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PRESS RELEASE

Teréga and UPPA renew their partnership aimed at decarbonising the Pays de l'Adour territory.

Dominique Mockly, Chairman and CEO of Teréga, and Laurent Bordes – President of the University of Pau and the Pays de l'Adour (UPPA), have announced the renewal of the agreement that unites them. With a strong history of many joint ventures in the fields of training, research and innovation, driven by UPPA's Science-Innovation-Territories-Economy excellence initiative (or I-SITE) "Energy and Environment Solutions" (E2S), these two territorial actors have been partners for many years, and hope to see the synergies that have developed from that partnership continue long into the future.

A lasting partnership, reflecting a shared desire for innovation



It is now nearly 20 years since Teréga and UPPA became partners through a variety of actions. Many initiatives have been launched with UPPA over the years, dealing with general topics such as analysing gas and its trace components, developing geochemical tools, the corrosion of steels, the impact on the sub-soil of storing new gases, the optimisation of multi-energy systems, and also legal questions linked to the energy transition.

And so Teréga and UPPA have consolidated their partnership through:

- The creation of a joint laboratory dedicated to geological storage for decarbonised gases, the SEnGA laboratory (Gas Energy Storage in Aquifers). This structure is an innovative and competitive tool in the field of energy transition, linked to the storage of gases in geological reservoirs.
- Teréga's involvement in the E2S MOVE joint chair run by UPPA's Energy and Environmental Transitions (TREE) social sciences laboratory. This five-year joint chair, set up in January 2020, aims to build a scientific research team whose mission will be to tackle the legal aspects of sustainable mobility within the context of the energy transition.
- The IMPULSE 2025 project, in association with other bodies such as UPPA's Heat, Energy and Process Laboratory (LaTEP), with the aim of developing an innovative digital platform based in particular on new simulation tools. In this area, Teréga needs LaTEP's expertise to develop aspects linked to the simulation and dynamic optimisation of multi-energy systems.

Teréga has supported UPPA in securing the government's I-SITE label for its Energy and Environment Solutions (E2S) project since 2017, the renewal of which in 2022 was a mark of national recognition. Teréga had got the measure of UPPA's growing importance, and so supported many different initiatives:

- The EDENE (European Doctoral Programme in Energy and Environment) *cofund* in 2019 to benefit from European financial assistance aimed at bringing a new dynamic to doctoral level education for industry and opening it up internationally.
- UNITA Universitas Montium in 2020: as part of the creation of a European university alliance, initially bringing UPPA together with the universities of Turin (Italy, coordinator), Savoie Mont Blanc, Beira Interior in Covilhã (Portugal), Timisoara West (Romania) and Saragossa (Spain), creating a group of more than 165,000 students and 13,000 staff. This initiative is very important for Teréga, because it fits into the work of strengthening cross-border relations in energy (particularly hydrogen infrastructure projects), sharing similar challenges, and particularly the development of strong links from UNITA's strategic focuses on renewable energy and the circular economy.
- Pôles Universitaires d'Innovation (PUI) in 2023: Teréga, as a partner, supported UPPA's application, enabling it to become a prize-winner with its "Sud Aquitaine Innovation" project.

New areas of collaboration for a greener future

For part of these actions, in 2016 Teréga and UPPA signed a first framework agreement to structure their collaboration. Now these two actors want to keep this fruitful partnership going.

New actions will cover the following fields:

- Pursuing joint research activities (current collaborations, shared laboratory) and a review/identification of new subjects for potential collaboration in the field of research;
- Contributions from Teréga in the form of occasional lectures, seminars and case studies;
- Support for student training in the form of courses, work-study programmes, or possibly study grants;
- Invitations for students and/or lecturers to attend seminars and/or lectures organised by Teréga;
- The development of partnerships with UPPA as part of continuous training for Teréga's employees;
- Invitations for Teréga employees to attend seminars and/or lectures organised by UPPA;
- Teréga's involvement in trade forums organised by UPPA;

- Visits to UPPA or Teréga sites and laboratories;
- Teréga's involvement, at UPPA's invitation, in UPPA's governance entities (academic advisory councils, improvement advice, faculty councils etc.).

"The partnership we share with UPPA is booming, and fits in perfectly with our desire to raise the territory's profile and benefit from this university's renowned expertise. Quite apart from the advantages it brings to Teréga in R&D, we also benefit from a real seedbed for talents, which will help us fashion a sustainable future for the Pays de l'Adour. We're delighted to renew our partnership, as proof of our shared desire to move forward with a view to decarbonising energy use."

Dominique Mockly – Chairman and CEO of Teréga

"For UPPA, this partnership with Teréga offers our students and researchers a life-sized practice ground. Together, we're working to build a sustainable future for our territory, and we share a common vision of excellence and what it means in terms of what is at stake for the future, and the energy challenges that the Pays de l'Adour continues to face."

Laurent Bordes – President of the University of Pau and the Pays de l'Adour (UPPA)

About Teréga

Established in South-West France, at the crossroads between major European gas flows, Teréga has exercised exceptional expertise for over 75 years in the development of gas transport and storage infrastructures. Today, it continues to develop innovative solutions to overcome the major energy challenges facing France and Europe. A true accelerator of the energy transition, Teréga operates over 5,000 km of pipelines and 2 underground storage reservoirs representing 16% of the French gas transport network and 24% of national storage capacity. The company had a turnover of €799 million in 2022, and has about 650 employees.

Teréga Media Relations:

Céline Dallest
celine.dallest@terega.fr
+33 (0)6.38.89.11.07

Agence Auvray & Boracay:

Vanessa Walter
v.walter@auvray-boracay.com
+33 (0)6.60.05.56.65

About UPPA

The University of Pau and the Pays de l'Adour (UPPA) is one of 17 French universities that have received the IDEX or I-SITE (Science, Innovation, Territories, Economy Initiative) label for excellence awarded by the French government. The E2S (Energy and Environment Solutions) I-SITE, led by a consortium from UPPA, INRAE, Inria and CNRS, is a strong indicator of the excellence of its research and the intensity of its collaboration with the economic world.

Boasting 19 research units, 34 chairs of high-level expertise and 9 joint laboratories, UPPA is a major player in scientific development and the economy locally. As a result it is the leader of the "Sud-Aquitaine Innovation" France 2030 University Innovation Hub, launched in 2023.

A member of the European UNITA alliance, UPPA prepares 13,800 students for around 100 different degrees and diplomas up to Bac+8 level in law, economics, management, literature, languages, human sciences, sport, science and technology. Located between the sea and the mountains, on the Spanish border, it enjoys an exceptional working environment with 5 different close-knit campuses: Pau, Bayonne, Anglet, Mont-de-Marsan et Tarbes. Two research teams have also been set up at Saint-Pée-sur-Nivelle in the heart of the Basque country.

Press contact:

Christophe Derail, Vice-President of UPPA with responsibility for partnerships and innovation
vp-partenariat-innovation@univ-pau.fr
+33 (0)6.07.86.96.45