

An innovative approach

The SWE project in Moldova is based on a dual approach:

- The implementation of "**governance tools**" to ensure the sustainability of local water and sanitation management, thereby guaranteeing the quality and quantity of water resources over the long term. As water management is the responsibility of the local authorities, SEE's actions are based on these entities.
- The implementation of **local development projects** based on the creation of facilities or infrastructure to improve access to a quality water resource or adequate sanitation services.

This approach enables SWE to respond to both short- and long-term challenges, reconciling the necessity of proposing concrete interventions that meet the needs of the population, while at the same time carrying out in-depth work to promote changes in the way drinking water supply and sanitation (WASH) is managed.

The project is based on the principles of the European Union's Water Framework Directive (October 2000), the reference approach (integrated approach and basin management) at European level for the management of water resources.

This long-term commitment and the trust built up over the years through constant dialogue with local and national authorities led to the creation in October 2023 of the ADI[1], Moldova's first form of inter-municipality.

In October 2022, the SWE registered Moldova's first ADI, the Nirnova Basin ADI.

[1] Intercommunal Development Association

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The development of our action in Moldova would not be possible without the support of our partners: The Water French Agencies for Artois Picardie (AEAP) and Rhin-Meuse(AERM) Basins, the French Embassy in Moldova, the « Syndicat mixte des Eaux et de l'Assainissement Alsace Moselle » (SDEA), the Agence d'Urbanisme et de Développement du Pays de Saint-Omer, the Bordeaux Metropolis, the Agence des Microprojets, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (DDC).



Solidarity Water Europe Moldova



Water, a vector for life, solidarity,
democracy, dialogue and peace



Who are we?

Founded in Strasbourg in 1998 under the aegis of the Council of Europe, Solidarity Water Europe (SWE) is committed to ensuring access to water and sanitation for all.

It is motivated by the conviction that water is not only a prerequisite for life, but also a vector for fundamental values such as solidarity, democracy, dialogue and peace.

The association's mission is to promote access to drinking water and sanitation (WASH) for the most disadvantaged populations, particularly those in Central and Eastern Europe, and to mobilize all stakeholders to implement, at local level, the principles of the basin approach and integrated water resource management.

SWE forms a joint movement with the Montreal-based International Secretariat for Water (ISW).



How do we act?

SWE-ISW's vocation is to create gateways and spaces for dialogue between all players: civil society, the academic sector, the private sector and institutions. Through its approach, SIE-SEE pays particular attention to the situation of young people, women and all those who are marginalized economically, politically, geographically or socially.

As a result, it operates in the field on behalf of rural populations in several countries, including Moldova.

SWE-ISW is also committed to helping young people through the organization of Youth Parliaments for Water and several capacity-building programs.

Recognized for its commitment, SIE-SEE coordinates youth participation in key events on the international agenda, such as the Dakar Water Forum (2022) and the United Nations Water Conference in 2023.

SWE-ISW also develops advocacy actions to convey the messages of civil society, particularly to local, national and international institutions, through the Butterfly Effect network.

What are our actions ?

Present in Moldova since 2006, SWE has carried out a number of initiatives there, including actions to mobilize civil society and young people, as well as projects on water and sanitation facilities.

Its action began with the organization of a European Youth Parliament for Water (EYE) and one-off projects such as eco-san toilets in the schools of three rural communes.

Today, the SWE project's main area of action in Moldova is the Nirnova basin, a predominantly rural area comprising 30 communes spread over two "raions": Hincesti and Nisporeni.

Since 2016, SWE has been developing the "Access to drinking water and sanitation in the Nirnova Basin villages" project (abbreviated to the "Nirnova Basin project").

