

## Explanations about the presence of sanitation grants by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on the SuSanA platform

The new [database of grants](#) on the SuSanA platform allows you to view details for the grants made by the BMGF under their grant schemes "[Reinvent the Toilet Challenge](#)" (RTTC), "[Grand Challenges Exploration](#)" (GCE) and other schemes.

How did this come about? In late 2012, the [Water, Sanitation, Hygiene Team](#) of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced their partnership with SuSanA to help showcase their investments in sanitation R&D. They believe that this exchange sparks more ideas and that collaboration helps us all achieve our goals more efficiently. The Foundation [embraces a Global Access Policy](#) as described in all grant agreements and contracts that they make.

Through a [grant to Stockholm Environment Institute](#) in November 2012 and a [follow-up grant](#) in July 2014, the SEI team led by Arno Rosemarin is providing this service and helps to link each research project to the wider international sanitation community. The grantees are encouraged to share their project materials on the SuSanA platform (forum and library).

The grants belonged to these five thematic categories<sup>1</sup>:

1. Resource recovery from excreta or faecal sludge
2. Processing technologies for excreta or faecal sludge
3. User interface
4. Faecal sludge transport
5. Enabling environment and other

You have the following search functions in the [database of grants](#):

- You can filter the grants by thematic category, region and country using the filter option in the sub-menu page on the left called "[All projects](#)".
- You can search for the organisations carrying out the grants by using the search field.
- You can order the grants by starting year, project title or organisation name.
- You can also use the search functions in the [discussion forum](#) or in the [library](#) to search for information on specific topics.

Further information:

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<sup>1</sup> These categories were used up until November 2014. Since then, grants in other categories have also been introduced. The filtering function in the project database will be adjusted in the near future.

- The sanitation grants are being introduced and discussed in the SuSanA discussion forum in various [categories](#).<sup>2</sup> You can find them by using the search functions explained above.
- Reports from the grants, as well as other consultancy reports for the BMGF are available in the SuSanA library [here](#).
- The SEI project team organised seven [webinars](#) since 2013, during which a total of 20 grantees presented their research projects so far.
- At the Reinvent the Toilet Fair in Delhi, India, in March 2014, the SEI project team [filmed interviews and tours of exhibits](#) of 17 sanitation research projects.
- Many of the grants were presented at the [Faecal Sludge Management Conference \(FSM2\)](#) in Durban, South Africa in October 2012 and [videos](#) from their presentations are available.
- A short overview of two grant types for sanitation research (RTTC and GCE) is [available here](#).
- The [list of awarded grants](#) is updated regularly on the Foundation's website, and you can sort it to find the grants in Water, Sanitation & Hygiene.

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<sup>2</sup> Initially, the grants were grouped all together in one forum category called „Innovative Science and Technology“. This category was dissolved in November 2014 and since then the grants are now spread all over the forum, wherever they fit best. This is also explained [here](#) on the forum.