



BORDA

BORDA – In Brief



Facilitating Basic Needs Services
"Thinking long-term, acting now!"



For 30 years BORDA has made a contribution as a non-profit, development-oriented institution in the struggle against poverty and the stabilisation of social structures in partner countries in Asia and Africa.

Since the first project “Technology Transfer of Biogas India-Ethiopia” in 1977, BORDA’s mission has been to improve the living conditions of socially disadvantaged groups while simultaneously maintaining a sound environment. This is accomplished through the dissemination of demand-oriented basic needs services in the sectors of decentralized sanitation, water supply and energy supply as well as wastewater and solid waste disposal.

Facilitating Basic Needs Services “Thinking long-term, acting now!”
BORDA advises and carries out poverty-oriented projects at the local level.

BORDA was founded in 1977 in Bremen Germany as a non-profit organisation with the goal of developing new methods of using renewable energy to alleviate poverty and, through the implementation of development programmes, to improve the living conditions and social structures in disadvantaged communities abroad.

Ensuring access to vital resources – Promoting a sound environment;

within this scope, BORDA’s development programmes presently comprise the following Basic Needs Services:

- Decentralized Water Supply
- Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems for SME and institutions
- Decentralized Wastewater Treatment for Community Based Sanitation
- Decentralized Solid Waste Management
- Decentralized Energy Supply
- Knowledge Management

Unlike other organisations, in the struggle against poverty BORDA focuses on the facilitation of basic needs services in the sectors of water, wastewater, solid waste and energy. To achieve this, partner structures, with the participation of all stakeholders (Multi-Stakeholder Approach), are advised and assisted in the establishment and organisation of innovative basic needs services (BNS); this occurs during all phases of planning and construction up to the stages of operation and maintenance.





Expertise: BORDA and the Partner Network

- Extensive experience in the development of reliable methods for the utilisation of renewable energy sources
- Facilitating community participation and multi-stakeholder approaches from a local perspective
- Development of economically sustainable operating models



Key criteria in the facilitation of basic needs services

- Exclusive application of well-developed and environmentally friendly technologies with the greatest possible utilisation of renewable energy sources. Function, efficiency and environmental-friendliness have been demonstrated in over 500 individual cases.
- Financial sustainability is assured; the dissemination of services is carried out on a cost-neutral basis: user fees assure operation and maintenance
- Effective management takes place at the ground level; maintenance and operation of the decentralized services offered is carried out by the communities and local skilled workers



Target Areas and Finance Partners

- BORDA facilitates projects for the provision of basic needs in India, Indonesia, the Philippines, China, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia as well as in southern Africa
- Partner organisations or networks supported by BORDA are contracted by international donor organisations such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the German Development Bank (KfW), the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), AusAID (Australian Agency for International Development) and the Commission of the European Union (CEU) as well as national authorities, municipalities, regions and central governments.
- BORDA's objectives are supported, amongst others, by the following donor organisations: BMZ (German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development), the Commission of the European Union, the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, Capacity Building International (InWEnt), WSP (Water and Sanitation Program) and UNDP



BORDA's Partner Network

BORDA oversees a partner network that includes 15 Asian and African expert organisations. There are more than 150 qualified specialists involved in BORDA's cooperation projects. BORDA's regional programme offices in Lesotho, India and Indonesia are responsible for the coordination of project activities, public relations and quality assurance. Increased capacity for implementation is achieved through active networking on a national level with public and private cooperative development institutions as well as international donor organisations. The BORDA office in Bremen is responsible for the proper supervision and administration of all joint activities.



BORDA's Basic Needs Services



Decentralized Solid Waste Management

Decentralized Solid Waste Management – DESWAM

An increasing amount of residents and local officials in many densely populated Asian cities are calling for a practicable and environmentally-sound solution for solid waste disposal. The approach promoted by BORDA for the improvement of solid waste management in poor communities comprises regular household pickup and education about waste prevention and the recovery and reuse of resources. Close cooperation with municipalities, communities and local waste-scavengers ensure that solid waste management systems are sustainable and adapted to local conditions.



Decentralized Energy Supply

Decentralized Renewable Energy Supply – DERES

Alongside other basic needs services, isolated mountain regions typically do not have access to centralised public power grids. The consequences of this, among others, are economic regression and migration. BORDA seeks to improve the social structures in poor mountainous regions through the propagation of decentralized renewable-energy systems. The demand-oriented dissemination of small-scale hydropower helps to safeguard local small-scale trade and income. Selective training procedures assist qualified partner structures in becoming “small-scale utilities” and ensure the sustainable operation of local power grids.



Knowledge Management

Knowledge Management

The regular evaluation of progress and “customer satisfaction”, in connection with the monitoring of technical and financial data, helps assure the quality of basic needs services and allows “good practices” to be replicated in various contexts. The promotion of regional and international networking, in connection with a transfer of knowledge among BORDA programmes, seeks to improve the effectiveness and professionalization of partner structures. Based upon the specific needs of local households and municipalities, “good practices” are enhanced in collaboration with the partner organisations to become the respective on-site practices.

In this fashion, poverty-oriented programmes geared toward the assurance of basic needs services can be disseminated more effectively. Offered in collaboration with the non-profit company InWEnt, one of the more recently successful programmes consists of online courses available on the information platform “Global Campus 21”.

BORDA's Basic Needs Services



Decentralized Water Supply

Decentralised Water Supply Systems – DEWASS

The hydraulic ram serves as the decentralized water supply in rural areas. Powered by the force of running water, it is used as a pump to raise water to heights of up to 100 meters or more. Technology transfer has allowed for the current production of the ram in four different sizes in India, China and Vietnam. To date, more than 1000 of such systems, with the lowest possible operation and maintenance costs, provide the water supply to remote mountain villages for domestic and agricultural use. Operation and maintenance of the systems is ensured through demand-driven capacity building and technical training for local service technicians and user groups.



Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems

Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems – DEWATS

During the course of DEWATS projects, local authorities and SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) are assisted in the planning, construction and management of decentralized wastewater treatment systems. A system adapted to the amount of effluent, levels of pollution, and topographical conditions, as well as the preferences and capabilities of the stakeholders, allows for efficient wastewater treatment according to international standards with low investment and operation costs. A power supply is not required where there is enough slope for gravitational flow through the system. Under the supervision of BORDA, more than 300 DEWATS/CBS systems have been built to date; they have improved the living conditions of over 1,000,000 people (user groups and stakeholders). Over 2,000 employees from the private sector, governments and NGOs have been trained by the BORDA-Network to facilitate the dissemination, implementation and maintenance of DEWATS systems.



Community Based Sanitation

Community Based Sanitation – CBS

The guiding principles of Community Based Sanitation (CBS) aim to facilitate the construction and operation of sanitation infrastructures in order to improve health and hygiene. In particular, this serves to reduce the instances of water-borne disease in poor settlements of densely populated cities and municipalities. Within this framework BORDA works together with its local partners to ensure a regulated process of participation among all stakeholders (Multi-Stakeholder Approach). This incorporates local residents, business representatives, religious groups and charity organisations as well as policy makers at the regional and national level.

All aspects of the project – the technical concepts for construction, operation and maintenance – are evaluated, financed and implemented collectively. CBS-Projects adhere to a holistic approach and, along with the modernisation of the sanitation infrastructure, provide numerous educational opportunities for those involved. The operating schemes are adapted to fit the needs of each group of stakeholders and the collaborative approach helps to assure the acceptability and viability of the proposed measures.

Partner-Network



BORDA

Bremen Overseas Research and Development Association

Association Brémoise de Recherche et de Développement d'Outre Mer
 Bremer Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Überseeforschung und Entwicklung
 Asociación Bremense de Investigación y Desarrollo de Ultramar

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