



2021 WORLD WATER DAY

WASH RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN FRENCH INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

Why a coordinated, multi-stakeholder response is key to enhancing empowerment and preparedness at the local level



Speakers : Marion Libertucci in charge of Expertise and Advocacy at UNICEF-France ; Julien Eyrard WASH Adviser at Action contre la Faim France ; Candice Talleux Head of the French Mission at Première Urgence Internationale , Rémi Boutin project officer at aquassistance ; Fionnah Garnier project officer at Eau du Grand Lyon, Sandra Métayer Coordinator at the Coalition Eau

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WHY TAKING ACTION ON WASH IN FRANCE?



Lack of access to WASH facilities for persons living in precarious habitat in France highlighted by the covid crisis led to the mobilization of actors during the first lockdown

1. Coordination of stakeholders to target the most vulnerable populations and to cover the most urgent needs
2. Share lessons learned to prepare for the next crises

COORDINATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

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- Collective online 4W (mapping of needs and interventions Who, Where, When, What) and mapping
- Centralisation of shared knowledge and learnings :
 - Joint protocols,
 - Joint advocacy,
 - Common minimum « Standards » ...

	Maxi 50 personnes per tap
Water Access	Distance ≤ 200m

DIAGNOSTICS

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PREMIERE URGENCE INTERNATIONALE

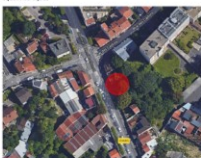


EVALUATION WASH :
Squat Montreuil (75)

Réalisé par : Emilie Serestre, cp.efa@premiere-urgence.org
Position : Responsable technique WASH
Date : 17/04/2020
Projet : PUI/FR/2020-1

SITUATION


- Localisation:

A4, 84 Henri Barbusse, 48°51'44.8" N 2°28'34.2" E
Squat : Serapien






- Population : 15 personnes (4 Femmes, 5 Hommes, 4 enfants + 5 ans, 2 enfants - 5 ans) au 17/04/2020
- Infrastructures:
- Accès à l'eau:

Fontaine publique, 1 robinet, situé à 500 m du squat, en face de la mairie de Montreuil.



Coordonnées GPS : 48°51'44.8" N 2°28'31.1" E



L'eau de la borne fontaine est utilisée en eau de ménage et pour l'hygiène, la population ne la boit pas. Ils reçoivent chaque jour une livraison de 20 à 30 bouteilles d'eau de 50 cl par l'armée du salut pour l'eau de boisson.

- Sanitaires : /
- Bessus WFI :


Il y a des besoins de jerricans pour le stockage et le transport de l'eau.
Distribution de kits d'hygiène familiale par le 21/04/2020 en collaboration avec ACF.

- Réaccordement à l'électricité :

Il ne sont pas raccordés à l'électricité. Ils possèdent un générateur mais ne l'utilise pas par manque de finance pour l'achat de l'essence.

Contact arrêté mairie de Montreuil :

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Various informal settlements WaSH Assessments report, PUI, April 2020

HYGIENE KIT DISTRIBUTIONS AND AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

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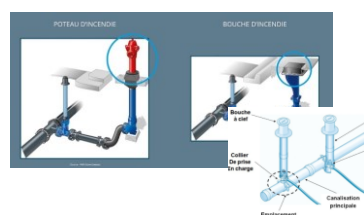
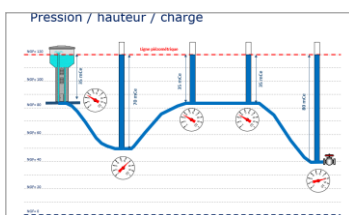
INSTALLATION OF WATER POINTS

2 main differences between these interventions and an emergency response in foreign countries:

- **management:** water network run by public utilities, often with a private company
 - essential part of the water operator, only he is allowed to make the connection and set the meter (right after the validation of public authorities), before any other action
- **environment:** meshed urban water network nearby, dense and good pressurised
 - many access to the network: drinking water « easy » to find and to supply nearby or even into the camps

Organisation of a **quick technical training** for our NGO partners

- to give details about the water service in French urban context



Urban water network plan (source : Pamline)

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INSTALLATION OF WATER POINTS

Main issues during the implementation:

- choice of the **connection point**



- grey water **evacuation**



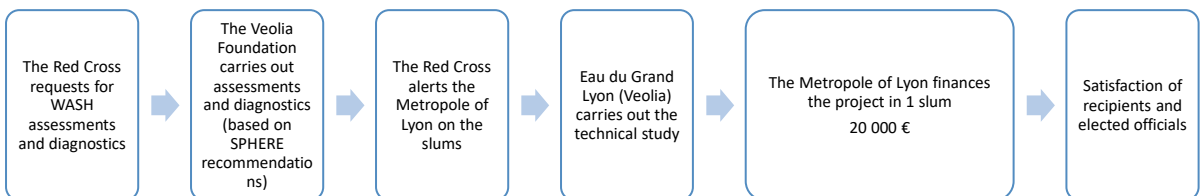
- pipes **route** (roads, public/private parcell limit...)



- protection** against the damage, the frost... (aerial pipes)



SANITATION CHALLENGES



- 150 people, 40 children
- 2 showers, 4 toilets (2 men, 2 women)
- Installation and connection to the drinking water and wastewater network
- Management and maintenance by the slum
- Support and awareness by the Red Cross

➡ Success of a multi-stakeholder project

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EVOLUTION OF FRENCH LEGISLATION

THE TRANSPOSITION OF THE EUROPEAN DIRECTIVE ON DRINKING WATER
AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF NGOS

Revision of the European directive on the quality of water intended for human consumption - December 2020

Article 16 on access to water for the most vulnerable: *"States shall take the necessary measures to improve or maintain access to water intended for human consumption for all, in particular for vulnerable and marginalised groups as defined by the Member States."*

By this article, the Member states commit themselves to:

- Identify people without access to water and reasons for such lack of access
- Assess possibilities for improving access and inform people about possibilities
- Take measures to ensure access to water for human consumption for vulnerable and marginalised groups
- Install facilities in public spaces

Key figures for metropolitan France :

300,000 people are not connected to the water supply network (homeless people, people living in camps, squats and slums, etc.)

1.2 million people connected to the distribution network but for whom water is unaffordable

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EVOLUTION OF FRENCH LEGISLATION

THE TRANSPOSITION OF THE EUROPEAN DIRECTIVE ON DRINKING WATER
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NGOs recommendations for the transposition of article 16 :

1. Identification of the most vulnerable

- Assessments in localities to (i) identify people without water and toilets, (ii) know the location of public water points and toilets and (iii) assess needs and install/maintain public infrastructures
- Make information transparent and accessible

2. Effective implementation of the right to water for people that lack access

- Clarification of the administrative organisation and the roles and responsibilities of the various actors in providing access to WASH for those without water
- Installation and maintenance of free drinking water supply facilities in public spaces by local authorities (fountains)
- Water connections or installation of drinking water points and sanitation facilities provided for informal settlements

3. Development of social water pricing

- Evolution of the current legislation to adapt the eligibility criteria of the social and solidarity water pricing mechanisms (first litres free, subsidies, etc.) to make them accessible to people living in informal settlements

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EVOLUTION OF FRENCH LEGISLATION

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NGOs recommendations for the transposition of article 16 :

4. The definition of a standard for minimum access in France

For informal settlements :

- Minimum quantity of drinking water needed to meet basic needs: 40 L per day per person, with a maximum of 50 people per water tap and a maximum distance of 200 metres.
- Minimum number of toilets: one toilet on site for up to 50 people.

Availability of public facilities:

- Minimum number of public water points depending on the size of the administrative area and the number of potential users of these facilities.
- Local authorities of areas with more than 5,000 inhabitants install and maintain a minimum number of free public toilets according to their size and the potential number of users.

- Position Paper "Transposition of the EU Drinking Water Directive in France: Recommendations from the water and sanitation NGOs" : <http://www.coalition-eau.org/wp-content/uploads/recommandations-des-ong-transposition-de-la-directive-eau-potable-17-mars-2021-1.pdf>
- Capitalization document "Regulations, technical solutions and sharing experience to ensure access to water, sanitation and hygiene in informal settlements in France" : <http://www.coalition-eau.org/wp-content/uploads/si-acf-garantir-acces-eah-lieux-de-vie-informels-032021.pdf>

THANK YOU

If any, we will answer to unanswered questions on the event page : <https://www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr/en/calendar/evenement/wash-response-to-covid-19-in-french-informal-settlements/>

Please contact elisa.dehove@partenariat-francais-eau.fr to get in touch with one of the speakers

Consult the documents online :

- Position Paper "Transposition of the EU Drinking Water Directive in France: Recommendations from the water and sanitation NGOs" : <http://www.coalition-eau.org/wp-content/uploads/recommandations-des-ong-transposition-de-la-directive-eau-potable-17-mars-2021-1.pdf>
- In French only : Capitalization document "Regulations, technical solutions and sharing experience to ensure access to water, sanitation and hygiene in informal settlements in France" : <http://www.coalition-eau.org/wp-content/uploads/si-acf-garantir-acces-eah-lieux-de-vie-informels-032021.pdf>