

City of Limeira, Brazil

Population: 280,000

In spite of the 31% population growth, the proportion of people connected to the wastewater collection system was raised from 78% to 100% in less than ten years.

Wastewater treatment was almost non-existent. Today all urban wastewater is treated.

Organising authority: The city of Limeira.

Water operator: Odebrecht Ambiental - Limeira Facility.

Location: Limeira is a city located in the state of Sao Paulo, 150 km from the city of Sao Paulo.

PPP description

Odebrecht Ambiental - Limeira Facility manages the municipal water and sanitation services of Limeira through a concession contract. Odebrecht Ambiental - Limeira Facility was selected by a process of international competitive bidding among 18 other proposals. The operations started in 1995 and the duration of the contract is 30 years. Limeira is the first city in Brazil to enter into a concession for its municipal water and sanitation services.

Context and PPP objectives

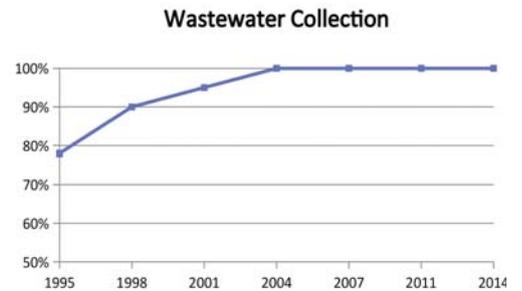
The city of Limeira had a significant population growth since 1960, the population increased from 61,000 to 280,000. This city growth, in number of inhabitants and thus in surface area, created some serious problems for the safe water system and sewerage. Through a public and international bidding process, the city of Limeira called on the private sector for cooperation and created a Public-Private Partnership, aiming at the following goals:

- Universal coverage of water and sanitation
- Water supply 24 hours a day and 7 days a week
- Water quality improvement
- Water losses reduction
- No pollution of local river basin PCJ (Piracicaba, Capivari and Jundiai)
- Universal treatment of wastewater
- Affordable tariffs for the whole population

Extending wastewater collection

At the beginning of the concession there were 164,000 people connected to the wastewater system, they represented 78% of the whole population. Thanks to the investment that has been made since 1995, the whole population was connected to the sewerage system by 2004; thus, the company achieved one of its main goals – collection of 100% of wastewater from the population – in less than 10 years.

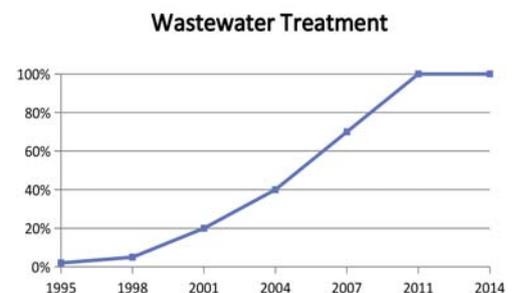
The following graphic shows this evolution. The number of people connected to sewerage system has been increased by 68%.



The city is included in the regional sanitation plan named "Piracicaba, Capivai and Jundai". At the end of 2010, the average of wastewater collection of the 62 municipalities from the valley was 85%, Limeira being one of the most advanced cities collecting 100% of its wastewater.

Increasing wastewater treatment

At the beginning of the operations, only 2% of population had its wastewater treated. Industrial wastewater did not receive any kind of treatment, which means that wastewater from all industries, charged with industrial contamination such as heavy metals, grease, detergent, etc. was dumped into the river. Since only a tiny percentage of urban wastewater was treated, water poured in Piracicaba River produced serious pollution. At this time the city of Limeira was responsible for 40% of the river's pollution.



Thanks to the investment that has been made by the operator, the percentage of treated wastewater has increased every year, as shown in the graph, attaining a 100% of wastewater treated since 2011.