

Potential of single household systems in Greenlandic settlements

There is a documented relation between water borne diseases and water and wastewater handling systems, just as the frequency of water washed diseases has been related to the water distribution method and abundance of water in homes. Data collected suggests that services for rural Greenland are among the least developed in the circumpolar Arctic. In rural Greenland, approximately 25% of households have no access to improved water, and approximately 65% of households have no access to improved sanitation, while more than 99 and 95% of the urban population have access to improved water and sanitation, respectively. In several attempts single household sanitation systems such as composting or separation toilets or infiltration systems for black water have been installed and tested in the town of Sisimiut and the settlement of Sarfannguit, Greenland. In this talk I wish to sum up the experience and conclusions that can be drawn from the initiatives.