

A typical arrangement for an apron slab and drainage

Organizations responsible for implementing water projects usually look for ways to reduce the unit cost of installations such as borehole-equipped handpumps.

The danger with a standard design that can reduce costs is that it may not be the most appropriate design for some situations. There may be factors (such as a large number of users, the type of soil, the topography, the local materials and skills available, or the presence of users with disabilities) that mean the standard design will not be appropriate.

Cutting costs unreasonably, or failing to ensure that an appropriate design is chosen and the slab is well-constructed, can result in the failure of the handpump, unpleasant conditions for users around the handpump or pollution of the water source.

Note that this illustration pictures a typical arrangement. It is not a blueprint of a standard design.

