

# An Introduction to WASH for Development online training course

2 March – 8 May 2015

**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**



has long recognised the importance of reliable services and appropriate facilities that provide an adequate quantity of safe water to all households.

**SANITATION AND HYGIENE**



improvements, which are now acknowledged to be of equal or greater importance, have received much less emphasis.

Around **2.5 billion** people do not have access to any kind of decent toilet.



It is estimated that only **17%** in developing countries wash their hands with soap after defecating.




**750,000**  
 People still needing access to water, despite the considerable progress that has been made towards achieving this goal.

## International WaterCentre (IWC)

IWC's online training courses are custom-designed for practitioners. The online courses address critical sectoral issues and provide participants with practical and technical skills they need to drive positive change in the complex world of integrated water management.

The online training courses are built on IWC's strong foundation in education and adult-learning for integrated water management. The format will allow practitioners anywhere to strengthen their knowledge and skills through participation in interactive learning activities with experts and peers.

### FOUNDING MEMBERS:



In spite of progress made, approximately 700,000 children still die every year from diarrhoea. Levels of morbidity and mortality from other sanitation and hygiene-related diseases are unacceptably high. And the indignity of living without a toilet, especially for women and girls, is immeasurable.

Much work still needs to be done to achieve outcomes that are sustainable in functional, environmental, institutional, financial and social terms.

This course will provide those working or preparing to work in international development with an appreciation of the importance, impact, and fundamental principles, approaches and needs of the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector, to more usefully interact with WASH colleagues and support efforts in this sector.

### About the course

IWC's 10 week 'Introduction to WASH for Development' online training course is a highly interactive program designed to empower development practitioners with an understanding of the fundamentals of the WASH sector. This course introduces students to the core principles involved in planning, designing and implementing WASH activities to improve sustainable and equitable access to domestic water supply and sanitation facilities, and to improve hygiene behaviours.

### Key topics

- Understanding both the health and social impacts arising from improved WASH services and facilities
- Key principles and approaches in the improvement of sanitation in both rural and urban areas
- Strategies for integration of behaviour change into WASH activities
- Methods for ensuring economic, environmental, social and technical sustainability of WASH facilities and services.

## Course objectives

Students will understand why WASH programs are significant, what they should comprise, and how they can be conceived in order to achieve the maximum beneficial outcomes.

## Who should participate

Present or future development practitioners working in civil society or non-government organisations, government institutions, donor organisations and consulting firms.

Those working in the water industry in the industrialised world, wanting an understanding of approaches to WASH problems in the developing world.

The course caters to those working in, or supporting work in low- and middle-income countries.

## Why choose this course

The IWC training team will draw upon its expertise and experience in the WASH sector to deliver a highly practical course. We will share lessons from working with a range of organisations to enable them to improve delivery of sustainable and effective WASH services (for more information, visit [www.watercentre.org/iwm-themes/wash](http://www.watercentre.org/iwm-themes/wash)).

## Course topics

**WASH-related health and social impacts:** The wide range of diseases transmitted as a result of inadequate WASH services and facilities, the morbidity and mortality caused, how they can be classified, and prevention strategies through WASH improvements. Social impacts of poor facilities, including: abuse, violence and indignity suffered by women and girls; time spent accessing water; inadequate menstrual hygiene management; and the demeaning need for handling human excreta.

**Sanitation:** Lessons for today from the 19th century 'sanitary revolution' in Britain: roles of the private and public sectors, 'dry' and 'wet' solutions, the need for an integrated service including faecal-sludge management, urban and rural priorities. Current approaches based on behaviour change, including community-led total sanitation (CLTS), sanitation marketing and sanitation and hygiene in schools.

**Behaviour change and hygiene promotion:** Research-based strategies for designing, planning and implementing effective interventions, based on an understanding of behavioural motivators, in all aspects of WASH, including handwashing with soap and menstrual hygiene management.

**Water supplies:** Quantity, quality, accessibility and affordability of water for all domestic purposes, for everybody; reliability and sustainability through community-based management with institutional support; the role of private operators and market-based approaches.

In discussing the three components of WASH the following issues will be integral: human resources, policies, capacity building and the enabling environment; roles of government, the private sector, communities and households; financing; a service-delivery approach; needs and approaches in both remote rural areas and growing urban slums; gender, equity and inclusion; monitoring and evaluation of services, behaviour changes and other outcomes.

The specific Learning Objectives of the course can be found at [www.watercentre.org/WASHintro](http://www.watercentre.org/WASHintro)

## IWC's active learning format

IWC firmly believes in active learning approaches – our approaches support course participants to actively engage with teachers and their peers to discuss issues and ideas, and to consider the application of new knowledge in real-world situations.

**Flipped learning:** By encouraging participants to become familiar with the upcoming week's topic, through written and audio-visual resources provided prior to the classroom session, participants are able to use the valuable classroom time to discuss or debate any remaining knowledge gaps or queries about the information they have already received.

**Interactive classrooms:** Weekly tutorials with the training team are structured to enable teachers to share important learnings from the resources, to draw upon their own experiences through case studies, to reinforce important information, and to discuss topics of interest with participants.

**Quizzes:** Regular, short online quizzes allow participants to check that they have understood the key facts and messages delivered.

**Group activities:** Participants will work in small groups to research particular topics within the WASH sector and to present and debate their findings to and with the teachers and their peers during online classes.

**Discussion forums:** Participants will be encouraged to share their own experiences or questions regarding all aspects of the WASH sector through an exclusive, online discussion forum.

**Facilitated learning:** The dedicated course facilitator will support participants throughout the course, discussing difficulties and receiving feedback, and will ensure that a positive, dynamic and constructive learning environment is created.

## Training team

### Ben Fawcett

COURSE LEADER/FACILITATOR; TEACHER, IWC; ADJUNCT SENIOR LECTURER, ADVANCED WATER MANAGEMENT CENTRE, THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Ben is an environmental health engineer, international development manager, teacher, researcher, and author with three decades of WASH work experience throughout the developing world. He spent ten years with Oxfam GB, working on development programmes and in humanitarian emergencies in 30 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and a decade in postgraduate teaching at the University of Southampton (UK). He has been teaching in Australia since 2008. He is co-author of 'The Last Taboo: Opening the door on the global sanitation crisis' (Earthscan, 2008).

### Diane Cousineau

TEACHER, IWC; ADJUNCT LECTURER, THE SCHOOL OF POPULATION HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Diane is a civil engineer with a Master of Integrated Water Management. She has worked on WASH projects in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and is actively involved in several behaviour change and WASH projects, including hygiene behaviour change in Papua New Guinea and sanitation marketing in the Pacific. Diane works in applied research and institutional capacity building with WASH practitioners to implement evidence-based approaches to WASH planning and implementation.

## Cost

AUD \$870 per person (including GST).  
Enrolment deadline February 16, 2015.

## Course requirements

This is a professional development course in the fundamentals of the WASH sector in international development. Students are expected to have either background knowledge of international development through higher education or experience, or a professional background in the water industry in industrialised countries.

Approximately 4 hours per week will be required to study materials and participate in online classes.

## More information

[www.watercentre.org/WASHintro](http://www.watercentre.org/WASHintro)

## Contact

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