

IAKWE

RMI National Water Summit

March 22nd - 23rd

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Clean Water for
Healthy Life



Prepared by: RMI EPA Water Quality Monitoring & CMI-Land Grant
Water Extension Program



Key Questions To Address:

- Describe the most important issues related to WQ in the RMI?...
- What efforts are being made to improve WQ and by whom?
- What are some goals and objectives to improve WQ in the coming years?
- What are the major needs for these efforts?
- Key questions for the Breakout Group to discuss?



Describe the most important issues related to WQ in the RMI?

- Water-Borne Diseases-Continues to be burden to RMI;
- Lack of Public Awareness on Water Quality Issues : More publications on water quality issues for schools, newspapers, & communities;
- Water Contamination of Drinking Water Sources (Bacteriological)-Privately Owned Rainwater tanks rarely cared for or periodic clean ups;
- Unregulated Water Supply Sources for Groundwater Lenses;
- RMIEPA Water Supply Regulation, 1994 – unrevised;
- Rationing of Water by the Public Water Supply System...Rationing of water creates low pressure in distribution pipes causing groundwater to intrude into pipes and contaminate public water supply;
- Lack of a local Water Engineer or Sanitary Engineer...



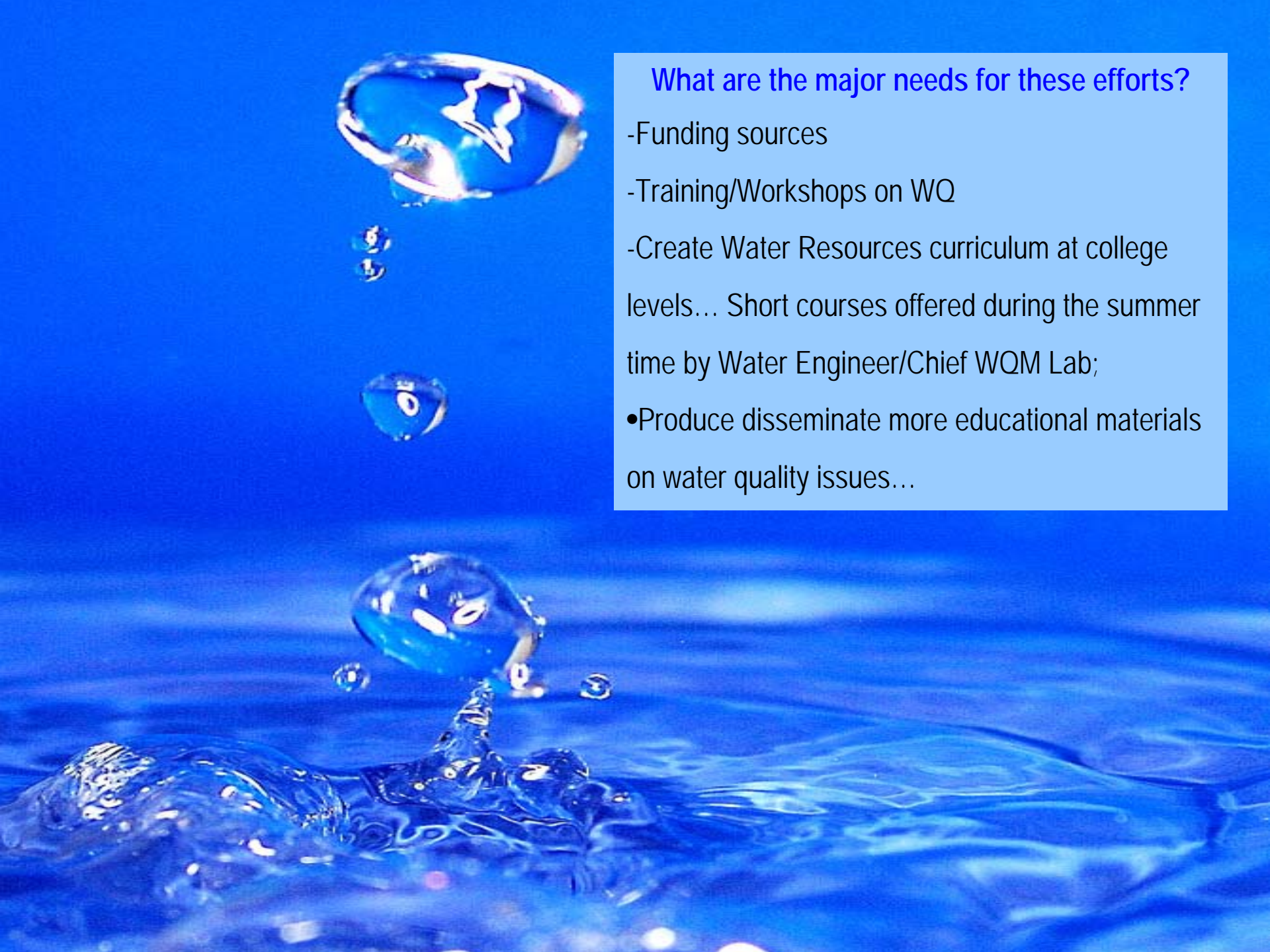
What efforts are being made to improve WQ and by whom?

- Upgrade and Certification of RMIEPA WQM Laboratory and Staffs – RMIEPA, USEPA/Guam EPA, SOPAC/WHO, ASEPA, FAS WQCB, CNMIDEQ...
- Established a Community-Based WQM Program for Outer Islands and for Individual Households –Sanitary Survey and the H₂S Test...RMIEPA, CMI/CRE; SOPAC/WHO, Local Governments;
- Assist in the development of Water Safety Plan for MWSC by: MWSC, RMIEPA, SOPAC/WHO;
- Certified Water Plant Operators for MWSC, RMIEPA, USEPA, GUAMEPA;
- **Water Quality awareness for schools, communities & churches by: EPA CMI-Land Grant WEP;**
- **Distribution of WQ brochures for schools & communities by EPA CMI-Land Grant WEP;**
- Provide testing and Monitoring of Private Water Sources– ice/bottled water producers, hotels and restaurants, schools by RMIEPA, CMI/CRE, SOPAC, WHO;
- Monitoring of groundwater resources;
- Laura & Delap Lenses... Outer island water quality testing...RMIEPA, SOPAC, JIRCAS;
- Development of a WQM Program for all Water Supply Sources;
- Implement the IWRM by RMIEPA, National and Local government, Land owners, SOPAC, GEF...



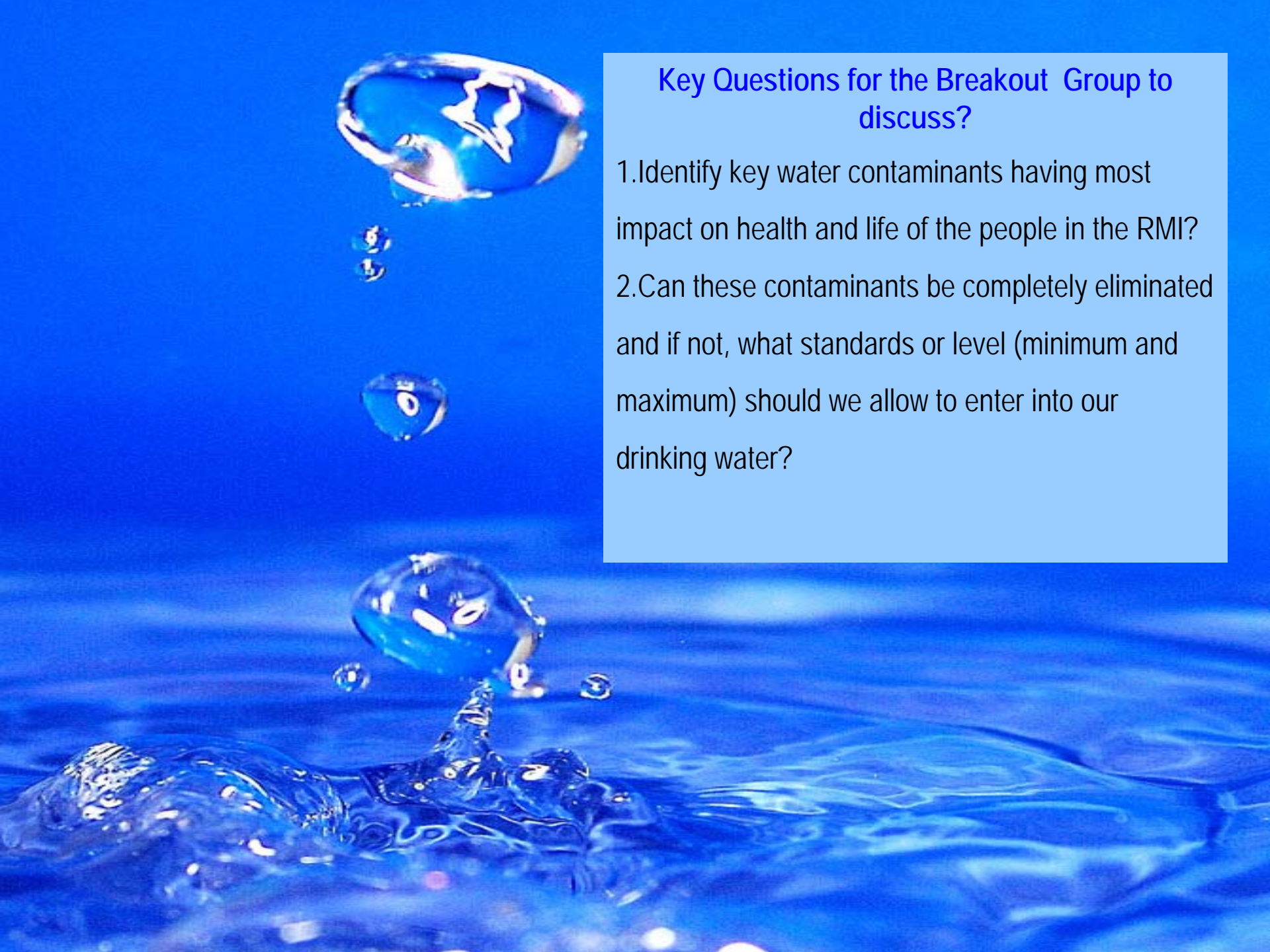
What are some goals and objectives to improve WQ in the coming years?

- To produce a Water Quality Monitoring Program for all Public Water Supplies and for Privately Owned Water sources;
- To submit WQ Monthly reports to be shared with newspaper for publication...To provide Updated data for planning and for decision makers;
- To ensure that all water supply sources are regulated, tested and monitored;
- WQ Test results are submitted to clients as soon as tests completed;
- To be able to drink public water supply directly from the tap;
- To utilize all possible means to make water quality data and information accessible for public dissemination or use;
- To ensure financial sustainability of water quality monitoring and testing...



What are the major needs for these efforts?

- Funding sources
- Training/Workshops on WQ
- Create Water Resources curriculum at college levels... Short courses offered during the summer time by Water Engineer/Chief WQM Lab;
- Produce disseminate more educational materials on water quality issues...



Key Questions for the Breakout Group to discuss?

1. Identify key water contaminants having most impact on health and life of the people in the RMI?
2. Can these contaminants be completely eliminated and if not, what standards or level (minimum and maximum) should we allow to enter into our drinking water?

Kommol/Thank You!

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