



Providing Clean Water in the Philippines

Milanao is located high on the mountain of Batangas, a region with terrain so difficult it is nearly impossible to access without a four-wheel-drive truck – especially during the rainy season because of the slippery slopes. Villagers earn a meager income growing livestock and planting crops that grow in the high mountain regions of the Philippines. A few families sell wood and charcoal – both valued commodities. Renting motorcycles is expensive, so they typically transport their products by foot to the lowland and make the long return walking up the slippery hillside.

Communication presents challenges because cell phone signals are unreliable or non-existent, so they often travel to the next village to make calls or send text messages.

Most students walk from their homes to the school. There is not enough water in school, so they carry containers from their homes. The water they drink is from the river. With an AquaTower from Planet Water and Xylem Watermark, their supply of clean, filtered water will be dependable; a rare situation for these families.



MALINAO Malinao Elementary School

Number of Students: 183

GPS Coordinates: 13.845, 121.204

Village Population: 726 (approx)

Number of Households: 179 (approx)

PROJECT
(24)

PROJECT

(24)



An Impossible Situation with Few Alternatives

Where The River Gives and Takes

Living in a remote and far-flung area, the people struggle with poverty. With an average monthly income of 60 dollars (USD), families cannot afford purified drinking water. Instead, they collect water from the river where they also do their laundry and bathe. There are cases of waterborne diseases among children, but these are often neglected because of a lack of transportation, communication and other basic necessities.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



“Almost half of our students are malnourished. We hope to have clean water not just for them to drink whenever they are in school, but also for us to use it in cooking for our feeding program.”

-Elizabeth



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.



“My 2-year-old sister always has a tummy ache because of the drinking water. Some grown-ups say that the water from the river is good for drinking. However, my guess is it gets contaminated when we carry it to our home.”

-Efren, 12 years old



“We had two goats, but my husband sold them because one of our five children was hospitalized. If only we have clean drinking water, our children would become healthier and grow better.”

-Fe, a Mother from the community