



A.S.B.L. ENERGY ASSISTANCE

ACTIVITY REPORT 2008

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1. INTRODUCTION

HISTORY

The a.s.b.l. (Non Profit Association) ENERGY ASSISTANCE (EA) was created in 2001 by volunteers, active and retired, of the energy branch from the GDF Suez group. The purpose of the association is to make available the qualifications and know-how of its members, together with the necessary technical means, for the development of humanitarian projects benefiting communities which are deprived of essential electricity resources.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE FRANCE (EAF) was created in 2005, under the form of an association under the French Law 1901.

The present report concerns the activity of the a.s.b.l. Energy Assistance. It is the second report of its kind. Some general information concerning the association can be found in the 2007 report.

ORGANIZATION

The General Assembly elects a Board of Directors amongst its members. This Board is sole authorized to take decisions involving a financial commitment of EA, in particular concerning the financing of projects and of missions related to these projects.

The Executive Bureau is in charge of the daily management. It comprises 6 Directors and is supported by a Secretariat operated by 3 permanent employees. The Bureau meets weekly.

On December 31st 2008, these bodies were made up of :

BOARD

J. BOUCKAERT , <i>PRESIDENT</i>	E. VANDER DONCKT , <i>TRESURER</i>	FR. GRAUX , <i>SECRETARY</i>
J.-P. GERMEAU , <i>VICE-PRESIDENT</i>	D. BEAUFAYS , <i>DEPUTY TRESURER</i>	R. ROSSEEL , <i>DEPUTY SECRETARY</i>
E. BASSAC (EAF)	B. BRAECKMAN	J.-FR. BOST (AQUASSISTANCE)
G. DE ROUBAIX	FR. DE STOOP	P. DUFLOU
G. KIMUS	J.-L. PAIRON	CL. GASTOUT
J. RONSMANS	M. ROCH	TH. TUXEN

SECRETARIAT

S. BAETEN	M. DE LIGNE	X. DESMARETS
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A PROJECT COMMITTEE (PC), composed of some twenty project managers, meets monthly to :

- Analyse projects in order to submit them to the Board;
- Organise and follow-up their execution.

The PC also concerns itself with general issues such as logistics, project implementation procedures, or the management of volunteers.

EA and EAF also share a **COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE**, whose task is to design and implement the communication policy of EA and EAF towards their members, the companies of the GDF Suez Group as well as the outside world. This committee meets quarterly.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2008

- **304** members and/or contributors,
- **30** new projects taken up by the PC
- **14** projects completed in 2008,
- **18** ongoing projects end 2008,
- **466** man-days in missions (*assessment or execution*),
- **265.391€** in operational expenses, amongst which **252.257 €** directly spent in projects.

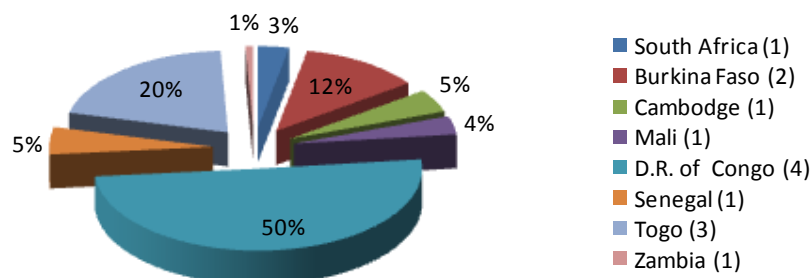
2. PROJECTS

Fin 2008, EA avait réalisé 61 projets répartis dans 25 pays.

PROJETS TERMINES EN 2008

14 projects were completed in the course of last year.

Cost of projects finished in 2008 (per country)



<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>GOAL</u>	<u>PARTENSHIP</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
SOUTH AFRICA	HEATHERDALE	University Campus : emergency generator for IT courses		SOUTH AFRICA
BURKINA FASO	PIELA	Dispensary : electrification by PV panels + strengthening of the electrical installation	SEL ¹ Projets (B)	BURKINA FASO
BURKINA FASO	BONI	Orphanage: renovation of the photovoltaic installation		BURKINA FASO
CAMBODGE	BATTAMBANG	Orphanage: renovation of the electric installation	Enfants d'Asie (F)	CAMBODGE
MALI	KOUTIENSO	Dispensary, women's house and nursery school : electrification by PV panels + hot water	Fifala (B)	MALI
D.R.Congo (Nord-Kivu)	GOMA	Center for war orphans: network connection (MV line of 3.5 km)	EALE ² (B) SNEL ³ (RDC)	D.R.Congo (Nord-Kivu)
D.R.Congo (Kasaï Oriental)	KABINDA 2	Electricity supply of an educational radio transmitter by PV panels	Bishopric of Kabinda	D.R.Congo (Kasaï Oriental)
D.R.Congo (Bandundu)	YASA BONGA	Hospital: electrification by PV panels	MSV ⁴ (B)	D.R.Congo (Bandundu)
D.R.Congo (Bandundu)	DJUMA 2	Orphanage, school and hospital computer: electrification by PV panels	MSV (B)	D.R.Congo (Bandundu)
SENEGAL	GOULOUMBOU	Electricity supply of the well pump by a diesel generator	Aquassistance	SENEGAL
TOGO	TADO	Dispensary : electrification by PV panels - Well pump and collective fridge: diesel generator	Aquassistance AED ⁵ (Togo)	TOGO
TOGO	DZOGBLAKOPÉ	Training center for agriculture and cattle breeding : electrification by PV panels	BISZ ⁶ (B) AGRO-DR ⁷ (Togo)	TOGO
TOGO	KATI, AKPLOLO	Dispensary + school : electrification by PV panels	BISZ (B) CADO ⁸ (Togo)	TOGO
ZAMBIA	MUNTEMBA 2	Dispensary : PV panels for a well pump	Abantu Zambia (B)	ZAMBIA

¹ Service d'Entraide et de Liaison

² En Avant Les Enfants

³ Société Nationale d'Electricité

⁴ Médecins Sans Vacances

⁵ Action Enfance et Développement

⁶ vzw ter Bevordering van de Interculturele Samenwerking met het Zuiden

⁷ Association de Groupe de Développement Rural

⁸ Centre d'Assistance aux Démonis et Orphelins

APPROVED PROJECTS (ONGOING)

End 2008, 18 approved projects (14 of which approved in 2008) were under way :

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>GOAL</u>	<u>PARTENSHIP</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
BURKINA FASO	Barsalogho, Dablo	Consultancy on the topic of solar energy and networks	SLCD ⁹ (B)	1st phase completed	BURKINA FASO
BURKINA FASO	Tampouy et Zinguédessé	PV panels and well pumps for 2 dispensaries	ASMADE ¹⁰ (Burkina Faso)	Contractor selected	BURKINA FASO
BURKINA FASO	Niansogoni	Maternity hospital :electrification by solar panels	ASMADE (Burkina Faso)	Study started	BURKINA FASO
BURUNDI	Kiryama	Technical school: emergency generator	COPEP ¹¹ (Burundi)	Call for tender started	BURUNDI
BURUNDI	Ruyigi 2	Rema hospital: overall consultancy concerning the electrification and fittings of the buildings	Fonds J-F Peterbroeck (B)	Execution started (March 2009)	BURUNDI
CAMBODGE	Tbeng Meanchey	Orphanage: electrical installation + network connection	Enfants d'Asie (F)	On hold	CAMBODGE
ETHIOPIA	Aleltu	School: supply of an irrigation pump for market gardening as a source of revenues	ECF ¹² (Ethiopie)	Waiting for equipment shipping	ETHIOPIA
MALI	Sitakoto	Dispensary :electrification by PV panels	Afri-Kali (B)	Waiting for solar fridges	MALI
MALI	Sirakoro	Dispensary :electrification by PV panels	Afri-Kali (B)	Waiting for solar fridges	MALI
MALI	Doubabougou	Dispensary :electrification by PV panels	Afri-Kali (B)	Waiting for solar fridges	MALI
MALI	Heremakono	Dispensary :electrification by PV panels + well pump	Afri-Kali (B)	Waiting for solar fridges	MALI
MALI	Tioribougou	Dispensary :electrification by PV panels	Afri-Kali (B)	Bid received	MALI
D.R.CONGO (KATANGA)	Kapolowé 1	Hospital and school center: electricity supply through a 35 km MV line	SNEL (RDC) Solidarité cistercienne (B)	Cables ordered by SNEL	D.R.CONGO (KATANGA)
D.R.CONGO (SUD-KIVU)	Walungu	Hospital: securing the critical services by PV panels	AAPK ¹³ (B)	Study started	D.R.CONGO (SUD-KIVU)
D.R.CONGO (SUD-KIVU)	Bukavu	Training center for orphans : emergency generators + fitting out workshops	Action Sociale Cheche (RDC) Fabricom/Axima	Execution started (March 2009)	D.R.CONGO (SUD-KIVU)
D.R.CONGO (KASAÏ)	Lutembo	Hospital center : diesel generator		Equipment delivered on-site	D.R.CONGO (KASAÏ)
D.R.CONGO (BANDUNDU)	Kasongo-Lunda	Secondary school : diesel generator for pump + PV panels for computer	Aquassistance	Execution started (March 2009)	D.R.CONGO (BANDUNDU)
D.R.CONGO (KASAÏ)	Cibombo	Training center for agriculture and cattle breeding : electrification by PV panels	IPAMEC ¹⁴	Equipment sent	D.R.CONGO (KASAÏ)

NEW PROJECTS TAKEN UP BY THE PC IN 2008

The Projects Committee has assigned Project Managers for 30 new projects in 2008.

⁹ Service Laïc de Coopération au Développement

¹⁰ Association Songui Manégré Aide au Développement Endogène

¹¹ Conseil Pour l'Education et le Développement

¹² Ethiopian Children's Fund

¹³ Association pour l'Aide aux Populations du Kivu

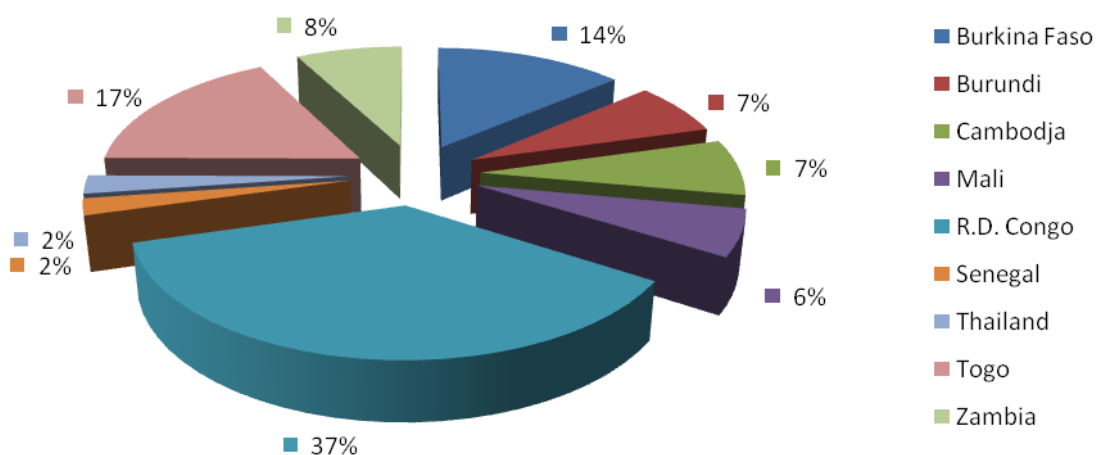
¹⁴ Initiatives Paniers Ménagères Cibombo

MISSIONS

In 2008, our volunteers performed **31 missions** totalling **466 man-days**. These missions involved **25** volunteers. The work of these men in the field is remarkable and recognised as such by all. By their achievement, they provide the best reward for the 30 odd active members who, more anonymously, design the projects, prepare the missions and manage the association.

The voluntary work thus performed represents a value that is of the same order of magnitude as the money spent on the projects.

Missions 2008 = 466 days



PERSPECTIVES AND STRATÉGY

2008 can be considered a year of growth compared to 2007, both regarding the number of projects as regarding the number of realised missions. In addition, 2008 has seen the achievement of a project of exceptional scale and complexity: the electrification of the Centre Ngangi in Goma. However, the level of expenses linked to the projects has slightly decreased (-10%). This is explained by the cost of equipment that was lower than expected, as well as by a better control of the other project costs (mainly for transport and missions).

Given the number (18) of running projects at the end of 2008, 2009 should be a great year, especially with the kick-off of the large Kapolowé 1 project, recently released by our Congolese partner SNEL, who has issued the order for 100 km of cable to equip the MV line of 35 km.

Considering the geographic distribution of the expenses related to the projects that were completed in 2008, as well as of the budgets of on-going projects, we observe that, just like in the previous year, more than 90% of the funds are devoted to Africa, almost half of which to DRC alone. With this in mind, EA is stressing the need to develop more projects in Asia and America. To this end, multiple contacts have been established with GDF SUEZ entities in these continents. The association is also increasingly developing ties with the members of these entities, in particular in Brazil.

On the strategic field, the different lines of action announced in the 2007 Report have been pursued and even reinforced :

- Encouraging a succession of projects in the same region, relying on publicity by word of mouth, which allows us to combine the realisation, assessment and follow-up of different projects in one mission and to reinforce the efficiency and long-term durability of our interventions. This is the case for example in Burkina Faso, in Mali, in Togo and in DRC (Bandundu, Kivu, Kasai),
- Search for projects requiring mainly expertise or training missions, with little or no funding for equipment,
- Generalisation of the use of renewable energy sources, mainly photovoltaic, in the perspective of sustainable development. The possibilities of hydraulic and wind power are systematically considered. Gensets are installed only for important power generation and to the extent that the local communities can support the operational cost,
- Closer attention paid to the quality of our partners, local and European, whose role is essential to the durability of the projects. This requires that, from the first assessment of a project, we try to evaluate our partners in terms of their organisational strength, the competences that they have or that they can acquire, and their objectives and commitment for the development of their community,
- Continued effort to train the local personnel in the operation and maintenance of the installations.

In addition, it is worth mentioning that:

- The « *Team Room* » of EA allowing to share documents between all the active members is currently fully operational,
- Experience feedback (*from both project managers and volunteers*) at the end of a project is being done systematically,
- Regarding the relations with suppliers, EA strives to achieve framework contracts, in particular for photovoltaic equipment, and to rationalise the logistics of transport,
- Regarding the partnerships with other associations, EA has signed framework contracts with Codegaz (*humanitarian association of Gaz de France*) and Energies Sans Frontières (*French independent association of energy professionals*),
- EA's activities are now recognised as strategic element in the CSR (*Corporate Social Responsibility*) of GDF-Suez. In this context; we have invited 2 trainee students who worked on our projects. One of them had the opportunity to join an assessment mission to the DRC.

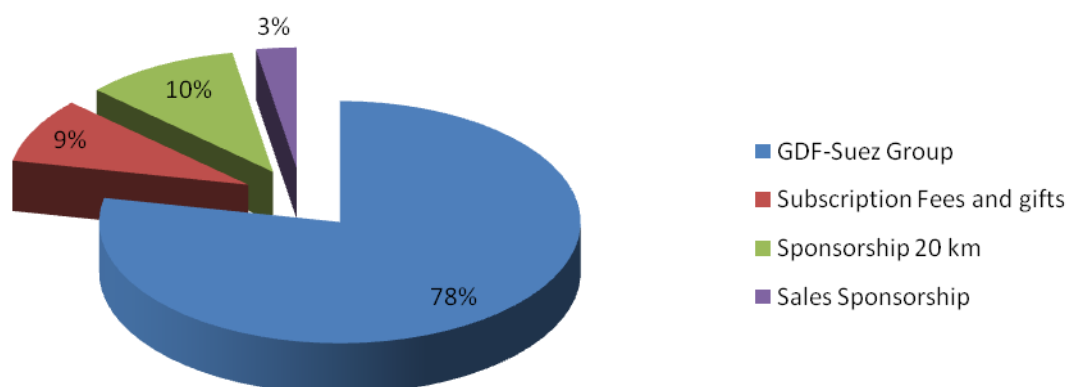
3. FINANCING

BUDGET 2008

In 2008, EA's net financial resources amounted to about **357.000 €**.

The support of the group GDF Suez represented 78 % of these resources, the costs of the Secretariat's permanent staff not included.

FINANCING EA 2008



GROUP GDF-SUEZ

From the start, EA had the financial and logistic support of one or more entities within the group GDF Suez. This support has been confirmed in the conventions signed in 2007.

This structural support is fundamental for EA and offers a visibility on the future resources, which allows undertaking an increasing number of projects year after year.

In any case, our association always strives to find complementary resources from its members and from third parties.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND PRIVATE DONATIONS

A contribution of 20 € (*Effective members*) or 5 € (*Associated members*) is requested from the members. Contributions of 30 € or more are also proposed, which result in a tax reduction. The consequence of this tax advantages is that a lot of supporters prefer to make a donation. Donations often take an indirect form, such as the sponsoring of a runner in the 20 km of Brussels or forsaking one's jubilee or retirement festivities, in favour of EA, by an employee of the group GDF Suez.

In 2008, 304 persons have shown us their financial support in this way.

At the end of 2008, EA counted 77 Effective members and 20 Associated members.

DONATIONS BY PARTNERS

For projects of a certain size, EA searches systematically for external sponsors. In 2008, an external donation of 5.750 € was received by EA for the Tbeng Meanchey project.

PUBLIC GRANTS

The DGCD finances the transport of materials for humanitarian goals, destined for certain countries. This was the case in 2007 and 2008 for the Goma project (7.500 € + 840 €). EA searches systematically for this kind of assistance.

ASSISTANCE IN KIND

For aerial and maritime transport to Africa, the Belgian Army has regularly responded positively to our requests in the past. This option was no longer available in 2008.

Regarding equipment, EA develops a contact network, aimed at reusing equipment that has been written off, in particular gensets and network equipment. Transfer of the power plant Verbrande Brug to E.ON has forced us to search for a new warehouse. Beginning of June 2009, warehouses will be available for our material at the power plant of Schelle.

On a greater scale, the framework convention signed with the Congolese SNEL (*SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE D'ELECTRICITÉ*) has moved into the active phase. This way, the SNEL has taken responsibility for the MV lines of the Goma et Kapolowé 1 projects and has participated in erecting the line at Goma.

MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous initiatives such as the annual sales of season's greeting cards and the participation to the 20 km of Brussels equally contribute to the financing of the association and increase its fame.

4. COMMUNICATION

EA's communication is aimed at **three target audiences** :

- Members, donators, sponsors and friends (*internal communication*),
- Employees of the companies of the GDF Suez Group who make out our pool of members (*internal-group communication*),
- "Outside" world: other associations, potential donators... (*external communication*).

Different tools have been developed to that purpose.

NEWSLETTER

Since 2002, the Newsletter reports every quarter in three languages (*FR, NL, EN*) on the daily life of the association. The realised assignments are the subject of an article written by the project leader and the volunteers. Decisions of the General Assembly and the Board of Directors, progress of the large projects, volunteers that are about to leave, etc are also reported.

The Newsletter is distributed through our Internet site. Its release is announced by email to members, donators and friends, as well as to the communication departments of the companies of the GDF Suez Group, who announce it on their own intranet network.

INTERNET SITE

The site www.energy-assistance.org brings together all essential information about the association :

- history, objectives, organisation and project selection criteria,
- the process to propose a project or to become a member, volunteer or donor,
- the complete list of finished and ongoing projects.

The EA site will be renovated in 2009.

PRESENTATION FLYER

Introduction of EA to potential members and the outside world, the presentation flyer also contains the essential data about the association. A new edition in 3 languages (*FR, NL, EN*) appeared in 2008. Editions in Spanish and Portuguese are in preparation.

VOLUNTEERS FORUM

This annual meeting, open to members and to all who are interested, allows exchanging practical experience through volunteers presenting realised projects and discussions on specific topics.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

In 2008, several meetings were organised where EA was present. They were targeted at

- future pensioners
- new employees
- staff of the GDF Suez Group
- promoting university students
- external associations

SALES OF SPONSORING ITEMS

Since three years, volunteer graphical designers create “Energy Assistance” greeting cards that are sold at the end of the year in the companies of the GDF Suez Group. In 2008, the talents of the students of the Institut Saint-Luc in Brussels were called upon.

In addition to the financial benefit of the operation, these sales are an excellent opportunity to present EA and invite people to join the association.

A number of companies of the GDF Suez Group use our greeting cards or mention their support to EA in their season’s greeting cards at the end of the year.

20 KM OF BRUSSELS

In 2008, 485 employees of the GDF Suez Group in Belgium participated to the 20 km of Brussels under the Energy Assistance flag.

As in 2007, the General Management of the GDF SUEZ GROUP has supported the initiative. In addition, the companies have taken on some of the costs.

The operation is repeated in 2009. On March 17th, we already had 571 registrations.

APPENDIX**BASIC PROJECT ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA OF ENERGY ASSISTANCE**

1. **FIELD OF ACTIVITY = ENERGY**
Candidate projects must relate to the energy sector or energy services.
2. **HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS**
Projects must have a humanitarian nature. In other words, they must meet the basic needs of a population and/or be aimed at local development.
3. **INVOLVEMENT OF MEMBERS**
A project must be based upon the active and voluntary participation of the association members and shall not consist of a pure financial contribution. A limited recourse to skills not available among members is however conceivable.
4. **TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY**
A project must be deemed technically feasible. The technical concepts must be validated and the project itself must be correctly dimensioned and adapted to the local environment. Local Authorities' position should be favourable or at least neutral.
5. **BUDGETERIAL FEASIBILITY**
The required investment must be limited, generally less or equal to the volunteer services provided. Certain exceptions are possible for pilot projects with significant replication or amplification effect.
6. **LOCAL DEMAND**
A project must meet a real demand and include participation of the local population in its completion and operation.
7. **DURABILITY**
A project must provide guarantees of durability i.e. the technical and economical capacity of the local population to continue operation and maintenance in the long run. Ideally, the project should contribute to local development.
8. **SAFETY**
Projects must be carried out under acceptable safety conditions throughout their implementation.
9. **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
The project objectives should meet the requirements of sustainable development and ensure the right equilibrium between its economic, social and environmental components, with the appropriate control of the energy consumption. In particular, it favors the use of the most environmental-friendly techniques, including the use of renewable energy sources and the restriction of waste discharge.
10. **NO COMPETITION**
The project cannot be in competition with other assistance programmes, nor with commercial activities of local undertakings.