

Small Community Water Supply interventions in South Pacific Island Countries:

Getting it wrong while trying to do right

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Water Challenges of Oceania: Today to 2025

IWRA Webinar

August 22; 2018



‘Oceania’

Small community water supplies - a standard recipe

- Water: improve sourcing for better quality
 - Avoid untreated surface water
 - Harvest the rain
 - Access groundwater
- Sanitation: no more open / ocean defecation
 - Pit / sunken latrines
 - Dug into the shallow ground water lenses



Great effort and cost – the messages on rainwater harvesting is mixed and the gains lost

But what happens during dry season?



We now have pit latrines very very close to our groundwater sources



Take away messages

- Suitable water sources will be increasingly under pressure for many reasons – climate change will be the most important stressor
- To Protect:
 - Good technological solutions
 - Proper community upskilling
- Adequate sanitation is important
 - But take care of how it is implemented
 - It cannot come at the cost of water supply

Thank You