

# Improving living conditions in depressed urban areas through sustainable access to running water, hygiene promotion, sanitation, fire fighting and waste management



For 8 years now, we designed, tested and improved our approach to enable peoples from the slums to have a sustainable access to basic services (water, waste management, sanitation, fire fighting, hygiene awareness and community building) and to include those districts in the politic of the local authorities and operators. In 2016, it was time to look back on those years. First of all,an impact study, made by an external partner, showed the improvement of the living conditions for the families receiving help from Water and Life. Then, the movie Eau et Vie (<a href="http://eauetvie.fr/en/documentation/videos/2016/presentation">http://eauetvie.fr/en/documentation/videos/2016/presentation</a>) showed the global approach of the organization and the support of the users, the local authorities and the water operators. Besides of the growth and development of the field activities, both of those achievements incite us to continue our work and, in 2017, to try out our approach in a disadvantaged area in a French city. To be continued...

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#### THE POSITIVE SOCIAL IMPACT OF WATER ACCESS IN BANGLADESH

During the month of June, two engineering students of Paristech (ENSTA), members of the Adaqua association, conducted a survey on the social impact generated by Eau et Vie services for the people from Bhashantek's slum. The research was conducted among **166 households** (connected and non connected to the network), in public spaces and among storekeepers and health centers. The results are significant: the access to potable and running water improves significantly people's life. The average water volume consumed in one day per person almost doubled (53.2L for 27.8L), to reach the consumption



recommended by the World Health Organization for a decent living. The health impact is undeniable: the use of soap and the hand washing have become day to day habits, and 95% of the connected households attest to a real health improvement. The number of households with health expenses linked to hydric diseases has been divided by three, and work and school absences have substantially decreased. When health costs integrated, water expenses are divided by two concerning the households connected to running water. The inhabitants don't have to wash outside, or to participate to the chore water anymore: the access to running water therefore facilitated and secured their life. At the end of 2016, the water network occupied 95% of the first part of Bhashantek. The building of the second part, where 1,497 people are living, will start in 2017. The results of this survey confirm the harmony between Eau et Vie approach and the needs of the people from disadvantaged districts, and strengthens our will to extend our activities not only in Bangladesh, but also in the Philippines and Ivory Coast.

## DAILY WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE (BANGLADESH)



Since 2015, Eau et Vie started a pilot project concerning the collection and sorting of domestic waste, based on a virtuous circle involving local actors. Waste collectors, who are locals, collect waste at home, after the families have thrown them away in provided bins. Thanks to the use of delivery tricycles, waste collectors can easily move around the narrow streets of the district to do the inhabitant's collects and bring the waste to the transfer station where the town services take over and ensure the transportation to the municipal landfill site.



Eau et Vie teams realize an important work of awareness among families to arouse their interest to sort and give their garbage to our collectors in order to improve their environment. Since September, the cleaning of Bhashantek streets takes place every month in different areas.

At the end of 2016, 488 households were getting benefit from the service. At the beginning of 2017,

**the service of waste collection** will be mandatory and extended to every households. The aim of a free garbage environment in Bhashantek is underway!



## CASC APPUI'S MISSION IN THE PHILIPPINES



In January, three professional firefighters of the CASC Appui association came to the Philippines to share their expertise and help to improve the Eau et Vie fire fighting system. The equipment of every intervention districts in Cebu and Cavite has been checked. The Tipolo community

received a **motor pump** to overcome water pressure problems, and the firefighters of Eau et Vie have been trained to use it. The visits were also a good occasion to talk with the volunteers to think about technical solutions to bring to the project. This event helped to gather the community, the volunteer firefighters, as well as the local authorities and some partners, with the presence of the local medias (84 people).

The success of the mission strengthens the partnership of Eau et Vie and the CASC Appui Association. A mission is planned in Tacloban, in the Philippines for 2017.



### REHABILITATION OF LATRINES IN BHASHANTEK (BANGLADESH)



The latrines rehabilitation program has just begun! Three types of sanitary blocks have been selected for this project: a 14 public toilets block, a 5 public toilets near a school and a family block of three toilets. This last family block has been selected to start the pilot project early 2017. The Eau et Vie solution is to clean the area, to dismantle the existing unhygienic latrines in order to set up toilets with the Biofil system and to provide the management & the maintenance. The Biofil technology, based on a worm composting system, reduces the facilities maintenance costs, decreasing drastically the pit draining frequency and producing compost that can be handled without risks to health. More than a technical solution, it is mainly the innovation in the way to manage these toilets over the long term that is tested here. The fee payment by the families to use those toilets, easily integrated with the water payment already operational, is the feature of the project. Meetings are organized with local communities and development actors to involve and to assist them in the design and implementation phases. The Eau et Vie teams have organized a visit of Biofil toilets set up in a neighbouring area to explain the functioning to the families

Eventually, the 15,000 people living in Bhashantek will have access to hygienic and sustainable toilets, with one toilet for about ten people (compared with 20 to 40 at the present time). Access to water and electricity will be ensured inside each block, and 1 in 3 toilet will have easy access for people with reduced mobility and children.



#### **NEWS FROM IVORY COAST**



The framework agreement between ONEP and Eau et Vie Ivory Coast has been signed in June 2016. In July, the project in the neighbourhood of Djidan 1 (Abidjan) was submitted to the inhabitants. The baseline survey carried out between August and October 2016 includes three components: a socio-economic household's survey (conducted by 7 investigators, 3 from the district), an engineering study on the conditions of access to water and a study on the illegal water selling system. The results of the survey show that the majority of the population belongs to a relatively poor precarious category (the balance between incomes and monthly expenditure is close to zero), the level of education is low and the essential services are not guaranteed by the authorities or official suppliers. Access to water and electricity is mainly achieved through the informal and illegal sector and allows to

satisfy some of the basic needs of the population. The living environment of the population remains very vulnerable and the socio-economic development of households is held back. Less **than 6% of the households** have legal access to water and 95% do not treat stored water. The residents are enthusiastic about the upcoming launch of the activities.

#### **EAU ET VIE IMPACTS DATA\***

\*Late november 2016 figures



**22,510** people and **19** public places welcoming daily **1,042** users benefit from sustainable access to drinking water



**1** sanitary complex operational in Cavite and **3** sanitary blocks being renovated in Bhashantek.



234 trained and equipped volunteer firefighters
11 controlled & extinguished fires in the Philippines



**2,679** people environmentally aware 488 families usingng the daily waste collection service at home in Bangladesh



3 557 people sensitized to good hygiene practices, including 2 332 children during school sessions



**837** inhabitants from 8 slums of the Philippines and Bangladesh involved in Eau et Vie activities in 2016

Your donation online or by cheque can support our actions!

#### **HOW WILL YOUR DONATION BE USED?**

Your donation vouch for your support towards the most deprived families:

- 10 € You allow a child to benefit from a hygiene training
- 45 € You train and equip a volunteer firefighter to the fire fight
- 90 € You connect a family to the tap water supply system
- 200 € You will contribute to equip a school with a collective sink for students
- 500 € You permit the installation of a fire hydrant

THE NEW EAU ET VIE FILM

TAKE A LOOK AT OUR

**ACTIVITIES IN 15 MN THROUGH** 



<u>Via the internet website d'Eau et Vie</u>

THANKS A LOT!

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#### **CONTACT US**

Eau et Vie - 68 rue de Coulmiers - 44000 Nantes - France 0033 (0)2 49 44 42 55 - contact@eauetvie.ong