EquipSent – On the Mission to Enable Education Everywhere

Do you want to give out-of-use equipment a second life? EquipSent supports you by matching donated devices to a research or educational institution in need. This way we help you to promote sustainable use and globally foster hands-on education and research in developing countries. Currently, EquipSent is seeking scientific devices to support our ongoing donation programs in six different institutions around the world.

EquipSent was founded by students of the ETH Zurich in 2017 as a non-profit volunteer-based association, with the goal to extend the life cycle of scientific equipment. Simultaneously, we strive to enhance the quality of education and research around the world by enabling hands-on training in educational institutions with limited financial resources.

EquipSent provides a platform to connect donors with recipients in need.

When a successful match is established, EquipSent facilitates the logistics to transfer the equipment to the recipient institution. The functionality of these provided devices is ensured by the donor. Once the devices arrive at their destination, EquipSent stays in contact with the receiver(s) to ensure the equipment is used for education and research purposes and remains functional. We also encourage the donors to stay in contact with the receiver, to establish and foster multinational collaboration.

With our activities we target three out of the seventeen UN sustainable development goals. Specifically, we aim to:

**IMPROVE EDUCATION** – by supporting universities & schools with limited funding to attain access to such functional equipment.

**REDUCE GLOBAL INEQUALITY** – by establishing collaborations and building a network of research institutions in high-income and low-income countries.

**MINIMIZE WASTE** – by reducing the disposal of out-of-use yet functional scientific equipment in well-funded research institutions.

Success Stories

In the last three years, EquipSent has successfully completed three cases with over 700 kg of scientific equipment in Bosnia and Herzegovina, DR Congo and Liberia. From these donations over 800 students have profited at both universities and schools. As a result, two local laboratories for applied sciences were opened and one peer-reviewed paper with our delivered equipment was published in 2020 on Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health.

Equipment Donations

Are you seeking to enhance your sustainability? Do you have out-of-use equipment to donate instead of discarding it?

We are currently looking for several devices for our ongoing cases starting from simpler devices (e.g. burettes, beakers, Bunsen burners, pipettes) to advanced lab equipment like microplate readers, PCR thermocyclers, microscopes, UV-Vis spectrometers, and centrifuges. With your donations we will be able to support four universities in Armenia, Myanmar, Cameroon and Nigeria. Together, we can enable and promote education and research in environmental studies, agriculture renewable energy, local public health (e.g. parasitic infections) and food safety – as well as the education of children in two schools in Liberia and South Africa.

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