



Providing Clean Water in the **Philippines**

Located in the lower lands of Pangasinan province, Salincaoet is a small farming community that faces deep economic poverty and water contamination issues. A deep well is the water source for the village and its school. The water is not safe for drinking, but very few families can afford purified water, so they drink anyway, knowing the water makes them sick and prevents their children from reaching their full potential.

Rice has been the most important crop grown on the flat marsh wetlands here. The typhoon of 2015 devastated rice crops in rural Pangasinan. The families of Salincaoet are still recovering economically, and progress has been slowed because swelling storm waters charged groundwaters with more contaminants. By bringing Planet Water Foundation's AquaTower water filtration system here, the quality of drinking water will dramatically change while significantly reducing dependence upon contaminated wells. Installation of the system at the elementary school will provide safe water at school for children and the entire community.



SALINCAOET Salincaoet Elementary School

Number of Students: 323

GPS Coordinates: 15.946793, 120.2023713

Village Population: 1,373 (approx)

Number of Households: 240 (approx)

PROJECT
(24)



PROJECT

(24)

Well, Well, Well

Contamination at the Source, Too

Most villagers think rust on the old water pipes, in the deep well at the school and nearby homes contaminates the water. Ms. Lirio, a first-grade teacher, explains that she buys purified water for her students because she knows that it is dangerous for the children to drink unclean water. There have been incidents of waterborne amoeba in the school water, which is why she buys at least 2 gallons per week for her classroom. The school does not have a budget for purified water, so she pays for the water from her salary. Some parents contribute for this expense, but not on a regular basis because the majority of families are living below the poverty line.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



“About a third of the children are malnourished. We include them in the school feeding program and it would be of great help if we would be able to provide them with clean drinking water regularly as well.”

-Thelma

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 father passed away when I was three while my mother left our home for unknown reasons. My brother and I are left with our grandmother who is already sickly. She couldn’t work anymore, so we get by each day through the generosity of our neighbors. We drink water from the deep well even if it is not safe because we have no choice.”

-Tin-tin, 6th grade



“I buy purified water for my 3-month-old baby. However, my older children just drink water from the deep well. My husband’s income is not enough to provide safe water for all of us.”

-Bella

