

DR. PETER MORGAN WINS STOCKHOLM WATER PRIZE



About Dr. Peter Morgan

Dr. Morgan currently serves as Director of Aquamor, a not-for-profit company working in the rural water supply and sanitation sector in Zimbabwe. He has previously served as Chief Research Officer and acting Director of the Blair Research Laboratory and as Advisor to the Ministry of Health in Zimbabwe. Throughout his career, Dr. Morgan has shared his designs and innovations freely and ensured that they can be implemented and improved by the local communities where they are used.

Born in 1943 in Wellingborough, United Kingdom, Dr. Morgan is a naturalised citizen of Zimbabwe. He holds a PhD in Marine Biology from the University of Hull and was awarded Member of the most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1991.

Dr. Morgan is also renowned as one of the leading creators and proponents of ecological sanitation solutions, which enable the safe reuse of human waste to enhance soil quality and crop production. His 'eco-san' toilets are now in use in countries across the globe, centred on converting a sanitary problem into a productive resource. ■

TEXT Mr. Josh Weinberg, Programme Officer, Knowledge Services, SIWI

PHOTO Dr. Peter Morgan

Dr. Peter Morgan has been named the 2013 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate for his work to protect the health and lives of millions of people through improved sanitation and water technologies.

Over the past four decades, Dr. Morgan has invented and advanced low-cost practical solutions to provide access to safe sanitation and clean water that are being used by millions of people worldwide.

"Many currently existing solutions to provide clean water and sanitation are unaffordable, impractical and out of reach for the world's poorest people," said the Stockholm Water Prize Committee in its citation. "As a result of Dr. Morgan's pioneering work to develop practical water and sanitation technologies for those most in need, countless communities now enjoy safer water, a cleaner environment and quality of life."

A world class inventor and problem solver

Dr. Morgan has invented a wide range of simple, smart and low-cost water and sanitation technologies. Several of his most prominent innovations, including the "B" type Bush Pump and the Blair Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) Latrine, have been adapted as the national standard by the

government of Zimbabwe. Huge numbers of Blair VIP latrines designed for both families and schools have been built and serve millions of people in Zimbabwe alone, and many more have been built worldwide. Dr. Morgan also created the 'Upgraded Family Well', a concept where families can support themselves ("self supply") which now helps half a million people improve the quality of water obtained from traditional wells.

Dr. Morgan has an unwavering commitment to creating solutions that local communities can build and sustain themselves. For each of his technologies he also developed a wide range of training and educational materials that enable local practitioners to install, maintain and improve them. The Blair VIP latrine, for example, has been restyled so that it can be upgraded in a series of steps as the need or opportunity arises. In Zimbabwe today, variants of the Blair VIP, the "B" type 'Bush Pump' and the promotion of upgraded wells form the backbone of the rural water and sanitation programme.



Students built a simple Blair VIP at the school