Participatory action research can lead to WaSH improvements in South Pacific informal settlements

Dr Dani Barrington, GCI, SPH, IWC, Monash University

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Project aim

Work in partnership with impoverished peri-urban communities and local enabling actors to understand and help to foster the conditions under which sustained, self-determined water, sanitation and hygiene (WaSH) exchange systems can operate among Pacific island communities.
Participatory Action Research (PAR)

“The researcher and those being researched work together to define a problem, design a solution, and implement change”
The ‘global change’ aspect of my water research

We can move beyond large scale, technology and governance driven development initiatives to deliver change through the self-determination of outcomes by communities themselves.

Participatory approaches offer significant potential to leverage existing relationships and exchange systems to enhance WaSH benefits and well-being.

PAR can establish a platform for action, agency and self-determination in the people of informal settlements and their enabling environment.
Contact details:  dani.barrington@monash.edu
@dani_Barrington

Publications:


Barrington, D.J., Sridharan, S., Saunders, S.G., Souter, R., Shields, K. F., Bartram, J., Kearton, A., Hughes, R. Improving community health through holistic marketing exchanges: insights from a Participatory Action Research study on water, sanitation, and hygiene in three Melanesian countries. *Social Science & Medicine*

