

Press release

France, May 12, 2025

SADE, a subsidiary of the NGE Group to build the first wastewater treatment plant on the island of Santo Antão, Cape Verde

The NGE Group, through its subsidiary SADE, continues its development in Cape Verde and has been awarded a contract for the sanitation of the island of Santo Antão. Commissioned by the National Water and Sanitation Agency (Agência Nacional de Águas e Saneamento – ANAS) and financed by the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), this project will provide the island with essential infrastructure for wastewater treatment, thereby contributing to the protection of both its terrestrial and marine environments.

Cape Verde faces major challenges in water sanitation, with significant implications for public health, environmental conservation, and the country's economic development. On the island of Santo Antão, freshwater resources are particularly scarce and are progressively deteriorating due to the overexploitation of groundwater and the intrusion of saltwater.

Within the scope of works awarded by ANAS, SADE will lead the construction of a wastewater treatment plant with a daily capacity of 400 m³, two pumping stations, and 20 km of wastewater networks. The treated water will be stored in lagoons covering approximately 1,500 m² – also to be built by SADE – for subsequent reuse in activities such as irrigation or street cleaning. The project serves a dual purpose: eliminating the discharge of untreated effluents into nature and promoting their reuse.

The design phase is scheduled to commence in early April 2025, with construction works expected to continue for 18 months, until the end of 2026.

"This project marks a pivotal step in improving living conditions on Santo Antão and in delivering on the government's ambition to provide the entire population with access to quality water services. By deploying the island's first sanitation infrastructure, we are helping protect its ecosystem while enhancing quality of life for its inhabitants. This initiative aligns fully with our Group's strategy, which places the preservation of natural resources at the heart of its commitments. We are proud to support Cape Verde in this vital transition." Frédéric Bernadet, Managing Director of Sade.

Over a decade of commitment by SADE to water and sanitation in Cape Verde

For more than ten years, SADE has been contributing to Cape Verde's development in the fields of water supply and sanitation. On the island of **Santiago**, the company has designed and implemented fire protection networks at a hydrocarbon storage site, constructed a wastewater treatment plant in **Assomada**, and installed both drinking water and sewerage networks.

On the islands of **Sal** and **São Vicente**, SADE has strengthened water supply by delivering two desalination plants, directly addressing water resource management challenges in these regions.

Project summary:

- **Client:** ANAS (Agência Nacional Águas e Saneamento)
- **Contract value:** 4,7 M€
- 20 km of wastewater networks (HDPE/ PVC ø 160 to à 300 mm)
- **Treatment capacity:** 400 m³/day wastewater treatment plant

Active in six African countries, NGE designs and delivers a wide range of infrastructure for mobility and water management across the continent. Recent achievements include the construction of a wastewater treatment facility in Morocco with a capacity of 150,000 m³/day, the installation of the first 330 km of track for Egypt's high-speed rail network, and the Nachtigal hydroelectric dam in Cameroon.

About Sade

Sade, a subsidiary of the NGE group, is a company that is more than a century old and specializes in the design, construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of networks (water and energy) and infrastructure (civil engineering and underground works) in France and internationally. As an entrepreneur in ecological transformation, it supports its public and private clients with efficient and innovative technical solutions for virtuous networks and low-carbon infrastructure.

About NGE

NGE – New Generations of Entrepreneurs – the fourth largest construction group in France, builds major infrastructures and urban or local projects. With its expertise in financing, design, construction, and maintenance, the Group is a key player in delivering infrastructures that address the economic and ecological challenges of the territories. Its entrepreneurial drive is supported by a strong employee ownership structure (the founders, management, and employees hold 72% of the Group's capital) reinforced by Montefiore Investment, a leading French investment firm (28% of the capital). With a turnover of 4.6 billion euros, NGE operates in 20 countries, supporting private and public clients in financing, designing, and building their transition projects in water, mobility, urban renovation, energy, and telecommunications. NGE's 23,600 employees are proud to contribute to building infrastructures that change the world.

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