

# Boosting decentralized water solidarity mechanisms at the Swiss and global level



### Theme

Water

### Region

Global

### Partners

BHP - Brugger and Partners Ltd.,  
UNDP, Bureau for External Relations  
and Advocacy (BERA)/ART Program

### Background information

More than 780 million people do not have access to an improved drinking water source and 2.5 billion lack access to basic sanitation.

### Project target

1. Support cooperation of Swiss municipalities/water utilities with communities in developing countries on water and sanitation.
2. Contribute to the implementation of decentralized solidarity mechanisms at global scale.

### Beneficiaries

Poor and vulnerable people that currently lack access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation, and local authorities and planners of decentralized solidarity mechanisms.

### Costs

Project budget: CHF 1,963,000  
SDC contribution: CHF 1,184,000

### Duration

January 2013 – December 2015

### Contact

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Today more than 780 million people still do not have access to a safe drinking water source and 2.5 billion lack access to basic sanitation. In developing countries, municipalities and water utilities can play a key role in mobilizing additional finance and know-how for improved water supply and sanitation services through decentralized solidarity mechanisms. The proposed project will strengthen the platform *solidarit'eau suisse*. The support to the Global Water Solidarity (GWS) platform will contribute to global advocacy for and implementation of decentralized solidarity mechanisms.

Decentralized solidarity mechanisms in the water sector are implemented in various countries, but so far, they are not used on a large scale and perform way below their potential. Therefore, what is needed is better advocacy for decentralized solidarity mechanisms and stronger knowledge and capacity development for their proper implementation.



### Goal

- **Solidarit'eau suisse**: to leverage additional funds, capacity and know-how into the water and sanitation sector to contribute to the achievement of Millennium Development Goal No. 7: to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.
- **Global Water Solidarity**: to contribute to the implementation of decentralized solidarity partnerships at global scale by mobilizing tangible and measurable commitments from local authorities, national governments, specialized public agencies, private institutions and civil society organisations

### Outcomes

- **Solidarit'eau suisse**: that the effectiveness of the *solidarit'eau* platform is enhanced and leading to an increase in the funding; with more municipalities contributing financially and having better understanding of opportunities and challenges of water and sanitation projects in developing countries.
- **Global Water Solidarity**: knowledge about decentralized solidarity mechanisms and capacity for their implementation is increased at the global level; GWS is leading the global policy dialogue on decentralized solidarity mechanisms; additional funds are mobilized for the water and sanitation sector and GWS ensures its long-term financial sustainability by broadening its donor base.



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC

### Results from previous phases

- **Solidarit'eau suisse**: more than CHF 3 million has been raised for water and sanitation projects that provided access to water and sanitation to 660,000 people. A vibrant public-public partnership between Lausanne and Nouakchott was established.
- **Global Water Solidarity**: charter on decentralized solidarity mechanisms was developed and signed by 60 organisations; several case studies conducted; a water and sanitation laboratory in the Region of L'Oriental (Morocco) was created with the financial and technical support of the Tuscany region (Italy).



 solidarit'eau suisse PARTENARIAT



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Jouxens-Mézery  Jussy  La Chaux  Lausanne  Le Mont-sur-Lausanne  Lutry  
Martigny  Morges  Nyon  Pully  Trient  Villaz-St-Pierre ... rejoignez-nous !

Additional information:

[www.sdc-water.ch](http://www.sdc-water.ch)

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

[www.undp.org/geneva/watersolidarity](http://www.undp.org/geneva/watersolidarity)