

# Global Research and Capacity Development with High Impact on Practice



**Region**  
Global

**Partners**  
Eawag / Sandec

**Background information**  
700 million people still lack access to improved sources of drinking water and 2.5 billion do not use an improved sanitation facility. These numbers are substantially higher if water and sanitation quality and affordability are considered.

**Project objectives**  
Research and capacity development for integrated solutions in drinking water treatment, sanitation planning, excreta and solid waste management.

**Beneficiaries**  
a) Local experts (practitioners), decision makers, and policy makers  
b) project officers and decision makers with national and international development agencies  
c) local stakeholder groups

**Costs**  
Total: CHF 2,079,984  
SDC: CHF 1,299,615

**Duration**  
01.2015 – 12.2017

**Contact**  
Global Programme Water  
watereda.admin.ch

Access to safe water and sanitation is a human right, essential for poverty reduction, health, economic development and a life in dignity. However, this human right is by far not realty for everyone. This project aims at supporting the development of appropriate and sustainable water and sanitation concepts and technologies adapted to the poor and marginalized in low and middle income countries.

Today, 2.5 billion people lack access to improved sanitation, and 748 million people still do not access to safe drinking water supply, of which 80% live in rural areas. These numbers are substantially higher if water and sanitation quality and affordability are considered. Sanitation and rural water supply are crucial stepping stones to better health, economic development and poverty reduction.

## Objectives of the project

This project supports the applied research and capacity development projects of the Department of Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries (Sandec) of the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag). Sandec is a long-term strategic partner of SDC, working towards universal access to water and sanitation on the global level, with a focus on the poor and marginalized, through applied research, transformative innovations, documentation of best practices and capacity development. Sandec also maintains a large network with more than 40 partner organisations in developing countries and works toward increasing their research capacity and professional expertise in the field of water supply and environmental sanitation.

Through the support to Sandec’s applied research and capacity building activites, SDC supports

- The identification, documentation and dissemination of integrated water, sanitation and solid waste service approaches for the poor which are considered by local government, utilities, development partners and the private sector.
- The development of expert knowledge on state-of-art pro-poor approaches in water treatment, excreta and organic waste management, and participatory sanitation planning for tertiary education and practitioners’ level.
- The identification, assessment, documentation and dissemination of human waste resource recovery approaches.

## Flagship research products

Building upon the achievements of past research, following flagship research products with great potential for high impact worldwide will be developed in the current phase:

- The development of a flexible mobile technology for monitoring water quality and service.
- Sanitation planning and programming solutions for small towns.
- Developing the faecal sludge service chain for adequate sanitation access for the poor.
- Setting up a platform for sharing knowledge on business innovation and scaling up.
- Innovative methods to enhance environmental engineering education across the globe.

-----  
Additional information:  
[www.eawag.ch](http://www.eawag.ch)



© Eawag