

For the past five years, the RTE Foundation has extended the company's commitment to promoting the development of rural communities. In 2012, it supported 47 new projects, bringing the total number of projects aided since its creation to 246, for a total amount of €4.7 million.

5 YEARS OF ACTION FOR THE RTE FOUNDATION



The RTE Foundation supports community projects which focus primarily on combating all forms of exclusion, protecting the environment, conserving the rural heritage and creating jobs. Numerous examples include the refurbishment of buildings, a variety of social and economic initiatives to help people in difficulty, farming and market gardening activities, management of green spaces and waste and the development of social inclusion activities intended to encourage access and return to the labour market.

A FOUNDATION TURNED TO THE FUTURE

A new team took over running the Foundation in 2012 and its Executive Committee was partially renewed. Three priority projects launched in 2011 were taken further. A system for skills patronage has been designed and a first experiment will be launched in 2013. A "gateway" system enabling structures supported by the Foundation to offer their services to RTE has been rolled out. The RTE Foundation also set up an agreement with France Active, the leading financier of social enterprises in France and leader for guaranteed microcredit loans, to help encourage innovative projects. In 2012, RTE renewed its support for a not-for-profit organisation, Solid'action. Created in 2001, Solid'action

believes that the time factor is a key element in the integration process, and has introduced a scheme which allows reintegration contracts to benefit from a special dispensation to extend the two years currently considered to be the maximum legal length of a social integration contract to five years.

The Foundation has put a dynamic new communications strategy in place with a new intranet, six video interviews with project instigators, sponsors and instructors, and the organisation of an event featuring ten project instigators shortlisted for a special award. At the end of this event, the French writer Patrick Viveret opened the discussion, putting into perspective the challenges facing the rural world in the general economic and societal context.

The RTE Foundation was one of the four finalists in the Admical Oscars for Corporate Philanthropy 2012, a wonderful achievement for all those who have shown great enthusiasm for the Foundation and its projects. ●

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.fondation.rte-france.com