

# Sector collaboration for an **open architecture framework** covering the whole social value chain of water

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*A challenge shared by Strategos for Swiss Bluetec Bridge*



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## **Challenge presented at Innovate 4 Water**



A number of organisations support water entrepreneurs in different ways in the various phases of their growth (idea-seed-scale-up-growth-maturity). These specificities can be confusing and laborious for entrepreneurs looking for help.

How to unlock silos to achieve a more transversal approach to support impactful entrepreneurs, fully respecting human rights?"

## **Connections made during the conference**

During the conference, Strategos established several contact and continued the discussion after the conference. Among them, a collaboration is ongoing with Arthur Wood from Total Impact Capital and another one could also start with Jonathan Normand from B-Lab Switzerland.



## Current projects with these organisations

Funded by the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)**, **Artha Network**, **Sphaera**, **Strategos** and **Total Impact Capital** are currently scoping a collaborative, open architecture framework covering the whole social value chain of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Project 1800, so named for the number of kids who die every day for lack of adequate water and sanitation, has as its goal to provide a framework to:

1. Increase scaling and collaboration on a common, cost effective architecture;
2. To do so on an open platform that reflects the requirements of all stakeholders; and
3. To validate the concept of Social Equity whose objective is to make tradable the negative social externalities, which in WASH are estimated to be in excess of \$300bn annually, making it the second largest negative economic and social externality after climate change.

We do this by providing a standardised facilitative infrastructure that integrates and pools contemporary technical, legal and financial innovations as well as other private sector tools and approaches. Applying an open, distributed, modular framework using 'best in class' software and process solutions, we move from funding and structuring projects by silos to an issue-focused process of aggregating donors, implementers, and workflow (i.e., the sequence of steps required for achieving outcomes on the ground). By putting incentives and structures in place that foster and capture collaboration, scale-up and private sector engagement, we expect to achieve greater efficiency and impact of current and future investments by the DFI and other stakeholders. Initially, Project 1800 will focus on the Senegal River Basin.

**Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)** is the agency for international cooperation of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). The SDC is responsible for the overall coordination with other federal authorities of development and cooperation with Eastern Europe as well as for humanitarian aid delivered by the Swiss Confederation.

**Total Impact Capital** develops unique investments for investors who are searching for superior returns and a chance to positively affect the future of our world.

**Artha Network** is an online community and website dedicated to building relationships between impact investors and donors, and social entrepreneurs and capacity building support organizations working on or in India.

**Sphaera** is a Cloud-Based Solutions Sharing Platform which mission is to accelerate the pace of change by connecting the practitioners, funders, and innovators working on solutions to the world's toughest problems.



## Impact of the collaboration



It is expected that this collaboration could ...

## Other projects that could emerge soon

Strategos might start a certification process with B-Corp in the coming weeks. This certification will give the company the opportunity to compare against peers in various areas: governance, social impact...

**B Lab** (Switzerland) is a non-profit organisation that serves a global movement to redefine success in business so that all companies compete not only to be the best in the World but the best for the World.

