

## INTERNAL ANNOUNCEMENT

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**GDF SUEZ provides better health standards to 14 thousand children in Brazil**

Initiating its second year in the influence area of the construction of Estreito Hydropower Project, the “Healthy Children, Healthy Future” program has achieved the record number of 14 thousand children covered. The implementation of this program is an initiative of Consórcio Estreito Energia (CESTE - 40.07% owned by GDF SUEZ Energy Latin America), GDF SUEZ Foundation and Alcoa Institute, and is implemented by the NGO INMED. Under implementation in many countries worldwide for 17 years, the program aims to improving the health standards of poor regions through the hygienic education of children in the schools. In the case of Estreito, the program is being implemented in the 12 municipalities located in the influence area of the plant, region that has one of the lowest human development indexes of the country.

In the view of Michèle Meyzie Debenest of GDF SUEZ Foundation, the “Healthy Children, Healthy Future” program is the most important social project of the Group in Brazil at this moment, and is entirely aligned with the sponsoring policy of the Group, which is to help children under social risk. To Michèle, this project is an example of social commitment of GDF SUEZ. “The Group, which is loyal to its values, carries out long-term actions along with social services that aim at the economic and sustainable development, thus promoting equality in opportunities in the countries in which it operates”, she says.

The involvement of all parties (children, educators, NGO, officials and sponsors) has been of paramount importance in the success of the program. To CESTE, the “Healthy Children, Healthy Future” program has been working as a transformation inducer in the communities and an incentive to the implementation of public policies. The Director of Environment, Safety and Health of CESTE, Dimas Maintinguer, highlights the duration of the initiative: “Our vision for this project is a medium term one, but we believe that results shall be noticed immediately upon the improvement in the school performance of students and reduction in the anemia degree of children”.

Estreito is a 1,087 MW installed HPP under construction in Tocantins river, between the States of Tocantins and Maranhão, North of Brazil. The plant is expected to start commercial operation by the end of 2010.