

# The lagunage for the purification of waste water in the Sahara: an approach integrated into the environmental conditions

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## Description

The water resources currently exploited in the Algerian Sahara, are in majority underground.. Contrary to the northern zone where the discharge system of water of the rivers is done towards the sea, carrying with them waste water purified or not; in the South, the rivers at the time of the risings, run towards the interior of the grounds, involving with them waste water, contaminating the sebkhas and the tablecloths. It is the case in the valley of M'zab and the zone of Ouargla, wedged mediums where the rejections pollute the ground water directly. The treatment of waste water became a requirement and a social and environmental stake impossible to circumvent. The process of treatment by lagunage is used in the purification plants of the towns of Ghardaïa and Ouargla It is ecological insofar as it does not use any chemicals to treat waste water and to evacuate them without risk towards the receiving natural environment. Fragile environmental balance and the ecosystem of the Saharianunit, must be safeguarded and for this reason it is important to remove the harmful effects in residential areas; to protect the receiving medium and the ground water; to make possible the re-use of waste water purified at agricultural ends.