

The ADAGE concept. Freshwater resources in Loyalty islands (New-Caledonia)

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An european consortium with complementary skills :
ALCATEL Space Industries (ex AEROSPATIALE Space &
Defence), the IRD (ex ORSTOM) French Institute for
Development Research, EID (Lisbon, Portugal) and the
Common Centre of Research of the European Commission
(Ispra, Italy) have been developing since 1996, an innovate
project for decision support in environmental development and
management (ADAGE, EUREKA Project EU 1299).

The ADAGE approach is actually used by University of
New-Caledonia, French Institute for Development Research
and the ADAGE group in Loyalty islands to improve decision-
making on exploitation of the freshwater resources. The aim of
this ADAGE application (the first operational site of ADAGE
project) is to simulate the behaviour of the freshwater lens,
exclusive drinkable water resource on these islands towards
some principal aggressions (tourism, projects development,
demographic evolution...). Of course, this aim depends of the
lens and social behaviour understanding.

The following steps have been realised :

- behaviour analysis of the Loyalty islands population towards
the freshwater resource
- re-reading and analysis of the existing data
- identification and spatialisation of risks
- analysis and understanding of anticipated results
- scenarios development and their validation by decision-
makers