The Syndicat interdépartemental pour l’assainissement de l’agglomération parisienne (Paris area inter-county sanitation federation - SIAAP) is the Île-de-France public agency that transports and decontaminates close to 2.5 million cu.m. of wastewater every day. Backed by the expertise of its teams and its high-performance installations, it is able to treat household, rain and industrial water and release water beneficial to natural balances into the Rivers Seine and Marne. As the highly experienced leading player in sanitation on a European level, SIAAP helps to promote the right to water and sanitation on an international scale.

1970
CREATION OF SIAAP

6
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

1770
EMPLOYEES

2,5
MILLION CU.M. OF WASTEWATER TREATED EVERY DAY

9
MILLION USERS IN ÎLE-DE-FRANCE
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CHECK OUT:
WWW.SIAAP.FR
EDITORIALS

When SIAAP created its decentralised cooperation mission ten years ago, our agency took action to ensure access to sanitation was included alongside drinking water challenges. Our action with national and international partners meant we were able to have the UNO include the 17 essential objectives identified to transform the world in terms of water and sanitation. SIAAP is now recognised as a voice behind the issue of sustainable, efficient and ecological sanitation in a virtuous environmental framework via circular economy solutions.

Our agency is therefore naturally participating as an organiser of the upcoming World Water Forum in Brasilia next March, as chair of the Urban theme, based on the problem of water in precarious contexts.

Being a key player in the development of the cities of the future is not only a source of pride for our institution but excellent recognition for the 1,773 employees of SIAAP. Voicing its duty to international solidarity and future prospects for the future of the earth is also the strength of the public service.

3 KEY LEGISLATIVE STAGES

The Oudin-Santini Act marked a turning point in the history of territorial community entitlement to finance decentralised cooperation projects. Voted in February 2005, it authorised them to devote up to 1% of their budgets to international solidarity action, emergency aid and decentralised cooperation in the areas of water and sanitation. It was expanded by Article 14 of the Law of 7 July, 2014, which brought in the broader notion of “External Action by Territorial Communities”. Further upgrades to the law are scheduled in 2018.

Initially, one-off schemes based on “pilot” solidarity projects, often conducted in rural areas, such as the installation of toilets in isolated villages, SIAAP’s international action has expanded and become more structured over the years.

Based on a renewed legal framework (see insert), it has become more global and ambitious, as evidenced by action taken in Peking or Mexico.

As a player in this focal, wide-scale change, SIAAP has nonetheless been careful to keep in touch with the reality of situations in the field, keeping to the maxim “think global, act local”.

Nowadays, backed by this mindset, its action and partners come within a dual framework: External Action by Territorial Communities (AECT), defined by the French Ministry for European and Foreign Affairs, and the “Sustainable Development Objectives”, defined by the UNO, promoted by the French Ministry for an Ecological and Inclusive Transition.

Two Dates, Two Figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>€50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>€2.4 million</td>
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</table>

DEDICATED TO INTERNATIONAL ACTION

Belaïde Bedreddine
Chairman of SIAAP

More than 2 billion inhabitants worldwide do not have access to individual or collective sanitation, which leads to serious environmental and sanitary problems.

Continuing with the international policy, implemented by my predecessors, in application of the Oudin-Santini Act, now extended to take in energy and waste issues - in agreement with the Members of the SIAAP Board of Directors, we have decided to reassert our role as an internationally recognised player during this term of office. In parallel with the solidarity action implemented, particularly wanted to integrate the action of SIAAP into the collective approach applied by French institutional players. SIAAP’s presence abroad is all the more legitimate in that it is based on the know-how and competencies of those who help to make the huge challenge of the right to sanitation by populations but also a political commitment concerning cross-border issues, such as the preservation of resources or efforts to combat global warming.

As elected representatives, our everyday work takes us to meet with representatives of towns or villages asking to benefit from SIAAP expertise.

From Saint-Nicolas in Haiti to schools in Mahajanga, Madagascar, we work with mayors to provide populations with responses to sanitation issues. Long-term, environmentally-friendly solutions, pragmatic solutions!

As a Paris city councillor, alongside my SIAAP board member colleagues, it is an honour to take part in this wide-reaching diplomacy under the aegis of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

In this year, whether in the context of a master plan, reinforcement of institutional capacity, training, infrastructure or financing, SIAAP has been praised, via decentralised cooperation, to not only participate in public development aid but also in the dissemination and exporting of French expertise.

Not forgetting that, behind figures and techniques, there are the faces of mayors, inhabitants and schoolchildren looking up to our country with esteem.

Patrick Trémège
Member of the SIAAP Board of Directors
Chairman of the International Relations Committee

With the International Relations Committee we decided to work on the two pillars of external action by our community: international action and solidarity and development action.

Our commitment as elected representatives is in no way a burden: it is a definite wish to make a commitment, not only to more underprivileged territories where we are working to directly improve the rate of access to sanitation by populations but also a political commitment concerning cross-border issues, such as the preservation of resources or efforts to combat global warming.

The nature and action taken by SIAAP on an international level have changed considerably over a period of time. The public service has been able to learn from its initial experiences and tailor its projects to the requirements identified.

It has also been able to support the orientations offered by French law.

The Oudin-Santini Act marked a turning point in the history of territorial community entitlement to finance decentralised cooperation projects. Voted in February 2005, it authorised them to devote up to 1% of their budgets to international solidarity action, emergency aid and decentralised cooperation in the areas of water and sanitation. It was expanded by Article 14 of the Law of 7 July, 2014, which brought in the broader notion of “External Action by Territorial Communities”. Further upgrades to the law are scheduled in 2018.
SIAAP is permitted by law to spend up to 1% of its operating budget for international action, solely in the field of sanitation. A right seized by SIAAP’s board members to make it a duty to support solidarity and a lever for the right to sanitation throughout the world.

80% of the world’s wastewater is not treated and 2.5 billion people are still without improved sanitation infrastructures. SIAAP cannot remain indifferent to this situation and its effects on public health. This is why, since 2006, its board members have unanimously voted in all solidarity projects, whether relating to outreach action or decentralised cooperation, the two pillars of SIAAP’s international action.

**CREATING A SPRINGBOARD FOR DEVELOPMENT**
Irrespective of their nature, scope and geographic location, the objective of these projects that come in response to foreign community requests is to make sanitation the new departure point for development.

It is not only to offer a sustainable response to the issue of wastewater treatment but also to give local populations the wherewithal to become independent in this respect and, ultimately enable them to explore new energy potential.

To take up this challenge, SIAAP intends to work hand in hand with local populations and authorities, listen to their needs, target the action to be taken according to existing expertise and give priority to the exchange of experience and the transfer of skills.

**INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PARTNERSHIPS**
Recognised for its sanitation expertise and its ability to export its know-how, more often than not SIAAP operates within the framework of partnerships. With NGOs or regional/local authorities, not only in the field but also upstream, with top-notch partners such as the Agence de l’Eau Seine-Normandie (Seine-Normandy Water Agency - AESN), the Association Internationale des Maires Francophones (International Association of French-Speaking Mayors - AIMF) or the Agence française de développement (AFD), with which SIAAP signed a framework agreement in 2017.

While these partnerships trigger a veritable knock-on effect for development projects, the preferred method, consisting of associating local players, guarantees their viability and therefore their long-term efficiency.

**EXPERIENCED TEAMS**
SIAAP has acquired appropriate resources to conduct the thirty or so projects currently under way abroad: it has set up a Communication and International Relations Department and recruits decentralised cooperation professionals within the department.

Not only competent from a technical standpoint, they also have good field operation knowledge from Africa to Asia, America to the Middle East, not forgetting Europe.

**SIAAP LOOKING TO 2030 - BENCHMARKING**
With the setup of its “SIAAP 2030” strategic plan, SIAAP is firmly looking to international collaboration, convinced of the need to absorb the good ideas of its foreign counterparts.
As a result, several SIAAP delegations have met with sanitation operators, of types and sizes comparable to SIAAP’s operating scope, in Berlin, Washington, The Hague, Lausanne, Geneva and New York. These benchmarking missions have proved very enriching to source new ideas and nurture promising working relationships with sanitation players.
Outreach action

Among the external action by territorial communities, proposed by law, SIAAP has chosen to invest in action to spread the word: a player in many international events and communities dedicated to water and sanitation, it takes part in studies generated by the extensive urbanisation of the planet and global warming. Its aim is to spread the word on the role of sanitation in urban and climate issues.
PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

Backed by over 40 years’ experience in Île-de-France, very much aware of the issues at stake for the construction of the Grand Paris conurbation and the major economic, ecological and geopolitical balance of the planet, SIAAP portrays a global, sustainable and responsible vision of sanitation on the international scene.

ENGAGEMENT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE (COP)

Highly involved in the 21st Conference of the parties (COP 21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on climate change, held in Paris in 2015, SIAAP also took part in COP 22, in Morocco in November 2016. Headed by SIAAP’s CEO, the Federation delegation took part in a number of events and round tables. It not only shared its experience of major urban public services but also upheld its values and vision of sustainable development, highlighting its action in favour of the circular economy, for example. On Water Day, in particular, the delegation underscored the importance of this resource in adapting to climate change.

SIAAP was also present at COP 23 in Bonn in November 2017 to monitor gradual implementation of the Paris Accord, in general, and Sustainable Development Objectives 6 and 11, in particular, which are devoted to sanitation.

WORLD WATER FORUM (WWF)

With its 40,000 participants, deciders, politicians, experts, members of civil society and players in the water sector, from 160 countries, the WWF is an essential event, held every three years. SIAAP contributed to demonstrating the importance of sanitation, often the poor relative in the water sector. It then upheld its highly pragmatic vision of the steps to be taken to provide developing countries with suitable sanitation systems. In 2015, in Daegu in South Korea, it was also involved in the preparation of a guide entitled Designing and Implementing a Strategy to Develop Awareness to Hygiene and the Promotion of Sanitation.

The 8th edition of the WWF organised in Brasilia in March 2018, based on the subject of “sharing water”. The new elements of this meeting include the setup of a “process” dedicated to sustainable development and a topic devoted to urban applications, co-steered by SIAAP. The latter is also present in the France area, supported by the French Water Partnership (Partenariat français pour l'eau - PFE).

INTERNATIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION (IWA)

The IWA, the world’s leading network of water professionals, has 35,000 members and, via 50 working groups, is involved in all areas of the water cycle. Since the collection and treatment of wastewater are part of the IWA’s main sectors of interest, SIAAP has an obvious place in the network. It takes part in its international congresses which, every two years, are a place to attend interesting meetings and share information. Its SIAAP 2030 strategy is close to the “Water-Responsible City” approach promoted via its strategic partnership with the IWA.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Every year, the SIAAP also takes part in World Water Week organised by the Stockholm International Water Institute since 1991. Its special delegates appreciate the quality of the technical, scientific and political discussions and sharing of information that take place there. Similarly, SIAAP sends a delegation to the World Water Congress held every three years, organised since 1973 by the International Water Resources Association (IWRA). Its 16th edition focusing on the subjects of the interfaces between science and the political world, was attended by a thousand people in Cancun in 2017.
THE ALLIANCE OF MEGACITIES

Introduced at COP 21, in December 2015, the aim of the Alliance of Megacities for Water and the Climate (part of the Global Alliance for Water and the Climate (GAFWAC)), is to develop interaction between cities with over 10 million inhabitants to forestall the impact of demographic growth and climate change on their operation.

From Mexico to Beijing, Paris to Manilla, Mumbai to Buenos Aires, Lagos to Tokyo, etc. megacities have flourished on all continents the past thirty years.

With over 10 million inhabitants, on confined areas of land, they face common problems, which include water management and sanitation, as well as guarding against the effects of climate change.

Shortage of drinking water, insufficient sanitation capacities, epidemics, pollution of natural environments, etc. - how to guard against the many risks that can lead to uncontrolled demographic growth and/or climate disruption (flooding, rise in the level of the sea, hurricanes). What are the solutions to be found to reduce the vulnerability of these large cities, particularly those located in the world’s least developed countries?

To anticipate these problems, the Alliance of Megacities for Water and the Climate enables its members to pool experience and best practices, together with support for the design of technical tools and urban water governance models, the sharing of strategies and scientific studies and partnerships between operators to improve the capacity for every megacity to adapt to the impact of climate change.

A stakeholder in the Alliance of Megacities for Water and the Climate since COP 21, SIAAP has entered into a partnership with Unesco via financing for its implementation.

THE PARIS CONURBATION.
With over 10 million inhabitants, the Paris urban area is one of the densest in Europe.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER: a vital issue for the development of the cities of the future, supported by the Megacities Alliance for Water and the Climate.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MEGACITIES</th>
<th>CITY FLOODING</th>
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<th>OTHER EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE</th>
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<td>NEW YORK</td>
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<td>STORM SURGES</td>
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<td>SEVERE LOSS OF WATER AND POLLUTION OF WATER</td>
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<td>TOKYO</td>
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<td>DESTRUCTION DUE TO NATURAL DISASTERS</td>
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THREE DATES, THREE FIGURES

1970
3 megacities

2016
31 megacities

2030
more than 40 megacities WORLDWIDE
After the agreement was signed between Unesco and SIAAP, the latter agreed to pay a financial contribution of 50,000 euros (for the years 2017 and 2018). This financial contribution should help to promote cross-border hydro diplomacy and resource management strategies in order to construct sustainable development for the region in close cooperation with the various stakeholders.

There are no frontiers to water resources and the pollution of natural environments is affecting all states that share coastlines, rivers and water tables. The situation in the Middle East bears witness to this where Lebanon, Israel and Palestine share the coastline of the Mediterranean Sea and where access to the Red Sea for Israel and Jordan is very close. If one of these countries discharges polluted water into the sea, all its neighbours are affected.

In 2016, aware of the interlinks and issues relating to water in the region, the Jordanian, Lebanese, Palestinian and Israeli authorities accepted an invitation from Unesco to sit around the same table in the Paris Senate to discuss the subject. Facing the same difficulties with decontamination of their waters, the four states wished to open up dialogue to find shared technical solutions, with the support of SIAAP.

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Decentralised cooperation

Decentralised cooperation constitutes the other pillar of SIAAP’s international policy. At the request of foreign territorial communities, the SIAAP sets up partnerships of various forms with them: the production of sanitation master plans, institutional reinforcement of communities, technical assistance and financial support. In most cases, SIAAP is involved at several stages, upstream of the identification of needs, as technical support to set up the infrastructure required and as institutional support via training. Irrespective of the nature of the operation undertaken, SIAAP supports existing local players and gives priority to the transfer of skills.

Three stages are necessary for the implementation of a project:

1/ an identification mission
2/ Board of Directors examination of the agreement
3/ implementation
After an initial identification of needs mission, SIAAP helps communities to choose a sanitation system tailored to the volumes of water to be processed, the location topography and the human and financial resources at their disposal.

SIAAP initially carries out an identification mission. Its project managers then make a socioeconomic analysis of needs, draw up a diagnosis of the existing sanitation system and embark on studies to define the techniques best suited to the collection, transportation and treatment of wastewater.

A master plan offers a global vision of sanitation in a given territory with the technical solutions for implementation. The organisation of the technical and human resources it recommends must be shared with the local players who will be responsible for rollout.

All master plans also make provision for long-term support for these personnel. At the time of implementation, the technical section is always accompanied by an education section to develop the awareness of the population to sanitation and the adoption of best practices. All these precautions guarantee the efficiency and long-term viability of projects.

HAITI
PORT-AU-PRINCE

Alongside the National Drinking Water and Sanitation Department (Dinepa) and the Haiti Caribbean Development Cooperation (CCDE), the SIAAP is involved in the updating of the sanitation strategy on the Port-au-Prince metropolitan region scale. In this territory where it has provided assistance for several years now, SIAAP’s support is materialised both on an operational level with mobilisation of its teams to provide technical support and on a financial level with the payment of subsidies.

A few examples

VIETNAM
YÊN BÁI

Involved for the past 20 years in decentralised cooperation with Vietnam, the Val de Marne County Council contacted SIAAP for it to define a global, strategic vision of the sanitation requirements in Yên Bái Province in the North of the country. This plan will enable a strategy to be defined for the collection and treatment of wastewater for some 95,000 beneficiaries.

KEY FIGURE

18

MASTER PLAN PREPARATION PROJECTS CONDUCTED WORLDWIDE IN 2018

TEAMS IN THE FIELD.
The SIAAP teams onsite are responsible for the monitoring and implementation of master plans.

2010
START OF COOPERATION
5,000
NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

2016
START OF COOPERATION
95,000
NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES
Institutional and administrative structure difficulties in some countries or provinces complicate the setup and operation of modern sanitation systems. Local administrators and technicians need support and training.

When an identification of needs highlights the requirement to reinforce local institution capabilities, SIAAP asks its project managers to recruit personnel in the field and offer them training, at the Cité de l’Eau et de l’Assainissement in Colombes in the Paris Region or within the framework of South-South cooperation.

This training may cover the legal aspects linked to discharge standards, the legal framework for sanitation (connection policy, sanitation regulations) or the conditions for invoicing the service (structuring of the water invoice).

SIAAP always tries to adapt its recommendations to the local context. It is assisted in this by the expertise of its partners. It also relies on the transfer of skills: the Moroccan teams trained by SIAAP in turn trained their Togolese counterparts.

2015
START OF COOPERATION
200,000
NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

2015
START OF COOPERATION
360,000
NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

The SIAAP has developed collaboration with the Mahajanga Urban District (CUM) to set up a master plan aimed at defining the techniques most suitable for the collection, transportation and treatment of wastewater. In partnership with the Syctom and Ircod, an agreement was signed to consolidate the work started in the Wastewater and Excreta Sanitation sector, in the context of the ASSMA project. Already in 2017, this enabled the construction and management of a public toilet facility in Ambohidratra (Sainte-Marie island, in partnership with the Gret). The project is continuing with the introduction of innovative technology and tools (green gas production from excrement, sludge recycling, etc.).

Greater Beirut is involved in several sanitation projects, which include the construction of the Beirut-North and Conurbation treatment plant. In 2015, SIAP agreed to help the district in its discussions and negotiations with other project stakeholders. Moreover, it offered training in the management of a public sanitation service, in partnership with the Water Solidarity Programme.
Technical advice and support constitute SIAAP's core business: whether this involves designing a system from A to Z or modernising an existing one, SIAAP engineers direct the studies and monitor the construction of equipment, in partnership with local teams.

SIAAP’s expertise may cover equipment for districts or villages in rural areas or more extensive systems in medium-sized towns or major conurbations.

Each time, SIAAP supervises studies, helps with the choice of the most suitable technical solution, assesses the cost of the work and assists with implementation.

Training is systematically given in operation and support for partners for study of the business model to guarantee the long-term viability of the project.

**A few examples**

**MOROCCO**

**AIN JEMAA**

The technical support provided to this small district to the west of Meknes by SIAAP enabled the town’s technical teams to make progress with the design of their sanitation system. It was also beneficial to the Moroccan Office national de l’électricité et de l’eau potable (National Electricity and Drinking Water Agency - Onee): its personnel and their Moroccan partners were able to undergo training in various treatment techniques and, in particular, learn about planted reed filters.

**VIETNAM**

**AVEC (Action Vietnam eau - Vietnam water action)**

This cooperative effort was a multi-partnership, started in 2009 to train community councillors and water and sanitation department managers in various Vietnamese provinces. The first 18 training modules provided both technical and operational support for some 400 participants. It also reinforced links between Vietnamese provinces and the Île-de-France partners involved.

**AFRICA**

**AIN JEMAA**

**KEY FIGURE**

31

TECHNICAL CAPABILITY REINFORCEMENT PROJECTS CONDUCTED WORLDWIDE IN 2017

2009

START OF COOPERATION

400

NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

2014

START OF COOPERATION

12,000

NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

20

21
Financial support often comes after an initial institutional or technical cooperation phase. It is for local operators that have already acquired some independence in taking charge of their sanitation projects.

If requested by foreign territorial communities that have already made progress with their projects and have management and operation competency, SIAAP grants subsidies on a case-by-case basis.

The amount is calculated after a mission to identify the number of inhabitants, the human resources onsite and involvement of other financial partners.

This financial support, often multi-year, may be renewed for several years if necessary.

A few examples

GUINEA
CONAKRY
SIAAP agreed to provide financial aid for the installation of a sanitation system at Kofi-Annan University in Guinea, the ideal place to pass on water treatment expertise. SIAAP will also provide technical and institutional support for project partners and participate in an educational programme to develop the awareness of students.

EL SALVADOR
JUCUARÁN
It was with the Val-de-Marne County Council that SIAAP embarked upon this cooperative effort to help the district of Jucuaran to implement a complete sanitation project. After five years’ technical and institutional assistance, SIAAP will be helping with the commissioning and first years of operation of the new treatment plant to which 2,500 households have been connected.
THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AFD AND SIAAP WILL ENABLE BOTH OF THESE INSTITUTIONS TO REINFORCE SYNERGY ESSENTIAL TO THEIR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ASSIST POPULATIONS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

PATRICK TRÉMÈGE, Chairman of the International Relations Committee