



Providing Clean Water in the **Philippines**

Located southwest of San Juan along one of the tributary rivers that make up the Lobo River lies Calantas, a small rural community where most houses are made of bamboo, rattan and scrap wood. Residents here work hard to earn a modest living by raising animals, managing grazing lands and farming. Because of its mountainous location, transportation is difficult and expensive; making travel to purchase goods or services nearly impossible.

The nearby upper Lobo river tributary is very important to the village because most people go there to do laundry and bathe. At the same time, women and children collect water for drinking and then carry buckets or containers back to their homes or school. A few households, and the school as well, have electric-powered pipes connecting from the river; but the electricity supply is not dependable. No electricity - no water. During Project 24, Planet Water Foundation will provide an AquaTower water filtration system and hygiene education programs that will help change behaviors that can improve health by changing hygiene practices.



CALANTAS Calantas Elementary School

Number of Students: 237

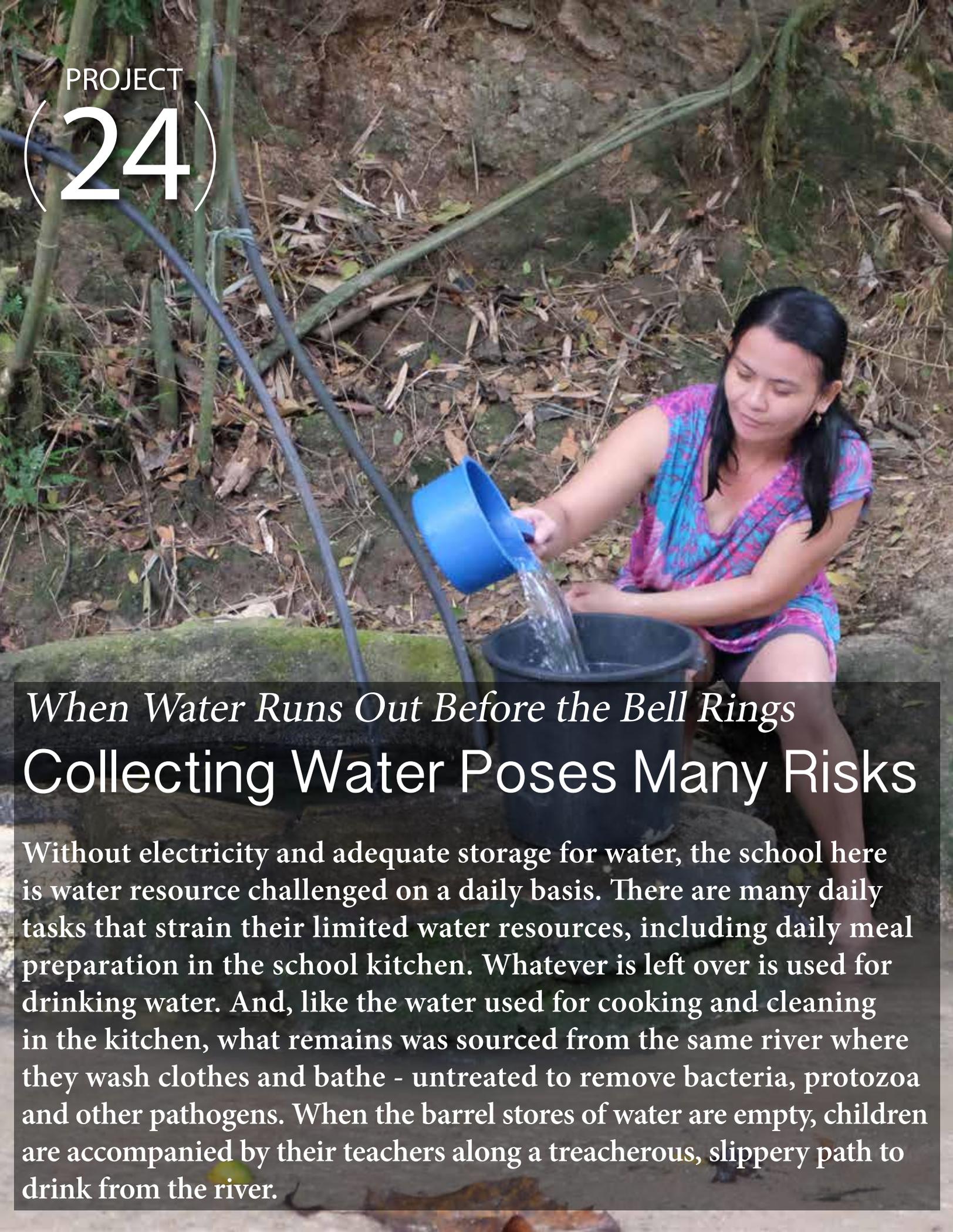
GPS Coordinates: 13.734, 121.314

Village Population: 795 (approx)

Number of Households: 198 (approx)

PROJECT
(24)

PROJECT
(24)



When Water Runs Out Before the Bell Rings Collecting Water Poses Many Risks

Without electricity and adequate storage for water, the school here is water resource challenged on a daily basis. There are many daily tasks that strain their limited water resources, including daily meal preparation in the school kitchen. Whatever is left over is used for drinking water. And, like the water used for cooking and cleaning in the kitchen, what remains was sourced from the same river where they wash clothes and bathe - untreated to remove bacteria, protozoa and other pathogens. When the barrel stores of water are empty, children are accompanied by their teachers along a treacherous, slippery path to drink from the river.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



“We have no electric-powered pipe at home because the fee of 4 dollars a month is too much. Every Sunday, my sister and I wash our clothes in the river, which is a 45-minute walk. We also fetch water there for our daily consumption such as drinking.”

-Chris, 11 Years Old

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.



“Hand washing is not a usual practice by most children. It is challenging to teach them hygiene habits since we have limited water supply in school. Furthermore, the school has no funds to provide soap for them on a regular basis.”

-Roxanne, 3rd Grade Teacher



“My husband collects bamboo and I chop them to make barbecue sticks. I get to sell them at 10 bundles a day for a total of 2 dollars. We spend it mostly on food for our four children. We do not buy bottled water because we can’t afford the extra expense. Our family just drinks from the water from the river.”

-Erlinda

