The CDD-CASS Laboratory was established in 2010, to provide cost effective, high quality analytical testing services in support of wastewater/DEWATS research activities.

As CDD Society’s work expanded in the faecal sludge management space, the need was felt for a laboratory that caters to faecal sludge sampling and analysis as well. Hence, in 2017, with funding support from The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the laboratory was expanded to include faecal sludge testing abilities as well.

Our laboratory services help clients in making faster and effective decisions about their wastewater/faecal sludge treatment systems.
Scope

The expanded laboratory is spread over a total work area of more than 120 m² and includes an array of advanced analytical instruments (supplied by Merck) for the analysis of the following parameters:

**Water**
Alkalinity, Ammonia, Arsenic, BOD, Cadmium, Calcium, Chloride, Chlorophyll, a, b, c, Chromate, Copper, Dissolved Oxygen, Electrical Conductivity, Fluoride, Iron, Lead, Magnesium, Manganese, Nickel, Nitrate, Nitrile, pH, Potassium, Sodium, Sulfate, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Hardness, Turbidity, Zinc, Total coliform

**Wastewater**

**Faecal Sludge**

**Compost/Dried Sludge**
Calorific Value, Density, Electrical Conductivity, Moisture content, Nitrate, Nitrile, pH, Total Solids, Volatile Solids, E.coli, Faecal coliform, Helminth eggs, Total coliform

**Manure**
Ammonium, Nitrate, Phosphate

**Plant Elements**
Total phosphorus

The expanded laboratory enables easy and independent and more reliable R&D activities to be carried out. Other benefits include: close monitoring, shorter turnover time for test results, repeatability of tests, lesser time and effort spent in the transportation of samples, and security of data from implemented projects.

Quality Maintenance

We at CDD Society Laboratory are committed to providing professional high-quality services. We are committed to assuring the quality of the laboratory test results by:

- Fostering a quality mind-set with the objective of developing and providing services with minimum defects that are trusted and preferred by all
- Maintaining a high level of staff and technical competence
- Using internationally-recognised testing methods
- Operating appropriate state of the art equipment
- Implementing and maintaining the laboratory management system

Through continuous assessment of ongoing delivery of services, we ensure this quality is maintained.
Unlike wastewater, there are very few laboratories that specialize in faecal sludge analysis. In addition, due to the lack of standard methods for sampling and analyzing faecal sludge, standard methods from other fields, such as water, wastewater and soil science, are usually applied. This Partnership was thus setup to address challenges in faecal sludge research and to work towards standardized methods for the characterization and quantification of faecal sludge, including sampling techniques and health and safety procedures for faecal sludge handling.

Global Partnership of Laboratories for Faecal Sludge Analysis

The CDD-CASS Laboratory is one of the six laboratories under the Global Partnership of Laboratories for Faecal Sludge Analysis. The other five laboratories belong to the following organizations:

- The IHE Delft Institute for Water Education
- The University of Kwa-Zulu Natal (Pollution Research Group)
- The Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology
- The Center for Science and Environment
- The Asian Institute of Technology

Recognition

(application in process)

We have initiated the process to get NABL accreditation for the laboratory for the following parameters for water and wastewater samples:

Laboratory Staff

Our laboratory staff are responsible for performing analysis of water, wastewater, faecal sludge and compost samples from various locations in order to produce reliable and precise data to support scientific investigations. They carry out activities at the laboratory, in an impartial manner, on a consistent basis. With academic backgrounds in either Environmental Sciences or Environmental Engineering, they have sound knowledge in analysis methodologies and treatment mechanisms.

Instruments by Merck
1 - Thermoreactor
2 - Flocculator
3 - Vortex Mixer
4 - TKN Unit
5 - Microscope
6 - Hydrometer
7 - BOD Incubator
8 - pH, EC & TDS meter
9 - Digital colony counter
10 - Spectroquant Prove 300

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The laboratory is one of the arms of CASS, a collaborative setup between:

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