



Drinking Water, Sanitation and Waste Management

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Guarantee fair, sustainable access for all to drinking water, sanitation and waste management services.

Factsheet

- Agriculture: value chains and agricultural policies
- Cities for all and decentralisation
- Civic issues and democracy
- Drinking water, sanitation and waste management
- Health: nutrition and social protection
- Microfinance and professional integration
- Natural resource management and energy



BENCHMARKS

GRET has been working on this subject area since the late 1980s.

13 countries of operation in 2016: Burkina Faso, Cambodia, the Comoros, Congo, DRC, France, Haiti, Laos, Madagascar, Mauritania, Myanmar, Senegal and Vietnam.

Approximately **35 projects and studies** per year, **4 capitalisations** led by GRET in 2016.

Provision of drinking water, waste management and sanitation is essential for the well-being of individuals, development of societies and preservation of the environment. And yet, 2.5 billion people in the world do not have hygienic toilets, 2 billion people consume unhealthy water and 2 billion people have no access to a waste collection and treatment service.

GRET strives to improve conditions of access to water, sanitation and waste management for the poorest, with particular focus on innovation and sustainability of systems. Its action is based on the notion of essential services and on the conviction that water, sanitation and waste management must be accessible to all and contribute to social cohesion. In order to guarantee sustainability and accessibility of services, it is crucial to generate institutions that are suited to local situations and include solidarity mechanisms.

GRET's strategy has three strands: strengthen the capacities of water, sanitation and waste management stakeholders; organise inclusive methods of governance that are appropriate to each context, and generate technical innovations based on existing local dynamics.

Methods of intervention

GRET provides support to diverse entities in the exercise of their responsibilities: planning, service ownership, management, defending users, regulation of services, etc. Its teams have developed a broad range of know-how: environmental engineering, social intermediation, management and economy of services, etc. This expertise is mobilized to conduct research, expert studies, training and participate in networks.





GRET's approach

» «Access, sustainability and affordability of services are the main development issues relating to drinking water, sanitation and waste management. GRET not only works on setting up services but also on making sure the conditions necessary for their economic sustainability are met and on the mechanisms that must be implemented to make services as inclusive as possible», explains Mathieu Le Corre, Drinking Water, Sanitation and Waste Management programme manager with GRET.



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Key stakeholders' views

“Our collaboration with GRET is in line with the region's policy aiming to correct the unfair paradox whereby populations do not have access to drinking water, despite living close to the river. The Aicha project provides innovative solutions by optimising production and supply of drinking water for populations.” **Ousmane Sow, director of the Agence Régionale de Développement (Regional Development Agency) in Saint-Louis, Senegal**

“The school in Ziré Sbeikha has 300 pupils and 6 teachers. Before the school latrines were installed in 2014, pupils spent less time in class as they had to walk sufficient distance from the school to hide behind trees. Today, they use latrines, which have a positive impact both on their health and their education. Since we have water in the village, the pupils also fall ill less often, and are therefore less absent at school. Drinking water and hygienic measures have improved living conditions for the pupils and the entire village.” **Lehbib Ould Mahfoud, Principal of the school in Ziré Sbeikha, Mauritania**

SOME REFERENCES

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2016. Photos: © GRET, En Haut ! and Germain Priour.

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Focus on two actions

Local public-private partnerships for drinking water in small urban centres in Cambodia and Laos (Mirep, PACEPA and Isea projects)

Projects: Isea, Mirep, Pacepac, Washoba | 2001-2019 | **Budget:** 15 M€ | **Funding:** AFD, Agence de l'eau Seine-Normandie, AusAid, City of Paris, European Union, Fondation Suez Environnement, Sedif, World Bank | **Partner:** Isea



Since the early 2000s, GRET has been providing support for the development of drinking water services in Cambodia and Laos via local public-private partnerships. Over a period of 15 years, more than 750,000 people benefitted from GRET interventions. Recently, GRET's teams created a services centre for water companies to support their professionalisation. They also contributed to the implementation of a loans offer to cater for investment projects led by these drinking water operators.

Local sanitation and waste management stakeholders: innovation in Mauritania and Senegal

2013-2016 | **Budget:** 725 k€ | **Funding:** Eau Vive, AFD, European Union | **Partner:** Eau Vive



This project aims to strengthen sanitation and waste management stakeholders in seven cities in Senegal and Mauritania. Local authorities who are the service owners are provided with support for planning, funding, contracts, coordination, monitoring and testing. Operators who propose sanitation and waste management services to households are supported to provide quality services at affordable prices for all. One innovation concerned the implementation of a “marketing” strategy aiming to encourage households to purchase their own toilets or subscribe to a waste disposal service.