

Anders Jacobson, water harvester

Portrait / Christopher Hunt

→ [Stockholm's Anders Jacobson is finding planet-friendly solutions to global water scarcity](#)

According to Anders Jacobson, co-founder of Bluewater, "By 2050, world demand for drinking water will have increased by 50% and aquifers will have decreased by 40%." That's why he left a career in investment banking to work with "water-stressed" communities from Cape Town to Shanghai last year. "I realised what an impact you can have by doing almost the same thing but in a different environment," says the businessman. This year, he turned his attention to Sandhamn in the Stockholm archipelago,

where an influx of 600,000 summer visitors has typically meant supplies have been limited. "If you take too much out of the wells, salt water starts to leak into the aquifer," Jacobson explains. This summer, Bluewater 'harvested' 45,000 litres of drinking water per day by desalinating and decontaminating seawater so people didn't resort to importing it to the island in single-use plastic bottles. A neat solution to a local problem, and one that could have wider implications for all our futures. bluewatergroup.com