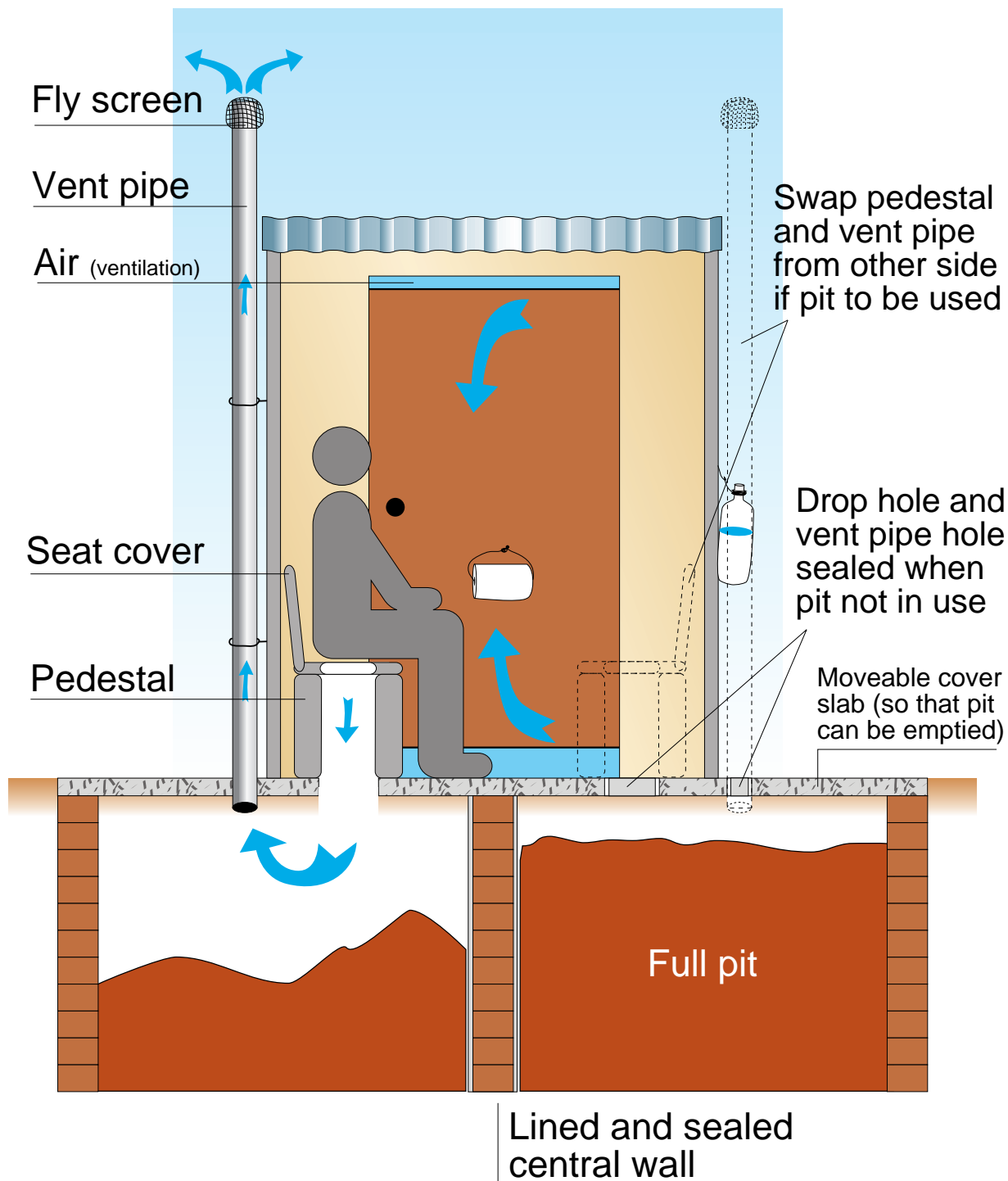


Ventilated Improved Double Pit (VIDP) toilet



A single top-structure over 2 shallow pits, side by side. Only one pit - vented by a pipe protected with a fly screen - is in use at any time. Generally lined and the central wall fully sealed to ensure isolation of one pit from the other.

Principles of operation	Operational and institutional requirements	Costs	Experience and comment
As for the VIP toilet. One pit is used until filled to within about half a metre of the top. The defecation and vent pipe holes are then completely sealed and the other pit used. The contents of the first pit are dug out after a period of <i>at least</i> two years, once the contents have become less harmful.	As for the VIP toilet, except that promotion of manual emptying by the householder is usual, and use of decomposed waste as a soil conditioner possible. Suitable disposal site necessary.	Capital: R2 500-R4 500 depending on householder input. Operating: R35-R135 every 2 years depending on local government involvement, householder willingness to handle waste, disposal options.	Resistance to handling of decomposed waste and timely changeover of pits by householders has often been overcome through education and over time - both internationally and in SA. This VIP alternative is often applicable where rocky or groundwater conditions prohibit deep excavation.