

PRESS RELEASE

The Veolia Environnement Foundation announces the winners of the “Sustainable Energy for All” competition

Paris, February 7, 2013 – In a world where 20% of the population has no access to electricity and where more than one out of every four people in Europe is confronted with energy poverty, the Veolia Environnement Foundation and Dalkia are supporting energy initiatives to combat poverty, improve health and foster economic growth while at the same time protecting the environment.

As part of the International Year of Sustainable Energy declared by the United Nations General Assembly, the “Sustainable Energy for All” competition was held in 2012. The judges, members of the Veolia Environnement Foundation and representatives of Dalkia, have just announced the winners:

- The **“Innovation”** award was presented to the association **“Habite ta Terre”** for its eco-construction of a hostel for volunteers using recycled materials in the village of N'Gogom, in the heart of the Diourbel region (Senegal)
- The **“Development”** award went to the association **“Palabres sans Frontières”** that is working to improve access to healthcare and to help create income-generating activities for the women in the village of Keur Samba Yacine, in the Thiès region (Senegal)
- The **“Solidarity”** award was presented to the association **“Mains d'œuvres”** for its work integration project involving the thermal and noise insulation of part of its premises in Saint-Ouen, Paris region (France) at an abandoned industrial site converted into an arts and community center.

These three winners will receive funding from the Foundation and technical support from the project sponsor employees. “I am proud of Dalkia employees’ commitment to innovative solidarity projects in the area of energy and that are also contributing to regional economic growth and helping combat poverty,” said Bernard Thomas, Executive Vice President, Human Resources at Dalkia and member of the panel, at the award ceremony held at the Veolia Environnement Campus in Ile-de-France.

The Veolia Environnement Foundation

The Veolia Environnement Foundation supports community-oriented projects contributing to sustainable development in France and other countries in three main areas: outreach, workforce development and environmental conservation. The originality of its approach is that each project is supported by a sponsor who is a Veolia employee. The Foundation also encourages volunteering of skills, contributing the know-how of the Veolia Environnement employees to its partners, associations

and institutions. Since its creation in 2004, the Veolia Environnement Foundation supported close to 1000 projects in France and internationally, and participated in 150 expertise missions. More information at <http://www.croix-rouge.fr/>

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