

## Eawag Seminar Invitation

# Applied research on safe drinking water for development Technologies and management strategies

Speaker **Dr. Sara Marks**, *Dept. Sanitation, Water and Solid Waste for Development, Eawag*

When **October 22, 16.00 – 17.00**

Where **Online via Zoom, contact [seminars@eawag.ch](mailto:seminars@eawag.ch) for access details.**

Abstract Safe and affordable drinking water is an essential foundation of human health and well-being. Despite progress extending access to water supplies globally, 785 million people still lack a basic drinking water source and two billion people rely on a source contaminated with feces. As a result, an estimated 485,000 deaths occur annually due to inadequate drinking water supplies. After completing training in environmental engineering and public health, I joined Sandec in 2014 as Group Leader of the Water Supply and Treatment Group. My research focuses on developing, testing, and disseminating solutions for extending access to safe water supplies, especially in rural communities and small towns where progress toward international targets lags behind the rest of the world. I completed a successful tenure evaluation in December 2019. During this seminar, I will present highlights from field projects in five countries that examine the interconnected themes of risk-based management, improved monitoring, and sustained functionality of infrastructure. In line with Sandec's mandate, knowledge transfer and capacity building are unifying features throughout my projects. Notable outputs include the forthcoming *Compendium of Drinking Water Systems and Technologies* and massive open online courses on household water treatment and water supply planning (coming in 2021).