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## Providing Clean Water in **Cambodia**

Lvea is a typical rural village remotely situated to the southeast of Kampong Speu Province, approximately 62 kilometers from the closest provincial town. More than half of the local population lives below the poverty line, and without access to clean water and health care services. The villagers generate their income from planting rice, raising animals and from crop subsistence agriculture. Economic need has forced some to migrate away from the village to find work. The existing infrastructure in the area is limited, and not favorable for people to improve their living conditions; however, this seems routine to the local villagers in this area and they continue to follow their family traditions and culture under challenging conditions.

The primary school, Norea Rum, is located in the middle of the village. The school has one hand-pump well and a near-by pond, which has water for year-round use, and is the only source being used by the students and the villagers. There are also some ponds in the village, but they dry out during the dry season. The most wanted and needed thing for the people in this village is clean water.



### LVEA VILLAGE Norea Rum Primary School

Number of Students: 213

GPS Coordinates: 11.354833, 104.734484

Village Population: 526

Number of Households: 101

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*"Everyday my parents have to carry water back home after spending the day working in the rice field. I must help them to collect water from the pond to fill my water jar at home. Sometimes I came late to school and my teacher blamed me for coming late."*

## *A Child's Challenges with Attending School*

# Water Collection and Diseases

Kimsean, a 10 year-old, fourth-grade student is the oldest child in her family. She has the responsibility of walking a long distance from her house to her school everyday, but early in the morning, everyday before school, she has to help her parents collect water to fill the water jar at their house. Kimsean's learning progress is lagging and she is not the only student faced with challenges that limit school attendance. She and other student are negatively impacted by the time that water collection takes during their day, and often suffer from diarrhea and skin diseases because the water used for drinking is contaminated and untreated. The school has a well, but it is old and the water is contaminated. The biggest priority for the village is making the water in the school safe for their children and to use the water produced by the Planet Water AquaTower to sustain the surrounding community.

Featured: A pond used for drinking and household needs nearby Kimsean's home outside of Lvea Village. Water is collected in small buckets and carried daily to her home.



# 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.



*“I have to carry water all the way from the well and pond to my house on a daily basis. We have encountered many challenges living here, but the big challenge for us is clean water. We want to have clean water first as this is the most importance thing for our daily life.”*

*- Mrs. Sum Sokhun, 42, Local Villager*

*“Here we have no clean water for our students. The water here is not safe for drinking without treatment, we have to boil it first before drinking. Our students have to sort this out by themselves. We have encountered many water-borne illnesses among our students and this has impacted our school attendance when they are sick.”*

*- Mr. York Bunrun, School Headmaster*



*“The village is always faced with the lack of water supply and many children have to help their parents in collecting water. This has impacted our school attendance and their learning progress when they are absent from their class.”*

*- Mr. Un Sam At, Grade 3 Teacher*

