

Annual Report 2010 on drinking water quality

TO ENSURE ONGOING MONITORING OF THE QUALITY OF GENEVA'S DRINKING WATER, THE SIG LABORATORY PERFORMS SOME 90,000 ANALYSES EVERY YEAR. THE RESULTS ARE REGULARLY COMMUNICATED TO THE SERVICE DE LA CONSOMMATION ET DES AFFAIRES VÉTÉRINAIRES (CONSUMPTION AND VETERINARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, OR SCAV), WHICH IS THE CANTON'S INSPECTION AUTHORITY FOR ITEMS OF HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

In 2010, the 51.5 million cubic metres of water consumed in the canton of Geneva met the regulatory standards for the following physical and chemical parameters:

Mixed water network (lake and groundwater)

1	Min.	Avg.	Max.
Water hardness¹ (in French degrees)	13.7	21.7	26.7
Calcium (mg/L)	44.7	75.5	99.3
Magnesium (mg/L)	5.4	6.9	8.2
Nitrates (mg/L) Tolerance value: 40 mg/L	2.4	7.3	12.1

- The water in this network is of excellent quality, slightly mineralised, with low nitrate levels.

Lake water network

2	Min.	Avg.	Max.
Water hardness¹ (in French degrees)	13.4	13.8	14.2
Calcium (mg/L)	43.8	45.5	46.5
Magnesium (mg/L)	5.3	5.9	6.4
Nitrates (mg/L) Tolerance value: 40 mg/L	2.2	2.6	3.2

- The water in this network is of excellent quality, slightly mineralised, with very low nitrate levels.

Arve groundwater network

3	Min.	Avg.	Max.
Water hardness¹ (in French degrees)	22.0	23.9	25.6
Calcium (mg/L)	64.4	70.6	76.7
Magnesium (mg/L)	10.1	15.3	19.3
Nitrates (mg/L) Tolerance value: 40 mg/L	5.0	6.3	7.3

- The water in this network is of excellent quality, with a medium mineral content and low nitrate levels.

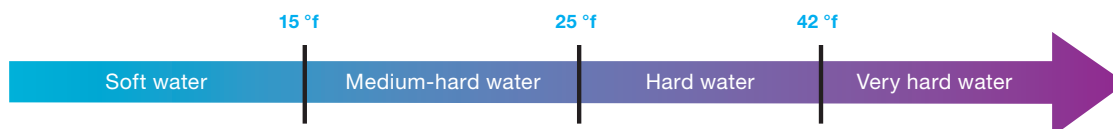
Genevois groundwater network

4	Min.	Avg.	Max.
Water hardness¹ (in French degrees)	23.8	28.4	38.3
Calcium (mg/L)	69.7	82.4	107.5
Magnesium (mg/L)	13.9	19.0	27.8
Nitrates (mg/L) Tolerance value: 40 mg/L	5.4	11.5	26.9

- The water in this network is of excellent quality. Its mineral salt content varies according to the pumping station supplying the network.



¹Drinking water hardness (in French degrees)



Microbiological analysis ensure that drinking water contains no trace of bacteria likely to adversely affect health and is treated with the same care required for the preparation of food.

The SIG laboratory dedicated to drinking water analysis obtained ISO 17025 certification in 2010.

Microbiological data for the four drinking water networks

- Number of samples: **6,850**
- Number of inconsequential anomalies with spontaneous correction: **1**
- Analysis results requiring halting of a facility: **0**

To find out which water network supplies your residence, visit your personalised section of www.sig-ge.ch

Eau de Genève, pure and simple

8 good reasons to drink tap water



- 1 Quality**
With the rigorous treatment and testing it undergoes, water is the most strictly controlled element for human consumption. It is also regularly tested by SIG's team of water tasters.
- 2 Balance**
Your water contains minerals (calcium, magnesium etc.) and trace elements that make it comparable to certain bottled waters.
- 3 Taste**
Its natural freshness and taste make it very pleasant to drink. It can be enjoyed in many ways: still, carbonated or even mixed with an organic flavoured syrup.
- 4 Healthful**
Water is uncontestedly the world's most healthful beverage. For optimum health, it is recommended to drink eight glasses (1.5 liter) per day.

- 5 Practical**
Geneva residents can access it effortlessly 24 hours a day at home, at work and from public fountains.
- 6 Economical**
In Geneva, a liter of tap water costs an average of 0.2 ct.
- 7 Convenient**
Supplied by the lake (80%) and groundwater (20%), it is a local resource widely available to all Geneva residents.
- 8 Eco-friendly**
Eau de Genève has a minimum ecological footprint:
0 packaging
0 road shipping
0 packing
0 point of sale
up to 1,000 times lower environmental impact than bottled waters.

Find Eau de Genève ...

on your iPhone



With the "Eau de Genève" application, you can access advice, information about the quality of your tap water, and locate the water fountain nearest you.

on Facebook



Get information, leave comments and be among the first to access the latest news. Join the "Eau de Genève" Facebook community, which already has over 800 fans.



**Miss
Isabelle Majois**

President of the Geneva section of the Fédération Romande des Consommateurs (Consumer Federation of French-Speaking Switzerland, or FRC)

What is the FRC's mission?

The FRC defends consumer's rights in a wide range of areas including food, health care, energy, agriculture and – naturally – tap water.

Have you ever launched any tap water initiatives in the past?

In 2010, the FRC formed a national alliance with other consumer organisations for the organisation of dedicated events. One of them promoted drinking water, highlighting its environmental, economic and health benefits. Feedback was very positive and the benefits of tap water were quickly understood. But this isn't enough. Meeting and speaking with people is the best way to put to rest any doubts that may persist despite a lack of rational support.

Why do you work with SIG?

We both defend the same values. The FRC has been promoting tap water for a long time now. The concerns of the FRC and SIG on the subject of tap water naturally converge. Moreover, having a single supplier in Geneva, and therefore a single contact person, makes our promotion efforts easier. This is not the case for all of the cantons.

What are your plans for the future?

We will continue raising awareness of the quality of drinking water in Geneva. Filling a glass from the tap or a fountain is easy and eco-friendly.

Eau de Genève's Carafe Initiative

EAU DE GENÈVE DONATES 100% OF THE PROFITS FROM ITS SALES OF "EAU DE GENÈVE" CARAFES TO THE GENEVA-BASED NONPROFIT ORGANISATION **H₂O-ENERGIES**, WHICH USES THE FUNDS TO FINANCE A PROJECT IN KENYA AIMED AT ENSURING SAFE DRINKING WATER.

February 2009

H₂O-Energies team makes an initial exploratory trip to the villages of Akom, Rakombe and Koteyo.



March 2009

The Carafe Initiative is launched with 10,000 carafes for sale, including two models with designs by Geneva-based illustrator ZEP.

June 2009

Work to reopen the canal connecting Lake Victoria and the future pumping station begins.



July 2009

With 7,000 carafes already sold, a total of CHF 35,000.- is donated to the H₂O-Energies association.

November 2009

The project is reoriented and given a more ambitious budget to help extend access to drinking water to a larger population. 10,000 additional carafes will be manufactured.

April 2010

The 10,000th carafe is sold and the target amount of CHF 50,000.- is reached. A new series of carafes is launched, including a new model designed by Geneva-based artist TOM TIRABOSCO.

July 2010

The H₂O-Energies team constructs in Geneva filters for the Kenya project.



August 2010

The equipment is shipped to Mombassa. The trip takes 10 weeks because the ship must put into port several times due to certain political situations.



November 2010

Two members of the H₂O-Energies team arrive in Kenya to oversee the work. The equipment is delayed at the Mombassa customs office for four weeks.

Nearly 16,000 carafes are sold, generating a record of CHF 80,000.- in financial support.

February 2011

The H₂O-Energies team leaves for Kenya to finalise the installation of the first filter.

March 2011

The pumping station is put into service. Water quality tests and purges of the pipes are performed daily.



Spring and summer 2011

It should be possible to distribute the first glasses of the new improved drinking water at schools and in the communities. Women and children will no longer have to walk long distances to fetch undrinkable water.

The remaining 4,000 carafes will be sold to finance the service launch of the second filter.

Autumn 2011

The second filter for a drinking water network supplying a population of 2,000 is to be installed.

THANK YOU! Your purchase of an "Eau de Genève" carafe has helped to make this possible!

THE CARAFES INITIATIVE IN FIGURES	1 st filter	2 nd filter
Equipment	CHF 35,000.-	CHF 16,000.-
Project oversight	CHF 10,000.-	CHF 3,000.-
Shipping and taxes	CHF 6,000.-	CHF 5,000.-
Installation, service launch and training	CHF 20,000.-	CHF 5,000.-
Total	CHF 71,000.-	CHF 29,000.-
No management fees for H₂O-Energies or profits for SIG	CHF 100,000.-	
	=	
	20,000 carafes sold	

For more information, visit www.eaudegeneve.ch and go to "La carafe / Action humanitaire"

Original illustrations showcasing Geneva



1 CARAFE

purchased at

CHF 20.-

=

CHF 5.-

for safe drinking
water in Kenya

"Eau de Genève" carafes: style for your table and support for a good cause

Manufactured in Europe from recyclable glass and packed in recycled cardboard, the "Eau de Genève" carafe is a unique product created by the Carouge design firm Stojan + Voumard. Featuring exclusive illustrations by artists ZEP and TOM TIRABOSCO, these carafes make **great gifts, a handsome object on your table, a souvenir of Geneva, and above all, a humanitarian gesture.** With every carafe purchased, CHF 5.- is donated to the H₂O-Energies association to help fund its project in Kenya.



New and practical

You can now order your carafe online at
www.eaudegeneve.ch

The carafes are sold at:

SIG

Accueil SIG Lignon
Chemin du Château-Bloch 2
(Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Espace SIG, Pont de la Machine
(Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.,
Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

At our partners

Yatouland
Chemin des Batailles 22,
Vernier (Wednesday, Saturday
and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

Cultural kiosk at the "UNOG"
Palais des Nations
(Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Learn more about the
"Eau de Genève" gift set at
www.espace-terroir.ch



After an initial design by ZEP, another Geneva artist, TOM TIRABOSCO, has created an illustration of his own for the "Eau de Genève" carafes.

Why did you agree to participate in this project?

I saw that it was a great way to help promote tap water while also supporting a humanitarian project. It is just the kind of project that motivates me and fuels my enthusiasm.

It sounds like you are committed to environmental protection.

Exactly. I do what I can to support environmental causes whenever I have the chance. For me, the environment is central to all the major challenges all people are currently facing.

How would you describe yourself as an illustrator?

Although I do a lot of work for the press, I am not a press cartoonist. I define myself as a general illustrator and comic book author.



Une énergie propre à chacun