WWF8 - CITIZENS PROCESS

Strengthening citizens participation in basin management: policy, representativeness and challenges

Patrick LECANTE
Mayor of the Municipality of Monsinery-Tonnegrande
President of the Water and Biodiversity Committee of French Guiana
Water management in French Guiana

Issues and challenges

French Overseas Territory in South America - French Department since 1945
National and European regulations in force

Cultural and ethnic diversity of populations
Strong demographic dynamic that creates significant challenges in terms of access to essential services

Structural delay and landlocked territories
Major catch-up work in progress, in particular to reduce inequalities in access to drinking water throughout the country

Exceptional biodiversity (high taxonomic diversity) - High mineral wealth (specific pressures such as illegal gold washing)
Articulation of economic development with the management and enhancement of the natural heritage
The French Guiana Water and Biodiversity Committee

Composition

- **15 Local elected officials**
  - 6 Guyane territorial Community (régional authority)
  - 4 Municipality
  - 4 Community of municipalities
  - 1 Regional Nature Park (joint municipalities association)

- **16 Representatives of various categories of users**
  - 3 qualified personalities
  - 1 representative of Guiana’s Guiding Company
  - 1 representative of the Grand Council customary
  - 1 representative of the Electricity Company of France
  - 1 representative of the operators of the water distribution
  - 1 tourism representative appointed by the Tourism Committee
  - 1 representative appointed by the MEDEF (French Business Movement)
  - 1 representative of agriculture appointed by the Chamber of Agriculture
  - 1 industry representative appointed by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry
  - 2 representatives of the approved associations for the protection of nature and the environment
  - 1 representative of socio-professional circles on the proposal of the economic, social and environmental council
  - 1 representative of water consumers appointed by the Prefect on the proposal of the presidents of the consumer associations
  - 1 representative of fishing associations or leisure Guyana related to water, appointed by the Regional Committee of Maritime Fisheries and Marine Farms

- **10 State representatives**
Participatory basin management at the local level

The example of Montsinery-Tonnegrande

01 Nautical base managed by sports associations (youth)

02 Development of the village

03 Valorization of the oyster industry

04 Valorization and protection of the environment