

The Air Liquide Foundation Awards recognize five scientific and humanitarian organizations

The Air Liquide Foundation Awards honor the five most innovative organizations among those supported by the Foundation. For this first edition, five organizations were awarded in two categories – *Scientific Research*, for innovative research projects pertaining to the Environment and to Health/Respiration, and *Societal innovation*, for micro-initiatives that help local communities. The Air Liquide Foundation Awards ceremony was held on January 13, 2016, in Paris, at the corporate headquarters of Air Liquide.

Since its creation in 2008, the Air Liquide Foundation has been supporting **research programs in the areas of the Environment and Health/Respiration**, and has been contributing to **local development by encouraging micro-initiatives** in those regions of the world where the Group is present. The Foundation has in fact supported **220 projects in 45 countries** since 2008, thanks to the dedication of **250 employees** who have recommended or supported these projects.

The projects that won awards illustrate the diversity of the missions of the Air Liquide Foundation in connection with **Scientific Research** and **Societal Innovation**:

- The **CNRS¹ in French Guiana** was awarded for its study on natural insecticides from the forests of Guiana²,
- **Fondation PremUp**, for two research projects it is conducting on respiratory ailments in premature infants,
- **Agronomes et Vétérinaires sans Frontières**, for projects aimed at valorizing the fruit production of peasant families in Brazil and at developing biogas in Senegal,
- **Energie Jeunes**, for its program helping keep kids in school in priority education areas in the Ile-de-France territory,
- **Village Pilote**, for its program aimed at helping disadvantaged youth in Senegal find careers.

In addition to the Foundation's support for all of the projects, the winning organizations will each receive **10 000 euros**.

Benoît Potier, Chairman of the Air Liquide Foundation and Chairman and CEO of Air Liquide, said: ***"I would like to congratulate the winners and the nominees of the first Air Liquide Foundation Awards. These organizations are emblematic of the Foundation's values. The winning projects, which address social and environmental issues, also stand out because they are innovative."***

Air Liquide Foundation

With a budget of 3 million euros over five years, the Air Liquide Foundation develops philanthropic initiatives in three areas: scientific research for the preservation of the environment, scientific research aimed at improving respiratory function, and support for micro-initiatives encouraging local development in countries where the Group is present.

¹ Centre national de la recherche scientifique (France's National Center for Scientific Research)

² Study conducted with the support of the European Regional Development Fund and the Guiana Regional Fund

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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.