

Vitens-Evides International has signed a contract for technical assistance with NV Surinaamsche Waterleiding Maatschappij (SWM) to provide support in the preparation and implementation of the short-term investment programme. The technical assistance involves support for project management, the preparation of tender documents, assistance during tender procedures and construction supervision.

A design & construct approach has been adopted for the renovation and expansion of six treatment plants, for which Vitens-Evides has drawn up the tender documents. Vitens-Evides will provide two assistant project managers (long-term staff) for the duration of the project. The project will be supported for shorter periods by eleven other staff members with expertise in the fields of engineering and process technology.

International cooperation

Three blue water droplets of varying sizes are positioned to the left of the word "Suriname".

Suriname

Project description

As part of the development cooperation with Suriname, the Dutch government allocated € 16 million in 2003 to improve drinking water supplies in Suriname. SWM and Vitens-Evides International jointly defined a short-term investment programme for drinking water projects for this purpose. The programme consists of the following:

- a drilling programme: rehabilitation and expansion of 30 boreholes;
- a treatment programme: upgrading treatment capacity and construction of six new drinking water treatment plants;
- rehabilitation of parts of the transport and distribution network;
- installation of some 30,000 water meters;
- project management.

Objective and envisaged result

Improvement of the production, quality and availability of drinking water for large groups of the Surinam population in the Paramaribo, Wanica, Para and Commewijne districts.



Population

The short-term investment programme is aimed mainly at the 300,000 inhabitants of Greater Paramaribo.

Financing

The Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation.



Type of contract

Technical assistance contract between SWM and Vitens- Evides International.

Contract value

€ 1 million.

Contract period

January 2005 – May 2009.

Vitens-Evides International

Vitens-Evides International is the international joint venture of the two largest water companies in the Netherlands: Vitens and Evides. Its focus is on projects for urban water supplies. The aim is to improve day-to-day operations within local water companies by serving as a manager, operator and consultant. Vitens-Evides International is active in countries such as Mozambique, Yemen, Mongolia, Vietnam and Ghana.

Available funds

Vitens and Evides make € 2 million available for international projects each year. This internal budget is leveraged by contracting public-private partnerships and deploying the financing opportunities of the various parties, such as the Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation and Economic Affairs, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Asian Development Bank. Vitens and Evides have also formed the independent foundation 'Water for Life', which enables clients to contribute to international water projects via their water bills.

Millennium Development Goals

The Dutch government actively supports the UN target to halve the number of people without safe drinking water and sanitary facilities (1.0 billion and 2.5 billion people respectively) by 2015. In this context Vitens and Evides are doing all they can to share their expertise and experience in the operation and maintenance of water supply and sewerage with water companies in developing countries. Through the international alliance, Vitens and Evides are involved in providing safe drinking water to over 20 million people in parts of the world where reliable water services are not readily available.

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