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National Chapters:



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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT



Dear AIDIS Members:

We're entering May, Recycling Month, an essential action on the path toward a sustainable future. Recycling is presented not only as a technical action, but as an invitation to review and redesign our processes to give new value or second uses to what we previously considered waste. From a sanitary engineering perspective, we must go beyond waste management, transforming its treatment into an opportunity to generate useful and valuable byproducts, contributing to the circular economy from design to operation.

To achieve this change, it is crucial to invest in innovation and development that allows for the generation of new sustainable products and businesses, which are essential to support proper waste management. This comprehensive management not only effectively addresses environmental problems but, in the long term, reduces costs by mitigating the negative impacts that poorly managed waste has on ecosystems and public health.

On the other hand, reclaiming alternatives not only allow us

to move toward more sustainable models but also bring greater profitability to the business equation and significantly reduce environmental impacts. This approach demonstrates that sustainability and profitability can go hand in hand.

The challenges in our region are significant, with infrastructure gaps and limited citizen awareness, but we are also seeing significant progress thanks to the efforts and commitment of all involved. Source separation, material recovery, and environmental education are fundamental steps toward real and lasting change.

Furthermore, nature-based solutions are key to restoring and preserving our ecosystems while providing innovative and resilient responses to climate change.

We are deeply grateful to those who, through their experience and commitment, are building more efficient, fair, and regenerative solutions. Every step we take together brings our region closer to a waste management system that is not only more efficient, but also more efficient and sustainable.

Dr. Rolando Chamy

NEWS



III AIDIS INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE I AGISA NATIONAL CONGRESS IN GUATEMALA

Organized by AGISA, the event brought together representatives from governments, local municipalities, researchers, academics, students, consulting firms, and healthcare providers from April 23-25, along with leading experts from Cuba, Chile, Brazil, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, and Costa Rica.

Experiences were shared, networks were strengthened, and the commitment to addressing the challenges posed by climate change in Latin America was renewed.

The energy transition and decarbonization plans took center stage, highlighting advances in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and regulatory frameworks that promote a fair and inclusive transformation. In addition, a vision of a circular economy was promoted, with waste recovery, environmental education, and community participation as fundamental paths toward more sustainable development.

The active participation of local communities, women, and youth was recognized as an indispensable pillar for building truly inclusive solutions. The conviction that cooperation between institutions, professionals, businesses, and communities is key to scaling up local solutions and generating regional impact was also strengthened.

The motto that inspired and was validated throughout the meeting continues to set the course:

Science acts, politics transforms, and society advances.

In this spirit, the commitment to continue promoting solutions that improve people's lives and strengthen the future of our region was renewed.

NEWS



3RD UNIVERSALIZE INTERNATIONAL FORUM FORTALEZA, BRAZIL

The Brazilian Association of State-Owned Sanitation Companies (AESBE), the São Paulo School of Sociology and Politics Foundation (FESPSP), and the Ceará Water and Sanitation Company (CACEGE) organized the 3rd International Forum "Universalize 2025" on April 10 and 11, 2025, in Fortaleza (CE), Brazil.

The president of AIDIS Interamericana, Dr. Rolando Chamy, participated in the Forum with the keynote address "Overview of the sanitation sector and climate change mitigation actions in the context of South America and the Caribbean."

To learn more, [click here](#).



NEWS



ACADEMIC CONFERENCES "ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES IN THE LATIN AMERICAN CONTEXT: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS"

The Academic Conference "Environmental Sciences in the Latin American Context: Challenges and Solutions" was held on April 29 and 30. This event brought together students, professionals, and environmental experts from across Latin America for meeting and exchange.

Organized jointly by the Mexican Association of Engineering, Science, and Environment (AMICA), the Faculty of Engineering of the Autonomous University of Yucatán (UADY), Mexico, and the Technical Division of Healthy Environments (DIAMSA) of AIDIS, the event established itself as a platform for dialogue, reflection, and the generation of proposals to address the region's socio-environmental challenges.

The conference was attended by 155 attendees from 12 Latin American countries, 34 speakers, and four invited specialists from Ecuador, Mexico, Chile, and Brazil. More than 30 institutions were represented, including universities, consulting firms, companies, government entities, associations, and NGOs.

Key topics for sustainable development in the region were addressed, such as waste, climate change, agroecology, environmental engineering, environmental monitoring, public policy, mobility, energy sustainability, water, soil, and air, as well as environmental education. These topics allowed for a comprehensive analysis of current challenges and possible solutions from multiple disciplinary and territorial perspectives. In addition to the topics addressed, a valuable opportunity for exchange and collaboration was created among the speakers, facilitating networking and strengthening regional cooperation in the field of environmental sciences.

These types of initiatives are an inspiration to continue working on capacity building around the role of sanitary and environmental engineers, recognizing their strategic importance for advancing sustainability, resilience, and prosperity in Latin America.

NEWS

**SEMINARIO:
 EL NEXO ENTRE EL
 AGUA Y LA SALUD
 EN EL SECTOR RURAL**

El acceso al agua potable segura y a los servicios de saneamiento es fundamental para la salud pública, especialmente en las comunidades rurales, donde las brechas de estos servicios respecto del sector urbano persisten. Se sabe, asimismo, que las deficiencias en el acceso al agua limpia tienen incidencia en la mortalidad infantil y en enfermedades transmitidas por el agua insegura. Así, las primeras exposiciones estarán enfocadas en las regulaciones y desafíos que enfrentan los servicios sanitarios rurales en esta materia. Luego, los expositores se referirán a las herramientas y acciones para la protección de la calidad del agua, incluyendo su desinfección y los estándares de muestreo que garanticen su seguridad. En seguida, se abordarán los retos técnicos y operacionales que enfrentan los servicios rurales para cumplir con las normativas, y la importancia de una asistencia técnica continua para asegurar la calidad y la sostenibilidad de los servicios. Para concluir, se discutirá la situación actual de las plantas de tratamiento de aguas servidas en zonas rurales, un componente esencial para cerrar el ciclo del agua de manera segura y garantizar un entorno saludable.

Santiago / Viernes 11 de abril de 2025 /08:30 horas.

AIDIS
AIDIS
AIDIS CHILE
 DIVISIÓN DE AGUA
 POTABLE Y
 SANEAMIENTO RURAL
 (DIAPAR)

PULLMAN
 HOTELS AND RESORTS

SEMINAR “THE NEXUS BETWEEN WATER AND HEALTH IN THE RURAL SECTOR”

Organized by the Technical Division of Drinking Water and Rural Sanitation (DIAPAR), the Chilean Chapter of AIDIS, and the Inter-American Technical Division of the same specialty (DISAR), the Seminar, held on April 11, aimed to address current health sector regulations applicable to drinking water and sanitation services, as well as the challenges and opportunities for progress in both the quality and coverage of sanitation services, highlighting their direct impact on population health and the improvement of their quality of life.

The seminar was held in a mixed format: in person for attendees from Chile and online for those interested abroad. It provided an opportunity to bring together experts and professionals from the sector, who shared knowledge and best practices that will help strengthen the link between water and health, with a view to improving living conditions in rural communities.



NEWS



68TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACODAL – COLOMBIA

The 68th International Congress on Water, Sanitation, Environment, and Renewable Energy of ACODAL, the national chapter of AIDIS, was held in Colombia on May 7, 8, and 9.

The congress and trade show took place at the Hotel Las Américas Convention Center in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.

The topics covered were water, renewable energy, the environment, governance and regulation, waste, new educational approaches, sustainability, innovation and technology, and business models.

For more information, [click here](#).

NEWS



ENGINEER ALEJANDRO IRIBURO ELECTED CHAIR OF IWA'S WATER SECURITY PLANNING SPECIALIST GROUP

AIDIS is pleased to announce and congratulate Alejandro Martín Iriburo Bentos on his election as President of the International Water Association (IWA) Water Security Planning Specialist Group.

Alejandro Iriburo is the former President of AIDIS Uruguay and currently serves as Vice President of the chapter. He has also served as Vice President of Region 4 (Southern Cone) of AIDIS Interamericana, demonstrating over the years a strong commitment to water management and the protection of public health in the region.

His election to this important international group is a recognition of his professional career, technical leadership, and dedication to strengthening water security globally.



NEWS



CHANGE OF AUTHORITIES AIDIS NATIONAL CHAPTERS

ARGENTINA

At AIDIS Argentina headquarters, following the Ordinary General Assembly, the new Board of Directors was appointed for the 2025/2027 term. It is composed of the following members:

President: Diana Rosalba Sarafian
Vice President: Juan Martín Koutoudjian
Secretary: Paulo Fernando Suarez
Assistant Secretary: Javier Mijangos
Treasurer: Fernando Cruz Molina
Assistant Treasurer: Alejandro C.M. Dos Santos

REGULAR MEMBERS

First Member: Juan Rodrigo Walsh
Second Member: María Eva Koutsovitits
Third Member: Sergio Benet

Fourth Member: Agustín Landaburu
Fifth Member: Santiago Rodríguez Alonso
Sixth Member: María Graciela Pozzo Ardizzi
Seventh Member: Omar Garzonio
Eighth Member: Carlos Rivas

ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Alternate 1st: Patricia Caso
Alternate 2nd: Juliana Dueñas
Alternate 3rd: Federico Pesa
Alternate 4th: Yamila Maria Castagnola

NEWS



CHANGE OF AUTHORITIES AIDIS NATIONAL CHAPTERS

ECUADOR

The Ecuadorian Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AEISA), the Ecuadorian chapter of AIDIS, announces the renewal of its Board of Directors, which will assume the important task of continuing to promote professional, technical, and scientific development in the field of sanitation and the environment in Ecuador.

The new Board of Directors is comprised of:

President: Engineer Antonio Gutiérrez

Vice President: Engineer Guillermo Espín

Secretary: Engineer Esther Soriano

Treasurer: Dr. María de Lourdes Maya

First Member: José Carlos Pere Febres Cordero

Second Member: Biologist Luis Arriaga

Third Member: Engineer Abel Chiquito



NEWS



CHANGE OF AUTHORITIES AIDIS NATIONAL CHAPTERS

PARAGUAY

The Paraguayan Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, the Paraguayan chapter of AIDIS, announces that its Ordinary General Assembly was held on April 22, 2025. On that occasion, the members cast their vote of confidence in the Single List presented, thus electing the new members of the Board of Directors who will lead the organization.

The new Board of Directors of AIDIS Paraguay is composed as follows:

President: Eng. Haydée Aguadé de Latorre,

Vice President: PhD. Viviana Pacheco Figueredo

Secretary General: Eng. Marcela García,

International Relations Secretary: Eng. Mabel Casco Chaparro,

Technical Secretary: Eng. Ángel Rincón Rodríguez,

Treasurer: Lic. Myrian Liz Gómez

Full Member: Eng. Rossana Ortiz

Full Trustee: Atty. Tonya Guadalupe Irala Delgado

NEWS



AEISA AT THE 3RD NATIONAL MEETING OF WATER YOUTH FOR ECUADOR 2025

AEISA, the Ecuadorian chapter of AIDIS, actively participated in the 3rd National Youth Meeting of Water for Ecuador 2025, a space organized by the Water Network, UNESCO, FONAPA, and CESFA. This event brought together young people from across the country to raise awareness about the importance of water as a fundamental right and the need for its preservation.

In this type of meetings, young people have the opportunity to share ideas, experiences, and innovative solutions, and more importantly, to assume their role as agents of change to address the water challenges in our communities.

The importance of these spaces lies in fostering youth leadership, collaboration, and commitment to the sustainable management of water resources.



NEWS



YOUTUBE AIDIS INTERAMERICANA

We invite you to visit the AIDIS Interamericana YouTube Channel and watch all the webinars and news we publish with professional updates from across the Americas.

Click on our latest events:

- World Water Day 2025
- AEISA Seminar - Day 2
- AEISA Seminar - Day 1
- Environmental Education Day 2025





EVENTS AND TRAININGS



1ST TECHNICAL-SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF WATER AND SANITATION COMPANIES OF THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN

The First Technical-Scientific Meeting of Water and Sanitation Companies of the Americas and the Caribbean will be held from September 2 to 5, 2025, at the SEDAPAL Main Operational Center (COP) in Lima, Peru. It is organized by AIDIS, its Peruvian chapter – APIS, Sedapal, and ExpoAgua.

Under the theme "New models and paradigms for achieving SDG 6 in Water and Sanitation Service Providers in the Americas and the Caribbean," this event will bring together representatives from the water and sanitation sector, international organizations, authorities, and experts from across the region.

The objective is to promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences on technological innovation, management models, regulation, infrastructure, the circular economy, biotechnology, energy transition, watershed management, and international standards.

For more information, [click here](#).

INFOAIDIS

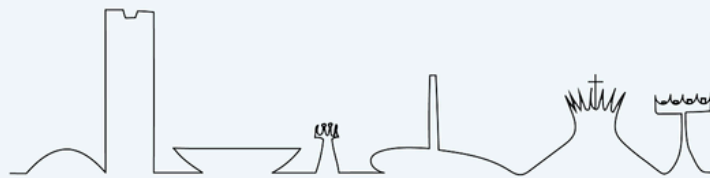
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AIDIS

AÑOS

1948 - 2025

EVENTS AND TRAININGS



33° CONGRESSO DA ABES

Congresso Brasileiro de Engenharia Sanitária e Ambiental

FITABES 2025 - BRASÍLIA-DF

33RD SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING CONGRESS FITABAES 2025 – ABES BRAZIL

From May 25th to 28th, the city of Brasília will become the epicenter of the main discussions on environmental sanitation in Brazil, with the 33rd Brazilian Congress of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, in conjunction with the International Fair of Environmental Sanitation Technologies (FITABES 2025).

The event, organized by the Brazilian Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (ABES), Brazilian chapter AIDIS, will bring together specialists, authorities, companies, researchers, and young professionals to discuss the universalization of access to water and sanitation, promoting an increasingly sustainable approach. Key topics such as rural sanitation, solid waste management, stormwater, urban drainage, water resources, the environment, energy efficiency, clean technologies, and other related areas will also be addressed. Dr. Rolando Chamy, president of AIDIS Interamericana, will participate in the Congress.

Brasília will be the meeting point for strengthening public policies, showcasing cutting-edge products and technologies, sharing experiences, developing collaborative networks, and promoting emerging skills and leadership in the field of environmental sanitation.

For more information, [click here](#).



EVENTS AND TRAININGS



CALL FOR TECHNICAL PAPERS: XI INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS ON SOLID WASTE

AIDIS Interamericana, through its Solid Waste Technical Division (DIRSA) and the Costa Rican Association of Water Resources and Environmental Sanitation (ACREH), invites professionals, academics, researchers, students, representatives of public and private institutions, as well as companies and organizations linked to the sector, to submit their technical papers for presentation at the XI Inter-American Congress on Solid Waste, to be held from October 1 to 3, 2025, in Costa Rica.

This event, held every two years, has established itself as one of the main technical and scientific meeting spaces in the Americas regarding integrated solid waste management. It shares knowledge, experiences, and solutions applied in different countries of the continent, with the active participation of experts, institutions, and key players in the sector. Papers must be submitted through <https://acrehcr.com/ponencias/> by the deadline of **May 31, 2025**. Papers will be accepted in Spanish, Portuguese, and English. Each proposal will be evaluated by a specialized technical committee.

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EVENTS AND TRAININGS



Asociación Mexicana de
Ingeniería, Ciencia y
Gestión y Ambiental

Asociación
Interamericana de
Ingeniería Sanitaria y
Ambiental

DIPLOMADO

En Ciencia e Ingeniería para la Gestión Integral Ambiental

DIRIGIDO AL PÚBLICO EN
GENERAL CON
CONOCIMIENTO Y/O
INTERÉS EN TEMAS
AMBIENTALES

- ✓ Lecciones grabadas
- ✓ Lecturas dirigidas
- ✓ Actividades práctica
- ✓ Constancia por cada módulo cursado

Costos:

- Profesionistas: \$4,800.00
- Estudiantes: \$ 2,400.00

Posibilidad de pago diferido:

- Primer pago: Inicio del Módulo 1
- Segundo pago: Inicio del Módulo 4
- Tercer pago: Inicio del Módulo 9



[https://amica.com.mx/
wp/actividades/](https://amica.com.mx/wp/actividades/)

INICIAMOS:
2 DE JUNIO DE
2025

AMICA COURSE IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FOR INTEGRAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

AMICA, the Mexican chapter of AIDIS, is organizing this diploma, which is aimed at the general public with interest or experience in environmental issues. It will begin on June 2, 2025.

It will be developed online through guided readings, recorded lessons, and practical activities.

At the end of each module, participants will receive a certificate of participation.

To learn more, click here.



EVENTS AND TRAININGS



INTERNATIONAL FAIR FOR WATER, SEWERAGE, DRAINAGE AND WASTE RECOVERY SOLUTIONS – IFAT BRAZIL 2025

AIDIS is pleased to announce its institutional support for IFAT Brasil 2025, one of the most important trade shows in Latin America dedicated to innovative solutions in water, sewage, drainage, and waste recovery. The event will take place from June 25 to 27, 2025, at São Paulo Expo, Brazil.

IFAT Brazil is part of the renowned global network of IFAT trade shows, organized by Messe München, and aims to bring together professionals, companies, institutions, and authorities in the environmental sector to exchange knowledge, technologies, and experiences that promote sustainability and efficient resource management.

At AIDIS, we recognize the importance of this type of events for strengthening sanitary and environmental engineering in the region and welcome the opportunity to collaborate with initiatives that promote concrete solutions to the challenges of climate change, water management, and waste treatment.

We invite you to learn more about this important event by visiting the official website: ifatbrasil.com.br
Click here.



EVENTS AND TRAININGS



CALL FOR TECHNICAL PAPERS: XXVI CHILEAN CONGRESS OF SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

We invite all professionals, academics, and students to present their technical papers on relevant topics in sanitary and environmental engineering.

This is a great opportunity to contribute to the advancement of our discipline and share your knowledge with the community.

- ✦ Water Resources
- ✦ Drinking Water
- ✦ Wastewater
- ✦ Liquid, Solid, and Gaseous Waste
- ✦ Urban and Rural Sanitation Management
- ✦ Public and Private Environmental Management
- ✦ Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

The **deadline** for submitting abstracts is **June 30**.

The 26th Chilean Congress of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering will be held from November 3 to 5 at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Santiago.

To see the regulations and more information about the event, [click here](#).



EVENTS AND TRAININGS



XXXIV CENTRAL AMERICAN CONGRESS OF SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

The AIDIS Central American Congress on Sanitary and Environmental Engineering has been held uninterruptedly since 1957. It has been held in Honduras three times (1977, 2001, and 2013). Host country rotation is based on geographical location. It returns to the other countries every 12 years, so in 2025 it will be held in Honduras.

AIDIS Honduras, aware of the importance of Tegucigalpa as the country's capital and for having a highly complex drinking water and sanitation system, as well as other public services managed at the municipal level, is organizing this 34th Central American Congress on Sanitary and Environmental Engineering together with the Municipal Mayor's Office of the Central District (AMDC).

The Congress's central theme is "Central America and its vulnerability to climate change: extremes and the need to safely manage public services."

The event will feature keynote lectures, technical papers, roundtable discussions, and trade shows.

Therefore, AIDIS-Honduras, together with AMDC/UMAPS, are pleased to invite all professionals, companies, governmental and non-governmental institutions, and the general public committed to public health and the environment to participate in the largest scientific and cultural event held in the Central American isthmus in 2025.

Simultaneously, EXPOAIDIS 2025 will be held as a highlight of the event. A large number of companies marketing goods and services, as well as high-end technology for the sectors represented at the Congress, will participate.

If you are interested in participating, presenting technical papers, or acquiring a stand to display products, goods, or services, please contact aidishonduras@gmail.com or call **+504 9960-3040**.



EVENTS AND TRAININGS



AMICA LAUNCHES CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE 7TH NATIONAL CONGRESS 2025 IN GUADALAJARA

The Mexican Association of Environmental Engineering, Science, and Management (AMICA) has officially announced the call for technical papers for its 7th National Congress, to be held from October 29 to 31, 2025, in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico.

Under the theme "Innovation and Management to Address the Country's Environmental Challenges," the congress will bring together specialists, academics, professionals, and students from the environmental sector in a space for dialogue and collaboration. The program will include keynote addresses, presentations, poster exhibitions, cultural activities, and technical visits, consolidating its position as one of the most important environmental events in the country.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The submission process will be open from **April 7 to July 31, 2025**. Interested parties can find details on the thematic areas and the submission process at the following link: <https://amica.com.mx/wp/congreso-amica-2025>

For more information, click [here](#).

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EVENTS AND TRAININGS



INTERNATIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION EVENT AGENDA

We invite you to explore the IWA (International Water Association) 2025 events calendar to stay up-to-date and participate in relevant water and sanitation activities around the world.

To access it, [click here](#).



BID

Banco Interamericano
de Desarrollo

IDB EVENTS AGENDA

By clicking [here](#), you can access the Inter-American Development Bank's 2025 events calendar to participate in water and sanitation activities and stay up-to-date on relevant developments in the sector

WHO'S WHO?



**CARLOS COSTA
POSADA
COLOMBIA**

He is a Civil Engineer and holds a PhD in GIS and Remote Sensing, with 25 years of experience in management and technical positions in the public and private sectors, multilateral organizations, consulting, and academia.

He is currently a consultant for the World Bank in Africa and for public service and real estate companies in Colombia. He is president of the Colombian Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (ACODAL). He served as Minister of Environment, Housing, and Development of Colombia, Director of IDEAM (the Colombian Hydrometeorological Service), and Dean of the La Salle School of Engineering in Colombia.



WHO'S WHO?

We share his career and projects with a brief interview.

1. How long have you been contributing to AIDIS, and what are your biggest challenges as Vice President of Region III, which covers Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela?

I have been President of the Board of Directors and Executive President of Acodal for almost four years, and as such, actively participating in AIDIS. After dedicating myself to the restructuring and consolidation of Acodal for these four years and participating in AIDIS activities, I feel the time is right to take on the challenge of Vice President of the Region. My main objective is to bring the National Chapters of the region as close as possible to generate horizontal cooperation, share strengths, and develop joint activities that strengthen us both individually and at the regional level. We want the visibility, influence, and results of each Chapter to be strengthened through joint work and support among Chapters. We will also hold at least one regional event and aim to strengthen interaction between the Chapters and Technical Divisions.

2. What are the main working topics for each of your Chapters this year?

For now, we're just beginning to build a teamwork plan with the Chapters, but we share needs such as financial strengthening, increasing the impact of our management, and developing strategies to increase student and young professional membership that will allow us to support the next generation of leaders in our sector.

3. How do you see the situation in Colombia in terms of actions to contribute to OD6 "Clean Water and Sanitation"?

Colombia has made significant progress in water supply and sanitation coverage over the last 20 years, particularly in urban areas. We currently have water supply and sewerage coverage above 97% and 90% in urban areas and 71% and 69% in rural areas. Water treatment barely reaches 50% and is concentrated in large cities. The main challenge, then, lies in rural areas, and the conclusion of both the sector and the government is that a legal and institutional framework and a strategy different from those that have worked in urban areas are required. Above all, community-based water management must be strengthened and built upon, incentivizing a differentiated approach that can be adapted to the characteristics of each location, increasing public funding, and a support network for strengthening local capacities. Acodal is committed to this agenda and is the operator of the WOP in Colombia, having already achieved nearly 30 successful twinning agreements, primarily between municipal enterprises. It is about to begin a new phase, financed by the IDB, SECO, the Spanish Cooperation Agency, and government entities such as Corpoguavio, with a strong community enterprise component. The strategy is to work by basin, with the basin's largest aqueduct supporting smaller aqueducts, including rural and community ones, while Acodal provides logistics, training, and investments. Meanwhile, the work agenda with the government focuses on reviewing the legal and regulatory framework for community enterprises and increasing transfers from the nation to territorial entities dedicated exclusively to the water and sanitation sector.

WHO'S WHO?



**DR. ENG. PAULO
SAMUEL
BRAZIL**

He holds a degree in Civil Engineering and Business Administration from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, with a Master's degree in Urban Engineering and a PhD in Mining, Metallurgy, and Materials. He has worked as an engineer at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and at the Municipal Department of Water and Sewage of Porto Alegre.

He is a member of the National Water Resources Council and its Technical Chambers, as well as the State Water Resources Council of Rio Grande do Sul. He has experience in sanitary engineering and environmental management, with a focus on environmental education, water resources, sanitation, solid waste, and environmental engineering. He is a collaborating professor in the Professional Master's Program in Water Resources Management and Regulation (PROFÁGUA). He is President of ABES of Rio Grande do Sul and Treasurer of AIDIS Interamericana.



WHO'S WHO?

Next, we asked him a few questions to learn more about his professional experience.

1. What responsibilities and challenges do you face as Treasurer General of AIDIS Interamericana, and how long have you been a member of the Association?

I've been with AIDIS Interamericana for almost 10 years, but with ABES for more than 30 years. I assumed the position of AIDIS treasurer in October 2015 at the invitation of our eternal president, Engineer Lima Pontes. We were attending the 6th DIRSA-AIDIS Congress in May 2015 in San Salvador, El Salvador, when I received the invitation. I was very surprised and at the same time flattered by the invitation, since my involvement in AIDIS up to that point was through the Solid Waste Division, but my experience as treasurer of Abes-RS and as CFO of other entities made me feel more comfortable considering and subsequently accepting challenges. These challenges began and continue to involve learning banking procedures and external operations, initially while being far from headquarters. Today, with current tools (the internet, banking applications, and others), the work is easier to do, although the responsibilities are great, as I work with the resources of one of the most important Sanitation Associations in the Americas, and these resources must be maintained daily. Although the work is voluntary, I dedicate more than 20 hours a week to AIDIS, as we have to control and authorize all expenses, payments, bank transfers, account control, negotiations with banks and suppliers, accounting, and auditing, always with the help of Célia and Pamela, who are essential to the smooth running of the processes. Given this voluntary work, we are very satisfied and proud that, to date, all our accounts and balance sheets have been audited and approved by the Assembly, the highest body of AIDIS.

2. Could you tell us about the main objectives of the ABES Congress and its scope in Brazil?

The main objectives of the Congress are to promote the exchange of experiences and ideas, present new technologies, serve as a networking space for industry experts, academics, and students to meet, and contribute to the universalization of sanitation in the country, as it is inconceivable that in the 21st century we still have people without access to water and sanitation.

The ABES Congress is held every two years and is one of the largest in Latin America, with nearly 4,000 participants, numerous technical presentations, and the gathering of renowned names in sanitation from Brazil and Latin America, as well as other international partners, as well as municipal, state, and federal authorities. The International Fair of Environmental Sanitation Technologies (FITABES) is held alongside the Congress. This is one of the largest environmental sanitation technology fairs in Latin America, bringing together leading companies in the sanitation sector to present their technological innovations, products, services, and equipment to an audience of nearly 10,000 visitors.

3. What perspectives could you share regarding the water and sanitation issues in Brazil?

We have a Regulatory Framework for the sanitation sector, Law No. 14,026/2020, which sets bold goals to be achieved by 2033. Key goals include achieving 99% access to drinking water and 90% access to wastewater collection and treatment in all Brazilian communities, in addition to reducing the current 40% loss rate in treated water distribution networks to 25%.

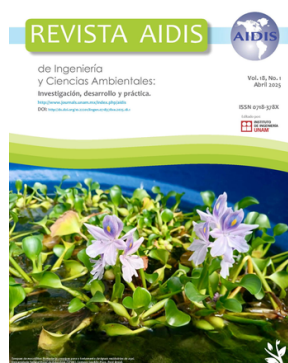
Unfortunately, we must admit that we will not be able to achieve these goals within the stipulated timeframe, as it requires a large amount of resources, companies, labor, legal certainty, and efforts from the public and private sectors. These goals must be achieved throughout the country, including in urban, rural, peripheral, and Indigenous areas, among others.

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