



Presentation of the project at the Budapest Water Summit 2019, October 16 2019

Pilot project School No 7. Tik Ozek May 2020

Extension of the project to other communities of Karakalpakstan up to 250 schools 2020- 2022

2019 – 2022

« SCHOOLWATER »

KARAKALPAKSTAN

Earlier successful programs by the two associations encouraged us to create a joint platform Latma-Aded. We now feel ready to launch an ambitious project in the region of the Aral Sea.

The project will provide clean drinking water to the pupils of rural schools in Karakalpakstan. The pilot project is being launched in School No. 7 of Tik Ozek village. Once a flourishing region dotted with fishing villages along the shores of the Aral Sea, Naymun District today lies in the middle of a salty and heavily polluted deserts.

The project is being presented at the Budapest Water Summit 2019 in Budapest.

Establishment of an international platform 2020-2022

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Platform ADED-LATMA

LATMA – the politically and religiously neutral non-profit organization was established in Anières to provide a platform for sensibilizing people to the challenges to achieve sustainable development. It implements innovative and participative projects both within Switzerland and in other countries of the world, placing particular emphasis on achieving a strong multiplier effect. Its members work with a broad range of supporters from different walks of life – culture, sociology, economy and ecology. LATMA`s strengths are its superb expertise in project management and fundraising, its inter-cultural skills, strong quality control and strict observance of Swiss accounting rules.

Maria Devenoge, President

Krisztina Krasznai, coordinator of the « Schoolwater » project

www.latma.org



ADED – This NGO received the status of public benefit company in Switzerland. It was established in 2011 by engineers and technicians specialized in communal water systems to provides technical and financial assistance through projects that promote sustainable development. Its projects are distinguished by the combination of eco-friendly technologies with special attention to sustainability, local participation and capacity building. It has implemented several projects in Africa and Latin America. Its engineers and technicians use of state-of-the-art technologies, relay on the latest scientific results and at the same time excel in developing and implementing the most economical and eco-friendly solutions. Therefore they are well-prepared to tackle the ultimate challenges in their area of expertise : provide clean drinking water to schools in the arid, salty and heavily polluted desert of Karakalpakstan.

Jean-Marc Waridel, Chief of project

Nathalie Waridel, Communication

Thierry Bourgeois, Project management and fundraising

www.aded-suisse.org



Needs assessment, collection of data, technical feasibility study

Concept of the pilot project, planning, risks assessment, fundraising and selection of the technology

Finalization of the project, change management plan, communication

Travel of volunteers to the site, implementation of the first phase of the project in cooperation with members of the local community

Monitoring, Evaluation, Report

2nd phase of the project- extension to other schools

2019 : Creation of the platform

www.latma-aded.ch



Grave social, health and economic consequences :

Half a million children bear the consequences of over-ambitious irrigation schemes by Soviet planners. The population suffers from high levels of anemia, tuberculosis and cancer. Children are affected by liver, kidney and respiratory diseases, micro nutrient deficiencies, cancer, immunological problems and birth defects. All this is due to **polluted water**.

The joint platform of the two NGO-s, Latma-Aded is therefore well equipped to tackle the ultimate challenge: develop the most economical and sustainable solutions for the provision of clean drinking water in the arid conditions of the salty and polluted desert of Karakalpakstan. The region of 160 000 square kilometer has a population of 1.8 million. It is situated around the shores of the dried-out Aral Sea. About half a million children suffer from the consequences of clean drinking water.

It is a race with time : every year thousands of children fall victim to diseases that could be prevented by providing them drinking water.

The drying out of the Aral Sea is one of the greatest man-made environmental catastrophes of the world. Between 1960 and 2004 the Sea shrank to 10% of its original size as a result of over-ambitious irrigation plans by Soviet planners. Cotton monoculture required huge amounts of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. As a result, surface- and groundwater is heavily polluted.

Climate change hits the region particularly hard. Without the regulating effect of the huge water mass of the sea, the region suffers from extreme temperatures during the summers and winters. Strong winds carry the salty and polluted sand of the dry bed of the Aral Sea to large distances.

When we announced that the pilot project will be implemented in Tik Ozek, every pupil every teacher and even the parents of the children volunteered to work with the technicians of ADED - LATMA. They know local conditions best and will learn how to install, operate and maintain the system - and similar systems installed elsewhere. The project places great emphasis on supporting women.

Switzerland is world leader in water technologies.



Pilot project

The LATMA – ADED platform has identified the need for providing clean drinking water for schools in Karakalpakstan in May 2019 when one of its members visited the region. She established close working relations with the local authorities, researchers and members of the community. Following consultations with the Uzbek partners and potential donors, it decided to launch a pilot project in Karakalpakstan at the No. 7 School in Tik Ozek.

Mobilizing the local community and empowering it through training, tutoring and involvement in project implementation to resolve the multitude of economic, social and health problems of the region.

Why in Karakalpakstan ?

The drying out of the Aral Sea is one of the greatest man-made environmental catastrophes of the world. Between 1960 and 2004 the Sea shrank to 10% of its original size as a result of over-ambitious irrigation plans by Soviet planners. Cotton monoculture required huge amounts of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. As a result, surface- and groundwater is heavily polluted.

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The Government of President Mirziyoyev is undertaking energetic measures to resolve the social and economic problems of Uzbekistan and alleviate the consequences of the environmental catastrophe. Increased transparency – like Uzbekistan's accession to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants – facilitates needs assessment, project planning and selection of the most suitable and eco-friendly technologies.

Technical challenges

Providing clean drinking water in Karakalpakstan where surface and groundwaters are heavily polluted and mineralized constitutes a great technical challenge to our team.



School No. 7 at Tik Ozek

The school is situated 8 km from the shore of the old Aral Sea – hundreds of kilometers from the remaining water body. The 250 pupils of the school drink from plastic bottles filled with boiled water of the nearby, polluted irrigation canal. Parents complain that serious diseases caused by polluted water affect their children regularly.

Technical description

The local population strongly supports and welcomes the project. When it was announced, the pupils and teachers of the school and even the parents of the children volunteered to work on with the technicians of ADED - LATMA. They know local conditions best and will learn how to install, operate and maintain the system - and similar systems installed elsewhere. This participatory approach will allow us to implement future projects with local technicians and engineers - with advice and tutoring by the Swiss team. That will build local capacity and help create employment.

The project places great emphasis on supporting women. Our volunteers will train local women in hygienics and provide advice on how they can improve the health of their children and themselves. The project will pave the way for the involvement of other NGO-s, who can help alleviate social and economic problems, like unemployment. ADED - LATMA plan to invite NGO activists, local and foreign students to Karakalpakstan to sensitize them to the problems caused by neglect for our environment and climate change on the one hand and to learn about the needs of local communities on the other. ADED - LATMA have already raised 25 000 USD, 50% of the cost of the pilot project. The community where LATMA was founded, Anières, offered money to support the project.

Long-term strategy

Our presentation at the Budapest Water Summit 2019 offers us an opportunity not only to raise funds but also for starting to build a network for the future : meet other activists and NGO-s who might wish to join an international platform that could also work with the Multipartner-human security Trustfund for the Aral Sea Region and the Central Asian Regional Environmental Center.

Follow-up phase of the project

Following the completion of the pilot project LATMA – ADED plans to invite other NGO-s and form an international platform for the continuation of this work in other schools of Karakalpakstan and possibly other regions of Uzbekistan and other Central Asian countries.

Presentation of the pilot project at the Budapest Water Summit 2019 offers an opportunity to reach out to potential partners.

Once the pilot project is successfully completed, the next projects can be implemented faster – perhaps in a week – and with less financial resources.



Message by Mr. Antoine Barde, Maire of our commune

The Commune of Anières supports the projects of the association LATMA that provide access to drinking water. The Maire, Antoine Barde is happy that the Commune boasts an association that successfully works on providing water to communities most in need.

Following the installation of a water treatment station in the community of La Chonta in Ecuador, the country of origin of Maria Devenoge, the president of LATMA, she was invited - together with the Swiss association ADED- to participate in the Budapest Water Summit 2019, that takes place between 15 and 17 October in Hungary.

Special target group of the project : the mothers of the pupils of the school

The platform could support an NGO established by local women – mothers of the pupils – to work on improving conditions at the school and in the community, care for the management of the water system at the school and work with other partner NGO-s of the platform to address pressing economic, social and healthcare needs. ADED-LATMA could train them in project management and fundraising too.

The authorities of Anières strongly encourage LATMA to continue its activities, which integrate an eco-systemic approach with the participation of citizens through the training of local communities to maintain and operate the installations independently, thus ensuring sustainability of their projects.

Budget of the project

The cost of the project – based on our previous experience – is estimated to be between USD 50 000 and 70 000. The cost depends very much on the chosen technology. The Maire of Anières agreed to support the first phase of the project.

The value of voluntary work offered by LATMA-ADED staff and local children and parents is estimated to reach 30 % of the total cost of the project.

Calendar of implementation

ETAPE	PLACE	DATES	ACTIVITY / ÉVÈNT
2019			
Project concept	Karakalpakistan Genève	31.01.19 – 01.12.19	Data collection, feasibility study, completion of the project dossier
Fundraising	Budapest, Genève	01.09.19 – 31.12.19	Presentation of the project at the Budapest Water Summit 2019, liaison with potential donors and partners.
2020			
Project implementation	Tik Ozek, School No. 7 Karakalpakistan	01.03.20 – 30.04.20	Arrival of the engineers, digging the well, planning the piping and technical details
Choosing the technology	Genève	30.04.20 – 30.09.20	Ordering the filtering equipment, transport and customs formalities, delivery to the site
Installation of the filtering equipment	Tik Ozek, School No 7 Karakalpakistan	30.09.20 – 15.11.20	Travel of the technical team to Karakalpakistan, installation of the equipment and piping, training local staff in operation and maintenance LATMA-ADED staff training local women
Project evaluation, report to donors, preparation of follow-up projects	Genève and Tik Ozek, Karalapakistan	01.12.20 – 31.12.22	Validation of key data, internal and external audit, evaluation of project impact (sustainability) lessons learned