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HELIOZ
FUTURE ECONOMY



Annual Report 2020/21





0 6	Opening Statement
0 8	Introduction
2 4	Project Reports and Impact
4 8	HELIOZ Global Services
5 6	The HELIOZ Network
6 4	R&D
7 0	In the Spotlight
7 8	Behind the Scenes

Table of Contents

Opening Statement

By Martin Wesian

“We should rethink our economic system!”



We're neck-deep in water. What for some is an expression of urgency has become a sad reality for thousands of people this last year.

Floods and hailstorms in front of our very doorstep have shown how quickly everyday life can turn into a crisis situation. Fires and unprecedented heat in the South showed us how fragile our „normal“ reality can be. News and pictures about wildfires and floods dominated the media for weeks. We were left in disbelief, media coverage seemed to even forget about the ongoing fight against COVID-19 for a moment.

Regardless of whether it's floods or fires, one thing is indisputable: the weather extremes we're experiencing right now are the result of human behaviour and our treatment of the planet over the last decades. This “anthropogenic impact”, i.e. human impact, caused by industrial revolutions, the usage of fossil fuels and disregard of forests and oceans, have clearly led to what could mean irreversible climate change.

We can't say we weren't warned. Experts have told us for decades that things are going to take a turn for the worse. There has been proof and scientific evidence for years. Global warming has been a fact and topic for years however now that we are in a climate emergency we are just starting to listen.

Stopping climate change has gained momentum in the public discourse, the phrase “save the planet” has even been widely adopted in advertising, on social media and in company communication.

It's not only the planet that needs saving though. It is the planet as we know it, our comfortable home and place of existence, that is at stake.

It will become quite uncomfortable for us humans on earth if we don't radically rethink how we treat our planet. CO₂ emissions don't have a return address, we need to work on a global scale to reduce and compensate what we emit. We should rethink our economic system, we as individuals should rethink our consumer behaviour.

We need to take responsibility! As companies we should re-evaluate, reduce, and compensate our emissions, and take charge of the actions in our supply chains and of our consumers to heed the call to action.

Let's encourage and work towards net-zero targets. Let's encourage our customers to adopt mindful behaviours. Let's do our best to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We have simple technological solutions at hand and ready, we have all the knowledge. We have the possibility and the opportunity for a Future Economy.

Let's start creating it – and let's start today!



Intro– duction

THE FUTURE CAN ONLY
BE SUSTAINABLE

IF IT STARTS TODAY.



Vision & Mission

Vision

Future Economy – With passion and innovation, we are creating an economy for a sustainable future.

Mission Statement

HELIOZ is a Social Enterprise that offers innovative solutions to improve access to safe drinking water in rural communities worldwide, preserving the environment by reducing carbon emissions. As an expert in project design and implementation, HELIOZ is a strategic partner for companies and governments in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility and carbon offsetting. HELIOZ believes in the power of passion to generate a great impact for sustainable development. With authenticity and trust, HELIOZ is working with its partners to create a sustainable future.

The Climate and Water Crisis

It was a challenging year. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned the world upside down and shown the importance of bare necessities in life – one of them being the importance of clean water.

The issue of water access is essential every day. It's unconscionable that people die in this world because they lack access to clean water. Western countries have forgotten about this problem a long time ago. Even the water in our toilets is cleaner than the water that many people have access to in other parts of the world. To solve this problem, we need modern solutions, and we need to work together.

Both the climate and the water crisis are directly related. The poorest communities on the planet are most adversely affected by them. Children and women are impacted the most by the water crisis. The youngest members of the communities are most vulnerable and predisposed to diseases like diarrhoea, cholera, and typhoid - waterborne diseases that should not be a threat to us anymore however still kill hundreds of people in the developing world every day. The climate crisis contributes in no

small part to a worsening situation. Droughts in some, flooding in other areas and highly anticipated rain seasons that don't happen – access to clean water gets more complex every day. Hundreds and millions of girls worldwide are not in school because they are out collecting water. Giving these people access to a safe water solution is inevitable to fulfil our common sustainable development goals and to better life circumstances worldwide.

The World Health Organization (WHO) puts numbers on these issues: over two billion people in the world lack adequate access to sanitation. Over 700 million people live without access to safe water. Some 800,000 people are estimated to die every year due to this lack. Handwashing, bathing, drinking, and cooking – all aspects of everyday life which require a safe water solution.

The global water crisis therefore is also a health crisis, climate crisis and economic crisis. Investing in water has effects in children receiving education, reducing diseases, boosting economic growth, and contributing to the environment.

PHOTO: ANNETTE ETGES



By 2025, half of the world's population will be living in water-stressed areas. Reusing water and disinfecting unsafe water becomes more and more vital. Household water treatment is a quick and easy way to help prevent diseases and paints a bigger picture in the long term. If more households are able to access clean water, entire communities will profit. Unfortunately, the most common method of water disinfection remains burning firewood to boil water. A process that results in high CO₂ emissions. It is essential to implement simpler and environmentally friendlier solutions to this problem.

In order to improve conditions around the world, attention must continue to be drawn to fundamental problems of safe water availability. It is important to continue raising awareness for water disinfection, hygiene, and sanitation. Solutions must be cost-efficient, both user and economically friendly.

At HELIOZ, we are tackling these problems!

COVID-19: This was not the plan.

By Barbara Oberfichtner

“We stuck together and adapted”



In March 2020, we did not stop. When COVID-19 spread like fire from country to country, from Wuhan to New York, we faced similar challenges as many other companies, colleagues, and friends. Looking back at the weeks that turned into months, the pandemic has impacted our personal lives, society, and the economy irreversibly.

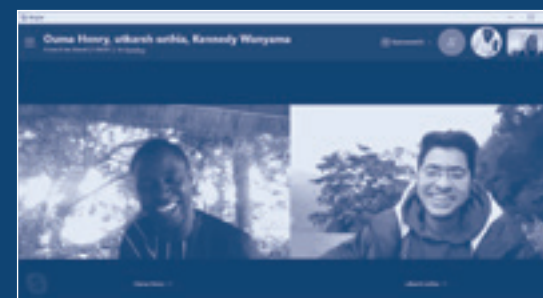
The situation also sparked change. It triggered our team to reassess if our mode of work and the design of projects and innovations by HELIOZ stand the test of time in a world shaped

by demanding circumstances and inadvertently pushed into digital work. The pandemic has left each and every one of us with a personal story and this is the story of HELIOZ and our team. It is a privilege, even more so – a testament to the persistence and commitment of our team and partners that we can look back at the past year and share a story of growth and learnings.

From “What to do?” to “Let’s do it”
This was not the plan. On 19th February 2020, I was sitting in a hotel room in Mumbai about to leave for a field visit to partners in the South

of India and making some last preparations for my next trip to Uganda in March to attend the Local Stakeholder Consultation for one of our climate projects. The sun was just about to set, covering the buzzing streets filled with people of all ages, tuk-tuks and cars in a warm orange light. At that moment, my two biggest concerns were arranging my visa in time and checking if we have planned for enough posho for all villagers. Three weeks later, I was stopped cold in my tracks. COVID-19 was declared a pandemic. Home office was instituted for the team. International travel was put on hold. Staring outside of my flats window at the eerily empty streets of Vienna, one thought persisted: What can we do?

We stuck together and adapted. That is the simple answer to a long process. How can we continue our day-to-day work from home? This might have been the first issue that came up but comparatively it was the easiest one to solve. Within 24 hours, we reshaped our mode of work utilizing underused features and capabilities of our IT infrastructure to allow for streamlined remote working conditions. Although it took us much longer to get the hang of it and get used to setting up our Microsoft Team meeting with our colleagues - for strategy meetings as well as the occasional chat over morning coffee. Today we have the experience to cater to the needs of our colleagues – nationally and internationally – switching to and from the governmental guidelines between remote work, office work or a hybrid model. Personally, it was a big organizational challenge that really benefited the workflow between the HELIOZ teams in Austria and India. During home office times, our team has also successfully welcomed new colleagues in Austria and India. It was my personal pleasure to add Utkarsh Sethia as Project Manager in India to the programme management team, arranging meetings to bring people from Uganda, India, and Austria together.



New challenges require an agile project design. HELIOZ is developing, implementing, and working with partners in several countries of the Global South, some of which, like India,

were hit the hardest over the past months. We discussed early on the challenges that we are likely to face in current and future projects whilst respecting and safely implementing COVID-19 guidelines. Using data-based and remote monitoring during times with restricted travel and working with communities to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 itself. The close exchange with our international implementation partners has made it possible to set up an agile project management approach that makes well-directed adaptations throughout the project lifetime possible. In cooperation with long-term business customers, we also strengthened the project activities through additional COVID-19 prevention measures and awareness campaigns. The ongoing COVID-19 initiative and all the resources that



have been put into it, are not a hurried reaction to the pandemic but a long-term intervention to complement HELIOZ’ water and climate projects. This is not a sprint, it is a marathon. Right in this moment, countries are gearing up for the second and third wave of COVID-19.

The Right to Health. The COVID-19 pandemic has visualized with a tremendous force the global disparities and the ongoing struggle to uphold human rights. The right to health has been an integral part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights from its beginning in 1948. It addresses far more contributing factors to health than commonly known, including the right to healthy working and environmental conditions as well as safe drinking water and adequate sanitation.

This is what we work for. At HELIOZ, we envision an economy for a sustainable future. A business world that takes responsibility for the grand challenges of our time working on solutions to mitigate and improve. For me, the aim is to integrate a commitment to human rights into the daily work.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND
THE BEST ANSWERS



without asking
the right questions.

PHOTO: ANNETTE ETGES



What we do

HELIOZ is an Austrian Social Enterprise active in the field of water disinfection, the development of climate projects and resulting CO₂ compensation. Relying on our easy-to-use and environmentally friendly solution for water disinfection, the WADI device, HELIOZ is providing safe drinking water to thousands of families across India, Africa, and Southeast Asia – creating high social, economic, and environmental impact.

Climate Projects and Offsetting

HELIOZ is a carbon offset provider and climate project developer – from concept to implementation and impact assessment. We help clients to achieve climate neutrality by supplying compensation of climate-damaging emissions. Our credits come straight from our self-developed and implemented climate projects in the global South and are Gold Standard certified. HELIOZ' innovative technological approach and advanced project design ensure high SDG impact and premium quality carbon credits with added social value.

Corporate Social Responsibility

Customers expect companies to act responsibly and tackle social and environmental issues which have put a spotlight on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives of companies around the world. CSR activities are important for internal and external stakeholders such as customers, employees, shareholders, and suppliers. They are documented in annual reports and used for marketing activities. HELIOZ offers made to measure CSR programmes of all scales. Developing and working closely together with our customers we ensure successful CSR initiatives that create true impact around the topics of safe drinking water, education, women empowerment and much more.

CO₂ Compensation with additional value

To mitigate global warming, it is inevitable for companies to decrease carbon emissions. Industrial and corporate emissions which currently cannot be reduced or avoided, due to a lack of technical possibilities can be compensated for. By replacing the boiling of water by using firewood with the method of Solar Disinfection (SODIS) with WADI, HELIOZ is generating CO₂ certificates for the voluntary carbon market. These certificates originating from premium climate projects offer a big range of co-benefits, contributing to 9 SDGs and offering 100 % transparency of how they were generated, creating a peace of mind of a true contribution to the environment.

The Technology

HELIOZ relies on the environmentally friendly method of Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) with UV-indicator WADI. The solar-powered device not only provides people with safe water, it also has a positive impact on the environment. The change from boiling water to WADI leads to a reduction of CO₂ emissions and a reduction of indoor air pollution. WADI has been tested by the World Health Organization (WHO) and approved as an effective method for household water treatment.

Water Disinfection at the Household Level

WADI was specifically designed by HELIOZ for communities that are in need of an easy-to-use solution for water disinfection. A crucial point of action when it comes to preventing waterborne diseases, especially for the youngest community members under the age of five. A systematic study of various methods and strategies revealed that treatment of drinking water at home prevents 39 % of diarrhoea cases – compared to 11 % when using improved water at the source. Intervention on household level is key for long-lasting impact.*

Sustainability

Creating positive environmental impact and integrating sustainability-based activities in the HELIOZ project design are key aspects of the operations.

HELIOZ climate projects include:

- **Water disinfection with an environmentally friendly and solar-based technology**
- **Reduction of up to 2 tons of CO₂ per WADI/year**
- **Protection of local forests**
- **WASH campaigns**
- **Continuous monitoring and impact assessment**
- **Comprehensive recycling and waste management systems**

*Fewtrell et al. (2015): Water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions to reduce diarrhoea in less developed countries. Lancet: 5(1). 42-52.

HELIOZ project approach



PHOTO: ANNETTE ETGES

CLIMATE PROJECTS
THAT GO FURTHER

HELIOZ follows a holistic project approach. We focus not just on providing communities with our water treatment solution, we want to ensure that our projects generate real impact to all people involved. Therefore the basis of all HELIOZ projects is built on 3 core principles:

Water for all

WADI is a solar-powered UV measuring device that visualises the process of solar water disinfection (SODIS) in transparent bottles. WADI is placed next to bottles that are filled with contaminated water and exposed to the sun. Once the process is completed, a smiley face on the WADI confirms that the water is safe to drink. WADI is approved by the WHO and meets their microbiological performance criteria.

Solar water disinfection (SODIS) describes a natural process in which the sun's UV radiation eliminates harmful pathogens in water, such as viruses, bacteria and protozoa. The SODIS method was explored and developed by the Swiss water research institute Eawag and is recognised by both the WHO and UNICEF.

Sustainable Project Design

HELIOZ has an established network of local implementation partners. In accordance with our "train the trainer" concept, community workers are trained to create sustainability, further adding value to the regions.

All participating households are visited and supported by our implementation teams regularly throughout the project. We create and organize inclusive group meetings to enable community members to exchange their experiences and encourage them to share their devices to help support as many people as possible. We also implement comprehensive

recycling measures, ensuring all bottles that have reached the end of their life cycle are disposed of and recycled properly.

Long-lasting Impact

Our sustainable project design and the systematic change of water treatment at a household level ensure a reduction of water-borne diseases and thus lead to a reduction of health costs per family. The reduction of sick days also increases the number of days spent at school and at work. We work hard on improving health and well-being for children and young adults through sensitizing communities on the causes of waterborne diseases and supporting long-term behaviour change. We work in local schools, support the building of water tanks, encourage awareness raising competitions and campaigns.

Replacing water boiling with solar water disinfection can also save about 50 USD per household per year in firewood costs. All of our activities make a positive contribution to climate protection. By using WADI, the CO₂ emissions of each family are drastically reduced, and the deforestation of important forests is prevented, as the water no longer has to be boiled with firewood. We plant fruit trees which enable further reduction of CO₂ emissions as well as embody a source of either food for own consumption or as goods to sell. We passionately focus on women empowerment, making women primary providers of safe drinking water which elevates their standing within their families. With every HELIOZ project we aim to make a true and long-lasting impact for the communities involved.

WADI



Sustainable

no maintenance
no spare parts needed
2 years warranty



Cost-effective

reduces expenditures
on healthcare and
firewood



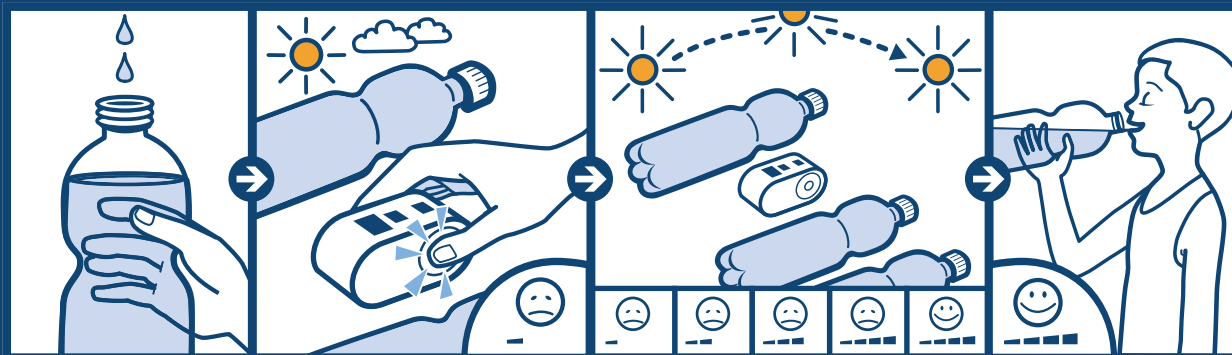
Scalable

simultaneous disinfection
of several litres of water



Environmentally friendly

solar-powered
no batteries
reduces CO₂ emissions



WADI is simple, reliable and easy-to-use. Obtaining safe drinking water with WADI can be achieved through five simple steps: 1) Fill PET- or UV-permeable glass bottles with water, 2) Expose the bottles and WADI to the sun, and press the reset button, 3) you can track the progress bars for a few hours while the water is disinfected, 4) Watch a happy smiley face appear on the display when the process is completed and 5) Water is safe for consumption.

The smiley face appears as soon as the incident UV-dose reaches that of the reference values stored in WADI, the water is safe to drink (removal of 99.99 % of common harmful virus, bacteria and protozoa).

WADI in combination with SODIS is highly effective against bacteria, protozoa and viruses.

WATER DISINFECTION AND CO₂ REDUCTION AT THE HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

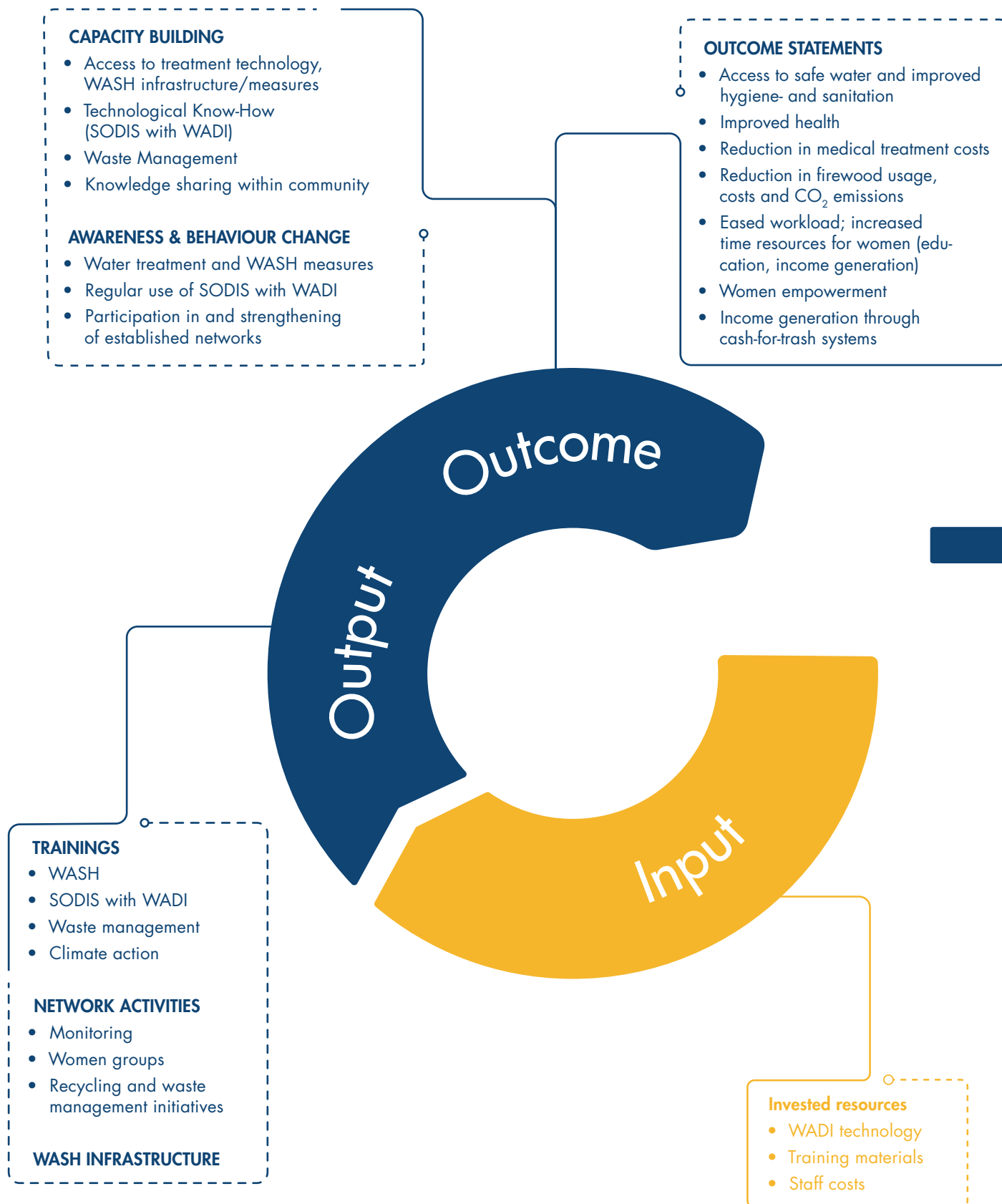




Project Reports and Impact

CLIMATE NEUTRALITY
SHOULD NOT BE A
FUTURE GOAL,

IT SHOULD BE THE
COMMON STANDARD.



Impact Framework

Impact Scope

HELIOZ strives for long-term social and ecological commitment through sustainable and participatory multi-year water and climate projects. The operational focus is placed on integrated WASH (water, sanitation, hygiene) measures and climate action. HELIOZ and its clients support the Sustainable Development Goals.

The HELIOZ impact framework has been developed in accordance with the IOOI-model. The conceptualization was guided through a 6-month training programme by measury OG (Mag. Alfons Bauernfeind, Mag. DI (FH) Maria Angerer).

Impact



Impact Numbers 2020/21

Litres of water disinfected
per year:

121 million litres



Firewood saved per
household/per year:



1.7 t

Beneficiaries:

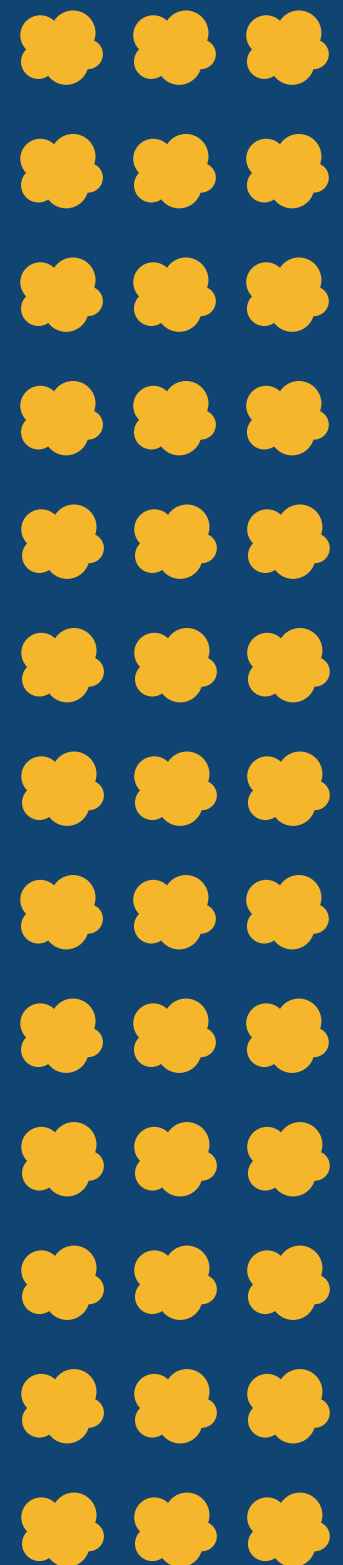


104,895

CO₂ tons saved:



39,112 t



Bangladesh

CLIMATE PROJECT

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS:
CENTRE FOR DISABILITY IN DEVELOPMENT &
VOICE OF SOUTH BANGLADESH

PROJECT REGION:
SARANKHOLA, BAGERHAT DISTRICT

Thinking one step further. In 2017, HELIOZ started the climate project in Sarankhola to provide an initial 4,100 households with access to safe water through the environmentally friendly method of Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) with HELIOZ' frugal innovation, the UV indicator WADI. Within the last four years, the project was up scaled twice with the last inclusion of additional households taking place in early 2021. Today, more than 39,150 people (7,115 households) have gained access to safe drinking water to cover their daily needs. Increased demand for carbon credits from high-impact projects has supported the expansion of the project area to cover the continued requests and interest from neighbouring households and villages of WADI users.

No one left behind. Taking additional measures and incorporating activities to reach everyone in the project region is an integral part of the project intervention. Based on the strengths of our implementation partners and the needs of the communities, the project design is disability inclusive and includes early climate education activities. Our partners, People with Disabilities (PwD) and their caretakers are trained in the application of Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) with WADI alongside other households and empowered to join the self-help women groups. During group meetings, the needs, and concerns of all participants irrespective of gender, age and/or physical and mental capabilities are

shared and addressed. The effects of the climate crisis like limited access to safe drinking water affect everyone in these communities – even from an early age on. Therefore, the project also includes school-based activities through art and essay competitions on the topic of water and climate to educate and familiarize children with the connection between these issues and their daily lives as well as introducing solutions and mitigating measures.

Safe Water. 7,115 households switched to water treatment with SODIS and WADI. Households mainly depend on surface water during the dry season (99,6 %), rainwater (78,9 %) and surface water (20,7 %) during the rainy season. In the reporting period, all households are using WADI daily (5-7x/week) during the dry season. During the rainy season households treat their water with WADI daily (88,2 %) as well as only 3-4 days per week (11,4 %) in combination with treating and storing water to meet the daily drinking water needs even on days with heavy rainfall. The majority of households (93,9 %) were able to treat sufficient drinking water for their needs in the last months. In the reporting period, over 36.9 million litres of drinking water were supplied overall.

Climate Action. 15,112 carbon credits per year are generated for the voluntary market through this project. The emission reduction is monitored and certified in cooperation with the University

of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU). Prior to the start of the climate project, the majority of households (97 %) depended on the basic method of water treatment through boiling water on simple clay stoves, using around 320 kilograms of firewood per month (Baseline Report BOKU gW/N, 2018).

Impact. The impact of water treatment with SODIS and WADI goes beyond the increase in safe water availability. All households have stated that they have experienced a reduction of waterborne diseases resulting in an average of 23,6 reduced sick days (school- and workdays) per household per year. In addition, all households have experienced a decreased need for firewood switching to a solar-powered treatment method. On average a household saves 1.3 tons of firewood per year resulting in an overall annual saving of 9,250 tons of firewood in the project. The firewood for boiling drinking water and cooking is usually obtained by collecting it in nearby forests. Based on the reduced need for firewood, a household saves on average 505 hours per year. The additional time resources are mainly used for taking care of family members (61,8 %) and chores around the house (37,9 %).

COVID-19 Effects. The COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions have continued to negatively affect the socio-economic situation of Bangladeshis throughout the past year. Although efforts are being made to address the immediate

risk to people's health, people are still dealing with the repercussions. 72,1 % of the respondents have stated that the COVID situation has caused them struggle due to increased costs for food and has led to a reduction of household income for one in four households. As part of the project, we have taken steps to support the project households through awareness activities and prevention measures.

Method of Assessment. The impact report is based on a quantitative survey on a household level (n=280) implemented in 08/2021, the BOKU desk review report 06/2021 and reports by the implementation partner Centre for Disability in Development (CDD). 97,1 % of respondents in the impact assessment were female household members who manage the water treatment.

- 7,115 WADIs
- 7 FTE positions established
- 140 women groups
- 1,159 group meetings (09/2020 – 08/2021)
- 355 People with Disabilities (PwD) included in project activities
- 298 PwD WADI user

Uganda

CLIMATE PROJECT | GS10738

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER:
GET WATER UGANDA

PROJECT REGION: EASTERN REGION
UGANDA, NAMAYINGO DISTRICT

It takes a village to start a project. In this case literally 43 villages. In March 2020, the project “WADI – Innovation for Safe Water and Climate in Uganda” (GS10738) was kicked-off with a physical stakeholder meeting to present the project and its planned impact to beneficiaries from multiple villages in the district, as well as representatives from the field of politics, religion, and women associations. The event was set up following a participatory design to ensure that stakeholders from different levels, especially women in the communities, were able to and feel comfortable to voice their opinions. Every voice counts to strengthen the design and impact of the project. The success of the meeting is reflected in the attendance of 412 people as well as in the valuable feedback we have received. Today 10,013 households are benefitting from safe water through WADI in the Namayingo District. The project follows the Gold Standard GS4GG guidelines for climate projects.

“As a women leader, I am so excited to be part and a beneficiary of this new project in Buhemba Sub County. For so long, the women have been so burdened when it comes to finding firewood for general cooking activities and boiling drinking water.” Auma Patricia (Women Association Leader Bukewa East Village, Buhemba Sub County)

Sustainable Impact in the WASH sector. The project focuses not only on the provision of safe drinking water but furthermore targets

the improvement of local WASH infrastructure at a household level. In the reporting period, 11,006 WASH infrastructures were constructed, including 3,471 latrines and 2,537 hand-washing facilities (tippy taps). Households are supported to finance improvement at their compound as well as other direct needs through Village Saving Loan Associations (VSLAs). Through these groups, households can save up money together with their group members and take out small loans if needed. So far seven VSLAs were established in the project region.

The project adheres to a comprehensive monitoring protocol following the Gold Standard GS4GG guidelines for climate projects. As part of this, the project team regularly monitors the water quality at the main water source points of the project households as well as the water treated with SODIS and WADI. Treated water of at least 100 randomly selected households is tested every quarter.

Safe Water. Prior to the project, 81 % of households were treating their drinking water to manage microbiological contamination. The majority of households (87,6 %) boil their drinking water on inefficient three-stone stoves using firewood. Due to limited financial resources, people depend on nearby trees and forests to cover their need, cutting down trees or collecting branches in nearby forests or on their own land. The remaining 19 % of households do not treat their water at all because of a lack of fuel,



PHOTO: JEFF ACKLEY

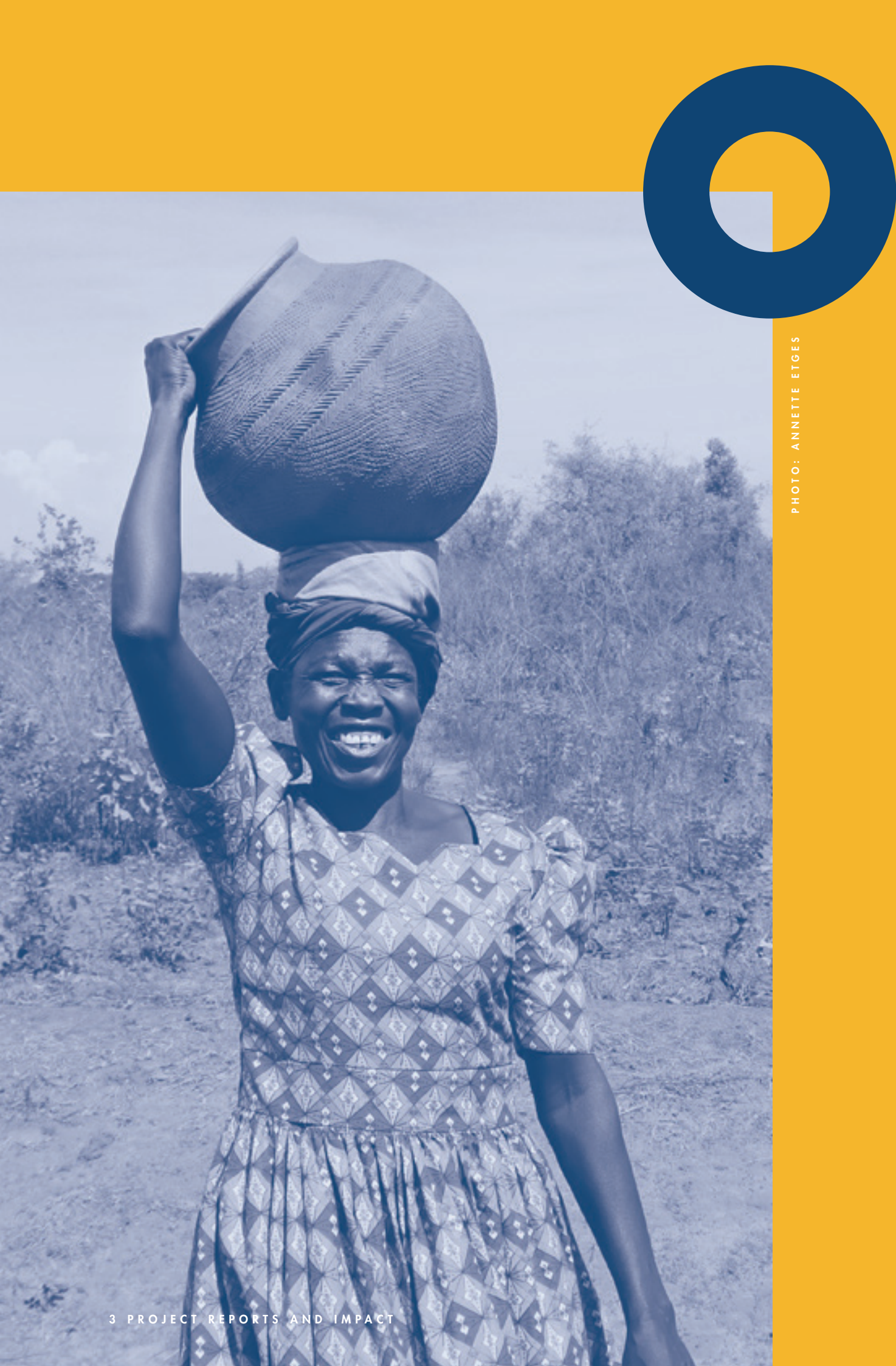


PHOTO: ANNETTE ETGES

time and financial resources, putting them at particular risk of catching serious diseases such as cholera, typhoid, or worm infections. In the reporting period, all surveyed households are treating their drinking water with Solar Water Disinfection with WADI during the dry and rainy seasons. The majority of households are treating their drinking water daily (85.9 % during the dry season; 83.7 % during the rainy season) or at least 3-4 times/week (13.3 % during the dry season; 15.6 % during the rainy season) in combination with storing the water. Households treat an average of 20.5 litres of water during the dry season and 20.3 litres during the rainy season. The majority of households store their water no longer than 24 hours (60 % less than 24 hours; 27.4 % for up to 24 hours).

Climate Action. More than 20,000 carbon credits per year are generated for myclimate through this project. The emission reductions are verified by the Gold Standard certification body under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals guidelines. Through switching from boiling water with firewood to Solar Water Disinfection with WADI, one household currently saves an average 2.1 tons of firewood per year (53.57 kg/week) resulting in an overall annual saving of 21,700 tons of firewood in the project. The amount of firewood is based on accounts made by the respondent as part of the survey. 77.8 % of respondents have shared that they need less firewood since using WADI.

Impact. With respect to a potential impact of increased safe water intake on overall health, all households have stated that they have experienced a reduction in waterborne diseases since using SODIS with WADI. The respondents are satisfied with the provided technology: All respondents would recommend WADI to other people and the average rating of the WADI technology is 4.9 out of 5 (1-5 scale, 5 being the highest). In general, the switch from boiling water to using WADI leads to a decreased need for firewood. 99.3 % of households have stated that they also spend less time on collecting firewood since using WADI. The respondents have shared that they save on average 9.5 hours per week, which equates to about 494 hours per year. The additional time resources are mainly used for taking care of family members (93.2 %), work for income (91.1 %) and chores around the house (87.4 %).

COVID-19. Since mid-June 2021, Uganda is under lockdown again, restricting the daily lives of millions of people. The households in the project region have also been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The top three areas where COVID has affected people's lives are: increased costs for food (92.6 %), reduction in household income (88.9 %) and restricted movement to other villages (82.2 %). The project team is taking steps to continuously support households in the project region through additional supplies and awareness trainings on preventative measures in all 43 villages. The implementation partner Get Water Uganda is also part of the COVID-19 task force of Namayingo District advising other development partners on WASH activities as preventative measures.

Method of Assessment. The impact report is based on a quantitative survey on a household level (n=135) implemented in 08/2021 and reports by the implementation partner Get Water Uganda. 70 % of respondents in the impact assessment were female household members who manage the water treatment.

- 10,030 WADIs
- 7 FTE positions established
- 43 villages trained on COVID-19 measures
- 33 sanitation committees trained
- 250 fruit trees planted
- 11,006 WASH infrastructures constructed (latrines, handwashing facilities, etc.)
- 2,661 household refuse pits for waste management constructed

Further information on the project progress can be accessed through the impact registry of the certification body Gold Standard.

Web: registry.goldstandard.org
Project Name: WADI – Innovation for Safe Water and Climate in Uganda
Project ID: GS10738



Uganda

CLIMATE PROJECT

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER:
WATER SCHOOL UGANDA

PROJECT REGION:
SOROTI DISTRICT, UGANDA

International Cooperation for Climate. The project “Clean Air and Safe Drinking Water for Soroti” is implemented in cooperation with the Department of Water, Atmosphere and Environment of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU) as part of the BOKU climate mitigation projects. Three students get the opportunity to develop and implement a research concept for their master thesis in collaboration with the local partner Water School Uganda and their network as part of the

project. The research results are discussed with the local partners and used to improve the project design as well as for future references.

Addressing multiple challenges. According to the WHO, about 70 % of Uganda’s rural population does not have access to safe drinking water. In the intervention region, 53 % of households are treating their drinking water by boiling water using firewood, 45.3 % are not using any form of water treatment solution at

all. The majority of households (93.8 %) indicated in the baseline assessment that they rely on simple 3-stone cooking stoves, which are also used for boiling drinking water. Almost all households primarily cook indoors. This causes many people to suffer from serious diseases of the respiratory system caused by air pollutants from inefficient wood burning. Furthermore, Uganda has one of the highest deforestation rates in the world. One household needs between three to seven kilograms of firewood per day to boil water. Most households (93.9 %) cut and collect the firewood themselves on a regular basis due to limited financial resources to purchase fuel materials at markets. However, an intact environment, clean air and safe drinking water are prerequisites for a good life and indispensable for education, ecological and social sustainability as well as for the fight against poverty.

Safe Water and Sanitation. 2,000 households in ten villages in rural Uganda were supplied with WADIs for treating their daily drinking water at the beginning of the project in 2019. The households in the project region mainly depend on surface water and boreholes to meet their daily water needs. In the reporting period, the majority of households (94.3 %) are using SODIS with WADI daily (5-7x/week) during the dry season and switch to daily treatment every day (68.2 %) as well as 3-4 days per week (17 %) in combination with storing water for up to 24 hours during the rainy season. On sunny days in the dry season, some households are also disinfecting water twice per day. In the reporting period, over 9.5 million litres of drinking water were supplied overall.

In addition to increasing the availability of safe water in the Soroti District, the project also targets to improve the WASH infrastructure at a household level through trainings on compound improvement and support for the households during the implementation. In the reporting period, 4,737 WASH infrastructures were constructed, including 1,385 pit latrines, 1,123 handwashing facilities (tippy taps) and 1,124 bathing shelters. Households also implemented refuse pits for waste management at their households (1,196 pits constructed).

Climate Action. More than 4,000 carbon credits per year are generated for the BOKU compensation system through this project (baseline: 2.92t/household). The emission reduction is monitored and certified in cooperation with the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU). Through switching from boiling water with firewood to Solar Water Disinfection with WADI, one household currently saves an average of 1.02 tons of firewood per year

resulting in an overall annual saving of 2,040 tons of firewood in the project.

Impact. One key aspect of the intervention is to increase the awareness of waterborne diseases and potential health implications. In the last survey, all respondents shared that the consumption of untreated water is bad for your health citing the spread of diseases, particularly diarrhoea, as the main risk. 79.4 % of households stated that the use of WADI had a strong influence on the reduction of waterborne diseases and led to better health and less sick days (83 %). The majority of households also shared that they need less firewood than before (83.7 %) and therefore also spent less time on collecting firewood (83.7 %) or boiling water (84.1 %). Households use the saved time mainly for taking care of family members (98 %), working for income (96 %) and chores around the house (39.6 %).

COVID-19 Effects. Since mid-June 2021, Uganda is again under lockdown restricting the daily lives of millions of people. The households in the project region have also been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The top three areas where COVID has affected people’s lives are: reduction in household income (99 %), restricted movement to other villages (99 %) and increased need for drinking water since more people are at home than usual (54.5 %). All of the respondents stated that they would like to disinfect more water with WADI and SODIS, which can be attributed to the increased need for safe water due to COVID-19. The project team is taking steps to continuously support households in the project region through additional supplies and awareness trainings on preventative measures in all 10 villages.

Method of Assessment: The impact report is based on a quantitative monitoring survey on a household level implemented in 06/2021 (n=103) and reports by the implementation partner Water School Uganda. 51 % of respondents in the impact assessment were female household members.

- 2,000 WADIs
- 3 FTE positions established
- 10 villages retrained on WASH measures
- 10 villages trained on COVID-19 measures
- 4,737 WASH infrastructures constructed (latrines, handwashing facilities, etc.)
- 1,196 household refuse pits for waste management constructed

India

„WATER AND CLIMATE INDIA“ CLIMATE PROJECT

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER: CARITAS INDIA

PROJECT REGION: MADHYA PRADESH



From a project to a worldwide programme.

In the past years, we have taken the necessary steps to introduce Solar Water Disinfection with WADI to rural communities in India and explore the opportunity to start a climate project in the country. In 2021, the first two climate projects are in the preparation phase with the aim of starting to distribute the WADI technology to an initial 50,000 households (250,000 beneficia-

ries) in Q4 of this year. The projects will target tribal communities in Madhya Pradesh. These communities are part of the Central India Tribal Belt, which stretches from Gujarat to Assam. These two projects will be part of a worldwide programme that sets out to develop and implement climate projects in several countries within Asia and Africa together with business and implementation partners.

The foundation of every project is a comprehensive database. During the development phase, the first data on available infrastructure and usage patterns was gathered as part of a pilot project which started in 2018. The project benefitted 924 households of the Korku tribe in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The core outcome of the pilot project was offering an environmentally friendly method of water treatment which was well received by the communities: 99 % of households that used to boil water stopped the practice and switched to WADI, and the majority of users (96 %) have chosen it as their preferred method of water treatment when given the option. The project also confirmed the positive impact of increased safe water availability on the health of household members. 91 % of beneficiaries shared that they have experienced no waterborne diseases in the 12 months prior to the survey. These initial results kicked-off an elaborate development and planning process.

“I have noticed an obvious improvement in the health of my Anganwadi children. There is a drastic reduction in the waterborne diseases which was often countered when the children spend time in the centre. I am happy that disinfecting the water with WADI does not change the taste of the water and also helps to avoid the use of chemicals.” Soganti Bethekar, Anganwadi worker, Kekkabod (MH)

Good preparation is key. The projects will follow the Gold Standard GS4GG guidelines for climate projects and seek verification of the emission reductions through the certification body to allow for sale of the carbon credits on the voluntary market. The three core activities at the start of a climate project are the introduction of the individual project to the local stakeholders through a participatory and well-designed stakeholder consultation process, the continuous expansion of the required data through baseline surveys and focus group discussions, and finally the set-up of the distribution and training cycles. In Q4/2021, we will be kicking off the implementation phase of two climate projects in Madhya Pradesh. Each project will target tribal communities in two districts, namely Khandwa and Barwani District as well as Alirajpur and Jhabua District. From September to early November, the project team will implement the stakeholder consultation process and assess the on the ground situation through baseline surveys in multiple locations. Stakeholders from all levels are invited to get an overview of the project and provide their feedback through various online and offline consultation methods.

Project outline and design. The projects have been designed to incorporate several core activities that have been proven effective in past water projects implementing the WADI technology.

The aim of the project is to increase the availability of safe drinking water at a household level as well as trigger households and local networks to improve the local WASH infrastructure, increasing awareness of how waterborne diseases are transmitted and of their health implications from an early age onwards. The core activities for the first year of implementation include:

- Distribution of the WADI technology to at least 25,000 households per project. Households will be provided with the necessary materials to disinfect 20 litres of water per day.
- Training at least 25,000 households per project on the application of SODIS with WADI and essential WASH measures for safe water and hygiene management. The project will be supported by a comprehensive WASH awareness campaign in the communities.
- Establishing WADI user groups in the project villages to create a space for exchange of experiences and addressing open questions. These groups are acting as knowledge hubs in the communities.
- Implementing a recycling initiative to ensure proper waste management and address environmental protection.

The projects will target three core SDGs and incorporate further activities to improve the WASH situation in the project region and reduce inequalities. The project activities are open to everyone in the communities irrespective of age, gender, or socio-economic background.

- SDG 13: Reduction of up to 60,000 tons of CO₂ per year per project
- SDG 6: Provision of up to 365 million litres of safe water per year
- SDG 3: Reduction of waterborne disease through usage of SODIS with WADI; with a target of at least 80 % of households stating positive impact on the health of household members

CSR project reports



SOCIAL PROJECTS THAT GO FURTHER

Siemens Sudan

Siemens Sudan in cooperation with HELIOZ is implementing an integrated WASH intervention to support marginalized communities, Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and refugees, in rural Sudan and Northeast Africa. The cooperation aims at directly improving the access to safe drinking water and complementary WASH infrastructure for families and children, mitigating the

social, economic, and environmental effects of the water crisis in the country. More than 40 % of the Sudanese population do not have access to basic drinking-water services (JMP service ladder). The Siemens Sudan project is in line with the strategic objectives of the Humanitarian Response Plan (2020) for Sudan, in particular HRP Strategic Objective 2 "Contribute to building resilience to recurrent shocks and improving vulnerable people's access to basic services".

Overall, the project is benefitting 600 families in rural Sudan (more than 3,000 people). In cooperation with the local implementation partner ZOA Sudan the project team supplies and trains an initial 225 refugee households, 150 host community households and 25 nomads in the application of Solar Water Disinfection with WADI in Gedaref State. The project is accompanied by a comprehensive awareness campaign.

Elektrizitätswerke Schönau (EWS)

HELIOZ and Elektrizitätswerke Schönau (EWS) are looking back at a fruitful cooperation since the first cooperation in 2016. EWS continuously supported the implementation of water projects benefitting communities in Soroti district, Eastern Uganda. Overall, more than 23,400 people and four schools have received access to safe drinking water through the cooperation. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, additional activities to increase awareness on preventative measures based on recommendations from the Ministry of Health in Uganda and the WHO as well as supplying local health centres with necessary protective equipment were integrated into the project cooperation. The pandemic has particularly affected vulnerable rural communities and their livelihoods in Uganda. The communities in two districts in Eastern Uganda were supported through increased access to safe drinking water through SODIS with WADI, increased water availability at schools through the repair and maintenance of rainwater harvesting tanks and awareness campaigns including in person trainings, radio spots and posters with key messages. In addition, households were trained to build hand-washing facilities (tippy taps) at their compound to ensure regular handwashing.

Viva con Agua und Welthungerhilfe

Since 2020, HELIOZ is cooperating with Viva Con Agua and Welthungerhilfe as a technical provider and WASH expert on a water project implemented in rural India. The project focuses on improving the water situation for 5,000 households in the state of Bihar (Madhubani District) and the Bundelkhand region (Jhansi

District, Uttar Pradesh). The objective is to support communities in regions prone to water risks and increase their resilience to cope with the available water resources. In the project region, large scale awareness on water conservation has been done including the revival of traditional water bodies and establishing Jal Saheli (women water volunteers) groups and Pani Panchayats at a village level to manage the water resources.

HELIOZ has joined the project to ensure that the water from available sources is treated to be safe for consumption. The project communities are supplied with WADIs and trained on the application of Solar Water Disinfection using WADI to integrate the treatment method in their daily lives. To bridge the gap from practice to habit, the project includes awareness-raising activities on WASH and the application of WADI and strengthens the collaboration with local stakeholders as promoters of key messages.

Lions Club

Lions Club Wien Belvedere is supporting households in rural Kenya with access to safe drinking water through SODIS with WADI since the beginning of 2017. So far more than 7,500 people are benefitting from the WASH projects. The COVID-19 pandemic has severely affected vulnerable communities in the country and people depend on safe water to manage and prevent the spread of the disease. Therefore, HELIOZ and Lions Club Wien Belvedere are starting a new project focusing on the provision of safe drinking water as well as COVID-19 preventative measures for at risk communities in September of this year. The project will supply five schools in Kibera Slum in Nairobi and 150 households in rural and peri-urban Kenya with WADIs and trainings on the application of Solar Water Disinfection with WADI. The trainings are accompanied by an awareness campaign on proper WASH management as well as COVID-19 prevention measures that focuses on using murals and posters to share key messages with the communities. The project focuses on children as the primary beneficiaries and shall ensure that they are educated early on and have proper hygiene infrastructure available at home as well as at school.

Project Insight

To give real insight into our projects and project activities, it's best to let those who implement them talk. This is a report from Kakoli Akter, a community facilitator in Sarankhola, Bangladesh.

"As a WADI Community Facilitator, I am looking after 1,030 WADI users within 20 disability inclusive WADI Self-Help groups.

I feel proud to be part of HELIOZ and working with more vulnerable people in the project location of Sarankhola for their safe drinking water and contribution to climate change adaptation.

In our project location people call me "WADI apa". Apa means sister and they see me as part of their family. I've been involved with the project since almost the beginning and I love and enjoy the work. Now I feel that I am a skilled person on WADI in the community. Thanks to HELIOZ and CDD as well as VOSB for the continued support to develop my skills on WADI through different theoretical and practical trainings.

I enjoy my work as it's an opportunity for me to interact with thousands of women. Beneficiaries love me, in turn I also love them. A long-standing relationship is built-up which motivates and influences me. I feel proud that I am a bridge between vulnerable households and safe drinking water.

People are very much aware of the use of WADI. Its impact created in the community through easy access to safe water, reduction of CO₂, reducing firewood cost, reducing water borne disease, reducing wasted time and using gained time for economic activities and overall impact in the area - all improving community health. WADI users built female leadership in communities through active involvement in the WADI group. WADI user communities are also established under the WADI user groups in the village. Throughout the course of time a congenial relationship is built-up among the community surrounding the WADI and my work. As a result of women empowerment, they are discussing WADI in different forums.

My aspirations for the future are to protect our children from the adversity and sufferings from unsafe water.

I hope that we will be able to reach people who we were not yet able to provide with WADI and to continue building love, trust, and confidence with my beneficiaries for whom I am working. I hope that we will be able to extend into other sub districts where people are suffering from unsafe drinking water."



SUSTAINABILITY MEANS
CHALLENGES BUT ALSO
ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES.



Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The United Nations brought the Sustainable Development Goals to life to provide a road-map for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and in the future.

In September 2015, the 193 UN member states met at the United Nations Headquarters in New York with one purpose - to improve the state of the world and humanity. A total of 17 Sustainable Development Goals for the world were developed.

Areas such as the economy, social affairs, climate, and ecology, but also human rights, the rule of law, good governance, peace, and security were scrutinised and given targets.

It is the responsibility of states, governments, companies, and individuals to do their utmost to achieve these goals. HELIOZ actively contributes to 9 SDGs by implementing its own climate projects:

- Convert water treatment in households by introducing solar water disinfection (SODIS) in combination with WADI as an effective, sustainable, cost-efficient, and environmentally friendly method (SDG 6 & 13).

- Provide safe drinking water for more than 100,000 people (SDG 6).
- Raise awareness of water disinfection, hygiene, and sanitation (WASH) interventions in rural communities in Asia and Africa (SDG 6).
- Reduce family health expenditure, saving 27 USD in household income per year in India (SDG 1).
- Strengthen the role of women as the main providers of clean drinking water (SDG 5).
- Reduce indoor air pollution and CO₂ emissions (SDG 13).
- Prevent the occurrence of water-borne diseases. Reduction of 80 % e.g. in Uganda (SDG 3).
- Protect local forests (SDG 13 & 15).
- Increase school attendance (up to 40 %) and working days (up to 60 %) due to reduced inability to work (SDG 1, 4 & 10).
- Form and strengthen international partnerships for climate activities (SDG 17).

IN ORDER TO BREAK
NEW GROUND,

we need to find
new solutions.





HELIOZ Global Services

WE DON'T ACT BECAUSE WE
THINK IT'S SUSTAINABLE.

WE THINK SUSTAINABLE AND
ACT ACCORDINGLY.

Moving forward

HELIOZ' INDIAN SISTER COMPANY
HELIOZ GLOBAL SERVICES MADE
SOME IMPORTANT PROGRESS IN
THE LAST YEAR.

We were able to double the team who's focus is on business development and new partnership potentials on the Indian market. We also intensified our cooperation with important implementation partners.

Together with Caritas India we expanded our project region and implemented all necessary preparations to enable the start of all project activities of "Water & Climate India".

Meeting with the Indian Water Minister

At a meeting with the Indian Water Minister, HELIOZ presented its plans for a nationwide joint drinking water project.

HELIOZ aims to further strengthen its commitment in India in the coming years. In December 2020, the detailed plans were presented to the Minister of Water in person.

Together with stakeholders, Gregor Riss, Managing Director of HELIOZ Global Services and Niclas Schmiedmaier, CEO of HELIOZ presented cooperation opportunities. And they are impressive: As part of the cooperation, HELIOZ could supply up to one million households with clean water and disinfect 6.5 billion litres of water annually! This would result in 1,850,000 tons of saved CO₂ and shows the enormous potential of this project. A project of this magnitude means a massive contribution to significantly improve the living conditions of millions of people in many regions of the world.

Jal Jeevan Mission

The shortage of drinking water in India is particularly acute. Only 30 % of all Indian households are provided with drinking water over water lines. Many households depend on groundwater with hand pumps and surface water. Less than 50 % of the population in India has access to safely managed drinking water.

Reason enough for Indian Water Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat to start a big nationwide initiative. The aim of the Jal Jeevan Mission, founded in 2019, is to connect all rural households to the water network by 2024.

HELIOZ is very proud that the Jal Jeevan Mission has named WADI as approved technology for ensuring safe drinking water. WADI will now be hosted on the innovation portal of the Indian Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.



Water & Climate India

For the described project, HELIOZ is focusing on India as an implementation country. With a total volume of 100,000 CO₂ certificates (Gold Standard) per year, this project will generate a significant reduction of global carbon emissions while creating strong social impact.

With the experience and know-how of HELIOZ WASH projects in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and its climate projects in Bangladesh and Uganda, HELIOZ is now bringing its holistic approach for generating carbon credits to India. HELIOZ GmbH in Austria will be the project leader and cooperating with HELIOZ Global Services Pvt. Ltd in India to implement this CO₂ project via its established service and partner network.

The demand for safe water solutions and climate change mitigation in rural India is undeniable. Since 2020, HELIOZ is partnering with experienced implementation partners in India and has started a 5-year climate project for rural communities in selected districts in India. HELIOZ aims to improve access to safe water for vulnerable communities and create long-term positive impact on livelihoods. Through a systematic approach HELIOZ and the implementation partners intent to facilitate behavior change in the field of water, sanitation

and hygiene (WASH) in these communities, while also creating a tremendous environmental impact. The project will not only provide safe drinking water but also reduce CO₂ emissions and improve air quality; by introducing a clean and sustainable solution for water disinfection to more than 50,000 families in rural communities – without incurring running costs and harming the environment through deforestation and burning firewood. The project design will follow the Gold Standard GS4GG guidelines – the highest international standard for voluntary carbon emission certificates. The project will be financed through the generation of 100,000 CO₂ certificates per year, which will be sold on the international market for voluntary carbon emission reduction with the potential to be easily scaled up to generate up to 1 million CO₂ certificates.

Over the last three years HELIOZ has put resources into the development and implementation of WASH and climate projects in India. Together with Caritas India as the local implementation partner, HELIOZ has been developing and implementing a WADI programme in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra since 2018. For the project at hand, Caritas India is once again the experienced implementation partner on the ground.



PHOTO: VARUN GABA

Water & Climate India – A project visit



The situation in India during the last 12 months has made it challenging to implement and accompany our climate projects across the regions. Nevertheless, our colleague Utkarsh has managed to visit 4 districts and gather impressions on the daily lives of people living without access to clean water while supplying communities with trainings and materials. Here are his impressions:

The use of firewood is prevalent but boiling drinking water is not. What is the reason?

HELIOZ recently started a 5-year long climate project in 4 districts of the Madhya Pradesh state in India. The districts Khandwa, Jhabua, Alirajpur & Barwani are categorized as high priority tribal districts by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs¹ in India. They have a significant percentage of Scheduled Tribes (STs) population, and the government has a special focus on welfare and the development of these districts. The state of Madhya Pradesh is forest rich and is ranked first² among the states in terms of the Recorded Forest Area (RFA). The tribal and rural population of the state is dependent on the forests for their livelihood and basic needs. HELIOZ' Water & Climate project has a special focus on these forest dependent tribes that lack access to safe drinking water. The project will provide safe drinking water by introducing a clean and sustainable solution for water disinfection to more than 50,000 households in the 4 tribal districts of Madhya Pradesh. The project follows the guidelines set by Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) and requires a careful selection of households such as households who are either boiling their drinking water on traditional stoves by using firewood or are not treating their drinking water due to financial reasons or market barriers.

The never-ending burden of firewood

The communities in these tribal villages depend on firewood for their household needs. It is the woman's responsibility to collect, fetch and manage firewood. It takes up a lot of their time, sometimes it must be repeated twice a day and it often involves a 1 to 8 km walk each way depending on the proximity to firewood sources (forests, trees near agricultural fields, crop residues etc.). Households also store firewood

for using it during the days when it becomes difficult to collect it from the firewood source (e.g. a rainy day).

The alternatives to firewood (e.g. cooking gas) are not common in these tribal villages mainly because it is not an affordable option or in some cases because of unavailability, lack of know-how or even fear of using LPG gas cylinders.

Drinking water management practices in tribal villages

Unsanitary conditions near drinking water sources (e.g. - wells, handpumps, tube wells etc.), unhygienic practices during drinking water collection, transportation, storage, and consumption can lead to microbiological contamination of drinking water. Some or all of these practices were prevalent in these tribal villages.

Absence of drinking water treatment practices at a household level

The high likelihood of microbiological contamination of drinking water in these tribal villages requires a household to treat their drinking water before consumption. Unfortunately, drinking water treatment practices at a household are missing or are followed only to a limited extent (e.g. cloth filtration) in these villages despite the community reporting symptoms connected to waterborne diseases (stomach-ache, loose motions etc.). The absence of household level drinking water practices can further be explained by the following points:

- **Lack of awareness** – Tribal village communities are often not aware of the need and benefits of safe drinking water. Many of the community households have either limited knowledge regarding water treatment practices or are only aware of very rudimentary ways to clean water.
- **Lack of firewood** – Boiling water requires firewood (here the tribal households do not have an LPG gas connection) which furthermore requires time and effort to collect and transport it. Therefore firewood is a precious resource which households are often not willing to use for boiling and treating drinking water.

¹ <https://tribal.nic.in/>

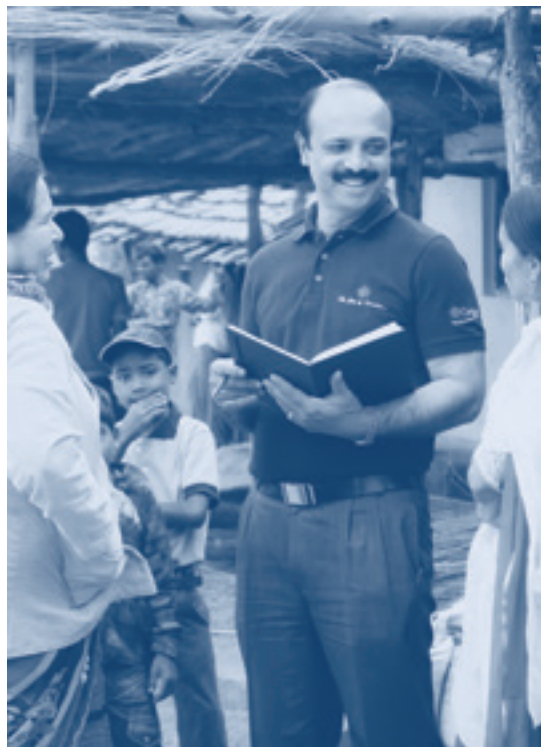
² https://fsi.nic.in/cover_2011/glossary.pdf

A large, bold, yellow number '5' is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the text. It has a thick stroke and a modern, sans-serif style.

The HELIOZ Network

Implementation Partner

HELIOZ IS WORKING WITH LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS IN ASIA AND AFRICA THAT HAVE EXTENSIVE KNOW-HOW IN E.G. WASH, HEALTH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND DISABILITY INCLUSION. THE PARTNERS FUNCTION AS THE DIRECT LINK BETWEEN HELIOZ AND THE BENEFICIARIES.



Caritas India

Caritas India is recognized as a leading NGO in poverty alleviation through community managed disaster risk reduction and natural resource management.

The organization serves the underprivileged sections of society, hailing from socially excluded communities, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and religious minorities by exercising preferential actions for the most marginalized.

"Caritas India values the successful cooperation with HELIOZ as an innovative solution provider and expert in the field of water disinfection."

Fr. Paul Moonjely
Executive Director Caritas India



Centre for Disability in Development (CDD)

CDD is a not-for-profit organization developing a more inclusive society for persons with disabilities in Bangladesh. The organization's mission is to create a sustainable, inclusive environment where persons with disabilities can equally participate in the mainstream development process.



Welthungerhilfe

The German NGO Welthungerhilfe provides aid according to the principle of help for self-help, from fast disaster relief and reconstruction to long-term development cooperation project. The organization's work in India follows four priority sectors: Rural Livelihoods and Sustainable Agriculture, WASH and Water Security, Governance and Peace and Natural Resource Management and Climate Resilience. Welthungerhilfe is active in states such as Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar.



TERI

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) is an independent not-for-profit organization working in the fields of energy, environment and sustainable development. This includes enhancing the conservation, utilization of and access to water. TERI's 1,200-plus team delivers high quality action-oriented research and transformative solutions supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure. Potential implementation regions for the presented climate project are the states Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh.



Water School Uganda (WSU)

Water School Uganda is a WASH Award winning Christian charity, established in 2007 to implement WASH programs in Uganda that comprehensively transform lives. WSU uses WASH-trainings for children, teachers, peer promoters and Village Health Teams (VHTs), through the Satellite Village and Child to Community Approaches as an entry point. Targeting simple and sustainable technologies, WSU engages opinionated leaders to determine how to best tackle challenges in a developmental manner to empower communities to learn and promote consistent practice of excellent WASH using locally available materials.



Get Water Uganda (GWU)

Get Water Uganda (GWU) is a not-for-profit organization concerned with Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programs and Climate Change Mitigation in Uganda. GWU envisions a community where all people have access to clean and safe drinking water and sanitation and are responsive to climate change while using simple and sustainable community-based design approaches.



CBM

The international development organisation CBM (estd. 1908) is committed to improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities in the poorest communities of the world. Emphasizing the importance of local capacity development in poorer regions, the organization provides services in the fields of health-care, education, rehabilitation and livelihood development. The organization is active in the following states: Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar and Gujarat.

HELIOZ network



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien
University of Natural Resources
and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna

The Boku is one of Europe's most important Life Science universities, WADI and further products has been mainly developed, evaluated and certified microbiologically at the Boku. The Institute of Sanitary Engineering and Water Pollution Control is in ongoing Partnership for evaluating and enhancing our Solutions.



WAPCOS Ltd is a consultancy organisation and public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Jal Shakti of the Government of India. HELIOZ and WAPCOS are collaborating on joint WATER SECTOR projects.



The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is one of the leading trade associations of India. AASSOCHAM named WADI best New Product in the Water Sector in 2019.



Austrian Development Agency is the operational unit of Austrian Development Cooperation. ADA and HELIOZ have been partnering in social enterprise and water initiatives.



Founding member and member of the board of SENA, the representation of interests for Social Entrepreneurship Austria.



HELIOZ is a certified BCorp since 2016. Certified B Corporations are businesses that meet the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency, and legal accountability to balance profit and purpose.



Cii-Triveni is a renown center for excellence in the water sector in India. HELIOZ and Cii-Triveni are working together on the topic of Water Security and Safe Drink Water for Rural Communities.



HELIOZ is member of the United Nations Global Compact, with it's aim to align strategies and operations with universal principles on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to take actions towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Martin Wesian is part of the board of the UN Global Compact Network in Austria.



HELIOZ is an active member of the SPDA, a Network formed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Germany and the GIZ (German Corporation for International Cooperation).



HELIOZ is Austria's first member of Business Call to Action (BCtA) a UN initiative with the aim to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



HELIOZ is proud member of the Empowerment People Network and is collaborating with Siemens Stiftung as project partner for Cents4Sense.



HELIOZ is proud to be a supporter and Offsetting provider of Stiftung Allianz für Entwicklung und Klima.



Fraunhofer is Europe's largest application-oriented research organisation. Fraunhofer is the driving force behind FRANCIS and therefore a vital part of HELIOZ R&D network.



"For offsetting – and the voluntary carbon market – to truly make a difference, it must be done well. Only then will it become the tool against climate change that it can be. This means that offsetting should support emission reductions as a primary climate change mitigation tool and that offsetting should always have an actual climate impact. Because the current market is riddled with greenwashing, the market needs to change its ways when it comes to transparency. Only this will enable people to trust the market – and offsetting – in the future." Niklas Kaskeala, Chief Impact Officer at Compensate

Compensate is an impact startup combating climate change by offering everyone easy access to carbon capture. By combining a market-disrupting sustainability approach with scalable software solutions, Compensate enables carbon capture done right, truly unlocking its climate-saving potential and enabling a larger, systemic change. As part of the Compensate commitment to full transparency, no cuts are taken from the compensation payments and 100 % of the funds are used to buy carbon credits. In addition, their finances and project certificates are disclosed for everyone to see.

HELIOZ is very proud to be a new supplier of Compensate and to contribute to a positive change on the voluntary carbon market.

"Compensate is always searching for the most reliable, impactful, and sustainable carbon capture projects. We are happy to support the UV solar water disinfection project developed by HELIOZ and contribute not only to mitigating deforestation driven by the need to boil water, but also improving the health of local communities which lack access to clean water." Elina Kajosaari, CEO at Compensate



HOFER

Since 2016, HOFER and HELIOZ are collaborating in the field of carbon reduction projects with added value. The climate project in Sarankhola, Bangladesh has played an important part in HOFERs climate and social initiative "Heute für Morgen" and in the company's goal to achieve carbon neutrality. We've talked to HOFER about the climate, their climate strategy and their collaboration with HELIOZ:

What do you think will be the biggest climate change challenges in the future?

We see the greatest challenges in the increase in extreme weather events. Continuous periods of heat, large-scale forest fires as well as heavy rainfalls and associated flooding - all these also have an immense impact on food production.

What are the goals of HOFERs climate strategy?

HOFER focuses on concrete measures for climate protection in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy:

- As part of the ALDI SOUTH Group, we are the first discount retailer in the world to pursue scientifically verifiable climate targets and to reduce our operational emissions by more than 25 % by 2025 compared to 2016.¹
- We are continuously expanding the offer of climate-neutral items in our product range until 2025. We are aware that a large proportion of CO₂ emissions are generated in the production of our goods. For these products, we first work with our suppliers to reduce and avoid CO₂ emissions along the supply chain. The emissions that are nevertheless unavoidable are offset by selected climate projects.
- Newly planned stores are operated with 100 % zero CO₂ emissions by increasing efficiency and using renewable energies.
- Plant-based foods have a less harmful impact on the climate than animal-based foods. That is why we are increasing our vegetarian and vegan range to 300 products by 2025.
- 100 % of our stores donate surplus food to regional charities. This prevents food waste and protects the climate.

Why has HOFER decided to become a climate-neutral company?

We are aware of our responsibility towards people and the environment and want to help future generations grow up in a world worth living in. For several years now, we have been implementing various measures to minimize the ecological footprint of our business activities as far as possible. We have committed ourselves in our climate protection policy to act as a climate-neutral company and have therefore already been operating completely CO₂-neutral since January 2016 as the first food retailer in Austria.²

What are the benchmarks of a meaningful climate project for HOFER?

We select climate protection projects carefully. We put great emphasis on long-term partnerships and have therefore been supporting some projects for several years now. All climate protection projects are related to the supply chain of HOFER products or to Austria and save as many greenhouse gases as HOFER releases through its operating processes. All international climate protection projects are either strictly audited according to BOKU requirements or are certified by the so-called Gold Standard. The Gold Standard is the world's strictest certification standard in the field of climate compensation. Projects certified according to this standard must fulfil numerous criteria to ensure sustainable development in those countries where the respective projects are realized.

Why did HOFER decide to start a climate project with HELIOZ?

With its innovative product (WADI), the Austrian company represents the ideal partner for us when it comes to climate protection. Focusing on holistic concepts that create both ecological and social added value, we can achieve a lot together.

Why did HOFER choose Bangladesh as the project region?

As we are directly on the ground in Bangladesh with an Aldi CR department, we are taking advantage of the geographical proximity to be able to champion clean drinking water as a human right using an innovative product (WADI).

Why is access to clean drinking water a concern for HOFER?

Everyone has the right to clean drinking water. At HOFER, water is treated as a valuable commodity and, above all, one that is worth protecting - we have collected all the information on this in our Water Protection Policy. The careful use of water is part of everyday life at HOFER: from the production of food to the handling of water in our branches.



Da bin ich mir sicher.



All questions answered by HOFER KG representative.

¹ relating to the ALDI SOUTH Group
² Since 2016 CO₂-neutral through higher energy efficiency, green power, and compensation through certificates from climate protection projects.

FOR OUR VISION OF AN ECONOMY
IN A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE,

WE MUST START WITH A
SUSTAINABLE PRESENT.



R&D

R&D

HELIOZ Research & Development GmbH is our holding company owning all IP and R&D development. Research and development are integral parts of HELIOZ' company culture and we constantly strive to improve and move forward. So even though the last year has been challenging, we were still focused on progress.

ISO 9001 - We are certified!

Besides our continuous improvement efforts regarding SODIS and WADI, we also improve the way we work together. As we are growing and a lot of new team members start their journey at HELIOZ, we decided to create a solid foundation for a stable growth of the team and the company.

ISO 9001 is defined as the international standard that specifies requirements for a Quality Management System (QMS). Organisations use the standard to demonstrate the ability to consistently provide products and services that meet customer and regulatory requirements. It is the most popular standard in the ISO 9000 series and the only standard in the series in which organisations can be certified.

With the final audit in July 2021, we got certified with ISO 9001 for the next three years. Not only for HELIOZ GmbH in Vienna, but we also managed to get certified for the full HELIOZ group all around the globe.

The HELIOZ Quality Management Team is now focusing on the ISO 14001 certification.

Francis

The aim of FRANCIS (FRANCIS – FRugal iNnovation by Citizens for citizens) is to raise awareness of global frugal innovation initiatives among citizens and to motivate them to participate in development processes with industries. In this context, the project aims to focus on contributing to the United Nations

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and designing a sustainable innovation process. Within two consecutive idea contests, one of which will be supervised by HELIOZ R&D, people shall be motivated to develop new frugal solutions for the world together with science and industry.

- **Goal 1:** Develop a "Citizen Frugal Innovation Framework" that enables successful collaboration between citizens and the industry and ensures the exploitation of ideas.
- **Goal 2:** Development of communication formats, collaboration methods and an "Open Innovation platform" for the knowledge exchange among citizens focus on activating marginalized groups.
- **Goal 3:** Disclosure of experiences from the project to future frugal initiatives and the European Citizen Science community.
- **Goal 4:** By developing indicators based on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the concept of sustainability in innovation processes "Responsible Research and Innovation" (RRI), the impact of civic frugal innovations will be made visible.
- **Goal 5:** Comparison of challenges and added values of civic (frugal) innovation initiatives as well as the derivation of recommendations for action for the joint development of suitable business models and exploitation strategies.

HELIOZ takes part in the project as a consulting body and contributes its longstanding experience in the development of frugal innovations. HELIOZ' main task at FRANCIS is setting challenges especially around the topic of water treatment solutions on a household level for the Base of the Pyramid.

Based on its own experience in developing a frugal innovation, supported by an advisory board consisting of HELIOZ investors and experts in frugal innovation, HELIOZ will mentor participants throughout the Open Innovation Process. From a regional perspective, HELIOZ' challenge is focusing on India and Uganda.



PAANITOP

PAANITOP is a large-scale device we are currently developing with the aim to produce drinking water using only the SODIS method. It is effective against microbiological contamination and ideal as a rainwater harvesting tank as well as for the treatment of contaminated tap- or surface water.

The idea of PAANITOP is to provide larger communities such as villages, larger buildings, schools, or community centers with a central source of safe drinking water from an easily accessible outlet. Additionally, development has begun on a remote tracking software for PAANITOP devices, allowing us to collect data from all its locations remotely. This will bring invaluable insight about the water treatment process to our development team.

SODIS

Beside WADI, we understand that there are many influencing factors contributing to the effectiveness of the SODIS method. To make sure we understand all of them, we developed a standard procedure for our projects, to ensure there is no risk while using WADI.

This includes not only regular water tests, but we also check the used water containers in terms of UV absorption, no matter if it is glass or PET. In addition, we track the development of a PET bottle being used for several months, so we can also track the process of bottle replacement and make our projects more sustainable.

PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT
IS EXPENSIVE



rebuilding it is
unaffordable.



In the Spotlight

FOR HUMANS TO LIVE IN
HARMONY WITH NATURE,

ECONOMY AND ECOLOGY MUST
DO LIKEWISE.

Awards & Events

PHOTO: FABIAN HAMMERL

Awards

Founded eleven years ago in Vienna, HELIOZ continues to pursue the goal of reducing global CO₂ emissions through climate and water projects that have true social value. And while we're constantly being rewarded by witnessing that our work does make a real impact, receiving actual awards does also make us proud.

Our project "Water & Climate India" has been awarded with an honourable mention at the 2021 "Marketing for Future Award".

Moreover, we have won the „German Entrepreneurship Award for Development“!

The German Entrepreneurship Award for Development is awarded every two years at the initiative of the Carl-Duisberg-Gesellschaft e.V. (CDG) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). It honours the commitment of companies in developing and emerging countries that goes beyond the entrepreneurial goal in order to benefit local people.

Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Norbert Barthle, emphasised the importance of the private sector in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals: "The German government supports the engagement of the private sector where entrepreneurial opportunities and the need for development policy action meet. The private sector is one of our most important partners in achieving development in these countries. With the wages they earn, they not only give people a financial basis for their lives, but also the opportunity for personal development and prospects in their home countries. It enables a different, new (self-)confidence."

We are a "Best for the World B Corporation 2021"!

Social and environmental performance and public transparency among companies – these are the goals that B Corporations follow. They meet the highest standards to balance profit and purpose. B Corp embodies a certificate for sustainability at all levels and is a global network. The B stands for Benefit, to be the best possible company for the world. Since its founding in 2006, there are now more than 3,600 certified B Corporations in more than 65 countries, including HELIOZ.

For 2021, HELIOZ has once again been awarded the title "Best for the World" in the category "Customers". These businesses set the standard for serving their customers. By providing critical services like education, healthcare, and finance management, they add value to customers' lives while supporting the greater good. These B Corps scored in the top 5 % of the Customers portion of the B Impact Assessment which measures the impact a company has on its customers through their products or services.

Events

Over Zoom or in person, as speaker or participant – we were busy spreading the word about HELIOZ, talking about clean water and building our network.

That is why our founder Martin Wesian was a speaker at the ChangeNOW Summit 2021, the world's largest gathering of solutions for the planet.

Because the need for global actions and solutions was never bigger than now, ChangeNOW organized the world's largest gathering of solutions for the planet. With great determination, the 2021 edition was held on May 27-29 online, to act collectively on a large scale. The ChangeNOW Summit 2021 was a unique opportunity



to connect with investors, media, corporations, and institutions that can support projects and make them scale to accelerate change.

Of course, we attended the Austrian World Summit, famously hosted by Arnold Schwarzenegger and connected with various climate leaders at the Climate Transformation Summit 2021.

As certified B Corp, we naturally attended this year's B Corp Summit. The Summit was intensely focused on environmental goals. Many different topics were addressed, including declaring a climate emergency, effective climate

communications, and eliminating food waste in Africa through a circular economy. The hosts explained different strategies as well as know-how for businesses.

At the Greentech Festival in Berlin in June 2021, we didn't just attend to celebrate change and innovation, our founder Martin was a judge of the Festivals Bootcamp Challenge – a place where young innovators created new ideas for sustainable change. As such „Innovation Partner“, we also took on a mentorship of the runners up of the competition. We will accompany them for a year and help them on their way to realize their idea.

Expo 2020 Dubai

HELIOZ has been selected to be one of only around 30 projects from all over the world to be showcased at the Expo 2020 Dubai as part of the Global Best Practice Programme "Small Steps, Big Leaps - Solutions for Sustainable Impact".

Sustainability and Opportunity lie at the heart of Expo 2020 Dubai's purpose, encompassing social sustainability and equality of opportunity as enshrined in the United Nations SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). The Global Best Practice Programme is the Expo's platform to showcase simple but impactful interventions that localize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); projects that have delivered tangible solutions to the world's biggest challenges. The programme spotlights selected projects and demonstrates how these solutions

have achieved positive impact. The highlight is a multi-functional exhibition and programme space that brings together various stakeholders to experience first-hand and share different project components that can then be adapted, replicated, or scaled globally.

HELIOZ was selected from a pool of over 1,000 submissions from 141 countries through a global call for proposals and completed a technical assessment by UN-Water and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). As a result, HELIOZ was recommended for the final participation by the programme's co-chairs, His Excellency Vicente Gonzalez Loscertales, Secretary General of the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) and Dame Polly Courtice, Director of the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership.

We are very proud to be showcasing our frugal innovation WADI as well as our ongoing development project PAANITOP during November in the Expos Opportunity Pavilion. During the "Urban and Rural Development" theme week, the Best Practice Programme Area will shine a spotlight on HELIOZ and its solution for clean drinking water.

Expo 2020 is expected to attract around 70 % of its visitors from outside the UAE - the largest proportion of international visitors in the 168-year history of World Expos.

Expo 2020 is the first World Expo to be held in the MEASA (Middle East, Africa and South Asia) region and has been postponed to 2021-22 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**GLOBAL BEST
PRACTICE
PROGRAMME**



HELIOZ future plans

WE HAVE BIG PLANS. JUST LIKE WE ARE CONSTANTLY REFINING OUR TECHNOLOGY OR OUR PROJECTS, WE ARE ALSO WORKING HARD ON IMPROVING OUR PRODUCT AND GETTING THE WORD OUT ABOUT HELIOZ AND THE GREAT THINGS WE DO.

As such, we are currently working on our very own CO₂ calculator. We want to give our customers and everybody who's interested in the topic the opportunity to assess their CO₂ emissions and take a first step towards understanding their carbon footprint.

Water4climate.org

We know that it is not always easy to explain all aspects of a climate project. And since a picture says more than a thousand words, we will bring all aspects of a climate project to life in a visual way. With water4climate.org we are building our own interactive climate

project platform. It will answer all questions starting from where we are working to what we are doing and with whom. Impact numbers, pictures and videos from the project regions, partners and updates will all be a part of this new way to communicate climate projects and will enable us to be completely transparent about all our climate work.

There won't just be more online endeavours next year. We also have plans for the first ever HELIOZ event. The "Future climate economy" conference will be a one-day exchange about the future of business concerning climate and sustainability matters. We will host panels and of course there will be many opportunities for networking and exchanging ideas.

PHOTO: SHARATH KUMAR HARI



A large, bold, blue stylized letter 'G' is positioned on the left side of the slide. It is composed of two concentric circles with a gap at the bottom, and a vertical line segment at the top. The background is a solid yellow color.

Behind the Scenes

WADI on the financial market

HELIOZ as a social enterprise is owned by strategic investors that have contributed to our development over the last few years. In 2019 we managed to successfully enlarge this circle of strategic investors by a new partner. Following a change management process, we are focusing e.g. on the development of our own large-scale CO₂ projects by starting a project in Uganda in cooperation with myclimate.

This project, following our tailor-made projects such as the one for HOFER Austria in Bangladesh supported by the University of Life Science Vienna, is now listed under the Gold Standard Regulation, the top standard for CO₂ certificates for the free market.

After being approached by various possible customers in Europe and overseas, we started to lay out our programme called Water&Climate India for 50,000 households, which will lead to the creation of up to 100,000 CO₂ certificates for the free carbon credit market. A project of this magnitude leads to a pre-investment from our side of approx. 1 million euros. In 2021 we could start this project in cooperation with Caritas India as an implementation partner.

The next step will be to increase the extent of this project to 150,000 households. The necessary pre-investment could be successfully raised on

the capital market by attracting social impact investors and funds such as Fair Finance in Austria, ESIF Fund in Germany as well as private investors during a successful Crowd Funding Campaign led by Green Rocket in Austria, raising a total of EUR 480,000.

This investment round was supported by FASE Germany and started already in autumn 2020. FASE – a specialist consulting company for impact investment – reaching out to dedicated impact investors within Austria and Germany in particular, supported us through this process by arranging management presentations over five months, leading to a successful accomplishment.

HELIOZ is touching new ground on the investors side with a mix of direct investors, mezzanine capital and crowd funding investors. Our monthly reporting is following the high standard of social impact investors and delivers additional credibility and transparency to the investment market.

Following the track record over the last years HELIOZ could establish a new level of interest and trust on the investment market. Nevertheless, we still see the necessity of additional investment instruments for sustainable technologies and social impact companies.



HELIOZ board of advisors

With a lot of experience when it comes to investing in new business ventures, Armin Franz is HELIOZ' head of the advisory board. Read more about his philosophy and aims to support young, dynamic entrepreneurs focusing on social engagements. Mr. Franz, who was born in 1968 in Vienna, lives together with his wife and three children. He has a degree in Economics and used to be partner at a renowned tax consultancy. He acted as managing director and supervisory board member for well-known national and international companies. From 2018 he mainly concentrated on his company investments and support.

Q: Mr. Franz, what distinguishes HELIOZ from other companies?

A: HELIOZ is different in several respects: Firstly, it is the team that distinguishes HELIOZ from all other similar companies; Secondly, the high degree of innovation in all areas; And thirdly, the combination of the "best of both worlds" from a profit-driven and socio-economic point of view. This combination will prove to be a sustainable solution idea for a long-term future company development.

Q: What do you think is the role of an advisory board?

A: An advisory board should accompany, support and promote in the sense of a mentor - this is how we see the role of the advisory board, and this is how we live it, especially in cooperation with the management and in representation of the shareholders.

Q: How do you see the role of investors in general when it comes to CSR issues?

A: Investors can no longer avoid the topic of CSR and they are ethically obliged not only to face up to this topic, but to promote it. Everything else must no longer find room in financial investments.

Q: In which sectors are you investing currently?

A: We are currently investing heavily in technical translation of emission compensation, i.e. the entire cycle must be clearly comprehensible and (technically) structured in the future, so that compensating companies and private individuals, and also all those involved in the cycle can trust the quality and

authenticity without any restrictions. Other investments exclusively concern companies with a high level of sustainable innovation and expandable social character, whether it is already up and running or not yet fully developed in the desired form.

Q: If you had to characterise yourself regarding your investment management in three words, what would they be?

A: Attentive. Listening. Deciding. These are three very spontaneous words that came to my mind!

Q: Do you think big capital markets can save our planet?

A: No, the big ones, whether it is companies, countries, (capital) markets, etc. will not save us, because the disruptive change will probably only come from young and small structures and these need to be promoted! Just like HELIOZ.

WE DON'T WANT TO LEAVE
A MARK ON THE WORLD.

Perhaps this is
exactly what will
be remembered.



Team

Martin Wesian is the founder of HELIOZ. He is an entrepreneurial executive who creates value for social investors and focuses on topics such as sustainable growth, frugal innovation, and social entrepreneurship. Martin is also a founding board member of the Austrian Social Entrepreneurship Network (SENA) and Member of the Board at the Austrian UN Global Compact.

Manuela Bachlechner was promoted the role of Chief Financial Officer in 2021. She studied business administration and specialized in controlling and international accounting. She has many years of experience in the corporate and non-corporate sector and is a part of HELIOZ since June 2016.

Niclas Schmiedmaier is the CEO of HELIOZ. With his expertise in business planning, strategy, financing, law, and HR he brought success to both national and international projects. In his role as CEO he oversees all aspects of HELIOZ' activities and steers the company into the future.

Mario Michtner supports our financial department and leads our financial controlling. With his keen eye for figures and numbers he also evaluates impact data from our project assessments. He is currently starting his master's degree in finance and controlling.

Barbara Oberfichtner is our Programme Manager and a part of HELIOZ since 2017. She is responsible for implementing all our climate projects in the chosen countries. She is coordinating all stakeholders involved, leads impact measurement and -reporting and is therefore building the bridge between HELIOZ in Vienna and all project areas.

Jan Blatt is our new Head of Research and Development and leads the technical department. With experience from prototyping to the supply chain and a master's degree in industri-

al engineering he oversees all WADI production and development. He will also work on future innovations.

Barbara Böck joined HELIOZ as Partnership Relations Manager in April 2021. She has strong experience in project & change management and in the implementation of business development strategies. At HELIOZ she is responsible for building long-term relationships with current clients as well as developing new partnerships and new business opportunities.








Alina Eglhofer is a new member of the HELIOZ team, taking over all marketing and communication agendas. With her experience in PR as well as in project management she is responsible for design, marketing activities, and company communication. She also works closely with the Business Development team to create new ideas.






Gregor Riss is our experienced and passionate Business Development and Sales Manager. He joined HELIOZ in January 2016. He has expertise in developing new markets, evaluating sales and distribution channels, optimizing the sales network and developing pricing strategies. He leads business development in India and sales in the EU.

Utkarsh Sethia is our Project Manager based in the Indian office of HELIOZ. His passion for learning and expertise involving sustainable technologies is a perfect fit for HELIOZ. He joined HELIOZ in September 2020 and is responsible for project management & business development in India and selected countries in Sub-Saharan Africa & Southeast Asia.

Kartik Ayer is our Partnership Manager in India. He has worked across multiple sectors for over 14 years helping businesses and not-for-profit organisations strategize growth and expand outreach. Kartik has worked extensively in programme planning and implementation in the field of infrastructure development in rural India.

Stefan Pollak fulfilled the role of Technical Project Manager. He is currently on sabbatical to finish his master's degree.

	Carbon Market	Project Management	Sales	Product Development	Finance	Marketing	Business Development	Research & Development	
	○		○	○			○	○	Martin Wesian Founder
		○			○		○		Manuela Bachlechner CFO
	○	○	○		○	○	○		Niclas Schmiedmaier CEO
		○			○				Mario Michtner Controlling
	○	○			○				Barbara Oberfichtner Programme Management
		○		○			○	○	Jan Blatt Head of R&D and Supply Chain
	○		○	○			○		Barbara Böck Partnership Relations Manager

	Carbon Market	Project Management	Sales	Product Development	Finance	Marketing	Business Development	Research & Development	
	○	○	○	○		○			Alina Eglhofer Marketing & Communication
	○	○	○	○			○		Gregor Riss Head of Sales & Business Development
	○	○					○		Utkarsh Sethia Project Manager India
	○	○	○				○		Kartik Ayer Lead India Partnerships
		○		○			○	○	Stefan Pollak Technical Project Manager

Organisation

Name	HELIOZ Research & Development
Headquarter	Vienna
Legal structure	GmbH
Contact	office@helioz.org
Affiliated companies	HELIOZ GmbH, HELIOZ Global Services Private Ltd.
Affiliated associations	GET WATER Uganda, GET WATER Austria, GET WATER Switzerland, WADI Foundation India
Commercial Register	FN346989d
Number of employees HELIOZ Group	12



WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS.
BUT WE DO KNOW WHAT WE WANT IT TO LOOK LIKE.

This report describes the activities of HELIOZ GmbH from 01/09/2020 to 31/08/2021.

The report is based on the 2014 version of the Social Reporting Standard (SRS) which has been published by the Association Social Reporting Initiative (SRI).

HELIOZ GmbH is registered at the Commercial Court Vienna under the registration number FN378914b.

Illustration by Gilles & Cecilie
This is the first of what will be an annual illustration to showcase HELIOZ' work.





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