**History of The Living Springs**

Along with her 17 years of professional experience, including four international projects, Catherine Lanvers, founder of The Living Springs Association, focused her career in 2009 on project management in international cooperation. She has experience in the setup of a consulting company in Spain, through which she managed and promoted, in collaboration with her Senegalese partner, 4 bilateral cooperation projects for Spanish and Senegalese Governments, as well as public institutions and private entities such as *Iltesa-Danone*.

These exciting professional challenges led her to study a master's degree in project management with a specialization in international cooperation at *La Salle Graduate School* in Madrid and the *Universidad Autónoma de Madrid*. A year after her arrival in Switzerland in early 2008, she met the active members of the H2O Energies Association who were exhibiting their humanitarian actions carried out in Cameroon and Kenya on the occasion of the International Water Day.

Following this magical encounter, it became obvious to her that her way was to continue on the path opened by H2O Energies members. She was subsequently elected as a volunteer project manager and partner of the Geneva *Association H2O Energies*. In this role, she implemented a plan of action to significantly increase the number of water purification installations in developing countries. Since her time with H20 Energies, she has continued her goal to improve access to safe drinking water and has founded The Living Springs Association, with technical support from the H2O Energies association (until it was fully autonomous).

Seeking to further develop The Living Springs projects, she travelled to various countries in Africa (Morocco, Egypt, Benin, and South Africa) and Asia (India) with the support of local networks in the countries working in the field of water management.

As of today, The Living Springs Association has identified and validated, with the technical support of H2O Energies, the feasibility of several projects in Benin, more specifically in *Avrankou* and Les *Aguégués* municipalities. She had signed up 2 bilateral cooperation agreements with both municipalities.

Each prospecting visit was subject to local situations analysis.

But it was finally in India that the first access to drinking water project was completed in December 2012 in the rural area of Madugula located in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

In addition to the installation of the water purification units in India, and ensure a great impact, the TLS team decided to develop 2 training programs (for the maintenance of water treatment units and water kiosks business management) as well as Awareness Programs on sustainable water management.