

## GROWING ENGAGEMENT, PLACING THE MINISTRY AT THE FOREFRONT ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

2007 - Environment Action Plan

2008 - Systematisation of the defence equipment eco-design approach, initiated in 2003

2012 - Defence sustainability strategy (S3D, renewed in 2016) and Ministerial energy performance strategy (SMPE, renewed in 2020)

2015 - International conference of defence ministers and senior officials: "The implications of climate change for Defence"

2016 - Launch of the Defence and Climate Observatory

2020 - Defence energy strategy

2021 - Ministerial biodiversity conservation strategy through to 2030 and launch of the international "Climate Change and Armed Forces" initiative at the Paris Peace Forum

2022 - Climate & Defence Strategy

## KEY FIGURES



**275,000 HECTARES** of military real estate, including 200,000 hectares of listed and protected land



The world's second-largest exclusive economic zone (EEZ) – i.e. more than **11 MILLION KM<sup>2</sup>** – an immense reservoir of biodiversity monitored and protected by the French Naval Force



a **33% REDUCTION IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS** from infrastructure since 2010, and **A TARGET OF 50% BY 2030.**



# CLIMATE & DEFENCE STRATEGY

A MINISTRY AT THE FOREFRONT OF INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE



## AN INCREASE IN RISKS AND THREATS

The effects of climate change on the environment (rising temperatures and sea levels, increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, changing rainfall patterns) will have a growing impact on human security and the resilience of many states, thereby affecting international peace and security.

## A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH STRUCTURED AROUND FOUR FOCUS AREAS

As key stakeholders in peacekeeping and crisis management, the armed forces must anticipate the security and strategic consequences of climate change, adapt their operations and capacities, pursue their mitigation and energy transition efforts and step up interministerial and international cooperation.

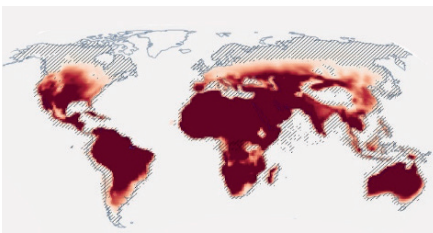
## 1. KNOWLEDGE AND ANTICIPATION

The French Ministry for the Armed Forces will prepare a map of climate risks at the national and international levels and will:

- Strengthen monitoring and research instruments;
- Collaborate with major scientific research institutes;
- Involve Ministry stakeholders contributing to anticipation (in mainland and overseas France and abroad);
- Intensify reflection on the issues relating to operations and capacities and on the risks for defence infrastructure.



The knowledge-anticipation function permeates the three other focus areas. In order to better anticipate the many implications of climate change for the strategic context and the armed forces' missions and capabilities, enhancement of the ministry's knowledge tools is vital.



Source : GIEC

Hot days above 35°C (average day/night) in a world at +3°C

## 2. ADAPTATION

**Seven areas of action:**

- Adapting to "extreme cold" and "extreme heat" theatres of operations
- Integrating climate change into the capacity-building process
- Adapting force employment doctrine, education and training
- Guaranteeing the resilience of defence infrastructure in France and abroad
- Integrating changes to the challenges of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, at interministerial level
- Adapting support for the armed forces
- Guaranteeing the armed forces' operational capacity in accordance with regulatory requirements



The French Ministry for the Armed Forces uses a lot of infrastructure and facilities located across 45 military logistics support sites in mainland France and 10 in overseas France and abroad.. The Ministry assesses their exposure to climate change and their resilience in order to guarantee their constant support for operations. France has the world's second-largest network of military bases and support points, located on all the continents and often in tropical or subtropical regions highly exposed to climate risks.

## 3. MITIGATION

For 20 years, the French Ministry for the Armed Forces has been developing a sustainability, eco-design and energy policy. These efforts will be pursued in order to:

- Reduce the fossil fuels consumed and the greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted by infrastructure
- Protect ecosystems on the Ministry's real estate and increase carbon sequestration capacities
- Scale up the eco-design approach in all armament operations carried out by the French defence procurement agency (DGA)
- Implement the defence energy strategy to control fossil fuel consumption and innovate to make the energy transition an operational asset



Hybrid armoured vehicles are being trialled with the production of a Griffon-based demonstrator by 2025, in order to consider scaling up for next-generation or standard armoured vehicles.

## 4. COOPERATION

Cooperation is essential to address the global challenge of climate change and must be implemented within the Ministry and at the interministerial and international levels by:

**Introducing ministerial governance and appointing a "Climate Delegate"**

**Reinforcing and broadening interministerial consultation**

**Stepping up international cooperation in the EU, NATO, and in regional fora**

The armed forces are regularly involved in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations on both national territory and abroad. This is the case in particular in the West Indies and in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, often in the context of international cooperation. Such assistance is vital, because climate change multiplies and intensifies extreme weather events.

