

Foundation Info



Veolia Environnement Foundation newsletter

No. 10 - March 2013

Foundation Info keeps you informed of what's happening at the Veolia Environnement Foundation: the projects being supported, the sponsors' reports, volunteers leaving on emergency relief, development assistance and other assignments around the world. The links in the contents section below will give you more information on the topic: just click and find! Please send us your suggestions, comments, pictures and anything else you'd like to share (fondation.ve@veolia.com).

FRONT PAGE



Winners of the Sustainable Energy for All competition announced

The jury for the Sustainable Energy for All competition, made up of representatives of Dalkia and members of the Veolia Environnement Foundation, met in mid-January to choose the winners. Of the many projects submitted, [Habite ta Terre](#) won the Innovation prize for its green construction project to employ recycled materials to build a hostel for volunteers in the village of N'Gogom, in the Diourbel region of Senegal. The jury also decided to award a Development prize to [Palabres sans Frontières](#), which works to improve access to healthcare and supports the creation of income-generating activities for women in the village of Keur Samba Yacine, Senegal. In addition, the [Mains d'œuvres](#) non-profit won the Outreach prize for its work-integration project involving thermal and sound insulation of part of its Saint-Ouen premises, which are located on a formerly derelict industrial site that has been converted into an arts and community center.



The winners will receive financial support from the Foundation and technical support from the employees who sponsor their projects. The awards were presented during Dalkia's annual convention at the end of January at the Paris region Campus Veolia Environnement.

For more information on the competition and prizewinners, go to [the Foundation's website](#) ; you will find [the press release here](#).

LATEST PROJECTS TO RECEIVE SUPPORT

The Veolia Environnement Foundation's **Selection Committee** met on December 19, 2012. It selected 24 projects, including five in emergency relief and development assistance, nine in outreach and workforce development, and 10 in environmental conservation and biodiversity.

- OUTREACH AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT -



Created in 2003, [Ateliers Sans Frontières](#) is a non-profit focusing on social integration through work. It offers three types of jobs: IT equipment and bicycle recycling, and logistics for fair trade organizations. With support from the Veolia Environnement Foundation, it has launched a major restructuring and investment program at its Bonneuil-sur-Marne facilities, near Paris, where it will make its operations more professional by reorganizing the workshops, improving the social and occupational monitoring of its employees, and increasing safety on the premises.

[Le projet en détails.](#)

- ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION & BIODIVERSITY -



Since 2009, Unis-Cité has been encouraging hundreds of low-income families throughout France to adopt environmentally responsible behavior. Three years after the launch of [Médiaterre](#), close to 500 young volunteers are now working practically full time on the project in 95 neighborhoods in France. They help struggling families save money by changing their habits. The Veolia Environnement Foundation is supporting the program's engineering, as well as the creation of new teams of volunteers who will work in Nice, Vénissieux and Saint-Priest, near Lyon, and in the Nord Pas-de-Calais region.

Find more information about [the Foundation's support here](#).

- HUMANITARIAN WORK AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE -



Founded by Burkina Faso native Sylvain d'Almeida in 2010, the Association Burkinabé de Curage et de Nettoyage (A.B. Curnet) collects organic waste in the 9th district of Ouagadougou. Groups of underprivileged women are employed in sorting and processing waste at its facilities. The Veolia Environnement Foundation is financing the purchase of a second-hand collection truck and the construction of processing basins. Two experts at Veolia Environmental Services also took part in the project.

[Details of the project.](#)

INTERVIEW



" Today, the system run by Dinepa is considered the most efficient and sophisticated in Haiti. "

Guy de Sainte Claire first set out for Haiti as a volunteer in March 2010. Two months after the earthquake that ravaged the island, his diagnosis laid the foundation for the rebuilding of the water system in Petit-Goâve. The master plan for rehabilitation became the backbone of the two-year program. Three months after the system's inauguration, we take a look at the project with a volunteer and sponsor who is very pleased at how well it has all turned out.

[Son interview.](#)

VOLUNTEERS ON ASSIGNMENT

EMERGENCIES -----



Haiti (December 2012-February 2013): A number of Veoliaforce volunteers went to Haiti during this period. At the request of the French Red Cross, several emergency-response teams were deployed to shore up water supply and sanitation at the cholera-treatment centers in the Grand'Anse department.

The first to go during the second half of December were **Frédéric Plumas**, Veoliaforce logistics manager at the Veolia Environnement Foundation, and **Grégory Gonzales**, a Veolia Water maintenance technician; next to leave was **David Milhau**, a Veolia Water technician, followed by **Emilie Bancel**, a Veolia Water Solutions & Technologies engineer, and **Patrice Gambini**, a Veolia Water technician, who were all on the ground in February. They worked on infrastructure and the water supply and sanitation systems in the Grand'Anse area.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE -----



Benin (November-December 2012): **Christian Morel Mar?chal**, a retired technical director with Veolia Water in Rouen, and **Patrick Camus**, an operator in Saint-Brévin-les-Pins in northwestern France, went to the southern Benin towns of Toffo, Ze and Kpomassé. It was the first skills-transfer assignment in a project led by the NGO Initiative Développement and cofinanced by the Veolia Environnement Foundation. The goal is to set up and train teams, formed by the towns and audit office, that will be responsible for the monitoring and the technical and financial control of water supply systems for rural villages, with the ultimate goal of extending infrastructure life. The purpose of the assignment was to train the team of the local NGO Graind and the three towns' technical services directors in technical diagnosis of water supply systems. The volunteers laid the theoretical foundations for the diagnosis by developing tools, such as specifications and check sheets, and by inspecting six networks with future trainees.

[Find more information about the project on the *Foundation's website.*](#)



At the same time, the mayor of Ze and his delegation were in France at the invitation of the mayor of Bessancourt. The two delegations and their sponsors (the Seine-Normandie river basin agency and the Veolia Environnement Foundation) met at the offices of SEDIF, the Paris region water authority, to discuss the program.



Cameroon (November-December 2012): Jean-Marc Loubet, a technician at Veolia Water in Toulouse, spent three weeks in the town of Bangangté in connection with the Modeab program (a project to ensure the sustainability of governance of the water and sanitation facilities). He oversaw the work, in particular on electromechanical equipment (wiring diagrams for the cabinets, characteristics and compatibility of the pumps, installation of a voltage regulator with lightning protection, etc.) and made recommendations on the upcoming projects (water quality, work on pumping, etc.). Then **Thierry Victor**, from Veolia Water in Valence, and **Eric Laribe**, from Veolia Water in the Paris region (Vedif), joined him to provide technical training to the young professionals in the area. They worked with people who are likely to be operating the installations, calling their attention to good operating practices and the right habits to develop. They then spoke to the local self-employed trades people most likely to be brought in to repair the equipment in the event of major breakdowns. The ultimate goal is certification for people working on the installations.



Frédérique Héry, Project Manager, International Development, at the Foundation, spent a week at the site in the beginning of November to learn about progress in the Modeab program and attend the first meeting of the town's water and sanitation committee (CCEA), the coordinating body created for the project and organized by the municipality.



For more information about the program, see [the project sheet](#) on the Foundation's website.

[OTHER VOLUNTEER DEPARTURES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD](#)

EVENTS



Geneviève Fioraso, the French minister of higher education and research, met with the scientific teams and volunteers for the Tara Project on January 21. She also spoke to students visiting the Tara exhibition, in Paris, about the importance of consideration for our environment. Helman le Pas de Sécheval, General Counsel of Veolia Environnement, and Thierry Vandevelde, Executive Officer of the Veolia Environnement Foundation, which is an exhibition partner, also attended, along with Romain Troublé, Tara's Secretary General, and Etienne Bourgois, the project's Director.

Find more information on the [Tara Oceans website](#).

TIDBITS & PUBLICATIONS



Rita Colwell, a science professor and founding member of the [Global Alliance Against Cholera \(GAAC\)](#), and the Veolia Environnement Foundation were featured in *Planet Veolia*. The world's leading figure in marine biotechnology, the indefatigable Rita Colwell reveals her insatiable curiosity, a factor, no doubt, in earning her the prestigious Stockholm Water Prize. The [GAAC](#) was launched in May 2011 to find sustainable solutions to eradicating cholera epidemics through better access to drinking water.

See the magazine and [Veolia's dedicated website](#).



The *Revue du Grand Paris* returns in its fourth edition to the non-profit Emergence, which is [supported by the Veolia Environnement Foundation](#). "With 700 placements in 10 years, Emergence has rolled out a good method for putting youngsters from difficult neighborhoods in Le Havre on the road to employment: self-esteem, trust in others and constant availability to employers by its managers on the ground."

Find more about [the project](#).

L'AGENDA DE LA FONDATION



April 9: Next meeting of the Foundation's Selection Committee.

[For more information](#)