

The Air Liquide Foundation unveils its latest projects

Since its creation in 2008, the Air Liquide Foundation has been supporting research programs that focus on the Environment and Health/ Breathing, and has been contributing to local development by encouraging micro-initiatives in the regions worldwide where the Group is present. Today, there are 194 projects located in 42 countries, and more than 200 employees involved.

Since January 2014, 41 new projects have been approved in 20 countries. Among them, **six new scientific research projects** that fall within the scope of the Foundation's efforts in the area of **preserving the earth's atmosphere** and **improving respiratory functioning**.

For example, the Foundation has renewed its support for the explorer Ghislain Bardout and his second **Under The Pole II Expedition in Greenland** with an endowment of **120,000 euros over two years**. The objectives of the expedition are twofold: to measure the amount of carbon dioxide trapped in the ocean depths in order to better assess the impact of this phenomenon on climate change, and to study human physiological response during deep sea dives in very cold water in order to issue safety recommendations to divers.

The Foundation has also decided to support a research project conducted at the Robert Debré hospital in Paris by INSERM¹ and Paris Descartes University on a rare genetic disease known as **Ondine's syndrome**. This syndrome is characterized by a significant decrease in breathing during sleep, which in some cases results in the total cessation of breathing. The goal of the research project is to develop a treatment that improves patients' quality of life.

Within the scope of its contribution to **local development**, the Foundation has approved **35 micro-initiatives in 20 countries**, in areas such as the integration of people with disabilities; the development of micro-entrepreneurship; social and professional rehabilitation; and access to energy, healthcare, education and training. The Foundation's action is supported by Air Liquide employees, which today are more than 200 to sponsor these micro-initiatives.

Air Liquide also conducted another project between November 2014 and February 2015, which enabled **shareholders** who opted to receive an electronic invitation to the 2015 Air Liquide Annual General Meeting to support the Foundation and its work as follows: **1 euro donated to the Foundation for each e-consent**. In all, 12,038 shareholders, including numerous Group employees, were able to express their support to the Foundation. The **12,038 euros collected** will be used to support philanthropic initiatives that favor local communities.

Via these missions, the Air Liquide Foundation illustrates the Group's commitment to fully embodying its **role of responsible corporation whose action is long term**.

Air Liquide Foundation

With a budget of 3 million euros over five years, the Air Liquide Foundation develops initiatives in three areas: scientific research to preserve the environment, scientific research to improve the respiratory function, and support for micro-initiatives for local development in the regions where the Group is present. Since it was founded in 2008, the Foundation has supported more than 194 projects in these areas, located in 42 countries.

¹ French National Institute for Health and Medical Research

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World leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 80 countries with more than 50,000 employees and serves more than 2 million customers and patients. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen have been at the core of the company's activities since its creation in 1902. Air Liquide's ambition is to be the leader in its industry, delivering long-term performance and acting responsibly.

Air Liquide ideas create value over the long term. At the core of the company's development are the commitment and constant inventiveness of its people.

Air Liquide anticipates the challenges of its markets, invests locally and globally, and delivers high-quality solutions to its customers and patients, and the scientific community.

The company relies on competitiveness in its operations, targeted investments in growing markets and innovation to deliver profitable growth over the long-term.

Air Liquide's revenues amounted to € 15.4 billion in 2014, and its solutions that protect life and the environment represented more than 40% of sales. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris Euronext stock exchange (compartment A) and is a member of the CAC 40 and Dow Jones Euro Stoxx 50 indexes.