing on the industrialization of resources: manufacturing batteries, rather than selling lithium carbonate, for example. However, the continent's long history of productive specialization results in a lack of human resources, whose training takes time and requires investment, whether public or private. For their part, to ensure their resource needs for the ecological transition, European countries are multiplying mining recovery plans. This response to a sense of urgency is, however, constrained by the temporality of such projects, as well as by the emergence of local criticisms and protests, which are often themselves driven by environmental arguments.

Finally, the strategic issues surrounding raw materials raise the question of the scale at which to think about the exploitation and regulation of resources, as well as the future of post-mining spaces, in a context of socio-ecological transition. They also raise the question of the temporality of these concerns.

## May 25th

### Welcome desk

10h30-11h

### Opening session

11h-11h45

- **Françoise MOULIN-CIVIL**, President, Institut des Amériques
- **Philippe ORLIANGE**, Executive Director of Geographies, Agence française de développement
- **Adrián BONILLA**, Executive Director, EU-LAC Foundation
- **Philippe BASTELICA**, Secretary General of the Latin America and Caribbean weeks, French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
- **Yvonne BOUVET** and **Audrey SERANDOUR**, Scientific coordinators of the event

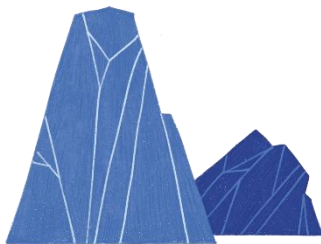
### Inaugural conference

11h45-12h30

- **Sébastien TREYER**, Director, Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales

### Lunchtime cocktail

12h30-14h





## Round Table 1 - Reconciling the need for raw materials with the desire to preserve the environment

14h-15h45

The energy transition model that the European states want to implement aims to limit the use of carbon-based resources, while allowing for environmentally friendly use. Can this new model bring mining out of the predatory impasse in which it has grown? While the extraction of non-renewable resources carries with it the unsustainability of its exploitation, its environmental impact is expected to be contained. Through what mechanisms of compensation and regeneration do industrial and state actors seek to mitigate the social impacts as well as the losses of biodiversity and ecosystems caused by the intensification of extractive activities? Is it possible to internalize the environmental and social costs of exploitation in the value of raw materials? Limiting environmental damage and improving the living conditions of local populations may allow us to consider the role and cost of raw materials differently, by taking into account the value of the natural and social environments that will be affected by extraction. Beyond the question of the impact on the environment, the energy-intensive nature of the extractive industry raises the question of its impact on the climate and, consequently, of how to reconcile it with international commitments in terms of greenhouse gas emissions.

Moderator : **Mathilde ALLAIN**, Lecturer in Political Science at the IHEAL and Researcher at CREDA

Speakers :

- **Maristella SVAMPA**, Senior Researcher at Conicet-Argentina, Member of the Ecosocial and Intercultural Pact of the South
- **Pia MARCHEGANI**, Director of Environmental Policy at the Environment and Natural Resources Foundation (FARN); Associate Researcher at the Global Studies Program of Flacso-Argentina.
- **Solène REY-COQUAIS**, PhD in geography from the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, researcher associated with the UMR Prodig and lecturer at the Ecole normale supérieure (Paris)
- **Nicolas LECONTE**, Critical raw materials and energy transition policy officer, Economic Diplomacy Directorate, French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs



May 26th

## Round Table 2 - Thinking about a "just transition" from one end of the supply chain to the other: raw materials, jobs and social protection

14h-15h45

The so-called "just transition" promises to overcome the relationship of domination between producer states and consumer and prescriber states, marked by a division of labor and income. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the creation of skilled jobs can be a way out of the logic of transferring skills, for example. It can be done by relying on technical and higher education, involving researchers and industrial development, whether in the public or private sectors. Could the valorization of raw materials contribute to the emergence of a new generation of extraction and transformation industries in Latin America, reducing the existing negative socio-economic impacts? Beyond the improvement of the living standards of the populations located in these extractive areas, can European investors take the lead in the implementation of worker protection, along with the guarantee of labor rights? These changes must be made with the actors concerned and in a progressive and inclusive social dialogue. The differences in living standards between the North and the South complicate the social and moral acceptability of the raw materials used for the energy transition. However, respect for human values is at the heart of the concept of sustainability through the environmental, economic and social prisms. In Europe, in the countries that consume raw materials, how are these issues of worker protection integrated into business practices and policies promoting this so-called just transition?

Moderator: **Claude LE GOUILL**, Researcher at IRD-SENS. UMR SENS (IRD / Cirad / Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3)

### Speakers:

- **Froukje BOELE**, Head of Public Policy and Regional Programmes at the OECD Centre for Responsible Business Conduct
- **Gilles RECOCHE**, VP Responsibility, Commitments & Communication, Orano
- **Kim AUMONIER**, Capacity Building Project Officer, SHERPA
- **Fernando ANDRADE HENAO**, Regional Climate Change Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations Development Programme







### Round Table 3 - Integrating value chains and imagining (bi-) regional cooperations: what geopolitics for raw materials?

16h-17h45

States and private investors do not share the same scales of analysis for the implementation of the exploitation of raw materials. While natural capital is built over geological time, the exploitation of resources is much more recent and current demand is accelerating the pace of their development. Raw materials are sought after everywhere, on land and under the sea, shifting borders, generating struggles for influence and searches for diplomatic alliances. In the context of this geopolitics of raw materials, how can we envisage stronger cooperation between Europe and Latin America that could lead to energy autonomy for each of these regions? Can the integration of value chains contribute to strengthening this cooperation? Through a balancing of value chains, the possibility of distancing other actors who are just as ambitious in valuing raw materials, such as China or the United States of America, also takes shape. In this political geography of resources, what characteristics of European demand - whether in terms of consumption standards or for material reasons - may lead Latin America and the Caribbean to privilege its relations with Europe, rather than with the US or China?

South American states are asserting their national sovereignty over their resources, wanting to control their exploitation and the economic, social and environmental repercussions, whether positive or negative. In the transition phase of the early 21st century, a number of states must also deal with the need to think about continuity with the current conventional matrix, particularly for countries whose economies are based on hydrocarbons (Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, etc.). At the same time, by ensuring an energy transition for their economies and their citizens, European states are seeking to maintain international leadership. Europe also wants to be a model and an actor in the changes underway in the face of current global upheavals, which includes supporting the economic, technical and social opportunities and spin-offs of the exploitation of raw materials.

Moderator : **Raphaël DANINO-PERRAUD**, Research associate, Institut français des relations internationales

Speakers :

- **Eduardo GUDYNAS**, Researcher, Centro latinoamericano de ecología social (CLAES) [remote participation]
- **Natascha NUNES DA CUNHA**, Lead Mining Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- **Corina HEBESTREIT**, Director European Carbon and Graphite Association
- **Mouna TATOU-BRETON**, Deputy Head of Office, Bureau of Mineral Resources Policy, Ministries of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion, Energy Transition and Sea.

**Closing remarks by the scientific coordinators**

17h45-18h15

## Scientific coordination



**Yvanne BOUVET, Lecturer and researcher in Geography at the Université de Bretagne occidentale**

Yvanne Bouvet is a researcher in Geography at the Université de Bretagne occidentale (France), at the Center for Breton and Celtic Research (EA4451/UMS3554), and member of the Institute of the Americas in Brest. Her research and teaching focus on two themes in particular, maritime activities and the exploitation of living marine resources, and the understanding of Latin American spaces with a focus on Argentina. Through these two fields she questions the environments, the actors and the scalar and temporal dynamics that build territories through the exploitation of an ecosystem by societies.

**Audrey SÉRANDOUR, PhD in geography from the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and post-doctoral fellow at the University of Haute-Alsace**

Audrey Sérandour holds a PhD in geography from the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and is currently a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Haute-Alsace (France), at the CRESAT (UR3436). Her research focuses on the political geography of resources and energy. After completing a thesis on the exploitation of South American lithium (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile), her post-doctorate now leads her to focus on the territoriality of nuclear energy (United States and United Kingdom).



## Keynote speaker



**Sébastien TREYER, Director, 'Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales (Iddri)**

Sébastien Treyer has been Director General of IDDRI since January 2019 (he had joined the institute in 2010 as Director of Programs), also Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) and member of the Lead Faculty of the Earth System Governance network. A former student of the École Polytechnique, Chief Engineer of Bridges, Water and Forests, and Doctor of Environmental Management, he was in charge of foresight at the French Ministry of the Environment, and notably coordinated the foresight exercise Agrimonde (How to feed the planet in 2050?). He has played an active role in facilitating the interface between science and policy and in scientific programming for the European Commission, the French National Research Agency, and local stakeholders such as the Seine Normandy Water Agency.



## Moderators



**Mathilde ALLAIN, Lecturer in political science, IHEAL, researcher in CREDA**

Mathilde Allain is a lecturer in political science at the Institut des hautes études de l'Amérique latine (IHEAL), Sorbonne Nouvelle and researcher at the Center for Research and Documentation on the Americas (CREDA) (France). Her research focuses on the transformation of rural worlds in the South, socio-environmental conflicts and the politics of natural resource extraction.

**Claude LE GOUILL, Researcher at IRD-SENS. UMR SENS (IRD / Cirad / Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3)**

After a sociology thesis on identity and political conflicts in the Bolivian Andes (IHEAL/CREDA), Claude Le Gouill became interested in the mining issue from the North to the South of the Americas (United States, Peru, Bolivia) in order to study the extractive logics in a historical, global and comparative perspective. Recruited at the IRD in 2021, his research focuses on the case of mining cooperatives in Bolivia, from a socio-anthropological and economic perspective, to study models of self-management of mining resources and their social and environmental repercussions.



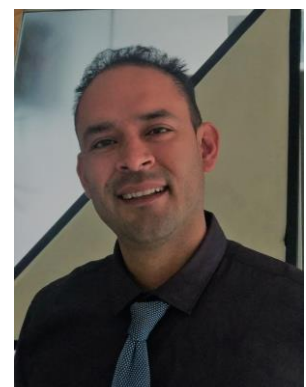
**Raphael DANINO-PERRAUD, Associate researcher, Institut français des relations internationales**

Raphael Danino-Perraud holds a degree in International Relations from Sciences-Po Lyon and a PhD in resource economics. A member of the Groupe Recherches-Ressources, he is also an associate researcher at IFRI and a lecturer at Centrale Supélec and at the Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées.

## Speakers

**Fernando Raul ANDRADE HENAO, Regional Climate Change Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP**

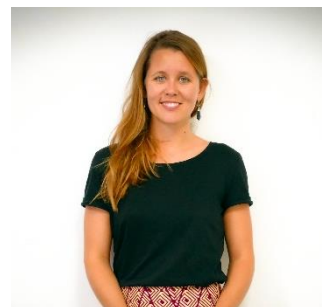
Fernando is a passionate specialist in climate change with wide experience in project management and broad knowledge in strategic planning, climate policies, energy systems, gender mainstreaming, mitigation and adaptation strategies, private sector engagement and climate finance. He first joined UNDP in 2016 as a specialist in project management and climate financing for the ONUREDD Targeted Support program. He has also been Country Programme Manager for the NDC Support Programme and the Biodiversity Finance Initiative



BIOFIN in Ecuador, and Senior Regional Advisor in Governance and Climate Finance for the EUROCLIMA+ programme. Fernando holds a Master's degree in Energy Systems from the University of Melbourne, Australia.

**Kim AUMONIER, Capacity Building Project Officer, SHERPA**

Kim Aumonier holds a degree in Political Science and Economics from the University of Paris I - Panthéon-Sorbonne and a degree from the Institut des hautes études de l'Amérique latine (IHEAL - University of Paris III - Sorbonne Nouvelle). She first worked on the issue of transitional justice in Latin America. She then coordinated international solidarity and accompaniment and protection organizations for victims of economic crimes and other human rights violations in France and Latin America, before carrying out a mission as a Protection Officer in South Sudan. She joined Sherpa in 2021, where she is in charge of a capacity building project co-constructed with French and West African civil society organizations.



**Froukje BOELE, Head of Public Policy and Regional Programmes at the OECD Centre for Responsible Business Conduct**

Froukje Boele is Head of Public Policy and Regional Programmes at the OECD Centre for Responsible Business Conduct. In this capacity she works with governments, business and civil society to implement the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and related due diligence guidance instruments across Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Africa. She also oversees the Centre's work on government policies to promote and enable responsible business conduct, notably on public procurement.

Before joining the OECD in 2013, she worked eight years for the International Labour Organisation. She was a legal officer monitoring the application of the international forced and child labour Conventions and previously a research officer on the fundamental principles and rights at work. Ms. Boele holds a Master's Degree in International Law with a minor in Economics from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

**Eduardo GUDYNAS, Researcher, Latin American Center for Social Ecology (remote participation)**

Researcher at the Latin American Center for Social Ecology (CLAES). For more than three decades he has been following the issues of development, environment and social movements in Latin America. He was the first Latin American to receive the Arne Naess Chair in Environment and Global Justice at the University of Oslo (Norway), and more recently was Research Fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies of the University of Munich (Germany) and participant in the commission on the transformation of the economy of the Club of Rome. He holds a Master's degree in social ecology and collaborates with South American citizen organizations. His latest books are on extractivisms and rights of Nature, with editions in Ecuador, and also in Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia and Peru; his most recent book is Extractivisms, published by Fernwood in Canada.







**Dr. Corina HEBESTREIT, Secretary General of European Carbon and Graphite Association**

Following her PhD in English and additional studies in law and business administration, Mrs Hebestreit worked for 8 years for the European Aluminium Association for communication, EHS and marketing. Then she became the EHS manager for Eurometaux (non-ferrous metals) and in 1997 she took over Euromines as the director of the organisation for 22 years. In 2000 she additionally became the Secretary General of the European Carbon and Graphite Association which she has been heading since. From 2001 onwards she also became Secretary General of the International Barytes Association. At the end of 2020 she left Euromines and The Barytes Association and since then has been heading the European Carbon and Graphite Association as Secretary General fulltime.

**Nicolas LECONTE, Critical raw materials and energy transition policy officer, Economic Diplomacy Directorate, French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs**

**Pia MARCHEGANI, Director of Environmental Policy at the Environment and Natural Resources Foundation (FARN); Associate Researcher at the Global Studies Program of Flacso-Argentina.**

Law Degree (University of Buenos Aires); MA in Social Sciences "Global Studies Programme" (joint degree from the University of Freiburg, Germany and University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa); Phd candidate (FLACSO Argentina). Environmental Policy Director at Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN) in which she works to enforce the rights of communities in extractive activities context; she lectures at Flacso-Argentina and at the Environmental Law Legal Clinic (jointly conducted by FARN and the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires). Her research interests are environmental law and policy, environmental governance, development and the environment. She is finalizing her doctoral thesis on environment and development in lithium mining in Argentina, Bolivia and Chile

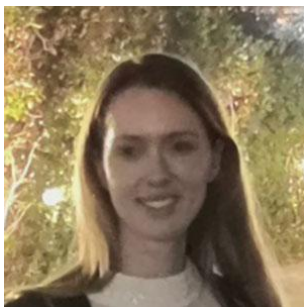


**Natascha Nunes da Cunha, Lead Mining Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**

Natascha Nunes da Cunha, a Brazilian national, is Lead Mining Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), where she coordinates multidisciplinary efforts to provide technical and financial assistance to support better natural resource governance in Latin America and the Caribbean. With almost 20 years of professional experience, she has specialized in issues management, stakeholder engagement and sociopolitical risk analysis, focusing on the relation between mining and sustainable development. Prior to joining the IDB in 2016, Natascha was Corporate Affairs manager at Vale, one of the world's top mining companies. She holds an undergraduate degree in International Relations and a Master's degree in International Political Economy, both from the London School of Economics (LSE).

**Gilles RECOCHÉ, Director of Responsibility, Engagement and Communication at Orano Mining**

Born in France in 1959, Gilles Recoche holds a PhD in Metallogeny (1989) and a Master's degree from the Ecole des Mines de Paris in Environmental Engineering and Management (2002). Gilles Recoche started his career at the French Geological Survey (BRGM) in 1983 where he held several positions as Exploration Project Manager in Africa, Middle East, South America and also as Expert Manager of R&D Programs on Rehabilitation, Mining Environment and Sustainable Development. Gilles RECOCHÉ joined the Orano Group in 2008, within the Mining BU. He successively held the positions of CEO of Jordan AREVA Resources in Jordan, CEO of AREVA Gabon and COMUF in Gabon, International Director of Post-Mining in Bessines, France, and Director of Environment, Health, Safety, Responsibility and Rehabilitation in Paris.



**Solène REY-COQUAIS, PhD in geography from the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, researcher associate UMR Prodig, lecturer at the Ecole normale supérieure (Paris)**

She has completed a PhD thesis on the social and environmental regulation of extractive activities in Andean territories (Chile-Peru). Her research focuses on the territorial application and production, at different scales, of norms that frame mining projects in the field of environmental protection and community relations.

**Maristella SVAMPA, Senior Researcher at Conicet-Argentina, Member of the Ecosocial and Intercultural Pact of the South**

She studied Philosophy at the National University of Córdoba, specialised in History and Philosophy in France, she received her PhD in Sociology from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) in Paris. She is currently a Senior Researcher at the Conicet, based at the Centre for Documentation and Research on Left-wing Culture (CeDinCi), and Professor at the Universidad Nacional de La Plata. Her books and research address the socio-ecological crisis, social movements and collective action, as well as issues related to critical thinking and Latin American social theory. He has published some twenty books, including essays, research and novels. His latest books are "The ecological collapse is here", El colapso ecológico ya llegó. "A compass to get out of (mis)Development" Una brújula para salir del (mal)desarrollo (with Enrique Viale, 2020) and "The Energy Transition in Argentina", La Transición energética en Argentina (co-editor, 2022). She is a member of CAJE Action Collective for Eco-social Justice, (Colectivo de Acción por la Justicia Ecosocial), and a promoter of the Ecosocial and Intercultural Pact of the South. In 2022 she held the Simón Bolívar Chair at the University of Cambridge, and in 2023, the Speier Chair at the New School of Social Research (NY-USA).







**Mouna TATOU, Assistant to the Head of the Mineral Resources Policy Office, Ministry of Ecological Transition**

Mouna TATOU-BRETON is in charge of the security and sustainability of mineral resources supply unit at the Ministry of Energy Transition. She was interested in materials during her doctorate before working on the valorization of research at the Institut Mines-Télécom. She then joined the Ministry of Economy as a project manager in the materials office. After a period at the Directorate of Energy and Climate, she joined the office of mineral resources policy at the Directorate General for Housing

and Nature.

## Publication from the 2022 symposium "Education, digital, social cohesion and public policies"



Overall, 2020 and 2021 were irrevocably marked by the closure of educational institutions, to different extents, to limit the spread of Covid-19. In the schools, universities, professional and economic spheres, all-digital technology has been largely imposed, without transition, with its successes and failures. This episode, which has led to an unprecedented digitalisation of societies, will mark a technological milestone.

The time has come to take stock of the situation in order to transform yesterday's difficulties into tomorrow's opportunities. Faced with this challenge, the Institut des Amériques, the EU-LAC Foundation and the Agence française de développement intend to contribute to the comparative, transamerican and transdisciplinary reflections through their annual symposium.

At the educational and academic level, the acceleration of distance learning in both Europe and Latin America has indeed led to a renewal of opportunities for scientific

cooperation and the partnership development between institutions in both regions. More generally, the widespread use of online webinars, symposiums and events organisation suggests new dynamics of collaboration, dialogue and scientific exchange between Europe and Latin America. In the future, digital technology seems to be an unavoidable way to strengthen the links between the two regions. However, although digitalisation represents an undeniable tool of influence, it cannot be efficient without jointly considering the reduction of fractures, new methods of regulation and evaluation, and economic positioning in a highly competitive world.

In this context, the debates held during the symposium and presented in this book open up paths to understanding both the content of the global questions and issues that digital education presents today and their practical application in the field.

[Read the 2022 publication](#)





## **IdA-EULAC-MEAE-AFD Symposium**

This annual symposium is organised by the Institut des Amériques, in collaboration with the Europe - Latin America and Caribbean Foundation (EU-LAC), the Agence française de développement (AFD) and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) in the framework of the Latin America and Caribbean Weeks.

The symposium "Challenges of Raw Materials Trade. Europe - Latin America, the Caribbean" marks the twelfth edition of this event and has been organized with the support of Virginie Aron, Luis Miguel Camargo, Eloisa Ocando Thomas.

Creation of the visual identity of the symposium : Ambre Verschæve

The Institute des Amériques, the EU-LAC Foundation, the Agence française de développement and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs would like to thank all those involved in the organization and the successful organization of this international symposium.



**May 25th and 26th 2023**

**Agence française de développement  
3 place Louis Armand, 75012 Paris**

**To find out more**

