The politics of professionalism; community water ‘plus’ in India

- Community management critical to rural water supply,
- Limitations in amongst others asset renewal, internal conflict management or water security
- Need to professionalise through support, internal professional capacity or even outsourcing
- 92 cases of successful community water plus, covering 6% of the rural population in India
- Initial higher costs, but higher benefits in terms of better and more sustainability
- Public finance is key as full costs cannot be borne by users
- Political drive to reform

Water For People, West Bengal
- Communities hiring professional mechanics for minor repairs
- Local government hiring the same for major repairs and monitoring

WASMO, Gujarat
- WASMO: “users are the best water managers”
- WASMO provides what communities need to be able to do so
- With strong support from local government

National Drinking Water Security Pilot Programme, Tamil Nadu
- Local government as public service providers with dedicated staff
- They get support from specialised NGOs
- Who also support communities in water security

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