



Adopt a village water harvesting

Budget: \$50,600 for Year 6. \$37,070 funded, currently requiring \$13,530 in funds.

Update:

This project has been providing clean water solutions for villages in southern Kalimantan who rely on extremely polluted river water for all their water needs. Our partner has been working with 75 of the neediest villages in the area, surveying the villages, undertaking sanitation and hygiene training and putting in enough rain water tanks to stimulate desire for the entire village to have access to clean water sources. A repair and advice hotline is also staffed, to ensure the systems are maintained. Villagers pay for maintenance and if the repair is simple, they also carry it out.

In this six month period, the focus continued to be on clean water, sanitation and public health. In the past, our partners primarily focused on clean drinking water only. As they grow and establish foundations for trust, integrity and respect, they are excited to be expanding the sanitation and public health aspect of the project.

As they grow, costs increase. Instead of rely on additional international income, our partners are building a local donor base by partnering with the local government. This is not easy as it is not what normally happens in this area but by setting a new standard, our partners are putting the ownership and responsibility back into the local government's hands. Through government invitation, our partners have opportunities to speak with many local businesses who give to the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) funding in the area. They are building partnerships with these businesses so that they can use their CSR money for local projects. One example is a bank manager at a local branch who is using their CSR dollars to create a savings program to help villages save so that they can use their own money to pay for the infrastructure necessary for drinking water and sanitation.



Recently, our partners had a very positive response to their work which. They had installed a large system and 8 smaller systems for drinking water in a village. The federal government came through and built another system which is expensive and ineffective as it only provides non-potable water for bathing and washing. The federal government employees were telling the villagers that rain water was bad for them and that they shouldn't drink it. The village people told them that our partner's system was working well and that they preferred it. This led to some tension but gave our partner the opportunity to meet with the head of the government program in the city. Because a relationship had already been established, they were able to look together at how they could incorporate our partner's program into the federal program for the area.

Thank you for your part in providing clean water and hygiene education to people so desperately in need of it.