



EQUIDEV

VALUE. INNOVATION. IMPACT

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Despite being new to the development sector, Equidev has proven itself to be a reliable, professional, and dedicated organization. Equidev spearheaded Oxfam GB's legacy mission and has managed to expand it into the most challenged areas. We have already worked with several institutional donors through collaboration, technical advice, and zeal, and introduced a number

of projects that are compliant with both Tajikistan's development strategies and Sustainable Development Goals.

It's both a pleasure and an honor to be leading Equidev. I firmly believe in creating significant long-lasting change and have faith that our commitments as an organization will have sustainable impact and will stand the test of time. I am convinced it is essential to bring development professionals closer together and mobilize them through concrete actions, so I am delighted to see that Equidev's partnerships with donors and Government institutions has increased. This will enable us to make more substantial advances by working collectively.

We are just at the start of a long journey. To reach our destination, we will have to keep moving forward, but we remain determined to prove ourselves equal to the challenges. I wish to thank all the Equidev team, Oxfam GB's consultants, members of BoDs, and donors for supporting us and enabling us to set up our inaugural programs.

With great thanks and hope for the future,

Gulchehra Boboeva
Equidev CEO, Tajikistan

“ I firmly believe in creating significant long-lasting change and have faith that our commitments as an organization will have sustainable impact and will stand the test of time. ”

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



It gives me immense gratification to see Equidev expanding its operation and offering its services to the institutions and communities in Tajikistan.

As a young organization, founded less than a couple of years ago by Oxfam GB, Equidev has quickly built a robust portfolio of programs, especially in the WASH sector, and has reached out to remote regions of Tajikistan with services such as building critical WASH infrastructure, improving governance, and facilitating coordination among the key stakeholders from government, donors, civil society and grassroots institutions. This became possible due to the unstinted support Equidev has received from donors, public institutions, and government structures at all levels.

As we confidently march into next year, we renew our pledge to fight poverty and injustice by delivering inclusive social and economic development programs with a strong gender focus. Driven by Oxfam GB's values and mission, we will continue to strive for innovation and excellence that matches the best global standards and, in the process, strengthen local institutions and empower communities we work with.

As Chair of the Board of Directors of Equidev, I wish to thank all the partners, patrons, and donors and extend best wishes to team Equidev for the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Faiz', with a stylized flourish extending from the bottom.

Seyed Faiz Hayat

Country Relations Senior Broker, Operations - Country Transition & Legacy Programs, Oxfam; Chair of the Board of Directors, Equidev

“Driven by Oxfam’s values and mission, we will continue to strive for innovation and excellence.”

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INTRODUCTION

WHO WE ARE

Equidev is an international public organization providing expert development solutions and technical support to advance sustainable development and equitable growth in Central Asia.

We are a new, independent organization, originally founded by Oxfam Great Britain (Oxfam GB) —a leading global charity fighting inequality, poverty and injustice. Equidev partners with bilateral and multilateral agencies, governments, not-for-profit organizations, social enterprises and the private sector. It is registered as a non-profit international organization under Tajik legislation.

Headquartered in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, Equidev offers a range of consulting, advisory and implementation support services across diverse socioeconomic development sectors and practices. Driven by our core values—equity and justice for all, with an unwavering commitment to positive impacts—and powered by cutting-edge innovation, we offer integrated solutions for complex development problems that confront developing economies in the region. Equidev is expertly mentored by Oxfam GB, which will continue to support Equidev in setting up its robust strategic and operational base in the region through investments in capacity, network and assets over the coming years.

OUR SERVICES



Public Health



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Agriculture, Nutrition and Economic Justice



Climate Change & Risk Reduction



Cross Cutting



Green Growth

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2001

Oxfam GB launched its operations in Tajikistan in 2001 and developed its leadership reputation in the country by designing and implementing programs across multiple sectors, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), climate resilient agriculture, enterprise development, health and nutrition, and gender justice.

2018

In 2018, as part of its global review, a strategic decision was taken for Oxfam GB to phase out of Tajikistan, but with a clear objective and long-term vision to carry forward its legacy, values and expertise. To this end, it established a new public organization named “Equitable Development”, thereafter known as “Equidev”.

2019

Equidev’s official registration was launched in 2019 with the support of legal advisors.

2021

On 3rd February 2021, Equidev was formally registered as a non-profit international organization in Tajikistan, with a mandate to extend its operations into the neighboring countries of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.



WHAT WE BELIEVE

>> Our mission and vision

We proudly enshrine the core values of our founding organization Oxfam GB to end the injustice of poverty. To infuse our work culture with this mission, we are uncompromising in our values, relentless in our search for innovation and totally focused on impact.

Our vision for the development of the region is to foster holistic and inclusive development solutions on a scale that eliminates inequities, marginalization, hunger and poverty.

We strongly believe that an integrated and people-centric ecosystem that synergises the strengths of various partners is a must.

The primary driver of transformational change is an enabling environment that integrates four elements: the capacities of the communities, the efficiency of the market, the reach and vision of the facilitators and the power of the state. To this end, we strive to design models and approaches, test them, nurture partnerships to reach scale and engage with policy to create enabling space.

>> Our values

We are enablers of change, and believe in catalyzing transformation by bridging the world, brokering partnerships and establishing collaborations between government, aid agencies and local partners.

Our unique strength is our cross-sectoral approach to development problems: we harness our expertise in WASH, climate resilient agriculture, enterprise development, health and nutrition and gender justice. We are restless innovators with a flair for challenging existing development paradigms, policy and practices in our quest for better solutions. To achieve our goal, we make extensive use of evidence, measurement, impact and data. Our in-depth understanding of realities on the ground, born of decades of community development experience, has endowed our diverse solutions with a unique sense of local relevance.

We believe in long-term partnerships where we work hand in hand with our partners, learning together and using multiple engagement models to deliver an enduring value proposition.

We use our extensive regional and global network reinforced by a deep and diverse expertise base in different business areas, specialties and geographic locations to bring superior technical expertise, robust project management and unmatched quality to all our work.

Equidev's core team consists of staff members with extensive work experience within Oxfam GB. Drawing on the experience of our founding organization Oxfam GB, we have a proven track record in designing, implementing and upscaling hundreds of programs, humanitarian assistance projects and campaigns in the region. Our widely reputed models in WASH, climate resilient agriculture, enterprise development, health and nutrition and gender justice serve as benchmarks of excellence in these sectors.

We do not rest on our reputation and continually seek to develop path-breaking strategies and improve the effectiveness of practices, tools and outcomes, while keeping client requirements front and centre.

OUR STRATEGY

In March 2021, a five-year strategy was prepared by Equidev's senior management and presented to the Equidev Board for approval, along with a proposed governance structure and financial projections. The new governance structure – consisting of a local Board of Founding Members and an International Advisory Board – was duly approved.

The International Advisory Board supports the mission and the objectives of the organization, and provides technical assistance and strategic decision-making support to the local Board and Equidev's management team.

The strategy document captures Equidev's extension plan into Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. However, due to the unstable security situation in the region and as advised by the Board, all extension plans have since been put on hold. Equidev's management team will continue to monitor the security situation and will take appropriate actions moving forwards.



Becoming Equidev: the Transition Plan

As Oxfam GB planned to exit Tajikistan at the end of March 2022, a transition plan was developed – in close collaboration with Oxfam's senior team – to ensure a smooth transfer of knowledge, capacity, assets and human resources to Equidev.

The plan was discussed and approved by Equidev's Board of Directors, ensuring that Oxfam GB continued to provide technical support and institutional capacity building to Equidev during the transition period.

Since its inception, Equidev has shared an office space, transportation and communication tools with Oxfam GB in Dushanbe. In adherence with the transition plan, Equidev moved its office to a new location in the capital city after Oxfam's exit from the country.

The transition plan was closely monitored by Equidev's senior management and completed in February 2021.

[Read our capability statement >>](#)

OUR EXPERTISE



STRENGTHS AND COMPETENCIES

Equidev has swiftly become a well-recognized national organization, thanks to a strong relationship with Tajikistan's Ministry of Health and Social Protection, and the continued dedicated support of Oxfam GB's technical consultants. Equidev's greatest strength as an organization is our ability to work at both national and community level, including:

At national level:

- Members of Donor Coordination Council (DCC) meetings, WASH, Maternal Child and Health (MCH) and Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) networks at both regional and national levels.
- Knowledge and understanding of government priorities and strategy for both WASH and health and nutrition sectors.
- Vast experience of policy influencing and advocacy work for both WASH and health and nutrition sectors.
- Extensive experience of developing training tools and IEC materials, including a full package of WASH training materials and WASH/COVID-19 prevention tools (approved by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection).
- Excellent long-standing relationship with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Committee of Environmental Protection, and the Healthy Lifestyle Center – at all levels - and with the State Unitary Enterprise “Khojagii Manziliyu-Kommunali” (KMK).
- Can provide a range of high-quality technical trainings for primary healthcare staff, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Family Medicine, Reproductive Health Institutions and the Republican Healthy Lifestyle Center.

At community level:

- Strong in community mobilization, the organization of outreach campaigns, and conducting BCC sessions through multiple channels.
- Extensive experience and aptitude for building close links between primary healthcare staff and community members.
- Experience in establishing emergency transportation funds for the hospital referral of pregnant women in remote areas.
- Can apply innovative approaches (such as through mobile technology or child-to-child educational tools) to conduct instructive trainings at community level and disseminate key health and nutrition messages.
- Experience in promoting effective water governance models and improving the financial and managerial capacity of water operators to respond to users' needs. Equidev has the technical resources to establish Water Users Committees and train staff on the technical operation of systems, financial management, use of feedback mechanisms and social accountability, and networking/coordination with government actors.
- Can promote market oriented projects, particularly those related to sanitation, and adapt the DEWATS model to smaller scale, if needed.
- Skills and experience in both organizing and supporting national campaigns (such as Breastfeeding Week or Global Handwashing Day) by involving famous actors to help deliver key messages.
- Experience of forming and supporting women groups in agribusiness.

FOCUS AREAS

As an organization, Equidev's overarching mission is to provide integrated solutions to the complex development problems faced by the Central Asian region. In so doing, it has developed particular expertise in the following four core areas:



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Equipped with Oxfam GB's legacy of over 20 years of experience in managing large and complex WASH projects in the region, Equidev is well positioned to provide reliable and sustainable solutions that are relevant and acceptable to users. Equidev ensures that services are extended to both urban and rural remote areas, while tailoring technical solutions to the specific needs of communities, fostering sustainability, and enhancing the quality of governance across the WASH sector.

We work with all stakeholders on policy, influencing and advocacy on water sector reform, improvements of WASH facilities across both rural and urban areas, social accountability, local governance and water governance, hygiene promotion and BCC activities, and gender mainstreaming.



Public Health

Equidev will provide an innovative and comprehensive framework to support the Tajikistan Ministry of Health and Social Protection to improve the country's health status and nutrition, particularly for women and children living in rural areas.

This includes:

- ✓ Integrating health care at the family, community, clinical, and national levels relating to good maternal, newborn, and child health, with an emphasis on nutrition, sanitation, and hygiene.
- ✓ Collaborating with other development partners to promote and improve healthy behaviors and practices, strengthen links among health facilities and communities, incorporate gender-equitable and culturally sensitive approaches, and leverage stakeholder partnerships.
- ✓ Conducting innovative trainings for mothers and their family members on healthy nutrition behavior, with a focus on locally available foods.
- ✓ Conducting trainings on the prevention of infection diseases among public health staff and community members.
- ✓ Conducting trainings for community members on COVID-19 preventions and response.



Agriculture, Nutrition and Economic Justice

Equidev inherited some strong professional experience in working on Economic Justice (EJ) and wishes to continue doing so, particularly through building the income and productivity of Smallholder Farmers (SHF) – especially women farmers – by enhancing their resilience to climate change, connecting them to equitable market systems and supporting linkages to the private sector. Over the past year, Equidev's EJ program sought to strengthen farmers' institutions (such as producer groups and their associations), contributed to the development of critical farming infrastructures (especially market infrastructure), and facilitated linkages between government, private sector and farmers' institutions for enterprise promotion, ultimately leading to the economic empowerment of SHF. Working in close collaboration with the private sector, a solid foundation was established for developing agriculture enterprise clusters, from village to national level, which is expected to boost the market power of SHF.

The main aims of the EJ program were as follows:

- ✓ **From productivity to profitability:** Closely integrate farmers and their collectives with the markets to derive remunerative returns from farming.
- ✓ **From collectivization to value addition:** Leverage the private sector for value addition through enterprises led and managed by private sector entities, but owned by SHF associations.
- ✓ **From market linkage to market development:** Adopt a holistic perspective, driven by a market development approach, to help set-up new mechanisms for sharing market information and build incentives for private sector players to support market access and address regulatory bottlenecks.
- ✓ **Private sector in agriculture – from enabler to leader:** To sustain and scale-up private sector investments, ensure that the current incremental approach gives way to a new value chain proposition, where the private sector takes the lead in harnessing the potential of farmers' collectives, builds closer cooperation with diverse actors to integrate the existing fragmented value chain, and defines standards and rules of market functioning.





COVID-19 Response

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Oxfam GB/Equidev provided support to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection on strengthening the public health preparedness and response capacity of 5 districts in Tajikistan through evidence-based information and socially accountable community engagement.

Equidev offered its expertise through capacity building of local government institutions, communities, households, schools, marketplaces and healthcare facilities.

This ensured improved and consistently applied WASH practices and behavior-change techniques to prevent continued transmission of the virus. The following activities were carried out:

- ✔ Rapid assessments of 5 pilot districts (Rudaki, Muminobod, Kulob, Ayni and Penjiekent).
- ✔ 30 rural health facilities equipped with hygiene kits and medical equipment.
- ✔ 17 rural health facilities equipped with WASH facilities.
- ✔ 20 rural schools equipped with WASH facilities.
- ✔ 30 rural schools equipped with key WASH supplies/ facilities and preventative hygiene kits.
- ✔ 128 staff and personnel trained at school and healthcare facilities on COVID-19 preparedness and response, and over 10,000 rural people received key health and hygiene promotion messages.
- ✔ Post-distribution monitoring was conducted across all pilot districts.



OUR IMPACT



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – 2021/2022

>> Visibility and Marketing

In order to promote Equidev as a new organization and boost its visibility, the management team launched a web development process in early 2021.

The website content was drafted and discussed with all relevant stakeholders, including Oxfam GB's internal communications team.

Once the content was approved, a service provider was selected and the site was launched in March 2021. In addition to its new web presence, the management team prepared an organizational Capability Statement and other communications materials for wider dissemination.

>> Developing Partnerships

From the outset of its operations, Equidev's management team has focused on developing strategic partnerships with local and international development agencies. Oxfam GB's senior management also played a significant role in presenting and promoting Equidev and its mission to its current strategic partners.

During the reporting period, a number of meetings were arranged with key prospective partners, including the British Embassy in Tajikistan, the Turkish Embassy, Saudi Arabian Embassy, the German Embassy, the Japan Embassy, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICE), Helvetas, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Chemonics, New York City University, the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF), the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), the US Agency for International Development (USAID), and various UN agencies.

In addition, strategic relationships were built with Indian development partners, such as Access and Sambodhi.

These institutions have proven success in promoting advanced technologies for agriculture, gender promotion, renewable energy and data analytics and can provide technical assistance to Equidev in any of these areas.

Equidev's management team drafted a list of all potential partners operating both in country and across the neighboring regions of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, and will conduct focused outreach activities moving forwards to increase all partnerships and build a solid business portfolio.

>> Recruitment of Senior Management

By the final quarter of 2021, a need for management changes was identified and a recruitment effort launched in order to strengthen Equidev's institutional capacity. The recruitment process began in September and was finalized in December.



>> Participation in calls for proposal

Throughout 2021/22, Equidev participated in various calls for proposal:



Successful proposals

- ✔ Clean water projects: “Improving sanitation services with decentralized wastewater treatment systems (DEWATS) in rural hospitals” in partnership with the Bremen Overseas Research and Development Association (BORDA) and funded by the Lions Club International.
- ✔ Healthy Mother and Healthy Baby Project (Phase I), in partnership with USAID.
- ✔ WASH and nutrition project, with UNICEF Tajikistan.
- ✔ Building knowledge and awareness on sustainable sanitation solutions (a flagship pilot for the scale-up of DEWATS in Tajikistan), with SDC.
- ✔ Construction of a sanitation facility for a hospital in the Hisor district, in partnership with the German Embassy.
- ✔ Construction of a sanitation facility for a hospital in the Vahdat district, in partnership with the German Embassy.



Proposals in progress

- 🕒 Early child development project, in partnership with New York University.
- 🕒 Violence Against Women and Girls, reporting barriers across the intersectionality wheel case Tajikistan, with the UK Embassy.
- 🕒 Healthy Mother and Healthy Baby Project (Phase II), with USAID.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION IN 2021/22

2021/22

DEWATS PROJECT – A COLLABORATION WITH BORDA

In collaboration with Oxfam GB's senior management, Equidev succeeded in signing its first international funding agreement with BORDA and Lions Club International in May 2021.

This was a multicycle funding agreement to support the setup of several Decentralized Wastewater Management Systems (DEWATS) in the rural hospitals of Tajikistan, as follows:



The first project was successfully initiated in one of the rural hospitals of the Vahdat district. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with both the local government and the hospital administration, project staff were recruited, and a feasibility study was completed.

A total of USD 133,000 was allocated to Equidev's administrative and operational costs under this project. The construction of this first DEWATS remains ongoing at time of writing.



[WATCH THE VIDEO](#) ▶



The second site for the DEWATS project was approved for one of the rural hospitals in the Hisor district. The project scale is similar to that of the Vahdat district, and the same amount of additional funding (USD 134,000) for administrative and operational costs was allocated for Equidev.

Local engineers were recruited, and a feasibility study completed. The MOU was signed with the local government and hospital administration in September 2021 and the project implementation is ongoing.



A third and fourth project sites were approved for rural hospitals in the Ainy and Sarvoda districts of the Sughd region. The project budget (USD 205,000 for Ainy, and USD 212,000 for Sarvoda) was prepared and agreed with the donor and implementation plan developed. The feasibility study and construction will start in 2022.

All lessons learnt from the previous DEWATS projects will be taken into account in the implementation of this third project. For instance, a significant challenge in the Vahdat district was obtaining the relevant land certification. The process took the hospital administration several months, causing delays to the construction timeline.



PRINCIPLES OF DEWATS TREATMENT

DEWATS is a technical approach to decentralized wastewater treatment in developing communities. It consists of a variety of approaches for collecting, treating and disposing of/reusing wastewater close to where it is generated – be it for individual dwellings, clusters of homes, entire communities, institutional buildings, schools or hospitals.

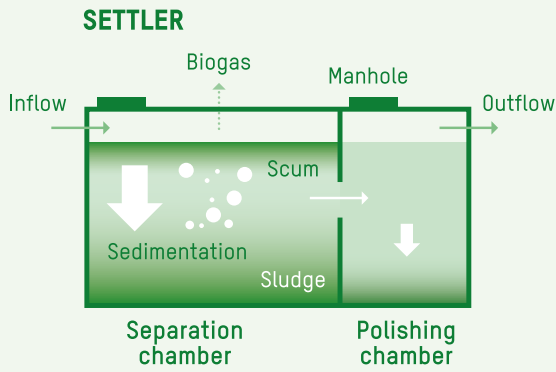
It is based on the principles of decentralization, simplicity and reuse of the treatment products. Simplicity is achieved through on-site treatment without chemicals or electro-chemical equipment/energy input, and by low maintenance requirements. Necessary maintenance activities can be carried out by service providers or by supervised and trained maintenance personnel on-site.

There are three main treatment steps and modules, which are combined and customized according to local conditions.



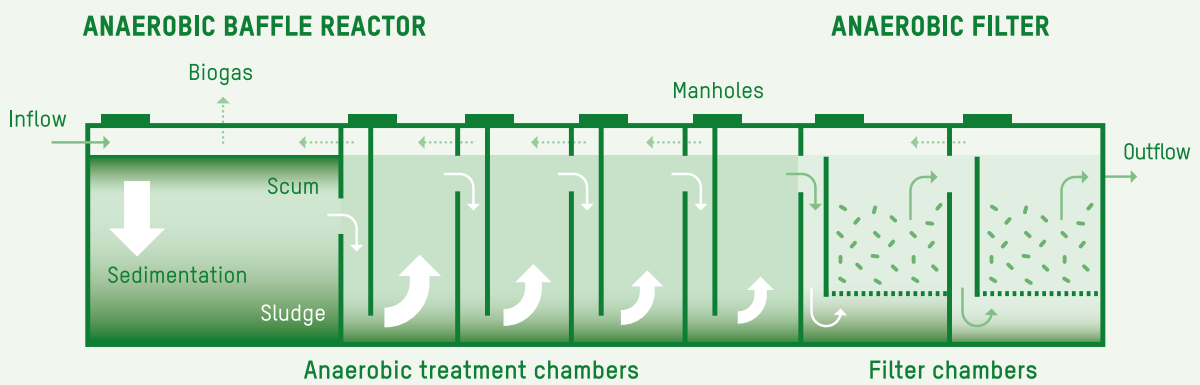
Primary treatment

1



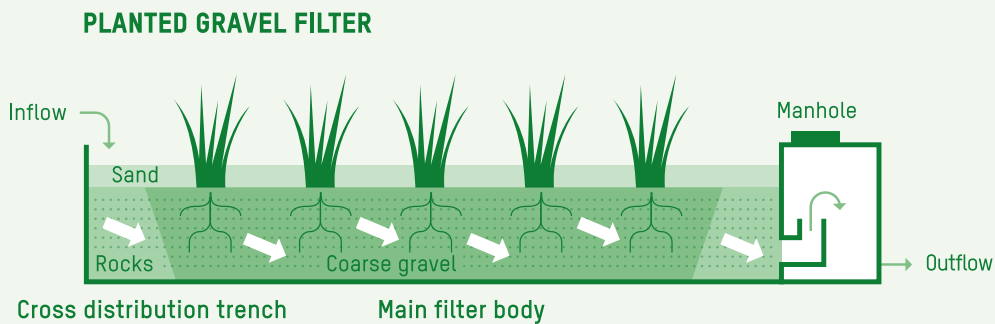
Secondary treatment

2



Advanced secondary treatment options

3



Source: BORDA (2019) *

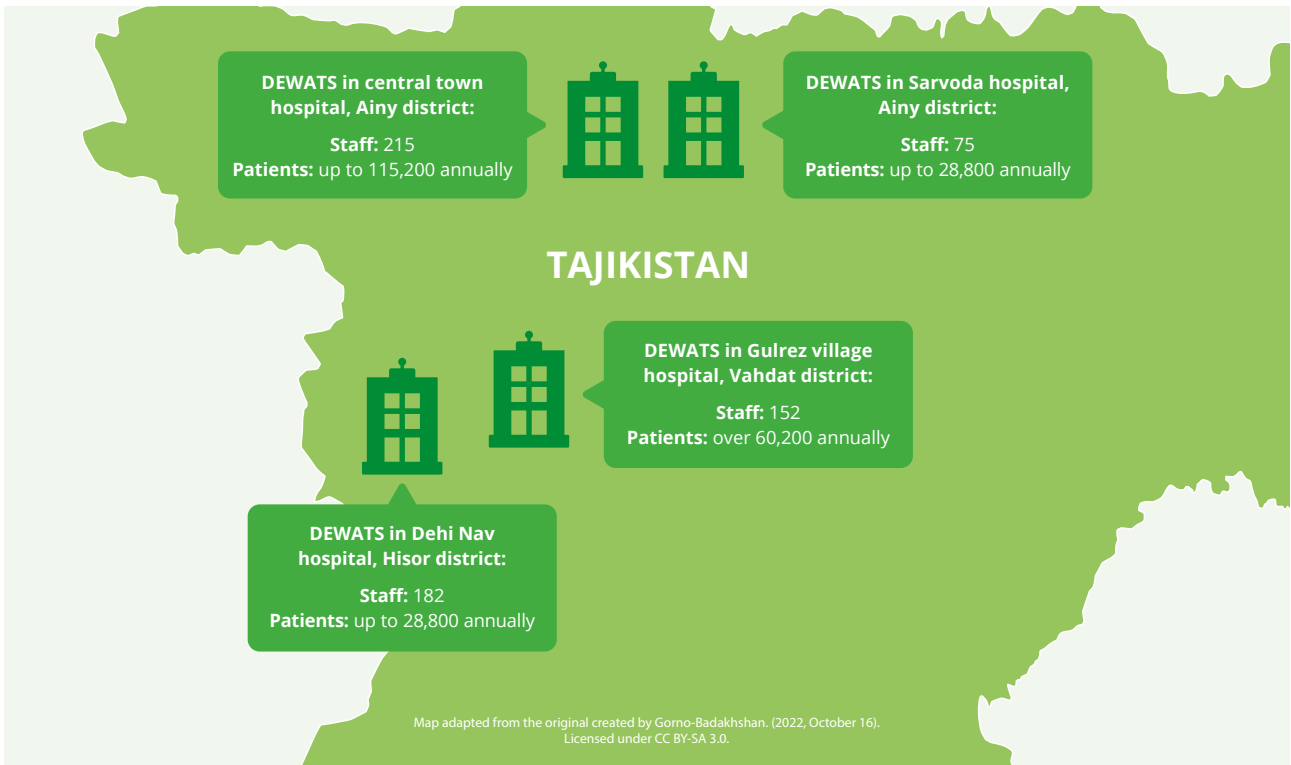


CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF DEWATS

- ✓ They can treat wastewater from domestic or industrial sources.
- ✓ They can be an integral part of comprehensive wastewater strategies and should be seen as complementing other centralized and decentralized wastewater treatment options.
- ✓ Units can be constructed from locally available materials and implemented by the local workforce.
- ✓ They usually function without electricity, but pumping is sometimes required for water lift.
- ✓ They can provide a renewable energy and wastewater reuse source: biogas supplies energy for cooking, lighting, or power generation; treated water can be reused for irrigation and gardening.
- ✓ They require few operations and maintenance (O&M) skills. Most operational tasks can be carried out by the users and some maintenance services might be provided by locally trained service providers. Hence they are reliable and cost efficient for O&M.

Aside from the construction process itself, Equidev supplemented each of the DEWATS projects with the following professional training sessions:

- 1 One day workshops on the O&M of DEWATS systems to both educate and build the capacity of the hospitals' caretakers.
- 2 One day workshops to introduce the concept of DEWATS to relevant stakeholders at district level and raise awareness of DEWATS as a suitable solution to wastewater mismanagement.
- 3 Hygiene and sanitation sessions for all medical staff of the relevant hospitals, including refresher sessions on waterborne diseases, basic behavior change strategies, and simple preventative practices relating to sanitation and personal hygiene.



Total number of people served by DEWATS on annual basis:



Staff: 624



Patients: 233,000



The system is complete know-how for us, for our technical team. We are inspired to have the DEWATS and looking forward to its full operation. Hospitals' technical staff received appropriate training and are now ready to maintain the system."

- Rahimov Sherali, Head of Dehi Nav Hospital (Hisor District)



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Throughout August and September 2022, Equidev contributed to a wider health promotion project funded by USAID.

The main goal of this project was to improve community knowledge, attitudes and behaviors towards personal hygiene and safe sanitation through increased access to information and educational tools.

Equidev's health specialists were contracted to run a series of promotional projects across four districts of the Khatlon region, centered around two key activities:





Training for Community Health Teams (CHTs)

During the reporting period, training workshops on hygiene and sanitation promotion were conducted for CHTs in four communities: Guliston village (Yovon district, G.Yusupova Jamoat), Iftokhor village (Khuroson district, Hiloli Jamoat), Pushkin-1 village (Jomi district, Yakkatut Jamoat) and Kalinin village (Balkhi district, Navobod Jamoat) in the Khatlon region.

The aim of these workshops was to equip CHTs with the necessary knowledge to then lead behavior change in their respective communities. The sessions were highly interactive and included educational games and practical demonstrations to encourage effective learning.

70 participants were trained in behavior change



Good hygiene is critical for preventing the spread of infectious diseases and helping people lead long, healthy lives. I feel a huge responsibility to share these messages to my friends, their family members and my neighbors.”
– Zarina, CHT from Khuroson district.

To evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the workshops, Equidev’s specialists conducted pre and post-assessments of the participants’ understanding. The findings revealed a significant increase in average knowledge levels – from 14% pre-workshops, to 77% thereafter.

77%

average knowledge level after workshops





Community Health Campaigns

Following the training workshops and with continued support from the Equidev team, the CHTs organized various health campaigns across the four target districts.

These were community level events, supported by school children and volunteers, involving fun skits, games, practical demonstrations and music, and proved to be an effective means of disseminating key health, hygiene and sanitation messages to rural communities.



970
PEOPLE

including schoolchildren, teachers, men, women and CHT members, took part in these campaigns.



Access to information and education helps communities to take responsibility for their health and increase their ability to protect it. A healthy community benefits every person in it”
– **Talabshoeva R, CHT from Iftikhor village.**

Monitoring activities have since been put in place to ensure continued measurement of impact, both in terms of CHT members’ knowledge retention and behavior change itself within the target communities.





ONGOING AND UPCOMING PROJECTS

ONGOING PROJECTS

Project Name	End Date	Donor	Budget
DEWATS for the hospital in Gulrez, Vahdat District, Tajikistan	15-Jun-22	BORDA	USD 133,100
DEWATS for the hospital in Ayni District, Sughd Province, Tajikistan	28-Feb-23	BORDA	USD 205,000
DEWATS for the hospital in Dehi Nav, Hisor District, Tajikistan	15-Nov-22	BORDA	USD 134,000
DEWATS for Sarvoda Hospital, Tajikistan	30-Jun-23	BORDA	USD 131,300
Sanitation facility for a hospital in the Hisor district	15-Jul-23	German Embassy	EUR 14,400
Sanitation facility for a hospital in the Vahdat district	15-Jul-23	German Embassy	EUR 13,000
Building knowledge and awareness on sustainable sanitation solutions	In progress	SDC	USD 730,520



UPCOMING PROJECTS

Project Name	Start Date	Donor	Budget
WASH project: Mothers, newborns and children have equitable access to improved WASH facilities	In progress	United Nations Child Emergency Fund (UNICEF)	To be discussed
NUTRITION project: mothers, caregivers and young children will have equitable access to accelerated programs for the prevention and management of stunting and other forms of malnutrition	In progress	United Nations Child Emergency Fund (UNICEF)	To be discussed
Early Child Development Project	In progress	New York City University	USD 35,000

ANTICIPATED PROJECTS

Project Name	Start Date	Donor	Budget
Innovation and scale-up grants for 3 years to test innovations on how to prevent violence against women and girls	In progress	UK Embassy	USD 500,000



KEY CHALLENGES

1 Visibility & Staff Capacity

As a new organization, Equidev has sought to strengthen its marketing and brand awareness activities throughout 2021, to raise its profile within an unacquainted market and build confidence in its service offering. Increasing visibility and recruiting more competency and skills will be Equidev's priority for the coming year and beyond.

2 Security Concerns

The security situation in the region has been a significant challenge. These developments caused Equidev to postpone its expansion plan, whilst obtaining visas for international consultants and BORDA's technical support team created delays to the implementation of the DEWATS project.

3 COVID-19 Pandemic

Last but not least, the COVID-19 travel restrictions and lockdowns had a major impact on all organizations. Offices had to be sanitized and closed during many months of the year, and the team had to work remotely. Equidev's management actively encouraged the team to be vaccinated and a vast majority did so during 2021. A contact person was appointed among the team and weekly online meetings were organized to discuss the pandemic and ensure precautionary measures were taken. Throughout 2022, the management team has diligently continued to put actions in place to protect its staff and all beneficiaries from COVID-19.



LOOKING AHEAD

Looking ahead to 2023 and beyond, Equidev will continue to work closely with key potential donors, stakeholders, civil society, and partners for the expansion of Equidev's portfolio. The organization will relentlessly embed Oxfam GB's mission to end the injustice of poverty across all its activities and work culture, and will remain uncompromising in both its values and persistent focus on innovation and impact.

The vision for the development of the region is to foster holistic and inclusive development solutions at a scale that eliminates inequities, marginalization, hunger and poverty. Equidev strongly believes that an integrated and people-centric ecosystem is mandatory and should synergize the strengths of various partners.

The prime motivator for transformational change is to have an enabling environment that integrates four key elements – the capacity of communities, the efficiency of the market, the reach and vision of the facilitators, and the power of the state. To that end, Equidev will strive to design new models and approaches, test them, nurture partnerships to reach scale and engage with policy to create enabling space.



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