

Press release



Paris, July 17th, 2025

SUEZ and Seabex join forces to experiment the agricultural benefits of biochar

SUEZ and Seabex, a French AgriTech start-up specializing in irrigation optimization and agricultural resource management, have announced the signing of a partnership to experiment with the agronomic benefits of biochar on several farms in the Loiret department, in the center of France.

"To address climate and agricultural challenges, we need bold alliances. This partnership with SUEZ combines the industrial strength of a leader and the technological agility of Seabex to explore a new path: agriculture that regenerates soils, optimizes water management and secures the future of farmers.", said **Taher Mestiri, CEO of Seabex**.

"Beyond its carbon sequestration capacity, biochar benefits from unique properties that make it a promising material for sustainable water management in agriculture. Through this pioneering partnership with Seabex, an innovative AgriTech start-up, we are leveraging the monitoring and analytical capabilities of new technologies to measure the potential of biochar to regenerate soil and foster agricultural resilience.", added **Dominique Hélaïne, Director of Carbon Solutions at SUEZ**.

Biochar, a solution for carbon sequestration and agricultural resilience

Produced by high-temperature pyrolysis of biomass, without oxygen, biochar is identified by the IPCC as one of the five most effective negative-emission solutions for long-term carbon sequestration. To support its clients' greenhouse gas reduction efforts, SUEZ announced in July 2023 its partnership with Canadian companies Airex Energy and Groupe Rémabec, an integrated forestry and bioproducts specialist, in the joint venture Carbonité to produce industrial biochar from forest biomass residues in Canada, located in Port-Cartier, Quebec.

Biochar also has many environmental benefits for agricultural, construction, and urban planning sectors. Used as a soil amendment, it sequesters carbon while improving nutrient and water retention, aeration, drainage, and microbial life. Moreover, it helps soil regeneration, makes fertilizer use more efficient, increases agricultural yields, and preserve water resources.

An industrial and technological partnership to measure the agricultural benefits of biochar

These agricultural services, especially the water retention capacity of soils, will be assessed as part of the partnership between SUEZ and Seabex, using analysis, monitoring and decision-making support tools developed by Seabex based on artificial intelligence, satellite imaging and field data collection technologies. This experiment will be conducted as of September 2025 on farms in the Loiret department, for a period of five years. The aim is to measure the impact of biochar on soil health, their resistance to water stress, and their agricultural performance.

As part of the study, SUEZ will benefit from Terrial's expertise, a market leader in fertilizers and organic soil amendments in France, while Seabex will leverage its partnership with the Loiret Chamber of Agriculture, which is dedicated to experimentation and innovation in the agricultural sector. Seabex will also mobilize its data scientists and agronomists to ensure optimal monitoring of the tests and rigorous interpretation of the results.

SUEZ, *Société Anonyme*, a company registered under the laws of France, with a share capital of €63,799,880.78, having its seat at: Altiplano, 4, place de la Pyramide - 92800 Puteaux, France, registered number 901 644 989 RCS Nanterre –Tel : +33 (0)1 58 81 20 00 – suez.com – VAT Number: FR60901644989

Press release

An innovative partnership stemmed from the Aquanova water competitiveness hub

This innovative partnership between a major French group and an AgriTech start-up is the result of initiatives led by Aquanova, a water industry competitiveness hub, with locations in Orléans, Strasbourg, and Nancy, which aims to develop innovative projects in response to challenges related to water resources and regional development in France.

About Seabex:

Founded in 2020, Seabex is a French AgriTech startup co-founded by Taher Mestiri, Ines Hamida, and Amira Cheniour, offering a sensorless AI-based platform that provides accurate irrigation recommendations. Using advanced algorithms and satellite imagery, Seabex helps farmers optimize water use and increase crop yields. Seabex's technology saves water and boosts productivity, addressing the global challenges of water scarcity and agricultural efficiency.

For more information, visit seabex.com

About SUEZ:

Faced with growing environmental challenges, SUEZ has been delivering essential services that protect and improve our quality of life for more than 160 years. SUEZ provides its customers with innovative and resilient solutions for water and waste services. With 40 000 employees across 40 countries, the Group works with customers to create value over the full lifecycle of their assets and services, and to drive their low carbon transition. In 2024, SUEZ provided drinking water for 68 million people worldwide and sanitation services for 44 million people. The Group generated 8 TWh of energy from waste and wastewater. In 2024, SUEZ has generated revenues of 9.2 billion euros.

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