



AN ASSOCIATION OPERATING A STANDPIPE CONCESSION

Conakry - GUINEE

Conakry: population 1,200,000 - 1,000 GF (Guinean francs) = US\$ 0,80

WATER SERVICE IN CONAKRY

- The water company, SEEG, serves 35,000 individual connections (44 percent of households).
- Residents of unauthorized and unplanned settlements not connected to the water network get water from those who have connections (32 percent of households), from standpipes (7 percent), and from handcarts (2 percent). The remaining 15 percent of residents get most of their water from wells.

The public network is comprised of 120 standpipes managed by operators contracted by SEEG and the municipality and 28 other standpipes managed by associations that have invested in the extension of the network.

AN INNOVATION:

CONCESSION FOR A STANDPIPE NETWORK

The Guinean Association for Private Sector Promotion (AGPSP) brings together young jobless high school graduates involved in community development.

In the G'Bessia area of Conakry, which had no standpipes and was served by few handcarts, this association built a network of nine standpipes connected to the SEEG water mains.

- Their initial investment: GF 13,078,000, a loan from Agence Française de Développement
- Rate at which they buy water: GF 1250/m³, less a discount of GF 420 for each m³ sold
- Rate at which they sell water: GF 2,500/m³
- Annual sales volume: GF 8,784,000

The association pays the same industrial water rates as do the standpipe vendors who operate SEEG equipment, though it self-financed the nine standpipes.

AGPSP employs a staff of 15 and is also involved in trash collection and disposal and in construction of primary schools, public washbasins, waste water soak pits, and public toilets, the repair of rural water points, and training, information, education, and communication activities.

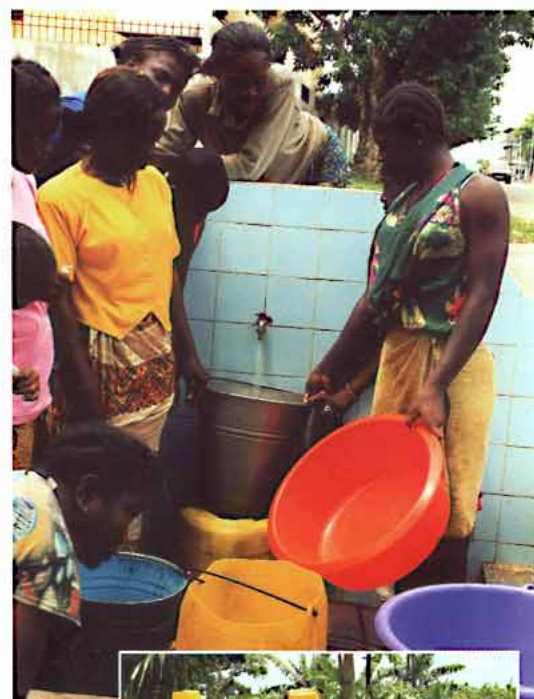
NEXT STEPS:

Establish other standpipe networks run by other associations (ADECOMA, Guinea Clean City).

Growth of this activity would depend on SEEG's decision to grant a concession for additional network extensions and to offer reduced water rates to standpipe concessionaires.



Conakry's rapid expansion has led to the blossoming of peri-urban settlements, and even of planned subdivisions, not served by the water network.



Technical assistance is provided at low cost by the Guinea office of the Regional Water and Sanitation Center (CREPA)