

Webwatch

In this issue Webwatch surveys the online resources on rural WASH

Rural Water Supply network RWSN

The RWSN is a global knowledge network for rural water supply technologies and approaches organized around the four themes of cost-effective boreholes, self-supply, sustainable rural water supply, and hand pump technology. It is hosted by the Skat Foundation, a resource centre based in Switzerland. The RWSN acts as a depository of knowledge and provides support to sector partners; it pools the experience and expertise of its members and places the results of their work in the public domain through the production of publications and international specifications.
<http://www.rwsn.ch/>

Operation and maintenance of rural water supply and sanitation systems: A training package for managers and planners – available online

This training package is intended for managers and planners who are concerned with the challenging problem of how to implement effective operation and maintenance of rural water supply and

sanitation services in developing countries. In addition to the traditional management aspects of operation and maintenance, it highlights the importance of community participation, with a right gender balance, in order to make more efficient use of local human resources for sustainability.

http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/hygiene/om/omruralsystems/en/

Rural Water Supply in Africa: Building Blocks for Handpump Sustainability

Written by Peter Harvey and Bob Reed, this free to download book is designed to assist those responsible for planning, implementing, and supporting rural water-supply programmes to increase sustainability. Its primary aims are to raise awareness of issues that affect sustainability and the inter-relationship between them, to provide options for addressing these using examples, and to describe how these options can be implemented. Over 900 additional resources on rural water supply are listed, some of which are available free to download, through the WEDC Knowledge Base.

<http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/knowledge/know.html>

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http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/books/Rural_Water_Supply_in_Africa_-_Complete.pdf?TARGET=_blank

Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Initiative

Launched by the African Development Bank in 2003, the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative (RWSSI) aims to accelerate access to improved rural water supply and sanitation facilities in Africa, in a sustainable way. It seeks to help mobilize as well as facilitate the flow of available and potential resources to accelerate investment in Rural Water Supply and Sanitation in Africa, with a goal to reach 80 per cent coverage by 2015. The web page includes videos and documentation of its activities.

<http://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/rural-water-supply-sanitation-initiative/>

Water Services that Last

A resource for building sustainable rural water services from IRC's Triple-S initiative, a six-year, multi-country learning initiative to improve water supply to the rural poor. This is currently operating in Ghana and Uganda. Lessons learned feed up to the international level where Triple-S is promoting a re-appraisal of how development assistance to the rural water supply sector is designed and implemented. Resources include tool kits, case studies, reports, and training. One useful

publication is *Supporting rural water supply: Moving towards a service delivery approach*, which takes a critical look at why we have been unable to provide a sustainable water service to rural people for so long by drawing upon a series of case studies in 13 countries.

<http://www.waterservicesthatlast.org>

World Bank resources on Rural Water Supply

Featuring background to the World Bank programme, which in rural water services includes expanding access and making current systems more reliable and sustainable, this website features a range of resources from publications to reports from recent events such as webinars, and news items on recent activities.

<http://water.worldbank.org/topics/water-supply/rural-water>

WSSCC Rural Water Supply

WSSCC's mission is scaling-up water supplies and ensuring their sustainability; this includes working through networks and partnerships that address technical, operational, and institutional questions related to rural water supply. The Rural Water Supply webpage provides links to relevant networks, publications, and other resources. In addition, a search of WSSCC Resources produces almost 500 links to material relating to rural water supply. <http://www.wsscc.org/topics/water/rural-water-supply>