



# Gérard PAYEN

## Global Water Practitioner

Gerard PAYEN has been working for more than 20 years to solve water issues in many countries all around the globe.  
He has taken part in all recent intergovernmental conferences relating to water

### Current assignments

#### UNITED NATIONS:

Member of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation

#### PRIVATE WATER OPERATORS

President of the International Federation of Private Water Operators (AquaFed)

#### WATER PROFESSIONALS (Academia, Governments, NGOs, Business)

Strategic Council President and Board member of the International Water Association (IWA), the global association of water professionals.

#### FRENCH WATER PROFESSIONALS (Academia, Governments, NGOs, Business)

President of the International Committee of ASTEE ("Scientific & Technical Association for Water & Environment"), the association of French water professionals.

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### Water practitioner

**SUEZ** (formerly SUEZ-Lyonnaise des Eaux) - Global service group: water, sanitation, energy, waste management

2002 - 2003 **SENIOR EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT - GLOBAL WATER ISSUES** - Member of ExCoM and Management Board.

*Mobilize governments and International Financial Institutions with regards to world water issues  
"Historic" Summits : Johannesburg, G8 in Evian.*

1995 - 2002 **SENIOR EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT - SUEZ** - Member of ExCom and Management Board

**CHAIRMAN AND CEO of ONDEO - SUEZ Water Division** – (recently renamed Suez Environment)

World leader in water services - 50.000 employees - Turnover 10.1 bn euros

→ 120 million people served daily by the company - 9 million of whom live under the poverty line –  
in 120 countries throughout the 5 continents in both developing and developed countries

→ Contribution to MDGs : 7 million people have gained access to drinking water via Ondeo during G.Payen's tenure.

CHAIRMAN / CEO / BOARD MEMBER / Main shareholder representative in 45 water service companies

1985 - 1994 **VP OPERATIONS then COO - DEGREMONT** - ExCom and Management Board.

Design & construction of water treatment plants

World Leader in water treatment - 12000 plants / 120 countries - Turnover € 701 m.

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## **Publications**

- “Water and Sanitation for Women, Private Operators contribute”, *with AquaFed, 8 March 2007*
  - “Compendium of Action of the United Nations Secretary General ‘s Advisory Board on Water & Sanitation”, *March 2006, chaired by R.Hashimoto*
  - “Water business”, *article in OECD Observer,, n°254, March 2006*
  - “Enhancing access to finance for local governments, Task Force on Financing Water for All “, *chaired by Angel Gurría, WWC-GWP-WWF4, March 2006*
  - « Allons-nous vraiment manquer d'eau ? Quelques dées reçues sur la gestion de l'eau », *PCM Ponts & Chaussées Magazine, June-July 2005*
  - “The Right to Have Access to Drinking Water, Economic, Institutional and Practical Factors” *IDEF Lausanne, Sept 2005*
  - “L'Eau : bien social et économique” (“Water: a social and economic good”) in “La Houille Blanche, revue internationale de l'eau” n° 1/2003.
  - “Financing Water for All” , *March 2003, chaired by M.Camdessus*
  - “Concrétiser le droit à l'accès à l'eau dans les pays en développement” in *Revue Quart Monde n° 180 “L'Eau : un bien commun” November 2001 (published by ATD Quart Monde).*
  - “Bridging the water Divide” – *with Suez – Nov. 2001*
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## **Contributor to global collective goals**

**Call for more “access to water and sanitation” projects**, *World Women’s Day, with AquaFed, 8 March 2007,*

**Support to the inclusion of Local Governments in global meetings**, *Mexico City, March 2006*

**Call for the implementation of the Right to Water**, *Mexico City, March 2006*

**Speaker in multiple international gatherings relating to Water:**

2003-2007: Amsterdam, Brussels, Casablanca, Lausanne, Libreville, Luxembourg, Marrakech, Okinawa, Palermo, Stavanger, Stockholm, Tokyo, Washington, Bangkok, Fort-de-France, Delhi, Nairobi, etc

**UN Commission on Sustainable Development.** Participation to the session relating to water in April 2005

**World Panel for Financing Water Infrastructure “Camdessus Panel”** - 2002 - 2003

Active member of the panel, author of several recommendations of the “Financing Water for All” report

**International “Water for the Poorest” Ministerial Conference** in Stavanger - Norway - Nov. 2003

(Preparatory work to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development 2004 session.)

G.Payen is member of the organizing team and keynote speaker

**World Water Forum #3 in Kyoto** - March 2003

Member of the CEO Panel. Panellist / speaker in 11 debates.

Only Business representative at the Governments’ Conference.

**UN World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg** - Sept. 2002

G.Payen is elected as the Business representative by all companies present and intervenes as such in the WEHAB debate about water. Publicly advocates for addition of sanitation in the MDGs

**UN Summit in Monterrey - Financing for Development** - March 2002

G.Payen, as Suez representative, takes part in official roundtables with governments and makes 3 innovative proposals to increase the number of “access to water” projects.

**International Freshwater Conference in Bonn** - Dec. 2001

G.Payen participates as representative of the “Business segment” in the Multistakeholder dialogue with governments.

Public call to Heads of States for “**Bridging the Water Divide**” - Nov. 2001

**World Bank** : Presentation and paper “**Urban Water Supply in Emerging Countries**” Feb 2001

**World Water Forum #2** in The Hague. Panelist in several roundtables - March 2000

**World Water Forum #1** in Marrakech. Participant - March 1997

***Contributor to collective goals in France***

*Permanent assignments*

- Founding Chairman of the International Committee of the association of French water professionals (ASTEE ex AGHTM) (researchers, civil servants, public operators, private operators, NGOs ) - 2001 - current
- Board Member of Agence de l'Eau Seine-Normandie - 1996 - 2000
- Vice-president of the association of French private water operators (SPDE ) - 1995 - 2002

*Various recent actions*

- Member of the French Water Partnership
  - Member of the French Partnership for Mexico WWF4
  - Member of the French preparatory committee to the Johannesburg WSSD.
  - Contributor to the "Access to Water" Governance Charter that was proposed by France in Johannesburg WSSD.
  - Contributor to building a national system allowing the social provision of water to the very poor.
  - Contributor to the International component of the French "National Committee for Sustainable Development".
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