



Air Liquide
Foundation





A Foundation

“We are committed,
alongside our employees,
to supporting local
communities”

Created in 2008, the Air Liquide Foundation illustrates the Group's desire to fully play its role as a responsible corporate citizen.

The Foundation's missions consist in promoting medical research to improve the respiratory function, advancing science to preserve our planet's atmosphere and supporting micro-initiatives to promote local development in the countries where the Group operates.

Whether they are project players or volunteer sponsors, the Group's employees commit themselves personally to help make the projects that the Foundation supports a success. From Argentina to India, from Madagascar to the Philippines, I know that the Foundation can count on their commitment.

Benoît Potier, Chairman of the Foundation
and Chairman and CEO
of the Air Liquide Group

...3 Missions

In line with its sustainable development approach, Air Liquide has decided to focus its Foundation's action on three areas in which the Group, through its activities and presence throughout the world, has clear legitimacy: the Environment, Healthcare and Micro-Initiatives.

Promoting scientific research

Innovation has been in the Company's genes since its origin. Therefore, the Air Liquide Foundation has naturally taken on the objective to support research, both to preserve the air and improve the respiratory function.

The Environment

The Air Liquide Foundation helps scientific research projects that aim to preserve our planet's atmosphere.

Healthcare

The Air Liquide Foundation encourages scientific research on the respiratory function and on the metabolism of gases in the human body, in the medical field as well as in deep-sea diving and space sectors.

Encouraging local development

Micro-Initiatives

The Air Liquide Foundation is closely involved with local communities by supporting micro-initiatives in the 80 countries where the Group operates.

Projects on every continent

America

11%

of the projects supported

More than **180** projects

160 supported projects

25 projects under consideration

Projects in **42** countries

Data at March 2014

A world map is overlaid on a background of a cloudy sky. The map is semi-transparent, showing the outlines of continents. Three regions are highlighted with text boxes: Europe, Asia, and Africa. Each box contains the region name, a large percentage, and the text 'of the projects supported'.

Europe

35%

of the projects supported

Asia

16%

of the projects supported

Africa

38%

of the projects supported

→ The Environment

Preserving our planet's atmosphere

Greenhouse gases, deforestation, glacial melting... these are the realities that the world must face in order to fight against climate change. In partnership with research organizations, the Air Liquide Foundation is working to preserve the atmosphere by extending and developing scientific understanding of the Earth's atmosphere and its interaction with ecosystems.

|| Close-up

Under the Pole: under the ice caps, climate...

Along with an exploration project whose objective is creating a unique photo and film account of the ice caps' underwater world, two scientific programs were carried out: the first one focused on measuring the thickness of snow on the ice caps, a crucial parameter for estimating ice volumes, and the second considered human physiology through studies on sleep and the body temperature changes of team members.

After 3 years of preparation, Ghislain Bardout and his 8-member team, along with one husky dog, arrived at the North Pole toward the end of the Arctic night. For 45 days, they traveled by ski and performed 51 dives under the ice caps to gather never-before collected data.

“The data collected will be compared to other measurements previously taken at the same period of the year. All we can say, for now is that during the expedition, Arctic temperatures were abnormally high. The ice caps were thinner and very chaotic since it had become fragile, which the satellite observations confirmed.”

Ghislain Bardout, Leader of the “Under the Pole” expedition



CARNEGIE INSTITUTION FOR SCIENCE (UNITED STATES)
Assessment of the ammonia concentration in the atmosphere and understanding of the causes of its variations, with the aim of refining climate evolution simulation models.

JEAN-LOUIS ETIENNE, FRENCH PHYSICIAN-EXPLORER
Support for the scientific and educative expedition on global warming carried out above the North Pole.

All the environmental research projects are available at www.fondationairliquide.com



→ Healthcare

Encouraging
research on a
new breath of life

Chronic respiratory illnesses are the main cause of death throughout the world today, and the number of patients is constantly growing. The Air Liquide Foundation is teaming up with institutes and university laboratories on research programs aimed at broadening our comprehension of these diseases and developing new treatments.

Research on sleep

5% of the world's population suffers from sleep apnea syndrome (SAS) and 8 apnea individuals out of 10 are unaware of their condition. This disorder is characterized by frequent breathing pauses during sleep, which can last up to 40-50 seconds. If it isn't treated, SAS has serious health complications: hypersomnia episodes that can lead to traffic or occupational accidents, cardiovascular disorders, diabetes, depression...

INSERM, the French Institute of Medical Research, has launched a 4-year fundamental research program to better understand this syndrome by simulating sleep apneas. The Air Liquide Foundation is supporting this program that will in the end make it possible to complete patient treatment with new anti-inflammatory medications.

“Our current research confirms that repeated insufficient oxygenation brings about the triggering of a local respiratory inflammatory reaction. This work has strengthened the prospects of specific anti-inflammatory therapy use as an SAS adjuvant treatment. Moreover, this type of approach is currently being tested.”

Professor Marie-Pia d'Ortho, INSERM France



FONDATION PREMUP (France)
Support for research on broncho-pulmonary dysplasia, a chronic respiratory illness in very premature infants.

INSTITUT PASTEUR OF SHANGHAI (China)
Support for the research program on identifying respiratory infections and implementing rapid techniques for detecting the viruses responsible for these illnesses.

TEACHING HOSPITAL OF GRENOBLE (France)
Support for research on the association between respiratory ailments and cardiovascular risks.

All the healthcare research projects are available at www.fondationairliquide.com





→ Micro-Initiatives

Being closer to local communities

Extending access to education and vocational training, increasing access to healthcare, supporting micro-enterprises, improving comfort for the disabled... The Air Liquide Foundation intends to support local initiatives in the countries where the Group operates.

Close-up

Thailand: Burmese refugees better cared for

Conflicts in Burma have driven thousands of civilians to seek refuge in Thai camps that present precarious living conditions and hygiene. Working in 3 camps, the NGO Aide Médicale Internationale (AMI) provides healthcare to the refugees and lends its support to health professionals on the field by facilitating skill sharing.

AMI has produced a magazine focusing on chronic diseases, a real medical training tool totally financed by the Air Liquide Foundation.

“Medical personnel here consider the magazine Health Messenger a useful tool for continuous training. Full of information and easy to read, this magazine provides them with the basic knowledge enabling them to deliver a diagnosis and prescribe first treatments for the Burmese refugees.”

Carole Déglise, Medical coordinator in Thailand, AMI



BURKIN'AMITIÉ (Burkina Faso)
Development of a terra cotta cooling system in a maternity clinic in the village of Poullalé and support of pottery micro-entrepreneurs.

LES POMPIERS ONT DU CŒUR (Senegal)
Financing and transportation of a truck for the fire station in Tivaouane.

All the micro-initiatives are available at www.fondationairliquide.com



→ Micro-Initiatives

Morocco: renovated schools for better learning

The Franco-Moroccan organization Afoulki fights illiteracy and works to prevent young Moroccans from dropping out of school in the province of Essaouira, where schools are often scattered and decrepit. The organization is involved in the renovation of about twenty rural schools in the region for the purpose of offering better classroom and teaching conditions, and encouraging parents to send their children to school.

The Air Liquide Foundation supported Afoulki to rehabilitate two schools in Ida Ougourd and Had Draa, particularly remote villages (renovation of sanitary facilities, woodwork, plumbing and sewer systems).

“The renovation of these schools was the result of group work: teachers, children, organization volunteers, all in their own way, made a contribution to this wonderful undertaking. Since the project began, their motivation and encouragements have never failed. But the greatest satisfaction is being able to welcome new students when the next school year begins.”

Khadija Bikerouane, President of the Afoulki Maroc organization and teacher in Essaouira



VIRLANIE FOUNDATION (Philippines)
Renovation of an itinerant school for the street children of Manila.

FUNDACION LEER (Argentina)
Creation of reading corners and training of teachers in seven primary schools in Neuquén.

EDUCMAD (Madagascar)
Rollout of scientific media libraries in Antsiranana.



South Africa: a hospital train for the most disadvantaged

Since 1994, the hospital on train tracks "Phelophepa" has been crisscrossing South Africa to provide the most disadvantaged populations with access to a modern and economical healthcare system. Over 50 doctors, nurses and medical students in general and specialized medicine (pediatrics, ophthalmology, psychology) treat nearly 50,000 patients each year, while about 200,000 people benefit from ophthalmologic advice and psychological counseling.

For the past several years, the Air Liquide Foundation has partnered with this unique initiative by supporting more specifically the psychology clinic. The Foundation has subsidized the production and distribution of awareness-raising guides on subjects such as violence, suicide, sexuality and AIDS. Translated into the main local languages, they are distributed in schools and social centers all along the train's route.

"Using plays, music, film projections, my team sees to it that subjects like violence, sexuality and AIDS are discussed with children in the most striking way."

Onke Mazibuko, Psychologist at Phelophepa

NHAN-DUC HOSPITAL (Vietnam)
Equipment for the respiratory disease treatment center at the new hospital in the Dalat province.

ASDJIMA (Mali)
Creation of a water distribution network in the dispensary of the village of Djiné.

ENTREPRENEURS DU MONDE (Ghana)
Establishment of social coverage for the disadvantaged populations of the suburbs of Accra.

All the micro-initiatives are available at www.fondationairliquide.com





→ Sponsorship

A commitment
shared by everyone

Aarti Singh, sponsor of the project to install solar energy in three villages in India, initiated by The Energy and Resources Institute in the framework of its program Lighting a Billion Lives

➔ Being a sponsor, getting involved to help others!

Becoming a project sponsor means getting involved in the field alongside the project initiator and representing the Foundation in evaluating and following up the actions supported... an opportunity for each Air Liquide employee to be committed to local communities.

“Sponsoring a project is another way of looking at my role within the Company. I am very proud to invest myself in actions that have a direct impact on local populations. Being a responsible citizen takes on all its meaning here because I help, in my own way, the development of our community.”

Aarti Singh, Air Liquide India employee and sponsor of the Solar Power project

50% of the projects are recommended by Air Liquide employees

➔ It's easy to propose a project!

1. SUBMITTING THE PROJECT ON LINE

Does your project correspond to the Foundation's missions?
Submit your project at the Foundation's website:
www.fondationairliquide.com

2. SELECTION

Your project meets the Foundation's selection criteria: your project is then pre-selected and examined by the Project Selection Committee, which meets 4 times a year.

3. VALIDATION

The micro-initiatives selected by the Project Selection Committee are validated by the Foundation's management. The research projects are validated by the Board of Directors, which meets twice a year.



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