WaSH in the Pacific: Sustainability, working politically and inclusion

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Agenda

- What is WaSH?
- WaSH as a human right
- WaSH as a 'wicked problem'
- Oxfam and WaSH in PNG
- Ways forward in complex contexts: sustainablility, working politically and inclusiveness





What is WaSH?

Water – access to safe water for drinking, free from chemical and biological pollutants

Sanitation – preventing human contact with hazards of wastes by proper treatment and disposal of the waste (eg toilets!)

Hygiene – focused on public health and reducing transmission of faecal-oral diseases



Sustainable Development Goals



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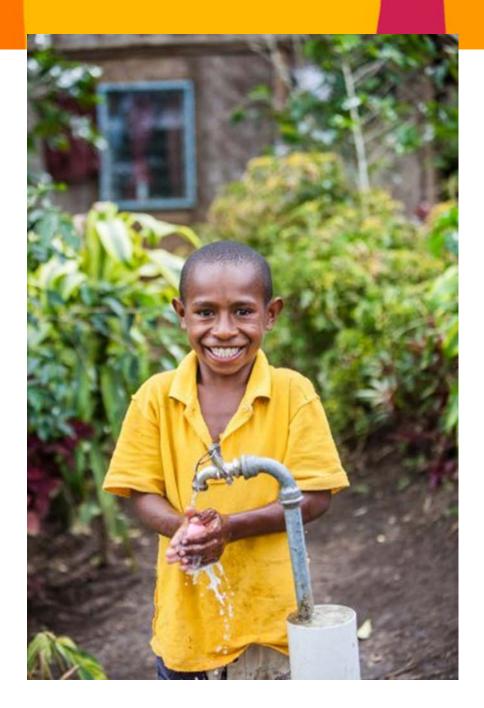


ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

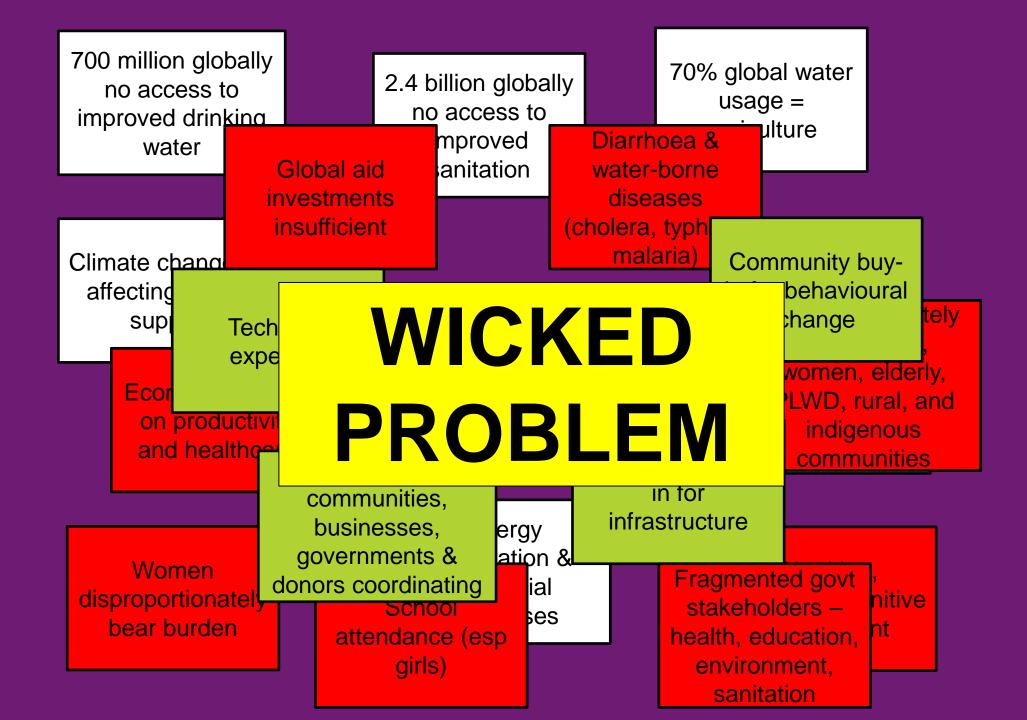


More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal

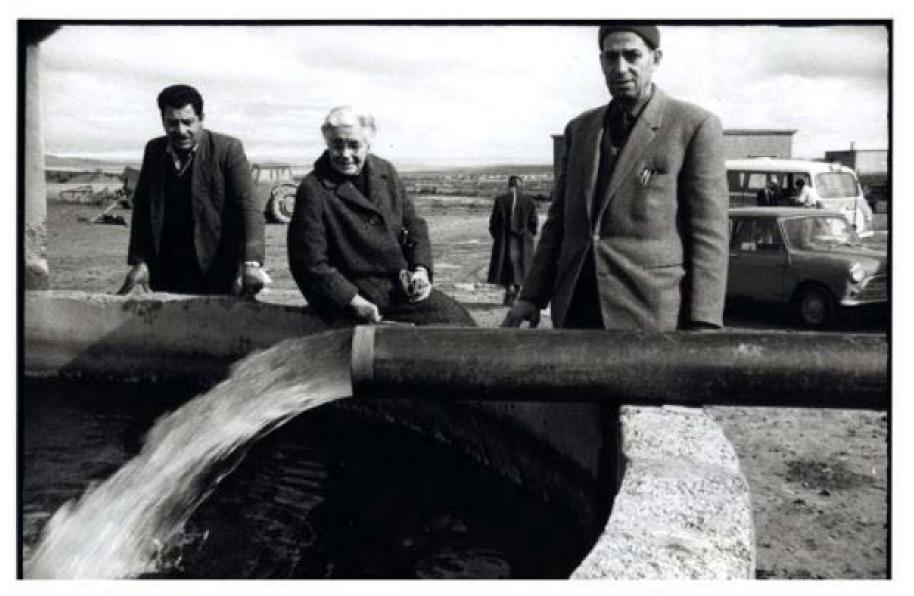








Oxfam's long history with WaSH



Photograph: Winifred Coate at Zerqa, 1963. Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Oxfam



Where is the most difficult place in the world to access clean water?



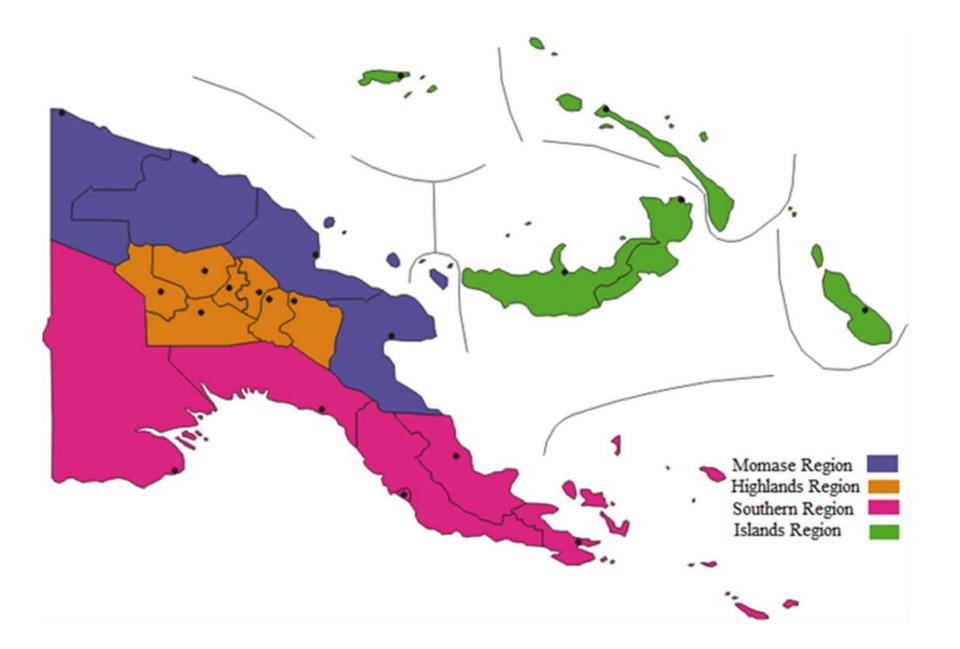
Water Aid, 2016 "Water: At What Cost? The State of the World's Water"

The Pacific – Great Ocean States





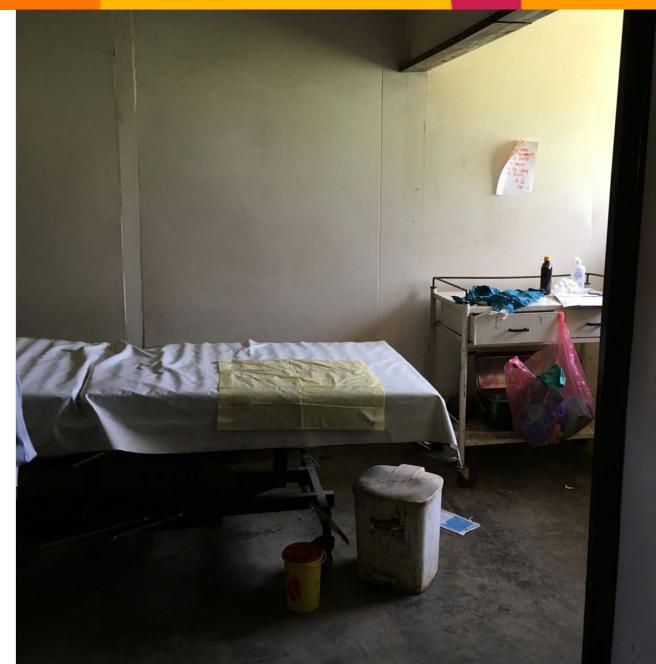
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Is access to improved water and sanitation in PNG getting....

C. Worse

Since 2011, Oxfam has improved access to clean water in 22 schools and 13 health centres, facilities used by 96,500.*

And in 2017, we're hoping to provide clean water to 32,000 more people.



"Life is much easier now, we are not so tired as when we had to walk long distances to collect water."

Women's group*, Siredonsi

In 2017, Oxfam is working with local partner ATProjects to support WaSH in 6 rural schools and 6 rural health centres. We will reach approximately 32,000 people:

- Installing water tanks
- Constructing toilets
- Conducting training on hygiene, menstruation, sexual health and HIV&AIDS





A hole dug for the latrines at Watabung Primary School

Photo R. Fairhurst 2017



Freshly dug pits where toilets will be built

AT Project's locally-made latrines



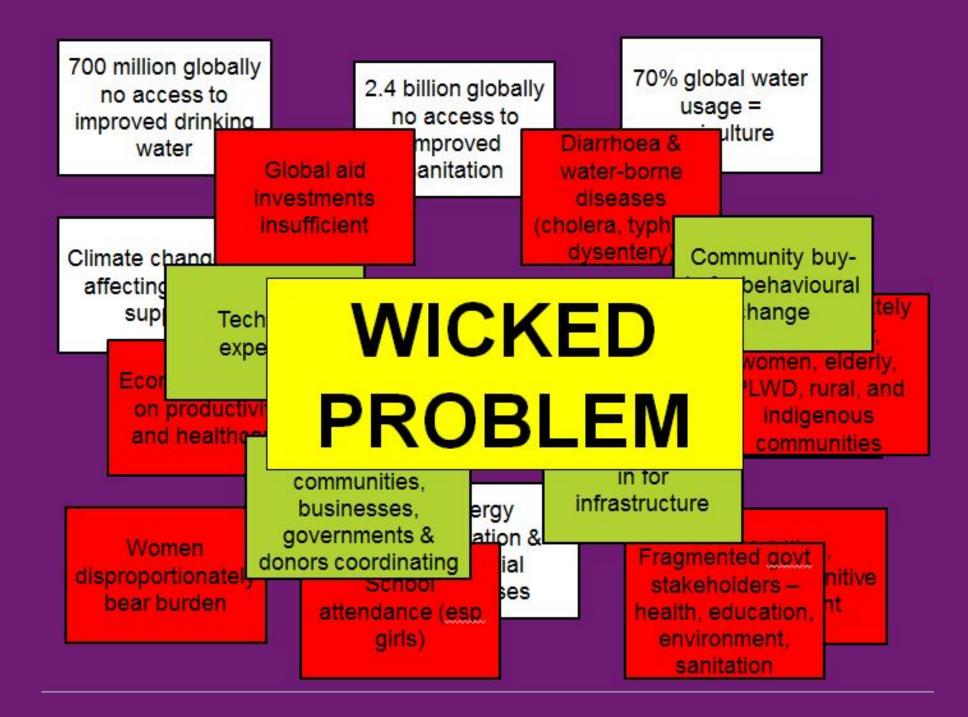








..... is something missing?



Key considerations

1. Sustainability is critical

How do we address ongoing maintenance and repair?

Are there other community-level issues?





Key considerations

2. Working politically is critical

- Engage with local authorities District MPs, Provincial Health Authorities, District Health Officials, Environmental Officers, and Education Authorities
 - Advocacy and influencing
 - Seeking co-contributions
 - Capacity building in software and hardware



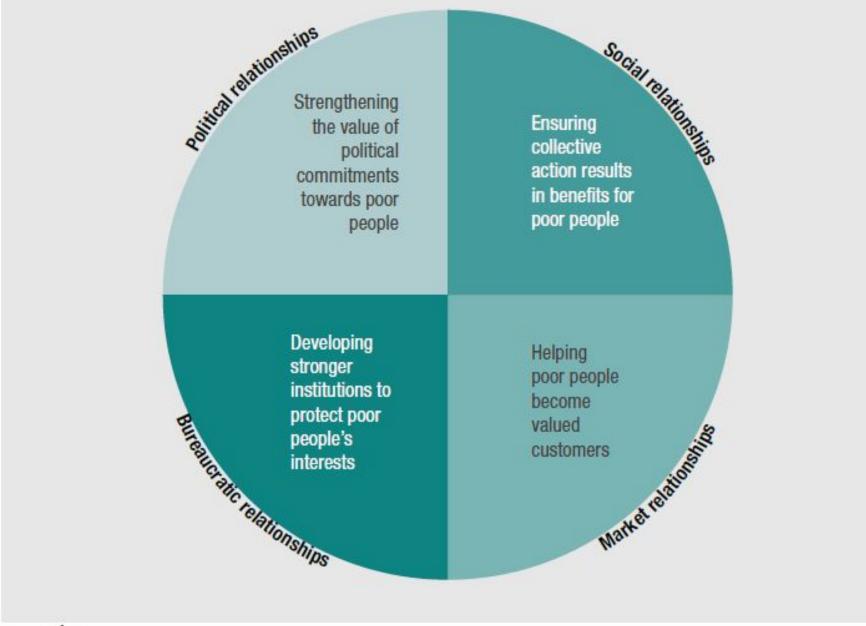
Key considerations



3. Inclusiveness is critical – How do we ensure water resources are accessible *for all*?



Figure 6: Brokering better relationships to support inclusive WASH



Source: Authors

Engage with complexity



OXFAM

Questions?

