



»Thinking long-term, acting now«

Since 40 years BORDA is working with partner organisations to improve the living conditions of socially disadvantaged groups and protect the environment. In 2014 BORDA was active in five different regions worldwide.

Key to our work is the close cooperation with local partners, experts on the ground, and governments as well as community members and schools. Knowledge exchange and capacity building are at the core of BORDA's work to ensure sustainable change towards a healthier future.

BORDA's expertise in the area of decentralised solutions for basic needs services covering water, waste water, alternative energy generation and waste management is requested in fragile states like Mali or Iraq. To support refugees as well as local communities in ongoing crises, BORDA is now active in the Middle East and West Africa.

with support from:



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and New Horizons**

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Growth, Change, and New Horizons

2015 and 2016 have been years of growth and change for BORDA. Since the summer, our BORDA headquarters has a new address – we are now working while looking out at Bremen’s biggest river, the Weser. This move has brought us closer to our core business: the water. At the same time, many other developments have been set into motion, often with the help of our international partners. We are now ready for new horizons.

2015 was the year in which the world had to account for its progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). The World Health Organization reported that the target for water—halving the number of people who do not have access to safe drinking water—was met five years ahead of time. However, developments in sanitation fell far short of the target. For us at BORDA, this shortcoming has strengthened our conviction that sanitation needs more attention worldwide. We used 2015 and 2016 to promote awareness of the challenges that lie ahead.

A Turning Point for the United Nations

On January 1, 2016 the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) replaced the Millennium Development Goals. For the first time in the history of the United Nations, the term “wastewater” is part of a target agreement. This is a real turning point! It marks the United Nations’ official recognition that the subject of water is much more complex and encompasses far more than access to safe drinking water and sanitary facilities. Wastewater, along with its management, is just as much of a global challenge. At BORDA we are working in manifold ways to master this challenge.

For us, four conferences tracked the change from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals: the “International Faecal Sludge Management Conference

(FSM3)” in Vietnam in January 2015; the seventh “World Water Forum” in Korea in April 2015; our own symposium “Key Elements for a New Urban Agenda – Integrated Management of Urban Waters and Sanitation” in Bremen in November 2015; and the “UN Habitat III” Conference in Ecuador in October 2016.

New Concepts and a Shared Effort

In Vietnam, it became apparent that we need new concepts and a shared effort to provide the millions of people living in rapidly growing cities with a sustainable sanitary infrastructure while also protecting the environment. Central to achieving this is the safe capture and treatment of faecal sludge from septic tanks and latrines.

In Korea, the focus was on multi-actor partnerships between development banks, industry, civil society organizations, and state actors—from a local to a national level. This was especially relevant to the theme of “Integrated sanitation for all”. On this front, BORDA led the focus group “Urban sanitation and protection of receiving waters”. Providing particular impetus to the discussion was our well-received “Call for progressive implementation”.



We are now working while looking out at Bremen’s biggest river, the Weser.

Starting the Conversation

For the Bremen symposium, we invited leading international players from municipal authorities, industry, and civil society to the Bremische Bürgerschaft, our regional parliament. Our main question for the symposium was how diverse experiences and technical knowledge can be used to make urban spaces more liveable for everyone. The resulting discussion and its conclusions are available on our new YouTube channel as well as in a comprehensive printed document and the WASH Network's electronic newsletter.

In Quito, Ecuador, we took the opportunity to have direct conversations with urban planners and mayors. For them, residential construction must meet a barely conceivable challenge: in order to keep up with population growth, as many houses have to be built in the next 35 years as have been built in the past 2,000! At the same time, water and sanitation have become key elements of the New Urban Agenda to create liveable cities for the future. So, water and sanitation have to be integral elements in planning these liveable cities from the very beginning. This is a strategic task to which BORDA can make a valuable contribution.

Pooling Internal Expertise

For us at BORDA, there was another important conference in 2015: in March more than 70 participants from the BORDA partner network met in Indonesia for three days to discuss shared goals, regional challenges, and achievements. Even though the regional contexts are diverse, there is a shared desire to produce positive outcomes for everyone and the environments we live in. This desire unites our network across all cultural and linguistic differences.

We, as an organization, want to keep contributing our expertise on a local and global level. We want to help make development fair and sustainable. And we want to further new partnerships in order to provide more people with sustainable sanitation. The UN's Sustainable Development Goal 6 is the mandate for our work: "Ensure access to water and sanitation for all."

At the UN-Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador, we took the opportunity to have direct conversations with urban planners and mayors.



Strengthen Civic Engagement

Our most important resource—besides the development of technical solutions—is the trust that we build and continuously reinforce between the various players in our projects. Water problems are complex and always go beyond technical problems. It is therefore not enough to install technology. Water problems have to be solved by the whole of society. Our BORDA teams accompany this long-term process and take on the role of trustworthy “honest broker”. While civic engagement has shaped our work from the beginning, in the past two years it has played an especially important role in our activities. We have become members of local and national networks such as the development policy umbrella organization VENRO. Together with other European partners, mostly from the Netherlands and France, we have advanced the discussion about a new political architecture for the field of water/wastewater in European and international organizations.

In February 2016, we welcomed high-ranking participants to a Bremen meeting of non-governmental organizations. Among them was Czaba Körösi, the former Ambassador to the United Nations from Hungary. As a co-chair, he led the United Nations forum to develop the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. In a joint appearance of NGOs and Members of the European Parliament, we presented our positions in Brussels.

Our civic engagement was honored in May 2016, when the German Department of Development Cooperation invited us to take part in the “City of Sustainability“ event. This interactive exhibition was held on the occasion of the annual assembly of the Asian Development Bank in Frankfurt.

In August 2016, we co-organized eight events at “World Water Week” in Stockholm. With about 6,000 participants, it is one of the biggest international expert forums. At the conference we premiered our short explanatory films, which we developed in cooperation with the renowned producer “explainity”.



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New Horizons

2017 will be our year! BORDA will be celebrating its 40th anniversary. Also, „Wastewater: The Untapped Resource”—that was this year’s World Water Day theme. We want to use these occasions to highlight the significance of our work and make it more widely known in Bremen, in Berlin and internationally.

India will be one of our main focal points this year. Together with our partner CDD Society, we built a faecal sludge treatment plant in Bangalore. The model project on the outskirts of this city of eight million people was financed with the help of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and has been recognized with several awards. Because of its success, we—BORDA and the CDD Society—have been commissioned to plan and implement faecal sludge treatment solutions in 30 additional Indian cities. These projects also include the training of expert planners. Especially significant for us was the successful “International Faecal Sludge Management Conference (FSM4)” held in February in Chennai, which we co-hosted with CDD Society.

In Germany, our most recent big event was World Water Day on March 22. Together with the Alliance of Public Water Economy, the Environment and Development Forum, and the German Association of Cities and Towns, we hosted a conference in Berlin.

The diversity and multitude of our projects has made it necessary to expand our team. This brings us back to the Weser: our new colleagues needed space to work, which we can now provide in our new office. Office: the word sounds so plain but it means so much more. Our office has turned into a marvellous space for working, planning, discussing, and creating. And thanks to the designers from “gegenfeuer” and “namename”, we can also say it is a beautiful place to be.

Please feel free to get to know us and our work better—not only here in this annual report but also in our workspace by the Weser River dike.



Stefan Reuter,
director of BORDA e.V.

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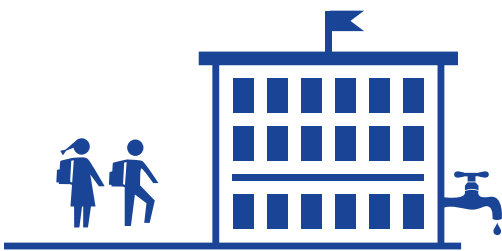
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Email yogya@borda-sea.org
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850.000

liters of water

treated daily in **Afghanistan** by the wastewater treatment systems BORDA built in 2016 to serve residential buildings, hospitals, public authorities and schools.



1.150

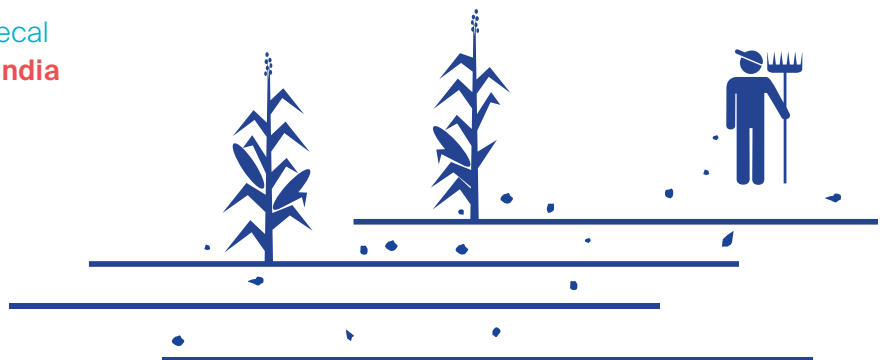
School children

in **Zambia** gained access to improved sanitary facilities.

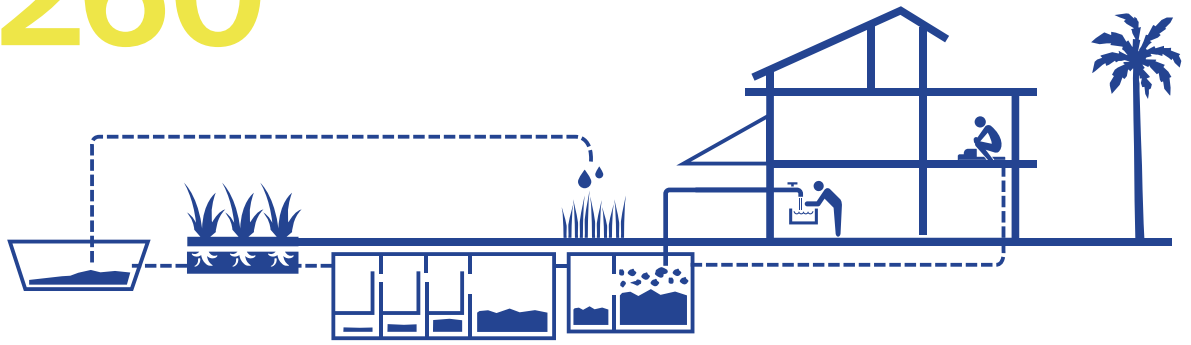
30.000

kilogramm of
fertiliser

produced from dried faecal sludge in **Devanahalli, India** and sold to farmers.



260 new DEWATS plants

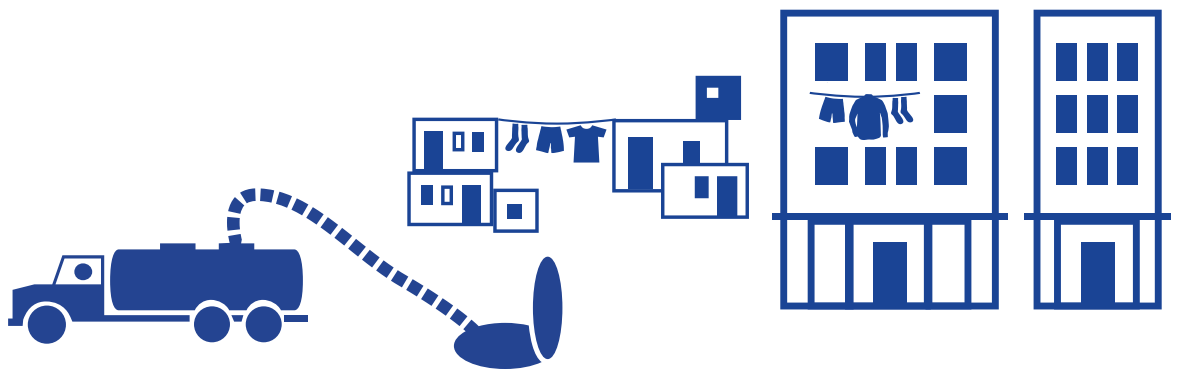


put into operation in **Southeast Asia** in 2016 for the provision of decentralised sanitation services.

7.670.000

liters of faecal sludge

safely processed and sanitised in 2016 at the new faecal sludge treatment plant serving the 30,000 residents of **Devanahalli, India**.



28.000

residents



of **Dar es Salaam, Tanzania** benefitted from new decentralised systems for handling waste and faecal sludge.



Germany

Educational work and public relations to further the understanding of development aid policies



Project duration: 2016

Budget: 35,500 euro

Sponsor: Development Cooperation Bremen (EZ Bremen)

Regional partners:

econtur gGmbH

Sportgarten Bremen e.V.

former weltwärts volunteers

Bremer Entwicklungspolitisches Netzwerk (BeN)

Handelskammer Bremen

We are also active in Germany. In Bremen and nationwide, one of our main aims is to raise awareness of the work we do at BORDA. In 2016, we held various information events for the public and experts, as well as for returning volunteers from the “weltwärts” program. “weltwärts” sends young professionals abroad for a year to work at one of our project sites. The program aims to sensitise young people to development aid topics and encourage their commitment to the field.

In 2016, we participated in the “World’s Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Waste and Raw Materials Management” (IFAT) in Munich as well as the third Africa Trade Fair in Bremen. Finally, we are committed to establishing an expert network for European environmental and developmental non-government organizations. The goal of this network is to help shape the international dialogue on topics related to water and wastewater at a European and global level (Sustainable Development Goal 6).

Water Forum Bremen



Project duration: ongoing

Sponsor: Development Cooperation Bremen (EZ Bremen)

Regional partners:

Bremer Informationszentrum für Menschenrechte und Entwicklung (Biz)

Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (BUND)

Robin Wood

Kinderhilfswerk der Vereinten Nationen (UNICEF)

... and additional partners depending on the project

Water Forum Bremen is a cooperation between BORDA and several environmental and developmental organizations based in Bremen. Our work focuses on the sustainable use of water as a resource, locally as well as globally. This means, among other things, facilitating access to safe drinking water for everyone as well as finding appropriate wastewater treatment solutions that adhere to a minimum of health and environmental standards.

It is also important to us to protect water ecosystems, with the diverse and fascinating life that exists in oceans, lakes and rivers. Every year, together with our partners, we organize campaigns and activities for World Water Day.



Las Américas

Reducing poverty to protect resources



Project duration: 2015 to 2017

Budget: 1.17 million euro

Sponsor: : The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Regional partners:

Grupo Estatal para el Trabajo de Saneamiento de la Bahía de la Habana (GTE), Cuba

Asociación Cubana de Técnicos Agrícolas y Forestales (ACTAF), Cuba

Cubasolar, Cuba

Fondo para La Paz, Mexico

Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería (UNI), Nicaragua

Universidad Tecnológica La Salle, (ULSA) Nicaragua

In Latin America, we work to reduce poverty and protect natural resources. Through this two-pronged approach, our projects in Mexico, Cuba, and Nicaragua aim to improve living conditions for the inhabitants of impoverished urban settlements as well as rural communities. Other users of public facilities like schools, hospitals, and markets also benefit from improved sanitation services.

In Cuba, for example, we help to renovate whole districts. This is a comprehensive task involving strategic questions of urban planning: Where does wastewater go? From what sources? Where do new sanitary facilities need to be built? And where can existing facilities be enhanced? We also deal with the question of how the treated wastewater can be reused, for example in parks or agriculture. In Nicaragua and Mexico, we support similar initiatives.





Nexus: food production and sanitation at the periphery

Project duration: 2015 to 2017

Budget: 0.85 million euro

Sponsor: The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Regional partners:

Grupo Estatal para el Trabajo de Saneamiento de la Bahía de la Habana (GTE), Cuba

Asociación Cubana de Técnicos Agrícolas y Forestales (ACTAF), Cuba

Cubasolar, Cuba

Fondo para La Paz, Mexico

Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería (UNI), Nicaragua

Universidad Tecnológica La Salle (ULSA), Nicaragua

In Latin America, we are also part of the program “A World without Hunger” sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The aim of this program is to reduce under- and malnourishment in Cuba, Mexico, and Nicaragua. For us at BORDA, this means developing and improving existing sanitation projects. For example, in the cycle of decentralized wastewater treatment systems, biogas plants can provide energy. Also, the treated wastewater can be used for gardens and other green spaces. The first crops from these projects have already been harvested.

Other goals of “A World without Hunger” are to improve living conditions and to protect natural resources and the climate. The target groups of our projects are the impoverished populations at the periphery and in satellite cities, as well as small-scale agricultural businesses close to cities. We are also working on creating a network where institutions can exchange expertise and knowledge. Public agencies and governmental organizations are either directly involved as partners in our projects, or they benefit indirectly from our activities.





BORDA



Africa

Building liveable and inclusive cities in Africa



Project duration: 2016 to 2018

Budget: 2.3 million euro

Sponsor: The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Regional partners:

Technologies for Economic Developments (TED)
Decentralized Environmental Solutions (DES)

Across Africa, many people still have no or insufficient access to sanitary facilities. Therefore, we are working on integrated solutions for basic sanitary services. Public utility companies, public housing companies, and other services are involved in the effort. We are also building sanitary facilities and wastewater treatment plants, and training local specialists to maintain and administer them.

In this way, we contribute to building liveable and inclusive cities, improving living conditions for impoverished groups, and protecting natural resources. We are active in Tanzania, Zambia, Lesotho, South Africa, and Mali.



Improving food security in rural Mali

Project duration: 2016 to 2019

Budget: 0.8 million euro

Sponsor:

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Regional partners:

Association pour le Développement en Zone Aride (ADAZ)

Harmonie pour le Développement au Sahel (HDS)

Réussir la Décentralisation (RLD)

PROTOS

Network DEGEREM

In Mali, we cooperate with local grassroots organizations in rural and urban communities. Our goal is to improve food security and nutrition for impoverished residents. We focus on the innovation of irrigation systems to improve nutrient circulation in horticulture, pasture farming and rice cultivation. And we often help to rebuild pumps that carry water from the Niger River onto the fields. Many of these pumps were destroyed or stolen during the war. In the long term, agricultural production needs to be adapted so that it can withstand the impacts of climate change.





Model plant for decentralized wastewater treatment in South Africa



Project duration: 2016

Budget: 45,500 euro

Financiers: The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Regional partners:

eThekweni Water & Sanitation Department (EWS), Durban

South Africa University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), Durban

Municipal administrations and local disposal businesses in Durban and other South African cities

Hering Südafrika (a German business with a subsidiary in Durban)

Decentralised Environmental Solutions (DES)

In South Africa, we concentrate on improving basic sanitation services in schools. We develop customized operator models to more effectively utilise the wastewater that is treated on-site. We also advise South African government agencies on administrative processes in order to permanently establish these school-based decentralized waste water treatment plants.



West and Central Asia

Fighting the causes of migration and flight in Northern Iraq



Project Duration: 2014 to 2016

Budget: 0.9 million euro

Sponsor: The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Partner:

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW)

In the Kurdish areas of Northern Iraq, we are working to improve refugees' living conditions. We are particularly committed to equipping refugee camps and neighboring communities with sanitary facilities and establishing renewable energy systems using biogas. The aim is to develop and improve the prospects of the refugees and internally displaced persons living in these situations. Small and medium-size farmers also profit from the improved sanitation systems. Without the treatment of waste, wastewater and faecal sludge, farmers and their crops are often the most afflicted by contaminated soil or water sources.

Professional development in Afghanistan



Project Duration: 2014 to 2018

Budget: 1 million euro

Sponsor: BMZ

Regional partners:

Agency for Consulting and Training (ACT)

Afghan Technical Vocational Institute (ATVI)

Ministry for Urban Development Affairs (MUDA)

National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA)

Ministry of Education (MoE)

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA)

Afghan Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Company (AUWSSC)

In Afghanistan, we offer professional development for the local population. The aim is to thereby improve living conditions, further economic development, and protect natural resources. Since the region is lacking jobs as well as skilled workers, and wastewater is only rarely treated, we address both problems by training handymen, technicians, and engineers for work in the wastewater treatment sector. Participants learn skills like building septic tanks or preparing waterproof concrete. Our educational and consulting services primarily target the impoverished inhabitants of densely populated cities and peripheral areas. Many residents have no or insufficient access to sanitary facilities. We especially want to address small-scale businesses because they are often the heaviest polluters of natural resources, typically discharging wastewater from their production activities directly into the ground or bodies of water.



South Asia

Development of policy recommendations for wastewater treatment in southern India and Nepal



Project duration: 2015 to 2017

Budget: 1.04 million euro
(1.1 million US-Dollars)

Sponsor:
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Regional partners:
Indian Institute of Technology
Madras (IIT)
Norwegian University of Life
Sciences (NMBU)

In South Asia, we are conducting the first systematic assessment of 400 small-scale wastewater treatment systems.

This project is a cooperation with the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG). The goal is to develop policy recommendations that are based on data.

Furthermore, we want to improve the system design and develop recommendations for how these systems can be optimally operated and maintained. We also want to enable experts to make strategic decisions and lead informed discussions about wastewater treatment.

In the long term, we are committed to raising awareness in South Asia that services in the wastewater sector are necessary, especially the treatment of faecal sludge. We research technical aspects, socio-economic and institutional effects, and the eco-balance of wastewater treatment systems.



Southeast Asia

Food security and better livelihoods in Cambodia



Project Duration: 2015 to 2017

Budget: 0.6 million euro

Sponsor: The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Regional partners:

Environmental Sanitation Cambodia, Institute of Technology Cambodia (ITC)

Cambodian Center for Study and Development in Agriculture (CEDAC)

Rural Economic & Agriculture Development Agency (READA)

Save Cambodia's Wildlife (SCW)

Peri Urban Agriculture Cooperative (PUAC)

Khmer Farmer Garden (KFG)

Srer Khmer

Farmer Livelihood Development (FLD)

National Biodigester Programme

Ministry of Rural Development (MRD)

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MoAFF)

Ministry of Environment (MoE)

Ministry of Industry Mines and Energy (MIME)

In Cambodia, we are committed to improving food security. The project also aims to provide more people with income-earning opportunities. We do this by educating and training inhabitants of impoverished regions. They learn how to more effectively use and treat organic waste and wastewater. They also learn how to reuse the treated products, primarily in agriculture. Small and medium-sized businesses in these rural and peripheral communities are also included in the project.



Research

Sanitary facilities in schools



Project duration: 2016 to 2017

Sponsor: BMZ

Budget: Our research projects deal with fundamental questions of sanitation as well as detailed aspects of technology improvement. Accordingly, our contracts cover projects ranging from millions of euros to only a few thousand euros. Since research budgets are often folded into larger projects, they are not reported separately here.

Regional Partners:

Institute de Technologie du Cambodge

BORDA R&D

Environmental Sanitation Cambodia

In Cambodia, our program for school-based sanitation is a success story. Earlier research has already shown that the systems work well and deliver results according to established standards. In order to ensure that the systems continue to work well in the long-term and to enhance them, we are continuing to collect exposure data.

We are currently working on two new DEWATS systems for schools:

- ▶ The model SBS 4.0 consists of standardized sanitation modules that are easily adapted to local conditions. They are also highly suitable for quick design changes. Hydraulic load and daily hydraulic loading patterns can be determined inexpensively since appropriate water meters are installed from the outset.
- ▶ SBS Lite is a new edition of our smallest-scale DEWATS system. With this system, rural schools can treat even small amounts of wastewater. Ten of these systems have already been installed. We are now collecting data to further enhance the design.





Storm drains for DEWATS systems

Project duration: 2015 to 2017

Sponsor:
BORDA

Regional partners:
BORDA Indonesia

Previous research regards hydraulic load as the most important factor influencing ABR (Anaerobic Baffled Reactor) functionality. Our investigations have shown that large numbers of DEWATS facilities, and therefore ABRs, are exposed to extreme hydraulic surges during storm events. We have seen that these systems produce considerably less faecal sludge during the rainy season than during the dry season, indicating that indeed they are affected by hydraulic surges. Therefore, we are researching two different storm drains for our DEWATS systems in Indonesia.



INNOQUA – an innovative bio-based sanitation system



Projekt Duration: 2016 to 2020

Budget: 0.6 million euro

Sponsor:

European Union
Horizon2020

Regional partners:

Coordination NOBATEK (France)
20 international companies,
research institutions and universities

INNOQUA is an innovative, patent protected, award winning and scalable fully ecological sanitation solution. These technologies resemble natural cleaning processes and are based on the purification capacity of earthworms, zooplankton, and alternatively microalgae and sunlight exposure.

The aim of the project is to integrate individual low-cost, sustainable and biologically-based water sanitation technologies capable of performing a whole water treatment cycle, with different configurations adapted to local contexts and markets with industrial scale-up.

For the first time, BORDA is involved in an EU project, working with 19 partners, mainly universities and research institutes. Within the framework of this four-year project, BORDA will build two demonstration-sites in India and Tanzania and is also responsible for the communication of the entire project.





Agricultural reuse practices

Project duration: 2015 to 2017

Sponsor: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Regional partners:

Consortium for DEWATS Dissemination (CDD2), India

Environmental Sanitation Cambodia (ESC3)

BORDA Las Américas

University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN4), South Africa

There is a lot of literature about how wastewater and organic solid waste can be reused and recycled in agriculture. However, the conditions are different in every country and only a few studies analyze concrete projects. That often leads to local concerns over whether food that has been grown this way is really safe for producers and consumers. In order to strengthen trust in these practices, we analyze and document projects in different countries. Among them are projects in India, Cambodia, and Latin America where wastewater, faecal sludge, or composted materials were reused and recycled.



Sustainable management for community-based sanitation projects in Indonesia



Project duration: 2013 to 2016

Sponsor: Australian Aid
– Australian Development Research Scheme Award (ADRAS) Grant

Regional partners:

BORDA Indonesien

Overseas Development Institute (AKSANSI)

Center for Regulation, Policy and Governance, (Universitas Ibn Khaldun Bogor)

Indonesian Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS)

Directorate of Settlement and Housing

In Indonesia, we work on research projects aimed at the sustainable management of community-based sanitation facilities. The team carries out interdisciplinary research in the fields of technology, finance, management, and demand. The questions in the respective fields are: How do we make sure that the systems technically serve their purpose? How do we make sure that there is short- and long-term revenue that covers expenses? How can we encourage a transparent and fair administration of the systems? How can we involve the community to secure a long-term demand? With the answers to these questions, we hope to develop innovative concepts and build lasting partnerships.

These projects mainly target experts from the Indonesian government on a local and national level, because ultimately it is the government—through legislation and funding—that determines future programs. Donors and organizations like BORDA and AKSANSI can profit from the research results and use them to improve the sustainability of community-based sanitation projects.



Facts and Figures

Turnover by Donors

Private Donors
■ 52,000 €

EZ Bremen
■ 81,000 €

Other Donors
■ 100,223 €

GIZ
■ 161,330 €

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
■ 468,028 €

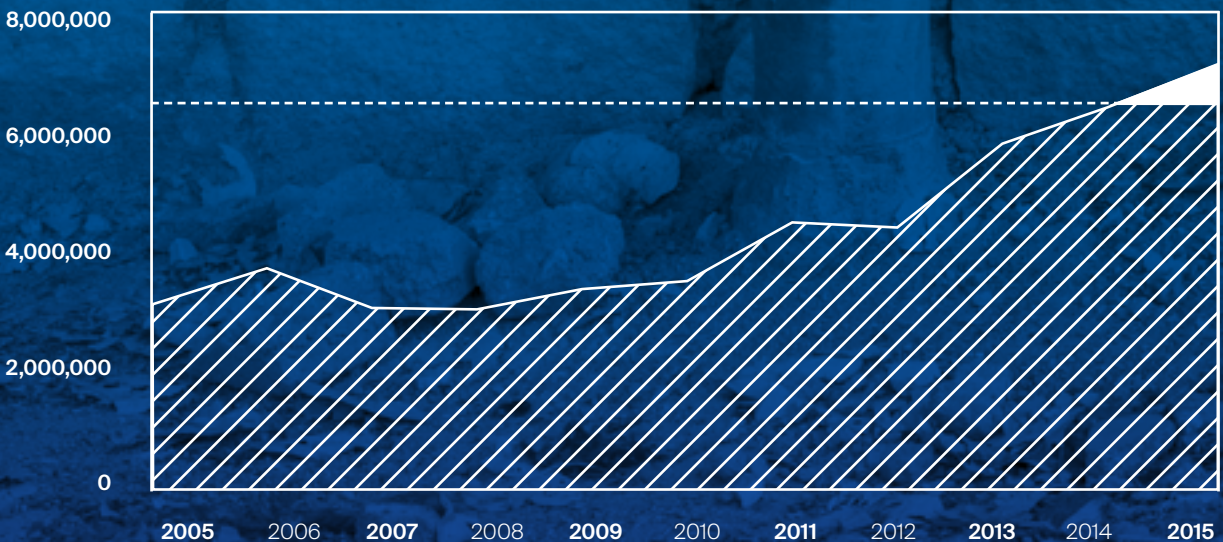
The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Change in Turnover 2005 – 2015

7,315,117 €

$\frac{2014}{2015}$

↑ 12%





381 Employees

2014 = 324

- Project Management
- Public Relations
- Knowledge Management
- Social
- Technicians

6,452,536 €

Turnover by Locations



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