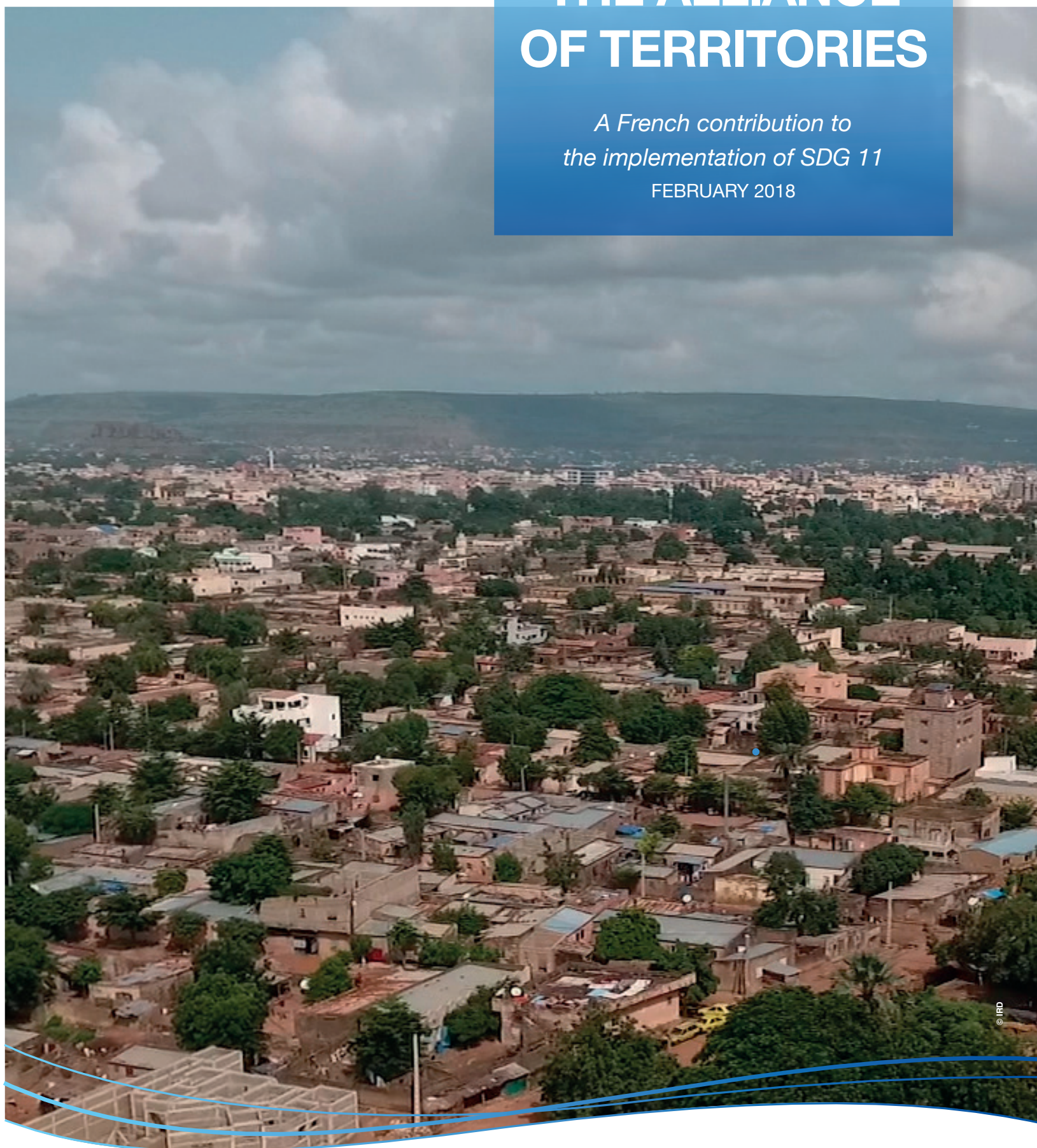


THE ALLIANCE OF TERRITORIES

*A French contribution to
the implementation of SDG 11*

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At WUF 9 in Kuala Lumpur, the French Alliance for Cities and Territorial Development releases a publication entitled : «The alliance of Territories : Strengthening solidarities between urban, periurban and rural areas and fostering inclusive and sustainable development».

This publication builds on the results of a working group set up end 2017 to explore how to reduce socio-spatial inequalities between urban and rural areas. It lays the foundation of further work to be done on redefining the principles and practices of territorial planning and development. Conceived as a contribution of France to the debate on the implementation of SDG 11, it proposes 8 recommendations to renew approaches in favour of more sustainable, integrated and inclusive territorial planning :

Recommendations

- 1) **Strengthening strategic urban planning practices at local level**
- 2) **Identifying inter-dependencies and complementarities to foster inter-territorial solidarities**
- 3) **Reinforcing intermediary and new cities networks to balance urban growth**
- 4) **Promoting land management and security as a lever for sustainable and inclusive territorial planning**
- 5) **Fostering environmental and climate-friendly approaches to urban planning**
- 6) **Integrating the principles of circular economy in territorial planning and development**
- 7) **Improving urban and peri-urban mobility as a lever to reduce socio-spatial inequalities and revitalise territories**
- 8) **Building capacities and territorial intelligence at local level**

Urban growth has profound consequences in rural areas, as well as in rural and peri-urban peripheries. Metropolises themselves are also impacted, faced with increasingly complex challenges (congestion, pollution, energy supply, poverty...). If massive urbanisation primarily concerns metropolises, it also impacts small and medium-sized towns as well as the countryside and disrupts our relationship to the territory and to “living together” conditions.

Metropolises, places of hyper-urbanity, play a role of important hubs, ensuring interconnection between various networks and flows. As a matter of fact, the increase in flows between territories reflects and feeds multiple interdependencies between territories, which could be turned into levers to rethink territorial planning by strengthening reciprocity relationships.

Dependencies between urban, peri-urban and rural areas are intrinsic to their development and decisive for their respective futures, articulating – depending on the specificities of each territory – access to various resources.

While the attractiveness of large urban areas is based on access to services, employment, markets for goods and services, emancipate urban lifestyles, the peri-urban and rural areas are providers of essential resources for the proper functioning and development of cities: supply of food, water and energy, land reserves, natural heritage and landscapes, etc. Hence, they play a regulatory role in the metropolitan densification. They can also be an integral part of the metropolitan dynamic through the development of economic hubs that fully contribute to this dynamic.

Deepening existing cooperation as well as developing new cooperation processes, appears today as the condition of a real “Alliance of the Territories,” making it possible to shift from the sole logic of redistribution or equalisation to a logic of reciprocity and “win-win” partnership at different scales.

English version of the publication available on the PFVT website : www.pfvt.fr/territoiresurbains

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- The International Urban Development Association– INTA
- The French Ministry for Territorial Cohesion
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