

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

Carrying a flow of information on the situation of water and sanitation across the globe, the fifth Global Water Forum held in Istanbul had the merit, three years after Mexico, to put, one more time, governments, NGOs and the industrial water sector back in front of their responsibilities.

Because, as we already know, the current demographic patterns, the evolution of consumption habits and climate change all place high pressure on water resources. Developing countries are paying the highest price. (As a reminder, out of 900 million people who are still without access to drinking water, 322 million live in Africa and 234 million in Asia! Not to forget the sanitary consequences of this profound injustice: 1.8 million people die each year of diarrheal diseases that are mostly due to a lack of sanitation)

"Great revolutions are born of small miseries, as are great rivers from small streams" (Victor Hugo). In this issue, the Foundation takes you against the current of these alarming figures and into the flow of our initiatives, small or large, that contribute to changing the world...

Let's just listen to them. They have something to say about our ability to react, about the power of imagination. And, without hesitation, let's share our experiences. From them the springs of change will come.

Enjoy your reading

Jacqueline Délia Brémond  
Vice-president.



NEWS  
PUBLICATIONS

The Foundation has made available two technical sheets, elaborated with the support of *enda oi* and the Association la Voûte Nubienne (the "Nubian Arch").

Meet us on our site to find out more about their approaches.

[www.fondationensemble.org/sharing-experiences](http://www.fondationensemble.org/sharing-experiences)

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Each refuse collector is responsible in his sector. Street cleanliness has significantly improved in this Antananarivo neighborhood.

INTERVIEW

Enda oi : pre-collection of refuse in Antananarivo

«Our teams also have been very exposed to the crisis.»

**How does one keep the momentum going when the country is passing through rough waters? Cyrille de Billy, regional delegate of *enda oi*, takes us to the daily life of his teams, exposed to the vicissitudes of the Malagasy current events.**

**How does your team concretely experience the current events?**

For each project, a large portion of the work is done on the ground, in direct contact with beneficiary populations, in neighborhoods close to where the protests and some looting occur. We quickly made certain security arrangements. Schedules have been modified until last March 16. Of course, this situation had the consequence of slowing down our work.

**How do you keep the morale up in these conditions?**

It is not easy to focus on the work when you are worried for your children, your family and more broadly for the future of your country, when you fear for the future of your project or even your work. Many team members were afraid that the expatriates would leave. Fortunately, many of these fears have now subsided.

**Many administrative services became unavailable, as were several businesses...**

It was indeed difficult to contact institutional actors (the district representatives, heads of Fokontany...). The judicial support to families was the hardest hit. Construction works were also delayed because suppliers and hardware stores closed in fear of looting.

**What has been the impact for the Adqua project, supported by the Foundation?**

Adqua was the project that was hardest hit. This area of work necessitates a lot of work in partnership with institutional actors, particularly the Fokontany. The team had a hard time gathering committee members who are responsible of implementing and managing the system of refuse pre-collection.

Most of the time during the crisis, the SAMVA (Autonomous Maintenance Service of the City of Antananarivo) has not sustained the collection of refuse. Many new spontaneous landfills appeared. Families got angry, which made the collection of the fee that is necessary to cover functioning costs of the pre-collection system more difficult.

**What are the strengths of *enda oi* here in Madagascar? How do you envision the future?**

Through its development, *Enda oi* has become an organization that is known and recognized by partners, institutional actors and beneficiary populations. Sixty-eight employees now manage seven different programs, and we are starting to develop the domestic refuse pre-collection system in Mahajanga, on the North West coast of Madagascar.

« *enda oi* is appreciated for its principles of action that seek to strengthen and support local actors. »

**The NGO seems to be cultivating strong relationships with its beneficiaries.**

In the case of the Adqua project (refuse pre-collection), the committees are supported throughout the project by the same trainer; this person trains the committee members in their respective tasks and then helps the committee in implementing and managing the system until it is autonomous.

I would add that *enda oi* has succeeded in developing a network at the institutional level as well as with actors on the field. We collaborate with many NGOs and international and local organizations that are active in the same areas in Madagascar, in a spirit of support and complementarity of the activities.



«The messages of support from our partners comforted us on the sustainability of the projects"»



Irène Serot Almeras, among the participating members on 6 February 2009 in Ouagadougou.



M. Humbert

«The tools are here. The question is: How can we use these technologies within our different approaches?»  
Y. Mallé/Water Aid.

## SHARING EXPERIENCES

### Water and Sanitation in Burkina Faso... *Ouagadougou, or the importance of returning to the source...*

**In our december 2008 issue, we mentioned the first roundtable with the Foundation Suez eau pour tous (Suez-Eau Foundation for all) focused on water and sanitation in Burkina Faso. A second meeting took place on february 6th in Ouagadougou, organized by Fondation Ensemble.**

This second meeting gathered representatives of ADAE, Eau Vive, the City Hall of Bobo Diolasso, the CREPA, Ocades, Sos Sahel, Water Aid, as well as Lucien Humbert and the Fondation Ensemble. Invited in the offices of Sos Sahel, participants took turns to describe their experiences and answer each other's questions.

#### **How can we get the buy-in of the population on the challenges of sanitation?**

The CREPA started this meeting with the example of the Ecosan technology, providing each participant with the costs of a mutualized training.

#### **Programs supported by the Foundation in Burkina Faso**



- 1 www.eau-vive.org
- 2 www.rainfoundation.org
- 3 www.secours-catholique.asso.fr
- 4 www.sossahel.org
- 5 www.wateraid.org

**Find out more:**  
[www.fondationensemble.org/](http://www.fondationensemble.org/)  
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In Burkina Faso also, building latrines generates strong negative reactions. Water Aid illustrated the pivotal role of training and support and detailed the approach it chose to favor on the ground.

Eau Vive pleaded in favor of a clarification of the role of each actor, pointing to the oft-encountered difficulty of distinguishing the field of action of the different players.

#### **Water prices**

Two testimonies shed a light on the complexity of the debate. Ocades described the difficulty of obtaining a fast return on investment for drip systems. The ADAE then presented its own experience in over 30 systems of simplified adduction of drinking water.

#### **Water reform: How can NGOs value their experience?**

Water systems are being reformed, and this process is begging concrete questions. What training tools are available to strengthen the capacity of municipalities or districts? Will Water User Organizations (WUO) be able to assume their new responsibilities? Will NGOs have the means to take on the challenge?

The debates notably concluded on the importance of capitalizing on the support to constructions in districts; such is the action of Water Aid, part of a working group in charge of centralizing the monitoring and evaluation of experiences related to the water reform. This will help quenching the thirst for the sharing of new experiences...



#### **Sanitation in Peru: Two out of three installations are not being used!**

Such is the observation made by "Alternative Pro-poor Sanitation Solutions in Peru" (APSS), despite the numerous sanitation investments of the last few years for families, especially the poorest ones. The program supported by the Foundation and undertaken in collaboration with WSP begins with this fact to act simultaneously on supply and demand. On the one side, awareness actions are undertaken to explain the challenges and opportunities of sanitation, and stimulate demand. Access to credit is facilitated. On the other side, activities focus on developing the supply locally, engage institutions and suppliers, and provide them with the means of meeting the evolving demand. Overall, five pilot zones are being studied, and the results are already encouraging. To be followed in a next issue...

**Find out more:**  
[www.fondationensemble.org/supported-programs](http://www.fondationensemble.org/supported-programs). **Technical sheet WSP**  
[www.wsp.org](http://www.wsp.org)

#### **Disinfecting Water with Solar irradiation.**

UV-A, a solution to fight pathogenic micro-organisms in water? Experiments undertaken by [Eawag](#) (Institute for the Research on Water in the Area of EPF) and [Sandec](#) (Water and sanitation in developing country division of Eawag) showcase a simple and inexpensive technology. It raises new hopes for the health of people who yet have to gain access to drinking water - one out of three people in developing countries!

Find out more  
About this technology:

[www.sodis.ch](http://www.sodis.ch)



The Association Voûte Nubienne (AVN) «reverses the problematic of habitat in Sahel». A.Horellou, AVN Development Responsible.

Rainwater harvesting in Mali by Rain Foundation ; one of the three programs supported by the Fondation Ensemble.

## INNOVATIONS

### LA VOUTE NUBIENNE (THE NUBIAN ARCH): A ROOF UNDER ONE'S FEET

Laureate of the Concours Impact 2007 ("2007 Impact Competition"), the Association Voûte Nubienne (AVN) showcases its approach to web users on the website of the Foundation.\* Florence Rizzo, Chief Project Officer at Ashoka for the Concours Impact, shares her perspective on a social enterprise that is already very active in Mali, Senegal and Burkina Faso.

Florence Rizzo: the strength of the AVN is that it is founded on an ancestral African technique, which uses dirt to build house roofs. This technique is simple to implement. Materials are found on the spot; members of the local population are trained as builders. The result is that houses are more affordable to families, safer and more environmentally-friendly. It's the exact opposite of a North-South approach!

Last March, Thomas Granier presented the concept of micro-credit for access to VN buildings to Muhammad Yunus. What is your reaction to the course this organization has so far followed?

Today certain results achieved by AVN exceed by far what was predicted in the business plan drafted for the Concours Impact two years ago ! The perspectives are here. This proves the dynamism of the social entrepreneurship sector, which is bursting with new ideas. Our role is also to make these known so that they are disseminated throughout the entire sector.

\*Download the VN Technical Sheet at [www.fondationensemble.org/sharing\\_experiences](http://www.fondationensemble.org/sharing_experiences)

Find out more about VN : [www.lavoutenubienne.org](http://www.lavoutenubienne.org)

To download the practical guide and participate in the Concours Impact 2009: [www.concours-impact.eu](http://www.concours-impact.eu).

## RAINWATER HARVESTING A stream of technologies...

There is no shortage of ideas to recover water falling from above. But how can one see clearly through the diversity of approaches that are offered?

On March 3rd, Arène IdF and pS-Eau organized a midterm evaluation workshop on a study on the challenges and opportunities of rainwater recovery and reuse.

A number of technologies were thoroughly examined. Each was the object of a presentation on its advantages and limits. In each technical sheet, participants could compare actual performances of the system, gauge how local populations have developed ownership of it and gain an understanding of its main technical and economic components. This wealth of information fuels the reflection on the possible improvements and a potential increase of their dissemination.

The Fondation Ensemble was invited to this workshop and is closely interested in these technologies. € 488 258 € are already committed to Barefoot College, the IRHA and the Rain Foundation. Overall, this represents over 20,000 inhabitants in Burkina Faso, Mali, Malawi and India, who find, thanks to rainwater, new ways of improving from their sanitation systems and hygiene to the irrigation of their crops.

An example of the available technologies: Excerpts of working documents distributed during the workshop.



Uganda. A tarpaulin reservoir

Concrete tank

Fiberglass tank

Metal tank

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### To subscribe

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Find all the programs on rainwater harvesting that are funded by the Fondation Ensemble :

[www.fondationensemble.org](http://www.fondationensemble.org)  
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