

# PROGRESSING WASTE MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONALLY



sycotom

# SYCTOM: A COMMITTED STAKEHOLDER TAKING UP ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

*“ We have a major role to play in improving waste management beyond our own territory, sharing our expertise, supporting local projects, and engaging in advocacy. Dealing with waste is a key factor in accelerating ecological transition at the local level and improving quality of life.*

**Éric Cesari**  
Chairman, Syctom

With expertise in the treatment and recovery of waste within its own area, Syctom also lends its support to the international effort to preserve the environment. Its aim is to help improve the sanitary and social conditions of local residents and combat the harmful effects of various forms of waste-related pollution. This is achieved through support for local projects, technical assistance, and international advocacy promoting better waste management. This overarching aim arises from a duty of responsibility as one of Europe's leading waste management operators, with the commensurate expertise and ability to leverage human and financial resources.

*Together with the elected members of the International Solidarity and Cooperation Committee, we're keen to establish sustained dialogue with partner authority politicians with a view to embodying reciprocal commitments. This involves discussion, meetings, and the setting up of multiyear partnership agreements that commit all stakeholders.*

**Pascal Pelain**  
Chairman, International Solidarity and Cooperation Committee



## SOLIDARITY

Supporting international projects improving waste management

### 3 strategy pillars

## COOPERATION

Developing strategic partnerships, both nationally and internationally

## ADVOCACY

Working for better consideration of waste in national and international bodies



### 4 action priorities

- ✓ **Building strong ties** with priority countries for French cooperation, candidates for EU membership, and countries in which Sycotm has been active since 2015.
- ✓ **Geographical concentration** of our initiatives.
- ✓ **Targeting territories** whose size makes it possible to envisage a backbone initiative, maximising the impact of the actions undertaken.
- ✓ **Developing projects** with high potential for synergies, in which waste management, access to potable water, and sanitation can all be addressed.



# SOLIDARITY

## SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS IMPROVING WASTE MANAGEMENT

Since 2015, Syctom's international solidarity programme has embodied its commitment to support progress in waste management in developing countries. It aims to improve the living conditions of local people by providing financial and/or technical support for initiatives to improve recycling, sorting, and recovery, whilst combating wastage and environmental pollution. To pursue this aim, Syctom has chosen to fund NGOs and local authorities submitting projects in response to a call for proposals entitled 'Waste Solidarity'; projects may be renewed on an annual basis.

39 projects supported in 20 countries since 2015

€3,500,000 set aside since 2015

Between 2016 and 2019, French local authorities provided €5,476,000 in public-sector development aid for waste management.  
Syctom contributed

63% of this total.

### Some of the projects we support



Water/sanitation/waste project, Myanmar

Funding: €98,000

“ In Magway, a town with a population of 75,000 in the dry region of Myanmar, we worked with the local council to design a pilot project improving the quality and sustainability of municipal drinking water, wastewater drainage, and solid waste management services. For the latter, Syctom funding made it possible to carry out a diagnosis: this revealed that a large quantity of organic waste mixed with other waste could not be recovered. The idea that has come out of this is to improve waste collection and then set up a composting unit, in order to recover organic waste in the form of compost for reuse in agriculture and public gardens - as well as raise public awareness about the issue of waste sorting.”

Thomas Le Jeune - Project manager, GRET



## THE 'WASTE SOLIDARITY' CALL FOR PROJECTS

Syctom is recognised for its work supporting projects alongside other stakeholders in public-sector development aid, particularly through the leverage provided by the match funding scheme. This makes it possible to provide co-funding for ambitious projects, as well as fund smaller projects not eligible for other measures.

### Taking part

- ✓ Candidates respond to a call for expressions of interest.
- ✓ Candidates shortlisted by the Solidarity and International Cooperation Committee are invited to submit a full application.
- ✓ Completed applications are then analysed by the Committee and submitted to Syctom's Executive Committee, which decides whether or not to grant aid.

### CHECKLIST

#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must be associations under French law or a local authority, local public agency, foundation, or public interest group with its registered headquarters in France; the application must correspond to Syctom's priority actions.

#### FIND OUT MORE

Documentation required for each stage can be downloaded from the Syctom website: [www.syctom-paris.fr](http://www.syctom-paris.fr)  
Applications must be submitted by the stated deadline: check the application schedule for details.



### Waste recovery project, Mahajanga, Madagascar

Funding: €298,000



Since 2011, Madacompost – a company set up in partnership with NGO Gevalor – has been recovering the town's waste. With the support of Syctom, we've been able to install a biofuel production unit using biomass, a valuable alternative to deforestation. We've also modernised the composting procedure, with semi-mechanisation of the apparatus, developed an 'organic compost' processing chain, and implemented a biowaste sorting experiment at the local market."

**Hélène Bromblet** - Project officer, Gevalor

# COOPERATION

## AND DEVELOPING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

Sycrom is called on for its expertise to support cities and regions as they implement household waste treatment solutions, paving the way towards a genuine circular economy. This involves developing strategic partnerships both nationally and internationally. Internationally, the main focus is on establishing close ties with a number of strategic local authorities through multiyear agreements.

Sycrom's priority geographical scope for implementation is as follows: priority countries for French cooperation (CICID/MEAE list), candidates for EU membership, and countries supported since 2015 in which there are links to a local authority or NGO operator (Cameroon, Congo, Vietnam, Philippines, and Kazakhstan).

Projects that are potentially of interest in countries with historical ties to France but do not fall within this scope may be supported by Sycrom subject to a favourable opinion by its Management Committee.

In 2020, direct aid initiatives coordinated by Sycrom received support from the French Development Agency (AFD) and the French Ministry for the Economy, Finance, and the Recovery. A total of

**€925,000** worth of subsidies were awarded to implement two projects.



### Manila

In the Philippines, Sycrom has a three-year commitment alongside SIAAP (the French public agency in charge of sanitation in Ile-de-France) and Metro Manila to put forward a reproducible solution to divert significant amounts of organic waste from saturated landfill sites. This also involves reducing the amount of household waste disposed of in the Pasig River, itself the subject of a UNESCO rehabilitation project. The project is being co-funded by the French Development Agency (AFD) as part of a scheme known as the French Local Authorities Financing Facility (FICOL).



### Kazakhstan

In another initiative to reduce the amount of household waste destined for landfill sites, Sycrom has won a call for projects launched by the French Ministry for the Economy, Finance, and the Recovery using the FASEP scheme (Funds for Studies and Assistance to the Private Sector). The project is in Kazakhstan, where Sycrom has already worked with local authorities; it aims to promote French public and private-sector expertise. Sycrom is thus lead partner in a two-year biowaste composting demonstrator project alongside its Kazakh opposite number. It is being accompanied by Setec environnement and an ad-hoc club of French companies.



Sycrom also works alongside cities and funding partners that approach it to share the expertise acquired by French public services in waste treatment and provide advice to its peers.

# ADVOCACY

## WORKING FOR BETTER CONSIDERATION OF WASTE IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES

The issue of waste management and treatment, and of household waste in particular, is a relatively recent one on the international stage. Having long taken a back seat to the inevitable emergencies that arise in relation to sanitation and access to drinking water, the topic is at last being addressed at an appropriate level. Since the Paris Agreement of 2015, Sycotom has constantly been drawing attention to the role played by essential services in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

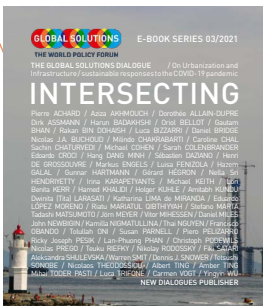


### Action with an international scope

Sycotom is a member of the French Water Partnership, to which it contributes vital synergies between water and waste treatment. It was also a contributor at the 2018 World Water Forum in Brasilia, and a signatory to the International Water Association (IWA) Principles. Sycotom helped to develop France's SDG roadmap. In addition, it has engaged in advocacy as part of the French delegation to the high-level political forum organised by the UN in 2018 and 2019. COP events also offer an opportunity to raise awareness of the progress we have made in research and development.

### Helping to increase knowledge

In 2019, Sycotom took part in the French Initiative for Essential Services Internationally (IFSEI) to compile the catalogue of French structures capable of delivering services in the fields of sanitation and waste treatment worldwide. In 2019 and 2020, it also helped draft two international collective works: a white paper entitled 'Urban sanitation and waste management for all' published in connection with the G20 summit, and *Intersecting*, which brings together insights from experts on urban infrastructure, including Sycotom, with a special focus on times of crisis.



# SYCTOM: THE PUBLIC AUTHORITY FOR THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE IN THE PARIS REGION

Europe's leading public operator in household waste treatment and recovery.  
Syctom is a public-service agency serving 6 million people in 85 municipalities in Greater Paris.  
To perform its mission, it 10 treatment (facilities and selective owns waste sorting centres)  
and a network of waste recycling centres.

Syctom receives waste collected by local authorities (household waste, sorted waste, food waste, and bulky waste).

It treats over 2 million tonnes of waste every year:

60% is used in energy from waste programmes that generate steam and electricity; over 30% is recycled into new materials.



## Governance of international action

Coordination of strategy implementation is the responsibility of the International Solidarity and Cooperation Committee, comprised of 9 elected members of the Management Committee and chaired by Pascal Pelain.

## Contacts

Calls for projects: [solidarite-dechets@syctom-paris.fr](mailto:solidarite-dechets@syctom-paris.fr)  
Cooperation and advocacy: [international@syctom-paris.fr](mailto:international@syctom-paris.fr)

For more details of Syctom's international solidarity and cooperation strategy, visit our website:

<https://www.syctom-paris.fr/engagements/action-internationale.html>



l'agence  
métropolitaine  
des déchets  
ménagers

86 rue Regnault | 75013 Paris | Tel +33 (0)1 40 13 17 00  
[www.syctom-paris.fr](http://www.syctom-paris.fr)



@lesyctom