

Developing Groundwater

Developing Groundwater

A Guide for Rural Water Supply

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Foreword

The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg made an important advance when it placed poverty reduction at the heart of efforts to achieve sustainable development. Priority actions highlighted by the UN Millennium Development Goals have allowed countries to focus their efforts on addressing poverty and to pursue sustainable development. The WSSD reiterated the importance of tackling complex issues and the need to develop new approaches to water and sanitation provision.

Water is a key ingredient in generating rural livelihoods, growing food, providing sanitation and drinking water, improved health benefits, producing energy, encouraging industrial growth and ensuring ecosystem integrity and the goods and services they provide. The challenge now is to respond to the growing need for improved water services.

Developing groundwater, an output from DFID's Engineering Knowledge and Research Programme, adds valuable and practical information and techniques to the existing knowledge base for implementing rural water supply projects in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. The manual is unique in that it has been developed in consultation with people from 29 countries who helped to design the structure and scope of the contents. It contains information to improve our understanding of groundwater resources, on techniques to locate and construct water points, and to appreciate water quality issues, together with ideas on community management and resource requirements.

It is a valuable contribution to help those working on projects, and also enhances the effectiveness of our efforts in the development community.

Peregrine Swann
Senior Water Adviser
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