

Securing Our Water Supplies-The Challenges of Water Quality Monitoring in the Small Island Developing State of Barbados

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Biographical Sketch of Author

Carlyle Bourne is a water resources engineer who is actively involved in water quality for irrigation and potable water. He is currently a Member of the Steering Committees for examining water quality related to pollution in the Belle and Hampton aquifers, which are two of the main aquifers in Barbados. He was a former Member of the Barbados Water Authority Board. He is currently a Member of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS).

Abstract

Barbados is a Small Island Developing State, which is classified as a water scarce country, with an area of 430 square kilometers (166 square miles) and an annual average rainfall of 1524 millimetres (60 inches). Ground water is the natural resource providing water for a resident population of over 250 000 along with agricultural and industrial needs. The challenges of water quality monitoring in securing the water supply against vulnerability are reviewed against institutional monitoring frameworks.