



**croix-rouge** insertion  
FONDÉ PAR LA CROIX-ROUGE FRANÇAISE +



Paris, June, 19th 2020

## PRESS RELEASE

# Croix-Rouge insertion and Fondation SUEZ united against COVID-19

Since the beginning of this unprecedented crisis, employees from Croix-Rouge insertion have acted and learned to adapt. It means organizing their human and material resources and readjusting their services to local communities, NGOs and companies **with one goal: to come together and help the most vulnerable.**

As part of its existing partnership with Croix-Rouge insertion, Fondation SUEZ steps up to support the organization's solidarity initiatives during these challenging times.

First, a support with a daily prevention to **protect their 600 employees who are in the field, 84% of whom are enrolled in occupational therapy programs**, through reinforced personal and collective protective equipment (masks, visors, gloves, soap, hand sanitizer, disinfection products, dividers, signage, etc.). During confinement and despite the stoppage of many activities, prevention also involved maintaining remote support for employees to **limit the negative effects of social isolation.**

Fondation SUEZ **also contributes to the production of alternative masks:** the Croix-Rouge insertion teams have adapted their work methods and production tools to manufacture "category 1" cloth masks (AFNOR Spec S76-001). The production aims to supply masks for French Red Cross employees and volunteers, and to fill orders from public authorities and companies.

**Objective: produce and deliver over 50,000 masks per week.**

**The Foundation also supports essential activities** to help the most vulnerable, such as providing necessities, access to healthcare and food assistance, activities which had to be boosted to meet the increasing demand during the crisis.

**An average of 210 packages of hygiene and first aid supplies**, compared with 60 before lockdown, have been shipped daily: a 250% increase.

**In April 2020, they received and redistributed 60 tons of food products**, compared with 39 tons in April 2019: a 50% increase.

*"We are proud to be able to help provide Croix-Rouge insertion with material resources in order to ensure the safety of teams on the field and to help the most vulnerable. Fondation SUEZ has a long-standing partnership with Croix-Rouge insertion and we fully support their solidarity initiatives to meet the increasing demand of those in dire need. As the gradual easing of lockdown has begun nationwide, Fondation SUEZ is providing vital resources in order to produce cloth masks for Croix-Rouge Insertion employees and volunteers, as well as to fill orders from public authorities and companies."*

**Bertrand Camus**, Chairman of Fondation SUEZ

*"We would like to thank Fondation SUEZ for its decisive support in continuing and adapting our activities for the employees on integration programmes and, more generally, the public supported by the French Red Cross. Beyond this crucial support in a particularly difficult context, it is for us a mark of recognition from a committed partner, sensitive to our social values and close to our activities in the field of resource development."*

**Pierre BENARD**, Chairman of Croix-Rouge insertion

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A visit to the workshop for the production of alternative masks and a the solidarity recycling platform was organized today, at Croix-Rouge insertion-Le Maillon Normand, in Pavilly (76), in the presence of **Mr. Pierre BENARD**, Chairman of Croix-Rouge Insertion and National Administrator of the French Red Cross, **Mrs. Chloé SIMEHA**, Chief Executive Officer of Croix-Rouge insertion, **Mrs. Tiphaine HECKETSWEILER**, Chief Engagement and Communications Officer of SUEZ and Administrator of Fondation SUEZ, and **Mr. Maximilien PELLEGRINI**, Vice President in charge of Water France and SUEZ commercial activities, in order to meet the teams of Croix-Rouge Insertion and Fondation SUEZ.



Visit of the alternative masks' workshop and a solidarity recycling

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#### **Croix-Rouge Insertion**

*Croix-Rouge Insertion, a non-profit organization, was founded in 2011 by the French Red Cross and the French Red Cross Endowment Fund. It aims to help vulnerable individuals to gain employment and become self-sufficient. The IAE (rehabilitation through salaried employment) organization has a head office and twelve branches across France. Its main activities include logistics, occupational therapy, and the upkeep of urban and rural green spaces. It employs 500 people, 82% of whom are under a fixed-term contract (Contrat à Durée Déterminée d'Insertion).*

#### **SUEZ Foundation**

*The SUEZ Foundation supports decisive action to sustainably develop access to essential services (water, sanitation and waste) for underprivileged populations in developing countries. In France, it carries out 2 actions: promoting the integration of vulnerable people through employment and training and also social cohesion through education, culture and sport for minors. In addition, every year since 2008, the Fondation SUEZ has participated in the projects it supports through the skills sponsorship of Group employees.*

#### **About SUEZ**

*Since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, SUEZ has built expertise aimed at helping people to constantly improve their quality of life by protecting their health and supporting economic growth. With an active presence on five continents, SUEZ and its 90,000 employees strive to preserve our environment's natural capital: water, soil, and air. SUEZ provides innovative and resilient solutions in water management, waste recovery, site remediation and air treatment, optimizing cities' and*

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*industries' resource management through "smart" cities and improving their environmental and economic performance. The Group provides sanitation services to 64 million people and produces 7.1 billion m<sup>3</sup> of drinking water. SUEZ also contributes to economic growth, with more than 200,000 jobs created directly and indirectly on an annual basis, and provides new resources, with 4.2 million tons of secondary raw materials produced. By 2030, the Group is targeting 100% sustainable solutions, for a positive impact on our environment, health and climate. SUEZ generated total revenue of €18.0 billion in 2019.*

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