

# A CORPORATE BODY FOR MULTIPURPOSE WATER MANAGEMENT



## Principles and landmarks in the corporate life of BRL



An operator working for regional development





### **Outline**

- 1. Founding principles and landmarks in the corporate life of BRL
- 2. BRL operated water system
- 3. BRL's new developments







## The Languedoc-Roussillon Region in 1950

#### Context

- Agriculture dependent on crisis-hit wine farming
- Little industrial development and an industrial crisis (mining, textiles)
- Desertion of rural areas

#### Potential

- Natural potential (climate/soil) allowing diversified agriculture (fruit, vegetables)
- Touristic potential (sun, coast)

#### Keys to development

- Creating and delivering water supplies
- Roads
- Building "new" towns to anchor mass tourism





#### I. Original corporate structure

#### BRL was founded in 1955

- Main objectives
  - To provide essential water resources to meet agricultural and urban needs
  - To help modernise and diversify agriculture thanks to water
- Public/private owned Regional Development Company

#### Two basic intentions

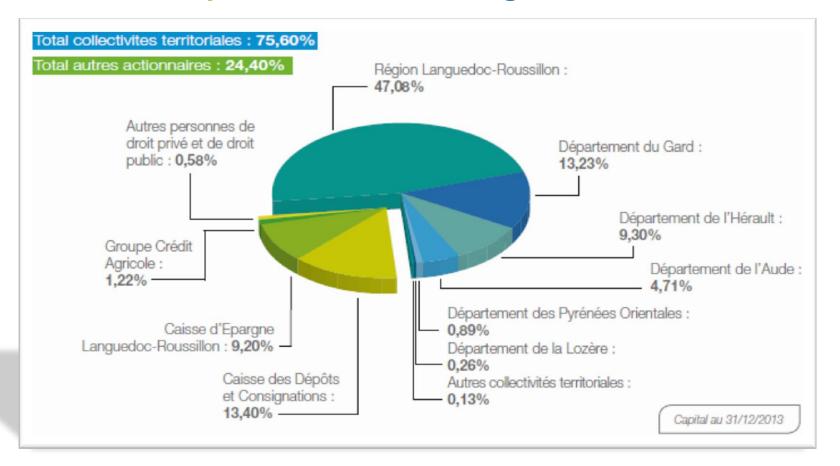
- to create a new institutional set-up at a regional scale
- to link the future management of the infrastructure with its initial design and construction

#### Two basic principles

- creation of a public and private-owned company, with « private type» management
- a State concession agreement for managing regional development operations



#### Public and private shareholding







### The BRL Group in 2014

- Consolidated turnover €67 million
  - 80% of Group turnover from activities in France,
    20% abroad;
  - 54% of Group turnover: water sales,
  - 32% studies, water management services and construction works
  - 14% park/garden maintenance, plant, irrigation equipment and energy sales
- Total regional workforce 580 people





#### II. A clear-cut mandate

#### What BRL do

- full asset management and ownership responsibility
- complete design and construction engineering management services
- infrastructure operation and maintenance
- We fix water prices except for agricultural water
- We assist and advise farmers concerning irrigation
- We plan our revenues to maintain a level of 10 to 30% earned capital

#### What BRL do not do

- investment decisions
- We don't fix agricultural water prices





#### III. A balanced equation

- 1. Jointly-financed subsidized investments: State, Regional Council, Departmental Councils, Intercommunity Authorities, Water Agency
- 2. Water sales revenues cover:
- all our operating costs (personnel, power, small-scale equipment, overheads, outsourcing, depreciation and provisions...),
- heavy maintenance and renewals,
- asset management expenditure,
- loan-related expenditure,
- self-invested capital amortization





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## 2. BRL - operated water systems

#### I. Description of the facilities

- A system comprising the whole range of water infrastructure:
  - from controlling water storage and availability
  - to distributing water to the end user.







### 2. BRL- operated water systems

#### 120 000 hectares command area

- 3 main licensed intakes with guaranteed water availabilities:
  the Rhone, Orb River and Ganguise Dam,
- 105 km of canals,
- Over 5,000 km of pressure pipes,
- 80 pumping stations,
- 6 drinking water treatment plants
- 9 dams.







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## 3. BRL's new development

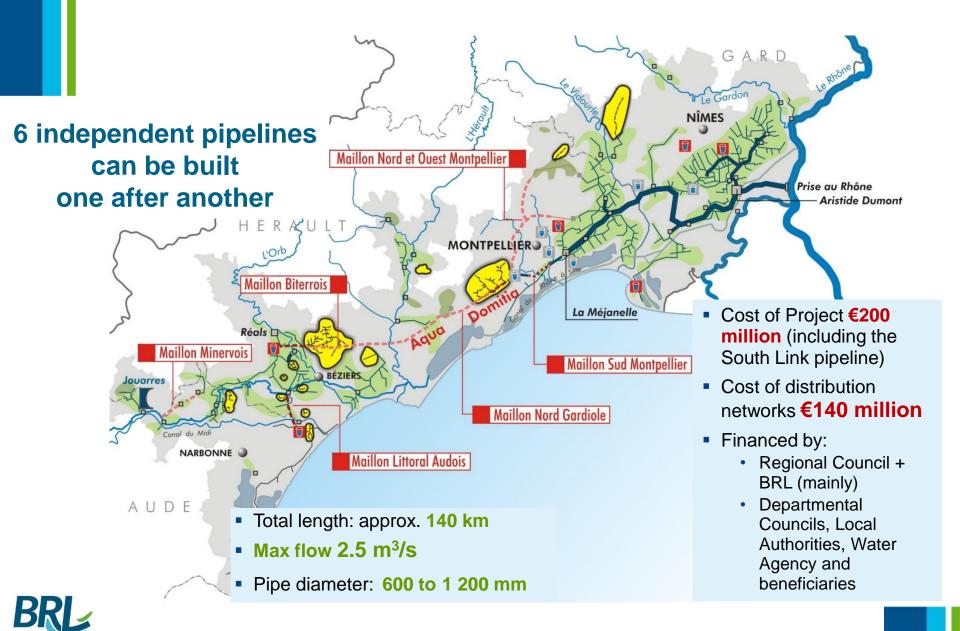
### I. Institutional changes...

- Central Govt. transferred the water concession to Languedoc-Roussillon Regional Council,
- No more State investment potential,
- BRL will be at the round-table for its financing and will manage the new facilities (concession agreement),
- Concession agreement prolonged for another 20 years





### 3. BRL's new development



## New involvements in developing countries

• The case of Ethiopia: An innovative institutional model for a great development









## Ethiopia: a risky context for PPP

### Key figures of the irrigation scheme

- 4000 ha
- 6000 farmers
- Cereals + vegetables
- Small farmers
- No experience in irrigation
- Low presence of commercial farming
- Low capacity to pay for irrigation services







## Ethiopian project timeline

3 years for construction

Progressive establishment and capacity building of IWUAs + autonomous entity

8 years management contract

Long term scheme management by empowered IWUAs + autonomous entity





