

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

I wish to specifically dedicate this issue to all those who have tagged along with us, closely or from a distance. We were delighted to meet with some of you on September 15th during our now traditional luncheon of our College of experts. Of course, I wish to first thank the members of the College, who are amply solicited in the selection of the projects and are increasingly involved in their monitoring and evaluation. My gratitude also extends to our Board members and those who participated in this meeting and shared with us their valuable experience. Taking the time to meet is essential for us, and, I believe, for them too.

In five years, the path we have taken together is particularly relevant in terms of achievements. Our involvement in the promotion of sharing experiences is increasingly visible. Mr. Alexandre Brailowsky of *Fondation Suez - Eau pour tous* and Mr. Thomas Granier, president of the *Voûte Nubienne*, brought it to our attention during their interventions (see pp2 and 3).

On June 3rd, the Foundation jointly organized a meeting on Community-based management of Biodiversity, with the FFEM (French Fund for Global Environment) and CI (Conservation International). Here again many thoughts and reflections were pooled together.

On each occasion I attended, shared and engaged, and I wish to reiterate the interest I have for these exchanges. Because while some of the resources of our planet are, as we know, limited, and while many of these are threatened with extinction, many remain that we can explore together. Among them is experience, an inexhaustible source of observation, of reflection and of progress!

Enjoy your reading,

Jacqueline Délia Brémont
Vice-President.

NEWS - PUBLICATIONS

IN THE NEWS ...

More visibility for the Foundation means a greater opportunity for the actions it supports to be more widely known.

In an interview to 'Nouvelles Clés', Jacqueline Délia Brémont describes the Fondation Ensemble, 5 years into its creation. Find the whole article, downloadable at :

www.fondationensemble.org
Section : News.

TECHNICAL SHEETS

How to reduce fuelwood consumption by 70 % to 80 % ?

Sos Sahel presents a technique of improved hearth, deployed in arid zones of Sub-Saharan Africa.



www.fondationensemble.org
Section : Sharing experience

CONTENTS

Life of the Foundation : Report of the annual luncheon of the College of experts. *'The crisis does not prevent the mobilization of the funds necessary to the projects.'* (G. Brémont).

P 2

Welcome to: Find out the results of the latest programme Commission, held last June.

P 3

Biodiversity: *'Different approaches to community-based management of biodiversity'*. Highlights of the meeting of June 3rd, and a question: At the dawn of the Year of Biodiversity, how to remain mobilized ?

P 4



▲ Jacqueline Aloisi de Larderel, member of the Board and of the project Committees

▲ 'Members of the College are very engaged, and for this I strongly thank them' Gérard Brémont, President.

▲ Nathalie Délia Wenta new administrator of the College of founders.

▲ Bertrand Charrier, new administrator, with Jacqueline Délia Brémont, Vice-President.

LIFE OF THE FOUNDATION

'The crisis does not prevent the mobilization of the funds necessary to the programmes'

The annual luncheon of the College of experts of the Fondation Ensemble was held on September 15th. An opportunity to regularly reflect on achievements and listen to new stakeholders...

Gérard Brémont, Fondation Ensemble President, started the meeting by thanking the members of the College of experts who 'collaborate in an active and very responsive manner', as well as the Foundation team and Jacqueline Délia Brémont, a Vice-President 'very present at the heart of the Foundation'.

Members of the Board were also warmly thanked. Gérard Brémont announced the nomination of two new participants. He introduced Nathalie Délia Wenta, administrator at the College of founders, whose engagement was noted in particular for its involvement in two projects based in Nepal.

'We really count on her, in the continuity of the Foundation's work'. G. Brémont then introduced Bertrand Charrier, highlighting a 'historical relationship' woven for many years.

He concluded with these words: 'Despite the crisis, I remain extremely mobilized on the activities of the Foundation. The crisis does not prevent the mobilization of the funds necessary to the programmes'.

Mme J. Délia Brémont took the stand to equally express her gratitude and underline the importance of these informal meetings, 'where we take the time to talk and share with one another'.

The Vice-President of the Foundation then summarized the achievements during the first five years of activities, and announced the selection of five new projects selected during the last commission (see box).

All together, 100 programs and 33 micro-programs are supported, representing a total amount invested on the field (all partners taken together) of 40 million Euros.

WELCOME TO...

Water and Sanitation

- MEDAIR / Madagascar
- ARP DEVELOPPEMENT / Mali

Sustainable Development

- LA VOUTE NUBIENNE / Burkina Faso
- NEAR EAST FOUNDATION / Mali
- RAINFOREST ALLIANCE / Peru



An investment of : 941 000 €.

Read about all sponsored programmes : www.fondationensemble.org Section : Programmes

'Five years into our activities, I can say that we, founders, are happy and proud', J. Délia Brémont concluded before handing over the podium to A. Braïlowsky, member of the College of experts of the Foundation.

Statement by d'Alexandre Braïlowsky,

Doctor by training, A. Braïlowsky started his solidarity work with 'Médecins Sans Frontières' (Doctors without Borders).

After seven years in the slums of Haiti, and then director for sustainable development at Suez Environnement, he gave himself the means, in a company leading in the fields of water and waste, to deepen his knowledge. His objective: 'Making business and solidarity compatible.'

(follow up page 3)



A. Braïlowsky, 'Fondation Suez Environnement - Eau pour tous', created in 2007.

« Suez Environnement, as a leader dedicated to water and waste, cannot be satisfied with just handing out money. We must follow up and support the project, ensure the quality of the results, and the satisfaction of users. We also have to start thinking with other actors. »

Find out more at : www.concourseaupourtous.fr



Paul Van Koppen
Kopconsult

Dominique de la Croix

Arnaud Mourot
Ashoka France

Florence Goudchot
Phitrust Foundation

Michel Affholder

Jean-Claude Clermont
Aquassistance

(continued from page 2)

In some countries, all went well. 'In Argentina, we connected over two million people to water, over one million to sanitation services, some in poor neighborhoods that had not received any public services for years'. But in other countries he hit a wall.

From this was born the *Foundation Suez Environnement - Eau pour tous*, 'to be closer to civil society and to better open up to the outside world.'

For A. Brailowsky, meeting the *Fondation Ensemble* 'was a windfall. We were looking for recognized expertise in the area of project monitoring (financing, management of an NGO) and we also found a partner, ready to act with us in a transversal manner'. This is exemplified by the meetings set up in Burkina Faso (see newsletter issue 11).

'Even if, unlike the *Fondation Ensemble*, we are - and it is important to state it - a company Foundation that has some image constraints, we share a common challenge.'

And A. Brailowsky concluded with hope that 'the entrance of the private sector in the field of solidarity and of development represents a genuine opportunity. That starting from a purely quantitative contribution, private donorship can orient itself towards a more qualitative support, becoming an efficiency vehicle at the service of beneficiaries.'



A report on the activities of the Foundation was distributed to each participant.

Statement by Thomas Granier

'In my architectural books I had learned it was possible to build raw soil bricks without molds'. Curious, lover of travels, Thomas Granier takes the plunge.

With his friend Séri Youlou, a local farmer, he seizes the opportunity to experiment this ancestral process coming from the High Nile, in Burkina Faso. 'We started building houses, trained masons, progressing little by little with our own funding means. And all of a sudden it all came together'. In the Africa Sahel, where deforestation and demographic explosion are hitting hard, this architectural alternative appears not only cheaper and infinitely more environmentally friendly than roofs made of metal sheets, but also more comfortable and a lot more esthetically satisfying.

'The enormous economic advantage of the Nubian Vault is that the majority of the construction costs (the structural work) can be part of the informal economy. The client can bring in 70% of the cost of the building through non-specialized workforce. And the remaining part for investment is money almost entirely be reinjected into local economy.'

Today, leading the organization *Voûte Nubienne* that he started in 2000, Thomas Granier must take another turn, scale up and 'move from one thousand buildings and one hundred trained masons to macro-economic impacts'.

A turn that the organization is not taking alone. Winner of the 2007 Impact competition, the *Voûte Nubienne* continues to receive the regular advice from Ashoka France, and in particular from its director, Arnaud Mourot, member of the College of experts of the Foundation. 'Social entrepreneurship is no doubt the



Thomas Granier
La Voûte Nubienne

« I believe that this partnership between a westerner and a local farmer has played a large role in the success we are experiencing today. »



Find out more about the VN : www.lavoutenubienne.org

most innovative idea of the XXIst century', Thomas Garnier declares boldly. 'It allowed us to transition from charity work towards a genuine social enterprise with all the constraints of the business world, tools and intelligence. If we hadn't started with approach, we wouldn't be where we are today. Or at least, our ambitions would not have had the opportunity to evolve as they did.'

'It is also truly fascinating to see how that all the advice we have received from *Fondation Ensemble* and through the free professional volunteering organized by the *Pinault Printemps Redoute (PRR) Group* perfectly fit our own evolution, and this in a relatively short timeframe.'

During the last commission, *Fondation Ensemble* decided to support this program with € 140,000 over a first two-year period.



Left to right :
Marc Antoine Martin
 FFEM Secretary General

Jacqueline Délia Brémond
 Fondation Ensemble
 Vice-president

Olivier Langrand
 CI Vice-president

◀ **Raphael Cuvelier,**
 Fondation Albert II

Over 60 participants including:
 NGOs, donors, research institutes,
 ministry officials... Some of them coming
 from very far to participate
 in these exchanges.

BIODIVERSITY

A conference organized on June 3rd 2009



'Different Approaches to the Community-Based Management of Biodiversity'

On June 3rd, at the initiative of CI, FFEM and Fondation Ensemble, experiences were shared on the theme of Community-based management of biodiversity. To maximize outreach, the whole dialogues are available on the internet. Highlights...

Marc-Antoine Martin, FFEM Secretary General and Jacqueline Délia Brémond opened this gathering. On the agenda of this half day were presentations of several innovative experiences by experts in community management, followed by discussions on the theme.

The first speaker, Th. Clément (Oréade-Brèche) evoked the *'unavoidable roughness at the onset of a project'* and *'the importance of a long-term support'*. The evaluations on MPAs (Marine Protected Areas) that he led notably underlined the *'need for a tailored approach and the relevance of performance scorecards'*.

During his presentation on forest management in the state of Amazonas, J.F. Kibler (Gret) highlighted, in addition to the needed participation of local population, the *'imperative need of a good governance between stakeholders'*, and *'a good articulation of activities between actors who can at times be far from the target populations'*.

Beyond the results obtained in Madagascar, Olivier Behra (L'Homme et l'Environnement) demonstrated the *'importance of the phase in which a project gains strength and speed'* and noted the *'opportunities given by ethical markets'*, such as in the cosmetics arena.

For Olivier Langrand (CI) *'We win battles, but we lose the war if we do not get involved on another platform. We must generate an economy of natural resources'*. Patricia Zurita (CI) presented the results of CI's conservation pacts and concluded on *'the necessary valuation of human well-being'*.

Finally, the study led in Madagascar by A. Karsenty (Cirad) underlined the difficulties of targeting populations, *'which sometimes entails equity issues'*, and discussed the question of *'an integrated approach'*.

The Questions & Answers that followed is also available on the FFEM web site. Particular attention was given to following up on these exchanges. To be continued...

REACTIONS...

Two speakers give us their reaction on the spot about this gathering.

'I particularly enjoyed the presentation about the cosmetic network in Madagascar.'

Thierry Clément (Océade - Brèche)

'Payments for Environmental Services will likely grow exponentially. Now remain to be found satisfying models that will work in very different contexts.'

Karsenty (Le Cirad)

SNAPSHOTS

'Problems will only have solutions when processes are in place in which stakeholders are genuinely engaged in reflection as well as action.'

Marc-Antoine Martin (FFEM)

'We are aware of the huge scale of the needs and of our relative capacity to meet them. But according to me, I do not think it is interesting to quantify in this area, but rather to move forward, in the right direction, with our own personal capacity to act.'

Jacqueline Délia Brémond

Fondation Ensemble supports 'L'Homme et l'Environnement' et CI in Madagascar and in the DRC
 Find out more at:

Download the presentations at :
www.ffem.org

Download the document distributed on June 3rd by the Foundation at
www.fondationensemble.org



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