

2014
Activity Report



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Corporate Foundation

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CORPORATE FOUNDATION SERVING OUTREACH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The Veolia Foundation supports community-oriented, non-profit projects contributing to sustainable development, in France and abroad.

Its priority areas of action are humanitarian emergencies and development aid, employment and social links, and environmental conservation and biodiversity.

It takes an original approach by having each project supported by a Group employee acting as sponsor and by encouraging skills sponsorship, which gives its partners – non-profits and institutions – access to the know-how of its “Veoliaforce” network of employee volunteers.

Since its creation in 2004, the Foundation has supported more than 1,350 projects and carried out more than 150 skills volunteering missions.

OUTREACH, INNOVATION AND SHARING...



Antoine Frérot
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Veolia
and Chairman of the Veolia Foundation

Our Foundation is firmly on the side of solutions: original – even unorthodox – solutions that are nonetheless effective, accessible and easy to replicate; solutions with a high impact, particularly when compared to the means implemented; transversal solutions, since these three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – are inextricably linked together.

As an “innovation sensor” for our Group, the Foundation also supports promising scientific programs, such as the Tara expedition that produced an audit of pollution by plastic waste in the Mediterranean – a chronic, insidious pollution for which no-one is prepared to accept responsibility and that is poisoning the marine environment.

Year after year, the Veolia Foundation humbly pursues its action – grounded in outreach, innovation and sharing – to facilitate access to basic services for all, promote local employment, defend a fragile natural environment and respond to the disasters that without warning devastate whole regions, wreaking havoc on everything in their path.

It does this by calling on the hundreds of Group volunteers who unstintingly give their time and their energy to bring people at risk of exclusion back into society, help the victims of floods, contain terrifying epidemics like Ebola and heal the wounds of an environment damaged by the modern world. It also calls on a network of varied and prestigious partners that facilitate and amplify its action.

Thanks to the inventiveness of its teams and the power of collective mobilization, it does extraordinary things with ordinary means. These dedicated and generous men and women contribute their skills, their hard work and their ingenuity, but also their refusal: refusal of a world where unemployment is the norm, refusal of the unholy marriage between pollution and the environment, refusal of pessimism.

While environmental tragedies and human misery are tenacious, the Foundation is even more so. With a mandate renewed for another five years in 2013, it can pursue its efforts on a sustainable basis. However modest they may seem compared to the infinite needs of humanity, its initiatives open up new avenues for action and restore confidence in the future. Undeniably, the Foundation embodies one form of 21st century optimism.

Like its partners, it does not claim victory – it prefers the humble lessons of real action. This report describes some of these actions – not all of them, but the most encouraging, the most symbolic, the most unusual. It also presents some of our volunteers. They work on the ground with enthusiasm and pragmatism, in the dark corners where the tragedies of our time unfold, far from the spotlights and easy successes. They work behind the scenes to build hope in the places where the world of tomorrow is being born.

“CO-BUILD INNOVATIVE, HIGH-IMPACT AND REPLICABLE MODELS”

For some years now, the Foundation has been refocusing its action on big, high-impact programs.

We have moved from a kind of “non-specific” philanthropy spread out over numerous small projects to an “impact” philanthropy that more directly capitalizes on our real added value: the skills of Veolia employees. Through our partnerships with large NGOs and foundations, we are carrying out ambitious programs with an international dimension. And, naturally, we also seek to measure the concrete impact of our actions.

A second major trend in 2014: the Foundation wants to play a role as innovator within Veolia

It is an “innovation sensor” that can identify new modes of cultural functioning or partners capable of bringing new projects into being. This approach to innovation consists of successive steps: formulate the idea, validate its feasibility, test it on the ground with a pilot project and, finally, roll it out on a broader scale. Today the Foundation is active in the first three phases – roll-out is the responsibility of the operations teams and partners.

Lastly, to act effectively, the Foundation co-builds innovative and replicable models with its partners.

Apart from our major historic alliances (the Red Cross, UNICEF and others), the Foundation recently signed three new partnership agreements: with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to respond more effectively to humanitarian emergencies; with Médecins Sans Frontières for research and innovation related to its activities and Veolia’s businesses (energy, potable water, sanitation, etc.); and with the consortium of players engaged in Education Above All to educate young people and build awareness of hygiene in refugee camps in northern Kenya.

The strategies developed by the Foundation are applied in its three areas of action. Some examples are given below.

In 2014, we continued to support large-scale development programs to improve urban hygiene.

Our vision is to roll out integrated, preventive and innovative approaches focusing on safe drinking water, since a purely medical response to emergencies such as epidemics, whether Ebola or cholera, is not enough. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, €10 million have been invested over the last five years by the “magic square” stakeholders (NGOs, public authorities, technical and scientific experts, and international lenders, including the AFD and the European Union) in water distribution infrastructure, health education and community mentoring. A study to assess its impact on local residents’ health is currently being conducted by the prestigious London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. The validity of the Foundation’s vision is recognized and indeed I have been asked by the World Health Organization (WHO) to lead a working group on prevention of cholera based on the WaSH parameters (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene).

On the environmental front, the Foundation supported the Tara Méditerranée expedition, a scientific program co-built with our partners, including the CNRS, the Prince Albert II Foundation, and the European Commission Environment Directorate. The aim was to conduct an in-depth study of plastic pollution in the Mediterranean and lead advocacy efforts. A number of awareness-building actions will be implemented in 2015, on this issue and on the theme of “Ocean and Climate”: the schooner *Tara* will be present in Paris for the COP 21 climate conference.



Thierry Vandeveldé
Executive Officer
of the Veolia Foundation

“The Foundation plays several roles: as a conduit for innovation, an operational partner, a source of expertise and a catalyst for major programs of action.”

To educate all types of public about biodiversity issues, the Foundation supported creation of a MOOC (massive open online course) with the Muséum national d’histoire naturelle (natural history museum) and the Ministry for Higher Education and Research. Veolia’s researchers were mobilized to produce some of the modules. Another innovative project that will have a powerful impact, since 10,000 people are expected to enroll in each of the two annual sessions.

Our involvement in the “Lulu dans ma rue” neighborhood concierge service is an example of the Foundation’s innovative approach, this time in the field of social links: it supported the feasibility study and then the pilot phase, starting in Paris in 2015. In one year, the project should be rolled out in other Paris districts and then in other French cities. “Lulu dans ma rue” is co-built by several players, including Emmaüs Défi and the Carrefour, Bel and PAI Partners foundations.

Looked at on an international scale, the Foundation is a financially modest structure but one that is rich in expertise. The big NGOs and foundations are in need of this know-how to implement their own programs. The Foundation plays several roles: as a conduit for innovation, an operational partner, a source of expertise and a catalyst for major programs of action.



DEVELOPMENT AID AND HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES

To live well, people need safe drinking water, food and energy. They also need adequate hygiene and access to healthcare to protect their health. The projects supported by the Foundation, its sponsors and Veoliaforce volunteers are designed to satisfy these basic needs, especially for the most vulnerable communities.

16
projects

10
missions

600
Veoliaforce
volunteers

DEVELOPMENT AID



SULABH Five new toilet complexes in Delhi

The Indian NGO Sulabh is building five toilet and shower complexes in Nangloi, a huge district in the west of New Delhi. The project brings multiple benefits: health, social, economic and cultural.

SULABH IN FIGURES

- ▶ 15 million people use Sulabh toilets every day.
- ▶ 1.3 million toilets installed in homes.
- ▶ 54 million public toilets.
- ▶ 640 cities have adopted Dr. Pathak's approach for restoring the dignity of scavengers.

- ▶ Sponsor: Patrice Francioni
- ▶ Grant: €150,000

VEOLIA WATER INDIA MANAGES NANGLOI'S WATER SERVICE

- ▶ Since 2012, this Veolia subsidiary has been managing the drinking water production and distribution infrastructure and the water service of Nangloi (1 million inhabitants).

SULABH COMMUNITY TOILET COMPLEXES

- ▶ 8,000 community toilet complexes have already been built by Sulabh in India, thanks to partnerships between local authorities, NGOs and the local population.

In 1970, Doctor of Sociology Bindeshwar Pathak founded the Indian NGO Sulabh International to improve the condition of the untouchables – the human scavengers who collect human excreta in a country where toilets were unknown. Dr. Pathak brought about a revolution in hygiene in India by inventing a toilet that required very little water: 1 to 1.15 liters per flush instead of 10 in conventional toilets. Development of this system enabled emancipation of the scavengers, while also preventing pollution and numerous diseases. Thanks to the health and social progress it brings, the system has been replicated in other countries (Bhutan, Afghanistan, the continent of Africa).

COMBATING POLLUTION OF GROUNDWATER IN NEW DELHI

Sulabh also builds complexes that provide bathing facilities as well as toilets. In return for a small fee to finance upkeep of the infrastructure, local people can use them 24 hours a day. Construction of five new complexes in Nangloi is about to start and should be completed in July 2015. They will provide local jobs, improve the health of residents and, since they are connected to mains sewage, will also help combat groundwater pollution in New Delhi. This project is an opportunity to develop a replicable business and social model with parallels to Veolia's business activities. The Nangloi team volunteered to participate in the feasibility study.



PROTECTING DIGNITY AND IMPROVING HEALTH

“Talking about toilets used to be taboo in India. In 1968, I talked to people about toilets around a cup of tea to convince them how important they were. Now, we are actively encouraging people to use toilets, both to protect their dignity and also to improve their health. Our current Prime Minister has decided to eradicate the practice of defecating in public by 2019. It proves that cultural change is possible! And the toilet complexes that will be built in Nangloi with the support of the Veolia Foundation are contributing to the disappearance of this problem in India. It is a source of bacillary dysentery, a disease that kills many children. The local water supply is contaminated and it too becomes a source of many diseases.

More than 250 people are involved in building the complexes in Nangloi.

Four people will be offered permanent jobs to manage and maintain them. The shower facilities are very popular, too popular even, because a lot of people have no home, either in Delhi or the surrounding shanty towns, and they have a great need of these showers. In future, we are going to try to supply drinking water as well in the complexes since that is also something people have great need of.”



Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak
Sociologist and founder of Sulabh International

DEVELOPMENT AID



EDS* • MALI

Water for Mali

The conflict in Mali led to a massive influx of refugees from the northern regions to the area around the capital, Bamako, where water supply had become a crucial problem. Faced with this emergency situation, the Ministry of Water and Energy asked the Foundation to help set up short-term solutions, including extension of the water supply system in Sikoro Farada installed by the Malian nonprofit EDS in 2013, followed this year by a second such system in the neighboring district of Banconi Dianguinébougu (110,000 inhabitants). The rehabilitation work carried out will improve the population's access to safe drinking water. Similar work is being done in Saraféré, a village of 6,000 inhabitants near Timbuktu, where the existing water installations have been upgraded with a solar-powered pumping system. In parallel, the issue of waste management is also being examined. The Foundation could provide support for the economic interest group responsible for pre-collection, in partnership with decentralized French cooperation structures already active in the field.

* Energy, water and environment in the Sahel.

- ▶ Location: Banconi Dianguinébougu and Saraféré
- ▶ Sponsor: Thierry Vandeveld
- ▶ Grants: €140,000 (access to water), €150,000 (waste management)

UNITAID • FRANCE

Support for a charity evening organized for the benefit of UNITAID at the Economic, Social and Environmental Council headquarters with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

- ▶ Location: Paris
- ▶ Sponsor: Dominique Héron
- ▶ Grant: €15,000

SECRÉTARIAT
INTERNATIONAL
DE L'EAU/PS-EAU • MALI

Support to produce "Blue Books", decision-making tools for local water and sanitation players and international technical and financial partners.

- ▶ Location: Mali
- ▶ Sponsor: Thierry Vandeveld
- ▶ Grant: €40,000

MADAGASCAR
CONSTRUCTION ET
PARTAGE • MADAGASCAR

Organization by Paris high-school students of humanitarian field trips to bush villages to build, rehabilitate and equip schools.

- ▶ Location: Ankazondandy, Ambiatibe and Ambohimanatrika
- ▶ Sponsor: Helman le Pas de Sécheval
- ▶ Grant: €5,000

EDS* • GUINEA-CONAKRY

Developing water networks in the Republic of Guinea

At the request of the Guinea-Conakry Ministry of Hydraulics and Energy, the Foundation agreed to provide advice and expertise to help employees of the National Water Service (SNAPE) design and manage projects for potable water supply systems in rural and semi-urban areas. Thanks to its support, a first system has already been installed in Damaro, in the Kérouane prefecture, in the east of the country, which will meet the needs of almost 7,000 inhabitants. Other priority projects are currently being studied. A training project for Guinean technical managers is also being formulated – it involves adapting the engineering modules used by Campus Veolia in design and management of potable water networks to the conditions found in developing countries. This training could be delivered with the help of Veoliaforce volunteers.

* Energy, water and environment in the Sahel.

- ▶ Location: Damaro
- ▶ Sponsor: Clément Petit
- ▶ Grant: €160,000



LES ENFANTS DU NDÉ • MODEAB* • CAMEROON

An innovative and sustainable management system

The MODEAB project, which aimed to improve access to water and sanitation for 200,000 inhabitants living in the rural part of the commune of Bangangté, was completed in 2014. After a pilot conducted in Bangoua with Les Enfants du Ndé (a non-profit created by the Cameroon diaspora in France), the MODEAB project has since 2010 mobilized high-level technical and financial partners such as AIMF, SIAAP and the Seine-Normandie water authority. The Foundation, which is providing technical expertise and also co-financing the project, led the program in all the villages concerned thanks to the many missions carried out by volunteers. In four years, with a budget of €1,360,000, it has rehabilitated seven drinking water networks and installed sanitation infrastructure for 15 ecological latrine blocks, ten in schools and five in markets. Over and above this substantial investment in rehabilitation and new infrastructure, MODEAB has sustainably strengthened the skills of local technical services and helped invent a management model suited to local conditions. This innovation in management systems was recognized by a United Nations award for provision of public services to the commune of Bangangté at the UN Public Service Forum in Seoul in June 2014. Lastly a national feedback and discussion symposium held in Bangangté in July brought together more than 250 participants, including 80 Cameroon mayors.

* Sustainable management of water and sanitation in Bangangté.

- ▶ Location: Bangangté, Western Province
- ▶ Sponsor: Richard Nana-Dwanang
- ▶ Grant: €26,000

LES AMIS DE LA TERRE • TOGO

Construction of a gravity-fed potable water system for some ten villages in the south-west of the country.

- ▶ Location: canton of Fiokpo
- ▶ Sponsor: Iyad Hallaq
- ▶ Grant: €10,000

ICIC* • FRANCE

Support for organization of the 5th Forum for international action by local authorities.

* Institute for international cooperation by local authorities.

- ▶ Location: Paris
- ▶ Sponsor: Thierry Vandeveld
- ▶ Grant: €5,000

LES ANGES DE L'EAU • MALI

Construction of a mini solar-powered potable water supply system in two rural schools in the Timbuktu region.

- ▶ Location: Korioumé and Tissinssak
- ▶ Sponsor: Raphaël Berdugo
- ▶ Grant: €45,000

DEVELOPMENT AID



EDUCATION ABOVE ALL • KENYA

Education even in difficult circumstances

In the north of Kenya, the Foundation is involved in a multi-partner program launched by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) in the Kakuma camp (set up in 1992). Today, it houses more than 114,000 people from South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Congo, half of whom are aged under 17. HCR, which sees education of refugee children as one of its priorities, is keen to create a reproducible model of schools that includes access to water and sanitation. The Foundation will be working on the sanitation and hygiene awareness aspect of the program by developing an innovative system of latrines and wastewater treatment that is inexpensive and easy to maintain in the particular conditions of a refugee camp. The project benefits from the support of the United Nations, the involvement of Her Highness Moza Bint Nasser, chairwoman of the Education Above All foundation and the Presidency of the Republic of Kenya. A first reconnaissance visit was made in 2014 and will be followed by field missions to ascertain the exact needs and design the infrastructure.

- Location: Kakuma
- Sponsor: Xavier Joseph
- Grant: €350,000

FONDS CROIX-ROUGE FRANÇAISE • SENEGAL

Research and ethical reflection in the humanitarian sphere to improve the effectiveness of aid.

- Location: Dakar
- Sponsor: Séverine Jacob
- Grant: €16,000

ADOS* • SENEGAL

Support to improve sanitary and environmental conditions in a rural commune in the north of the country.

* Ardèche Drôme Ourosogui Sénégal.

- Location: Agnam
- Sponsor: Dominique Héron
- Grant: €8,000

MSF* • CHAD AND FRANCE

Research and innovation in the humanitarian sphere

Already partner to the Foundation in the Democratic Republic of Congo and later Uganda and aware of the high-level technical skills possessed by Veolia, MSF asked the Foundation for research and innovation support around issues touching on its activities in the field, in areas closely related to the Group's business activities: energy, waste, sanitation and providing safe drinking water in emergency situations. In the priority field of energy, the goal was a dual one: to optimize energy management in MSF missions to make savings and reduce their energy footprint, but also reflect on the use of renewable energies, solar in particular, with the aim of increasing project autonomy. The first trial initiative: installation of photovoltaic panels for secure and autonomous supply of electricity to the MSF anti-malaria mission in Moïssala in Chad.

* Médecins Sans Frontières.

- Location: Moïssala and France
- Sponsor: Clément Petit
- Grant: €150,000

LES AMIS D'ANGKOR • CAMBODIA

Optimization of water management in the Angkor and Siem Reap region in Cambodia.

- Location: Siem Reap
- Sponsor: Bernard Willinger
- Grant: €10,000



LSHTM* • DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Impact study concerning the project to combat cholera in Uvira

The Foundation has been supporting the Congolese Health Ministry in its combat against cholera since 2007. It is active primarily in Uvira, Sud-Kivu, one of the main hotspots of the disease in the country, where it has been leading a project to improve access to water and hygiene. The project, financed by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the European Union and carried out in partnership with REGIDESO (Congolese water production and distribution agency), focuses primarily on substantial rehabilitation and infrastructure extension works for the potable water network. The Foundation and its partners asked the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) to assess the impact of this project over its entire duration.

The goal: to demonstrate that improving access to safe drinking water helps reduce the number of cases of cholera and diarrheal diseases by minimizing use of contaminated water resources and encouraging families to adopt good hygiene practices. Another socio-economic impact of interest is the reduction of time spent collecting water, leaving women free to develop income-generating activities and children to attend school.

This study is expected to provide scientific proof of the validity of the approach adopted by the Foundation and its partners in prevention of cholera. The protocol was defined in 2014; it will be structured around three methods of statistical analysis: a global study without sampling to observe the repercussions of the project over the long term; a spatialized study over the entire term of the project to reveal the effects of the different works phases in the different parts of Uvira; and, lastly, a qualitative study of changes in inhabitants' knowledge, attitudes and practices before, during and after the project.

* London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

- Location: Uvira
- Sponsor: Clément Petit
- Grant: €250,000

▶ **SKILLS VOLUNTEERING MISSIONS**
▶ **EMERGENCIES**



GUINEA-CONAKRY

Combating Ebola hemorrhagic fever in Guinea

The Foundation responded to a call from the French Red Cross to design and install a complex water distribution system in a new Ebola treatment center.

THE EBOLA TREATMENT CENTER IN MACENTA

- ▶ 60 beds.
- ▶ In the forested region of Guinea, which abuts Sierra Leone, Liberia and Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.
- ▶ Inaugurated on 14 November 2014 by Stéphane Manton, Managing Director of the French Red Cross, Annick Girardin, Minister of State for Development and Francophonie, and the Guinean Health Minister, Dr. Rémy Lamah.

At the request of the French government, the French Red Cross opened an Ebola treatment center in south-east Guinea in Macenta, one of the main hotspots of the epidemic. Construction of the center was supervised by Médecins Sans Frontières. The Red Cross asked the Veolia Foundation to design and install a water distribution system, an essential part of the logistics for the center.

A COMPLEX NETWORK FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHLORINATED WATER

Guillaume Cubizolles, operations unit manager, is also an experienced Veoliaforce volunteer. He left on a mission to install three chlorinated water networks operating in parallel, supplied by an existing well. Each network distributes water with a different chlorine concentration for specific uses: healthcare, cleaning and disinfection. In just three weeks, he managed the entire project including purchase of equipment, logistics, recruitment of Guinean nationals for the worksite and commissioning. The center welcomed its first patients in November 2014.

The Macenta Ebola treatment center is part of a global action plan to combat the epidemic. The Guinean government has set up a national coordination unit to fight Ebola alongside the different humanitarian organizations and civil society partners. Action is therefore concerted, with a well-defined distribution of roles.



“OUTSIDE MY COMFORT ZONE”

“My motivation? Make my skills available in situations outside my everyday life and my comfort zone. I attended the three-day training module to join Veoliaforce in 2008. I had barely got home when I was summoned to leave for China, where an earthquake had devastated the Chengdu region (Sichuan). We installed three Aquaforce 5000 water treatment units there. After the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, a first team set up two emergency Aquaforce 5000 units. I was part of the second team which installed a generator set and a huge reservoir, secured the emergency units and trained Haitian teams.

For my trip to Guinea in 2014, my managers were very understanding, as they had been for the previous missions. These experiences have really helped me put everyday situations of stress into context and take an objective stance. Obviously, you're a bit out of it when you get back – you have to readjust to everyday life. Working on a mission is very physical, you don't sleep much and you come back quite tired. But it's all-absorbing work, it boosts your self-confidence and at the same time you have to remain humble – you're adding your own small stone to a huge edifice...”



Guillaume Cubizolles
Operations unit manager based near Chambéry and Veoliaforce volunteer

► **SKILLS VOLUNTEERING MISSIONS**
EMERGENCIES



IRAQ

Supplying water for people fleeing the fighting

In June 2014, the humanitarian situation deteriorated sharply in northern Iraq, and particularly in the autonomous region of Kurdistan, with the advance of the terrorist group "Islamic State" leading to massive movements of people fleeing the combat zones. Faced with this emergency situation, France rapidly set up an airlift, dispatching almost 90 metric tons of humanitarian aid equipment, including 12.5 tons provided by the Foundation, for storage and distribution of potable water (reservoirs, water distribution ramps, etc.). Onsite, the equipment was recovered by the French Red Cross, an historic partner to the Foundation in humanitarian emergencies and present in Kurdistan to help the displaced populations. Over the next few months, several Veoliaforce volunteers carried out successive missions to assist the Red Cross teams with assembly and installation of the equipment, providing potable water for more than 50,000 people. Following on from this mobilization, on August 27 the Foundation and the French Foreign Affairs Ministry signed a partnership agreement, which structures more informal links already in place for several years. It allows the ministry's crisis center to take advantage of the equipment and expertise provided by companies like Veolia, whose contribution has become an important dimension of humanitarian aid.

► June through October 2014

SERBIA

Assessing the damage to rebuild

The floods that hit Bosnia and Serbia in the spring of 2014 affected over 1.5 million people and resulted in very serious damage. Numerous homes were destroyed, together with water and sanitation installations, roads, hospitals and schools. A UNICEF team carried out a mission to assess the damage in order to quantify reconstruction costs. It drafted a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) as a basis for soliciting funds from aid agencies. Veoliaforce volunteers intervened to support UNICEF with re-establishing water and sanitation infrastructure in 26 communes hit particularly hard by the flooding of the Danube, Sava and Morava rivers.

► June 2014



► **DEVELOPMENT**



UGANDA

Aquaforce 500 trialed by MSF in Uganda

Already partner to the Foundation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Médecins Sans Frontières requested its expertise for production and distribution of potable water in a humanitarian emergency situation. The NGO wanted to conduct field trials of Aquaforce 500, a mobile potable water production unit developed by the Foundation's teams with the support of VERI researchers. A first mission installed the equipment in South-Sudanese refugee camps on the northern border of Uganda in the Adjumani district. A Foundation engineer trained the MSF teams to install and use the equipment, which was then tested under real conditions, in different contexts and with different water sources. Aquaforce 500, a particularly light and mobile unit that can effectively treat different types of water, could be a valuable tool for MSF in supplying potable water to the hospitals and mobile clinics set up for emergency missions.

► May 2014

WATER CHLORINATION IN FREETOWN • SIERRA LEONE

Installation of a chlorination system in the Freetown distribution network, where Action Contre la Faim is conducting a program to improve the quality of water in vulnerable districts in the capital, regularly hit by cholera epidemics.

► January-February 2014

UPGRADING PUMPING INSTALLATIONS IN ALLADA • BENIN

Technical audit and upgrading of pumping systems in a semi-rural environment in Allada, in support of the NGO Graind.

► April 2014

SUPPLYING WATER TO 15,000 VILLAGERS IN FIOKPO • TOGO

Assessment and follow-up of works to finalize the potable water supply project set up by the non-profit Les Amis de la Terre in the rural canton of Fioikpo.

► June 2014



SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH WORK AND SOCIAL LINKS

Work provides dignity and independence and gives meaning to people's lives. The Foundation supports initiatives and structures helping people who have dropped out of mainstream society return to work: non-profits and enterprises running subsidized employment schemes and projects that offer training and mentoring or that help strengthen social links. Each of these projects is supported by a Group employee acting as sponsor.

9
projects in
France

4
projects
outside France

SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH WORK



ARES

Jobs and training for people in subsidized employment programs

Every year, Ares* offers work opportunities and social mentoring to over 500 people in very difficult circumstances. In 2012, the Foundation supported an innovative model set up by the non-profit to facilitate the transition to conventional employment for the people on its back-to-work schemes. The very positive results convinced the Foundation to continue funding this project aimed at strengthening back-to-work pathways for another three years.

* ARES: non-profit promoting economic and social inclusion.

TARGETS FOR 2014-2016

- ▶ 700 people supported per year.
 - ▶ 80 to 120 partners.
 - ▶ 55% of employees in training programs.
-
- ▶ Sponsor: Didier Courboillet
 - ▶ Grant: €90,000 over three years

- ▶ The Ares Employment and Training platform has proved its effectiveness:
 - more than 63% of positive outcomes in 2013 (versus 40%: national average for subsidized employment enterprises);
 - 80 partner companies (versus 30 in 2011);
 - 10,000 hours of training (7,000 in 2012);
 - 40 employees benefitted from work-experience placements in companies, with 80% resulting in job offers on completion of the program.

While the social mentoring provided by Ares is effective, the professional dimension proved to be inadequate. To strengthen this aspect, Ares decided in 2012 to set up a single platform – Ares Employment and Training – that pools resources and expertise to improve the employability of the people on back-to-work programs and increase job opportunities. The program focuses on two types of action: training and job-seeking support.

The first aim is to enrich the catalogue of training modules offered, whether basic training (French, managing a budget, etc.), training leading to qualifications (driver and site machinery operator licenses, safety, etc.) or job-seeker training (writing a CV, mock job interviews, job coaching, etc.). Each back-to-work employee follows a personalized training path and Ares plans to continue developing specific tools to improve follow-up of its beneficiaries' progress and skills, such as the new GDI software package for tracking the social and professional support provided.

The job-seeking actions aim to create bridges to the "conventional" employment sector and organize concrete presentations of promising job sectors: visits to trade fairs and companies, job encounters and work experience placements, etc. These actions require Ares to strengthen the network of partner companies that promote the non-profit's back-to-work program.

DEVELOPING BRIDGES BETWEEN ARES AND VEOLIA

As soon as the program was launched, the Foundation facilitated contact between Ares and Veolia operational and HR managers; bridges were set up



with Waste solutions and Water solutions, which can use Ares for subcontracting services or to comply with social clauses in some tenders. The closer links created facilitated recruitment this year of two Ares back-to-work employees with Waste solutions, while two others signed up with Campus Veolia in the Paris region under apprenticeship contracts to become pipefitter assistants. These results encouraged the Veolia Foundation to continue supporting development of the Ares Employment and Training platform with another three-year partnership (2014-2016). The links between Ares and Veolia will be reinforced through encounters with professionals, more effective recruitment bridges, technical and commercial cooperation, particularly in waste treatment and recycling activities, contracts in which the social component is a crucial factor for the client.

The Foundation is therefore naturally supporting continuation of this program to enable people excluded from mainstream society increase their chances of getting back into work.

FROM BACK-TO-WORK SCHEME TO EMPLOYMENT...

"I came from Guinea-Conakry to France in 2011 and found a job with Ares.

I worked on a waste-sorting conveyor belt then on a demolition worksite in Jussieu and in the L'Oréal laboratory in Chevilly-Larue. At the same time, I attended Ares training courses. I also visited several companies to find a job that really suited me. Ares contacted Veolia to let me try out the job of pipefitter in the workplace. Veolia was running a work-study campaign and was looking for pipefitter apprentices, which allowed me to discover the job in August 2014 on a worksite in Lagny-sur-Mame. It appealed to me straight away.

To become a pipefitter, you have to obtain the CAP in two years. So I spend two weeks a month on the Campus Veolia. The other two weeks, I continue to work on the Lagny worksite. There are eight of us in the class and there's a very good ambience on the campus. I will sit the CAP exam in June 2016. If I pass it, I hope to join Veolia. Since my arrival in France, this whole experience has taught me how to get on with very different people. I was lucky to be able to try out for a job that pleased me. It's let me move ahead in life and become independent."



Amadou Sara
Back-to-work employee at Ares and, since September 2014, on an apprenticeship contract at Veolia's Paris region campus

SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH WORK

PARC NATIONAL DE PORT-CROS • FRANCE

A subsidized employment workshop for a legacy orchard

The Port-Cros national park, which manages protected spaces and reception of the public on the islands of Port-Cros and Porquerolles and their marine fringe, is developing a back-to-work project aimed at protecting and promoting a unique natural and scientific heritage: the 20 hectares of legacy orchards set up over a period of several years with the Mediterranean Botanical Conservatory. With ASDFV (non-profit set up to protect forests in the Var region), which runs subsidized employment workshops, the park offers a back-to-work program leading to qualifications for people excluded from the labor market, based on upkeep and cultivation of the Porquerolles orchards. The project has a parallel goal, which is to allow large numbers of tourists to discover this unique heritage and to develop production of organic olive oil under the “Cocagne Innovation” label. The Foundation is providing some of the investment required for the project.

- ▶ Location: Porquerolles
- ▶ Sponsor: Paul-Émile Roblez
- ▶ Grant: €15,000

MEZZOCREDIT • FRANCE

Gauging the social impact of micro-businesses

Supplementing professional micro-credit solutions and designed for leaders of community outreach projects, mezzocredit targets not only people excluded from the conventional banking sector but also those with no access to the labor market. The originality of the nonprofit Mezzocredit resides in its approach, which entails gauging the social impact of business projects from their inception and helping entrepreneurs build their financing plan and present their project to a potential partner. Then, if necessary, it offers a three-year mezzocredit loan for an amount of between €8,000 and €20,000. With financial support from the Foundation, the nonprofit will be providing micro-entrepreneurs with purpose-built software packages enabling them better to gauge the social impact of their business project.

- ▶ Location: Yvelines, Pays de la Loire, Rhône-Alpes, Nord
- ▶ Sponsor: Philippe Lagrange
- ▶ Grant: €9,648



SAUVEGARDE DE L'ENFANCE ET DE L'ADOLESCENCE DU VAL-D'OISE • FRANCE

Training in upkeep of green spaces

The non-profit focuses on protection and education of children and teenagers in the local area. With the aim of preventing delinquency, it set up two subsidized workshops, one focusing on upkeep of green spaces and the other on bicycle maintenance and repair. Its prevention teams supervise and train young people in difficulty in the Cergy-Pontoise conurbation. It was recently commissioned to handle upkeep of green spaces in facilities managed by Veolia and in 14 on-street car parks managed by Vinci in Cergy-Pontoise. The nonprofit had to acquire new tooling and motorized equipment in order to honor these contracts. Thanks to the Foundation's support, it was able to acquire professional equipment enabling it to meet its clients' demands, while at the same time upgrading the work capacity and skills of its employees.

- ▶ Location: Cergy-Pontoise
- ▶ Sponsor: Bruno Moysan
- ▶ Grant: €20,000

ESPACES • FRANCE

Combining back-to-work schemes and nature conservation

The non-profit Espaces was set up in 1994 to trial an approach that was very novel at the time: ecological management of abandoned or poorly maintained urban spaces in the Paris region by using nature-friendly techniques and offering employment to people excluded from the labor market. Its ambition has been crowned with success, and today Espaces welcomes and supports more than 140 employees on back-to-work schemes in the Paris region. With the increase in the nonprofit's workload, its back-to-work teams are covering a much wider area. To transport materials and bulky equipment that cannot be carried on public transport, Espaces is launching a program, with the Foundation's help, to acquire additional electric utility vehicles, three-wheeled scooters and rail-bikes, together with worksite equipment (brush-cutters and grinders) to continue developing its activities.

- ▶ Location: Meudon
- ▶ Sponsor: Éric Genet
- ▶ Grant: €15,000



LES ENVIRONNEURS • FRANCE

Renovating housing to move back into society

Les Environneurs has been combating exclusion in the Hautes-Alpes department since 1996 through subsidized employment workshops in the environmental sector (upkeep of rivers and canals, installation of fencing to protect water sources, creation and maintenance of walking trails) and production of wooden urban furniture (bus shelters, garden sheds, site development). It supplements its back-to-work activities by organizing cultural and sports activities to foster social inclusion. Capitalizing on its strong local roots, Les Environneurs is broadening its scope of activity to renovation of housing. This new development, supported by the Foundation, requires new worksite material, vehicles and IT equipment for training purposes.

- ▶ Location: Gap
- ▶ Sponsor: Patricia Ducamin
- ▶ Grant: €15,000

CANTI'NET • FRANCE

A coworking space to revitalize the region

In Agen, a rural region with high levels of unemployment, Canti'Net has set up a shared – coworking – space in the city center. Primarily intended for independent professionals (graphic designers, webdesigners, journalists, consultants, trainers, etc.), Canti'Net is keen to make this space available to teleworkers suffering from isolation and wishing to raise their visibility. As an ideal space for socializing, discussion and experimentation, it fosters new ways of working and generates skills-sharing services that boost local economic development and a new collaborative economy model. The Foundation is helping to finance fitting out of the coworking space.

- ▶ Location: Agen
- ▶ Sponsor: Isabelle Caire
- ▶ Grant: €8,000

SOCIAL LINKS



APCDS*

Lulu dans ma rue:
for a more inclusive city

By structuring and coordinating a network of occasional service providers, *Lulu dans ma rue* aims to create employment and strengthen social links

* Non-profit working to develop local economy service centers.

After the success of the Emmaüs Défi opportunity shop network, its founder Charles-Édouard Vincent wanted to go further by offering sustainable employment to people who have completed a back-to-work program but have not found a job in a conventional company. APCDS is keen to reinvent occasional services in the urban environment: minor repairs, deliveries, handling, pet-sitting, etc. All these services will be available through a neighborhood concierge service installed in a kiosk and using a web platform to facilitate contact between service providers and customers. *Lulu dans ma rue*, the neighborhood concierge, finds the right person at the right moment to provide a reliable, high-quality service.

100 "LULUS" IN EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD

In 2014 the Foundation supported the upstream phase of the project by taking charge of the feasibility study in Paris. It demonstrated the validity of the concept and will enable creation of the first kiosk in 2015 in the 4th arrondissement of Paris, together with experimental roll-out of the project over a year. The long-term objective is to train 100 "Lulus", i.e. self-employed service providers (autoentrepreneur status), 10% of whom have completed back-to-work programs or have very limited employment prospects. Each service provider will be assessed by his or her customers, since trust is crucial to satisfactory functioning of the system. Working as a "Lulu" can be a stepping stone towards finding a permanent job – but not necessarily, since the main point is that the service providers earn an income in an environment where they feel at home and that gives them a place in society.



THREE OBJECTIVES FOR LULU DANS MA RUE

- ▶ Combating exclusion on a sustainable basis.
- ▶ Improving quality of life for city-dwellers by providing occasional services.
- ▶ Regenerating social links.

PROJECTED FIGURES

- ▶ 100 "Lulus" = 12 full-time equivalent jobs.
- ▶ Between €400 and €600 additional monthly income.

- ▶ Sponsor: Christine Rodwell
- ▶ Grant: €25,000

"REHYDRATING THE CITY THROUGH HUMAN CONTACT"

"By creating a network of high-quality local services, we want to rehydrate the city through human contact. Being part of the network, the hub of which will be the concierge kiosk, will allow service providers to acquire a status and become better known in the neighborhood. We're on a social quest: we want to change this society that condemns so many talented people to enforced idleness. There's no such thing as a dead-end job: doing a good job with the aim of performing a service is something of great value and allows people to feel proud of what they do.

Technology must be a driver of integration and not something that increases casualization. Collaborative platforms facilitate creation of new markets and make for a smoother balance between supply of and demand for services. But we need to support this market by providing genuine social mentoring.

To establish trust between the "Lulus" and their future customers, I believe that the physical presence of the concierge service will make the difference: it will reassure the neighborhood's residents. Our partners boost our credibility: we have the support of the City of Paris and large, well-known companies. What's more, the "Lulus" are selected, trained and assessed: their customers can post their opinion of the service rendered on the web platform. I hope to regenerate social links in the neighborhood and create strong momentum for a more inclusive society, a goal that is everyone's business."



Charles-Édouard Vincent
Founder of Emmaüs Défi and *Lulu dans ma rue*

SOCIAL LINKS

KOPF, HAND + FUSS GMBH • GERMANY

A smartphone to combat illiteracy

The non-profit Kopf, Hand + Fuss GmbH aims to encourage integration of disabled people through new technologies, and particularly smartphone applications.

Today it is focusing on people suffering from illiteracy with creation of a new application to learn reading and writing, the content of which was designed by a teacher specializing in this problem. In Germany, more than seven million people are illiterate – they are confined to service jobs with few prospects and have very limited access to the labor market.

The Foundation is helping to kick-start this unique and innovative project that will help people unable to read or write improve their professional status.

- ▶ Location: Berlin
- ▶ Sponsor: Justine Tavernier
- ▶ Grant: €8,000

DEUTSCHE KINDER- UND JUGENDSTIFTUNG • GERMANY

Get off the sofa!

Deutsche Kinder- und Jugendstiftung (DKJS) encourages young people in the 10-16 age bracket to get involved in social, societal and environmental activities with its *Hoch vom Sofa!* “Get off the sofa!” program.

With the support of DKJS’s partners, they can propose initiatives and projects that will have an impact in their local environment (village, commune, neighborhood). Up to 40 projects are selected every year.

This program meshes well with the Foundation’s own policy of encouraging employee engagement in similar projects. The Foundation is therefore supporting roll-out of the 10 projects in the sustainable development category selected by the non-profit in 2014.

- ▶ Location: Dresden
- ▶ Sponsor: Susan Dietel-Perl
- ▶ Grant: €10,000



MALTESER WERKE GMBH • GERMANY

Wood as an innovative path back to mainstream society

Malteser Werke GmbH helps young people in difficulty acquire training and move back into mainstream society. It welcomes some 100 children and teenagers who live together in a community under the supervision of youth workers.

In 2004, the nonprofit opened a carpentry workshop that offers professional training courses to young people with psychological problems and former drug addicts. Supervised by tradesmen and therapists, they learn how to work with wood and acquire new skills that will enable them to find a place in the labor market.

With the Foundation’s support, the carpentry workshop will be able to fit out its premises to augment its reception capacity.

- ▶ Location: Hamm
- ▶ Sponsor: Matthias Vogel
- ▶ Grant: €10,000

INSTITUT TÉLÉMAQUE • FRANCE

Restarting the social elevator

Institut Télémaque works to foster equal opportunity by identifying brilliant and motivated students from underprivileged backgrounds and helping them pass the Baccalaureate exam. Thanks to a partnership with companies, it offers these students support throughout their schooling by a member of the teaching staff in their establishment and a volunteer employed by one of the partner companies.

In 2013, Télémaque’s recipe was a genuine success: a 97% graduation rate for the 300 students sitting their Baccalaureate, of whom 79% gained a distinction (21% achieved an honors pass).

Aware of the merits of this approach, the Foundation, assisted by Veolia’s Human Resources department, supported Institut Télémaque from 2009 to 2013 by financing the mentoring of 10 students by Veolia employees. In 2014, it renewed its support for another three years.

- ▶ Location: Paris region, Nord, Rhône-Alpes
- ▶ Sponsor: Brigitte Durand
- ▶ Grant: €45,000

FÖRDERVEREIN DER KIEPERT-GRUNDSCHULE • GERMANY

Social links and biodiversity

The non-profit Förderverein der Kiepert-Grundschule helps the Kiepert primary school in Berlin develop extracurricular activities. It brings together teachers, classroom assistants and the parents of children attending the school, which caters for 400 children from 28 different countries (including Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Syria), a great many of whom are in difficult social and economic circumstances and some of whom are asylum-seekers. It launched a project to decorate the school based on raising awareness of nature conservation. During their biology classes, the children observe bats in their natural environment. With the help of artists experienced in conducting participative projects with children, they then take advantage of the plastic arts classes to sculpt metal bats that will be used to decorate the school’s facades.

Apart from the social objectives of openness and personal development, the project corresponds to one of the Foundation’s missions: building awareness of environmental conservation.

- ▶ Location: Berlin
- ▶ Sponsor: Wilfried Rupp
- ▶ Grant: €8,000





ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

Living in harmony with nature, conserving resources and biodiversity, mitigating climate change - all these can help keep our planet habitable.

The Foundation encourages initiatives to build public awareness and teach eco-responsible behavior.

It also backs ambitious projects to further our understanding of and restore natural environments. It contributes to their financing and helps raise their profile, with the attentive and enthusiastic support of a sponsor.

4
projects in
France

7
projects
outside France

NATURAL HERITAGE AND BIODIVERSITY



After Tara Océans – a three-year expedition to study the impact of climate change on the ocean ecosystems that produce the bioelements necessary for life on earth and regulate the carbon and oxygen cycles – the Foundation is supporting Tara Méditerranée, a scientific study of the impact of plastic pollution on the marine ecosystem and a campaign to raise awareness of environmental challenges in the Mediterranean. The scientific team collected samples to study the nature, quantity and diversity of plastic waste and everything it transports: pathogenic bacteria, algae, mollusks, pesticides, etc. A travelling exhibition for schoolchildren and workshops with environmental nonprofits and local stakeholders were organized at each stopover.

REMOVING OBSTACLES,
IDENTIFYING SOLUTIONS

A first symposium “Plastics in the Mediterranean: beyond the facts, what solutions?” was held in Monaco in March 2015. It brought together numerous players involved in the plastics sector from some 10 Mediterranean countries keen to work together on this issue. For *Tara*, 2015 will be a very eventful year in terms of raising the awareness of all types of public: publication of a Blue Book, presentation of the first Tara Méditerranée audit, launch of the UNESCO Ocean and Climate platform, visits by *Tara* to Nantes, Bordeaux and lastly Paris for the 2015 Climate conference (COP 21) organized in the capital. An Ocean and Climate exhibition will be organized for the general public on the banks of the Seine at the end of the year.

TARA EXPÉDITIONS

Reducing pollution by plastics in the Mediterranean

The schooner *Tara* travelled 15,000 kilometers in the Mediterranean from May to November 2014 for a new scientific mission: to study the impact of plastic waste on the ecosystem of this virtually closed sea.

PLASTIC WASTE OMNIPRESENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

- ▶ All the samples collected contained plastic.
- ▶ More than 892,000 micro-plastic particles per square kilometer in the most polluted zones.

MULTIFORM SUPPORT FOR TARA MÉDITERRANÉE

- ▶ The Foundation supported the scientific study (costs of the sampling campaign, equipment) and is financing the awareness-building actions (travelling exhibitions, Monaco conference).

- ▶ Sponsor: Bernard Harambillet
- ▶ Grant: €160,000



TARA OCÉANS AND TARA MÉDITERRANÉE: “EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES”

“Tara Océans travelled the globe for three years: there has never been so all-encompassing or so detailed an expedition. We collected thousands of plankton samples and studied all the environmental parameters, zooming in from satellite images to studying the DNA of individual organisms. At least 30% of the species collected are unknown. These new compounds or structures could be of interest to the pharmaceutical, chemical and cosmetics industries. The study’s findings have already been published in some 20 articles, while others are currently being submitted for publication to the most prestigious scientific journals, such as *Science* and *Nature*.

Our research in the Mediterranean in 2014 focused on micro-plastic particles of under 2 cm to find out how they enter the food chain of plankton and end up in our plates! We took samples to study the nature and quantity of plastics and everything they transport: algae, bacteria, pollutants, etc. Thanks to the Veolia Foundation, we were able to acquire the best instruments and use them to compile unparalleled databases. The Foundation is a 100% partner in these extraordinary adventures.”



Gaby Gorsky
Scientific director of Tara Méditerranée and the Villefranche-sur-Mer Oceanological Observatory

NATURAL HERITAGE AND BIODIVERSITY



UICN* • WORLD

A new red list for endangered ecosystems

In response to climate change and the growing threat of natural disasters, UICN has designed a tool to assess the planet's different ecosystems. It will be used to compile a red list of ecosystems along the same lines as the red list of endangered species, an initiative the Foundation has been supporting since 2011. The aim of this red list is to classify and draw up a list of world ecosystems and produce research on their status. Furthermore, it will highlight not only endangered ecosystems but also those that have been preserved thanks to best practices and in this respect could be a useful instrument both for conservation of ecosystems and national and regional planning. UICN's new knowledge tool will therefore strengthen global capacity for monitoring and assessing biodiversity conditions in forest and coastal habitats in continental France, French Mediterranean habitats and the mangroves of Mayotte.

* International Union for Conservation of Nature.

- ▶ Location: World
- ▶ Sponsor: Michel Mori
- ▶ Grant: €20,000

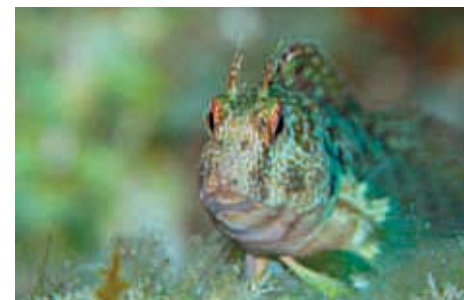
OCEANICA PROD • FRANCE

Scirena serving underwater biodiversity

Oceanica Prod, a nonprofit specializing in underwater videos, joined forces with the start-up Kalyzée to create a system for registration, counting and recognition of underwater species, combined with data processing techniques. The system, known as Scirena, will help validate a protocol for scientific monitoring of these species. The techniques employed will improve underwater filming without the disturbance caused by human presence, on the one hand, and, on the other, speed up data processing time through automatic analysis thanks to creation of software allowing automatic, digital recognition of underwater species.

The Foundation and its partner, the RMC (Rhône Méditerranée Corse) Water Agency, are supporting this project which will make it possible to track the return of fauna and flora to the Remora artificial reef installed near the outlet of the Amphitria wastewater treatment plant and another identical reef located away from the outlet current (see page 34 of the Foundation's 2013 activity report). With Scirena, Oceanica Prod is offering the scientific community and water experts an innovative system for monitoring marine colonization – a useful tool that serves underwater biodiversity.

- ▶ Location: Cap Sicié – Bay of Toulon
- ▶ Sponsor: Emmanuel Plessis
- ▶ Grant: €120,000



TECHNOPÔLE BREST-IROISE • VIETNAM

Preserving Halong Bay

Since 2008, the Brest-Iroise technology cluster, Brest métropole océane, the people's committee of Haiphong, the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Imer research institute have been working together, with the support of the Foundation, on a management project for the Bay of Haiphong aimed at restoring and preserving the environmental quality of its waters.

The project will now be extended to Halong Bay and will take in several pilot projects: first, raising the awareness of fishermen and providing training in clean aquaculture techniques, next protecting the beaches from erosion coupled with development of sustainable tourism and, lastly, reducing industrial pollution and preventing natural risks.

The Foundation is providing support for drafting the project specifications.

- ▶ Location: Halong Bay
- ▶ Sponsor: Alexandre Le Ster
- ▶ Grant: €30,000

CUENCA LOS OJOS FOUNDATION • USA

Fighting desertification thanks to Hopi traditions

The Cuenca Los Ojos Foundation (CLO) works to conserve and restore biodiversity in United States/Mexico borderlands through soil conservation, restoring natural habitats and reintroducing animal species. Its project, supported by the Foundation, entails involving Hopi communities in Arizona in a project of ecological restoration. It will harness their traditions and know-how to rehabilitate a severely eroded territory.

- ▶ Location: Arizona
- ▶ Sponsor: Edwin Pinero
- ▶ Grant: €60,000

FONDATION PRINCE ALBERT II DE MONACO • MONACO

Sustainable management of resources in the Mediterranean

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation works to protect the environment in the Mediterranean basin, the polar regions and the least developed countries. In 2009, with the support of the Veolia Foundation, it launched the Water Think Tank initiative, which promotes sustainable management of water resources in the Mediterranean basin by pooling the expertise of all the stakeholders concerned.

- ▶ Location: Monaco
- ▶ Sponsor: Sylvain Boucher
- ▶ Grant: €15,000

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS-BUILDING



ENVIRONMENT
BOOK PRIZE

Les Abeilles et la vie

Every year since 2006, the Veolia Foundation awards an Environment Book prize. In 2014, the jury selected a fascinating work describing the extraordinary powers of bees and for the special young people's prize a book inviting children to discover 22 of the world's greatest rivers.

FIVE SHORTLISTED BOOKS

- ▶ *Chroniques du vivant : les Aventures de la biodiversité*, by François Letourneux and Nathalie Fontrel (Buchen Chastel)
- ▶ *Des catastrophes... « naturelles » ?*, by Alexandre Magnan and Virginie Duvat (Le Pommier)
- ▶ *La Grande Invasion : Qui a peur des espèces invasives ?*, by Jacques Tassin (Odile Jacob)
- ▶ *Les Abeilles et la vie*, by Jean-Claude Teyssier and Didier van Cauwelaert (Michel Lafon)
- ▶ *Paradis (avant liquidation)*, by Julien Blanc-Gras (Le Livre de poche)

▶ Sponsor: Fanny Demulier

The Environment Book Prize promotes writers and publishers who build public awareness of the major challenges facing the planet. The jury, chaired by Roselyne Bachelot, former Minister of Ecology and Sustainable Development, announced the two winners at the Brive Book Fair. Didier van Cauwelaert was awarded the Prize for *Les Abeilles et la vie*, published by Michel Lafon.

THE CRUCIAL LINK BETWEEN ANIMAL, PLANT AND HUMAN LIFE

Bees have always accompanied human life and played an essential role in nature. By pollinating plants, they allow crops and gardens to flourish and fruit and vegetables to grow. They are “the crucial link between animal, plant and human life”. Through his poetic descriptions combined with in-depth research, the author invites us to discover their extraordinary faculties and reflect on the responsibility of human activities in the collapse of their colonies. Magnificently illustrated by the photos of Jean-Claude Teyssier, this book convinces us of the need to respect and protect bees. The young people's prize was awarded to Élisabeth Combres for *Les Fleuves autour du monde* (published by Gallimard Jeunesse). The author takes us on a journey navigating the world's 22 largest rivers, including the Amazon, the Zambesi, the Mississippi and the Volga, to discover the natural environments through which they flow and the buildings and human activities that have sprung up around them. With astonishing photos that illustrate all the faces of a river, Élisabeth Combres raises young people's awareness of the need to preserve water resources.



“BEES INNOVATE TO ADAPT”

“In the reality of life and the evolution of animals, I discover facts that defy the imagination. A bee remembers its journey, locates the position of the sun to guide its path, passes information on to the members of its colony. They use their faculty of observation, their memory, their internal clock and the power of group solidarity. It's an extraordinary story to share.

Protecting bees is nonetheless a simple message to pass on, particularly to young people. Over the past 50 years, bees have been subjected to more harmful influences than in the 50 million years before. A glimmer of hope: they are now doing better in cities than in the country. In the urban environment, they are not threatened by the pesticides that attack their nervous system, nor by the monoculture that impoverishes biodiversity, nor by the mutant colza genes that colonize their intestines. The hive installed on the roof of the Saint-Denis town hall in the Paris suburbs is the largest ever built in a European city, and its bees are five times more productive than in the countryside. We should trust bees' capacity for innovation, as long as they are not subjected to overwhelming disruption.”



Didier van Cauwelaert
Novelist, playwright and script writer

► EDUCATION AND AWARENESS-BUILDING

OMAN WATER SOCIETY • OMAN

Education for good management of water

The Oman Water Society aims to encourage research, studies and training to develop local expertise in water management and related activities. Through collaboration with universities and scientific research centers and by encouraging cooperation between the different players involved in water management, it produces data and statistics that are regularly published and brought to the attention of the media.

Engaged in building public awareness of good water management, the Oman Water Society has launched an educational program – “Water Champions in School” – aimed at children aged 7 to 10 in two pilot schools, with the support of the Foundation.

The impact of the program in these two schools will be assessed by teachers and the Ministry of Education, with the aim of subsequently rolling it out in all Oman schools.

- Location: Oman
- Sponsor: Brigitte Durand
- Grant: €10,000



UNIS-CITÉ • FRANCE

Médiaterre: all eco-citizens!

Unis-Cité, set up in 1995, offers young people from 18 to 25 the opportunity to do voluntary civic service to respond to social and environmental needs near where they live. In 2009, the nonprofit launched the Médiaterre project to raise awareness of ecological issues among people living in low-income neighborhoods. Young volunteers engaged in civic service help low-income families adopt eco-citizen practices as a way of changing their habits and making real savings. More than 5,000 families have benefitted since the program was launched. The Foundation supported the trial phase of the project and its roll-out over the following years, primarily in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Paris and Centre-Est regions, with the assistance of Campus Veolia and regional management (analysis of feedback, training the volunteers, relations with social housing agencies, organizing site visits for the families, etc.). In 2014-2015, the Foundation is accompanying the program in Toulouse and Nord-Pas-de-Calais, while also supporting management and national coordination of the project.

- Location: Toulouse and Nord-Pas-de-Calais
- Sponsor: Atika Doukkali
- Grant: €50,000

UVED* • FRENCH-LANGUAGE COMMUNITY

Online education for biodiversity

UVED, one of the seven virtual themed universities created and supported by the French Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research, is producing a MOOC (massive open online course) on the theme of biodiversity. Its goal is to further understanding of biodiversity and the challenges it presents for planning and human development.

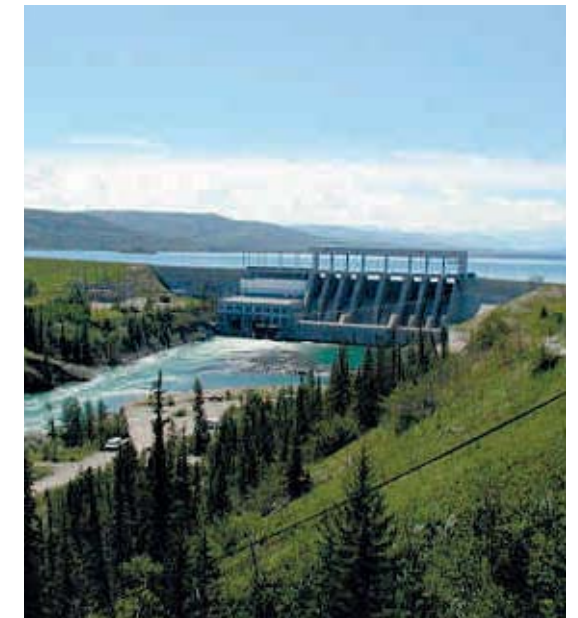
By providing points of reference on this topic and showing that preservation of ecological dynamics is something that concerns everybody, the MOOC hopes to contribute to a change in social perceptions and greater involvement of societal stakeholders around the issue of biodiversity. The Foundation is supporting this project, and Veolia researchers are contributing to the courses.

* Virtual Environment and Sustainable Development University.

- Location: French-language community
- Sponsor: Sandrine Sourisseau
- Grant: €25,000



Stellio Casas, Veolia Research and Innovation, a contributor to the MOOC on biodiversity.



ALBERTA WATERPORTAL SOCIETY • CANADA

Integrated water management in Alberta

The Nexus (i.e. “link”) project led by the Alberta WaterPortal Society consists of calculating the economic footprint of water in the province of Alberta and encouraging better management of the resource by supplying scientific data usable by policy makers and researchers but also accessible to the general public. The goal is to provide better guidelines for water management and economic development decisions in a region subject to strong pressure on water resources. The Foundation is primarily involved in supporting production of communication tools enabling the broadest possible public to understand and take ownership of the scientific findings.

- Location: Alberta
- Sponsor: Edwin Pinero
- Grant: €10,000

STUDENT SOLIDARITY AWARD

Encouraging student initiatives serving the community

The Foundation is regularly asked to support student projects. To channel these requests and encourage the initiatives of student associations, in 2008 the Foundation launched the Student Solidarity Award, in liaison with the Campus Veolia/Relations with schools and universities division. It rewards innovative outreach initiatives led by student associations in France and other parts of the world in one of the Foundation's three fields of action. The winners receive financial support (a €15,000 grant shared between the winning projects) and technical back-up in the form of skills provided by a Group employee acting as sponsor.

► Location: World

► Sponsor: Brigitte Durand

► Grant: €30,000



FOUR STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS REWARDED

TOPO SANS FRONTIÈRES:

Le Mans école supérieure des géomètres et topographes (surveying and topography school) association for a project in which students offer their know-how to land management services in three Burundi communes as part of a mission to secure land rights.

ISTOM STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTISE:

Cergy école supérieure d'agro-développement internationale (agricultural development school) association for a feasibility study focusing on production, processing and marketing of the *Lippia multiflora* (Gambian tea) plant in DR Congo.

MEXI'SOL:

Polytech' Montpellier association in collaboration with Nana Xhimai, student association of the Universidad Tecnologica del Valle del Mezquital in Mexico, which is building and installing solar-powered equipment in disadvantaged village communities in Hidalgo province.

HAND IN HAND:

Skema Business School association, which organizes educational activities for the children of Chinese migrant workers living in precarious conditions during the students' school year in Suzhou (China).

“Solidarity is an important prism for rethinking our vision of resources. By resources, we don't just mean natural resources and raw materials – we also mean human resources and knowledge and know-how resources, which call for collaborative networks and, hence, solidarity. This is of course the natural link with the Student Solidarity Award.”

Antoine Frérot

Veolia projects and sponsors

DEVELOPMENT AID AND HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES

DEVELOPMENT AID

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Sulabh • India

▶ Patrice Francioni

EDS Mali • Mali

▶ Thierry Vandeveld

EDS Guinea-Conakry • Guinea-Conakry

▶ Clément Petit

UNITAID • France

▶ Dominique Héron

Secrétariat International de l'Eau • Mali

▶ Thierry Vandeveld

Madagascar Construction et Partage

• Madagascar

▶ Helman le Pas de Sécheval

Les enfants du Ndé • Cameroon

▶ Richard Nana-Dwanang

Les Amis de la Terre • Togo

▶ Iyad Hallaq

ICIC • France

▶ Thierry Vandeveld

Les Anges de l'eau • Mali

▶ Raphaël Berdugo

Education Above All • Kenya

▶ Xavier Joseph

MSF • Chad and France

▶ Clément Petit

Fonds Croix-Rouge Française • Senegal

▶ Séverine Jacob

ADOS • Senegal

▶ Dominique Héron

Les Amis d'Angkor • Cambodia

▶ Bernard Willinger

LSHTM • DRC

▶ Clément Petit

SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH WORK AND SOCIAL LINKS

SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH WORK

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Parc national de Port-Cros • France

▶ Paul-Émile Roblez

Mezzocrédit • France

▶ Philippe Lagrange

Sauvegarde de l'enfance et de l'adolescence du Val-d'Oise • France

▶ Bruno Moysan

Espaces • France

▶ Éric Genet

Les Environneurs • France

▶ Patricia Ducamin

Canti'Net • France

▶ Isabelle Caire

SOCIAL LINKS

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Kopf, Hand + Fuss GmbH • Germany

▶ Justine Tavernier

DKJS • Germany

▶ Susan Dietel-Perl

Malteser Werke GmbH • Germany

▶ Matthias Vogel

Institut Télémaque • France

▶ Brigitte Durand

Förderverein der Kiepert-Grundschule • Germany

▶ Wilfried Rupp

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

NATURAL HERITAGE AND BIODIVERSITY

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Tara Méditerranée • France

▶ Bernard Harambillet

UICN • World

▶ Michel Mori

Oceanica Prod • France

▶ Emmanuel Plessis

Technopôle Brest-Iroise • Vietnam

▶ Alexandre Le Ster

Cuenca Los Ojos Foundation • USA

▶ Edwin Pinero

Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco • Monaco

▶ Sylvain Boucher

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▶ Fanny Demulier

Oman Water Society • Oman

▶ Brigitte Durand

Unis-Cité • France

▶ Atika Doukkali

UVED • French-language community

▶ Sandrine Sourisseau

Alberta WaterPortal Society • Canada

▶ Edwin Pinero

STUDENT SOLIDARITY AWARD

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Student Solidarity Award • World

▶ Brigitte Durand

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