



# Providing Clean Water in the Philippines

Bunog is a rural farming community that is one of the few remaining parcels of land in Canlubang that are awaiting development. Historically, the region has been in a contested state of ownership between large corporations and small, independent farmers. Today, the community farming families are challenged with pressure to leave their farms and homes. Their financial and political position makes life difficult here.

A deep well is the source for water in both the village and school. The well is far from the village, and the village is very difficult to reach. There is no electricity here, so the school and only a few of the homes use only a solar panel, while others depend on candles at night. The people here are very poor, with some households earning less than the US equivalent of \$150 per month. The combination of economic poverty and remote water access makes it impossible for families here to buy filtered water. With the Planet Water Foundation AquaTower and hygiene education programs, the students and families of Bunog will soon find relief from their difficult circumstances.



## BUNTOG Bunog Elementary School

Number of Students: 237

GPS Coordinates: 14.191191, 121.12524

Village Population: 2,000 (approx)

Number of Households: 489 (approx)

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## *Proximity of Contaminated Deep Well Preferred Shortest Path to Water Access*

The nearest purified water station is 12km away from the village. Because it is very far, the people just drink from the deep well, which results to high incidents of diarrhea.

Elena, a 68-year-old villager, explained that she walks 1.5km to get to the deep well every other day to fetch water. Even though the line is very long, she patiently waits for her turn because there is no other source of water.



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Planet Water Foundation is a U.S.-based non-profit that develops strategic partnerships that support Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts that align with four of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Quality Education; Gender Equality; Reduced Inequalities; and Clean Water and Sanitation. Project 24 programs and initiatives support these four SDGs with longitudinal support in each community for five years. Project 24 is Planet Water Foundation's World Water Day advocacy and engagement platform around the world's critical need to solve water poverty since its inception in 2015.



*"The water from our deep well is for washing purposes only. I reprimand my students if they drink it since it is not safe, but I still catch a lot of them drinking it because they couldn't buy purified water. I am not surprised that there are many reports of amoebiasis and diarrhea - not just among children but adults as well."*

*-Jobert, 3rd Grade Teacher*

*"Because of poverty, 75% of the students are not properly nourished. As much as we want to provide them with clean drinking water, our finances could not accommodate this need."*

*-Belen, School Headmaster*



*"I am a solo parent earning 7,000 pesos (135 USD) a month. I have three children and I just let them drink water from the deep well most of the time because I can not afford purified water."*

*-Marge, a Mother in the community*

