

## **Passing on the know-how and values of water: a commitment of the Artois-Picardie Water Agency**

The responsibility of today's stakeholders in water in working with young people is to pass on values to them and to open up the doors of the forums where such issues are discussed, allowing them to take part in the debate around water.

Each year since 2011, some one hundred young people from the Artois-Picardie River Basin, between the ages of 16 and 23, have taken part in plenary sessions, discussions, working groups and encounters with experts in water.

These young people are selected because they have already been made aware of the challenges of water through sustainable development education projects.

The benefit of this youth policy is that it enables young people to take part in the debate and gives genuine meaning to their knowledge of water issues.

Thanks to its partners (SEE/SIE, Goodplanet Belgium, Bulgarian Network of Ecological Schools, Young Water Solutions), the Artois-Picardie Water Agency is playing its part in building and renewing the vast movement of "young people for water" and making it sustainable.

**Today, the aim is to get more of the stakeholders in water involved in this movement.**



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## **EUROPE-INBO 2018: THE YOUTH EFFECT, TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE OF WATER**

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# EUROPE-INBO 2018: THE YOUTH EFFECT, TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE OF WATER

## Basin organisations presenting initiatives for getting young people involved

### **Changing the world of water through the contributions of young people**

The reflection and work conducted in the debates proposed to young people show the extent to which water is a cultural issue. Young people need knowledge not only of water, but also of human sciences... and most importantly, they need to take action.

### **One year to take up the challenge!**

Water is one of the first "victims" of climate change.

Climate change contributes to modifying the distribution of water resources in time and space, resulting in droughts, flooding, rising sea levels and declining water quality and aquatic biodiversity.

These phenomena will have economic, social and environmental impacts that will be felt differently depending on

the territory and the vulnerability of its population.

### **And what if the basin organisations worked alongside young people to take up a challenge in their local territory?**

1. The issues of climate change and water governance are common to all of us.
2. Each basin organisation presents an initiative completed or underway, involving one or two elected officials and 3 young people from the river basin aged between 18 and 26.
3. The challenge consists in conducting a joint action either to change behaviour in the face of the effects of climate change or to take concrete steps to enable a territory to cope with an effect of climate change.



▲ Members of the WYPW at the Marseille World Water Forum (2012)

A form will be available at the EUROPE-INBO 2018 opening ceremony.

A panel of judges\* will select the best initiatives.

The initiatives will be highlighted at the next EUROPE-INBO in 2019.

### **To propose your initiatives:**



Form available for download on:  
[www.eau-artois-picardie.fr](http://www.eau-artois-picardie.fr)  
[www.riob.org/fr](http://www.riob.org/fr)

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In the history of humanity, there have never been as many young people as there are today: 1.8 billion teenagers and young people around the world aged 10 to 24.

This group is growing most strongly in the poorest countries.

They will be 25 years old in 2030, the deadline set for achieving the world Sustainable Development Goals.

\* The panel will be set up at Europe-INBO in Seville