Between the Indian and Pacific Oceans is the archipelago island nation of Indonesia – acclaimed for pristine resort beaches and lush green tropical forested volcanic mountains that produce robust coffee beans. Indonesia is not only an island between two oceans, it is separated by extremes of natural beauty and other areas where refuse is cast aside by islanders who unintentionally pollute water supplies when doing so.

Families are in a constant state of pursuit – for work, water and assistance to change their conditions. Work that was once nearby has been replaced with makeshift jobs in distant locations for adults, and the children are becoming ill from waterborne diseases that are invading well water that drink without boiling in school. Their outlook is surprisingly positive given the radical changes produced by unforgiving shaking ground and rubble that lines the streets as far as the eye can see.

Water is collected by adults and children alike who walk 5-6 kilometers daily, and what they collect is from rivers since most wells were damaged from the earthquake. Rainwater is trapped during rainy season by those without well access. Whatever their source of water, it is untreated and contaminated by either the environment or storage containers that are unclean or used for multiple purposes without proper washing and sanitization between uses.

The Lombok education system is challenged with teachers in rural community schools who lack the knowledge and resources to provide health and hygiene education to students. The result is an endless cycle of generations who throw garbage into rivers, live in dirty environments and use unsanitary bathrooms. Education is the cornerstone if the tide is to turn in Indonesia and the Lombok area.
MI MTs Maraqitta’Limat School

Columbia provides clean, safe drinking water access and hygiene education in rural Lombok school

“The school does not have access to clean water for drinking. The only access to water is from the river which is channeled to residents’ homes and schools through a ditch near the school. School and residents around the school always accommodate the river water to meet our daily needs. As for drinking and other needs, it is very difficult to get clean water, so teachers and students are forced to use existing water. My hope is that our school can get safe, healthy and clean water sanitation equipment (suitable for consumption).”

Ruslan Hadi, Spd, Headmaster
MI MTs Maqaritta’Limat is the local junior elementary school located in Sidutan Hamlet, Kayangan District, North Lombok Regency, West Nusa Tenggara Province.

The Sidutan Hamlet has a total of 527 families with a total of 2,108 people who live near the school. Local residents earn their living as construction workers, farm laborers in the fields, and as ranchers.

The water source at the school comes from a river after the well at the school was covered with rocks and damaged as a result of the August 2018 earthquake. Even today, the school is in the process of repairing the well, but the task will take some time under difficult conditions. Likewise, with the people in the hamlet of Sidutan, they have utilized the existing river water for all their daily needs such as; drinking, bathing, washing vegetables, and toilet facilities. Schools and local communities do not have access to clean water. Therefore, they use unsanitary water devices and systems to move water from rivers to the schools.

Filtering river water source after 2018 earthquake devastation will speed recovery efforts for local school and community

<p>| WEST NUSA TENGARA |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MI MTs Maraqitta’Limat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Students: 115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPS Coordinates: 8.2785, 116.2473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Population: 527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Households: 2,108</td>
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</tbody>
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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.

Since 2015, Project 24 is Planet Water Foundation’s World Water Day advocacy and engagement platform that focuses on the world’s critical need to bring an end to water poverty.

“My name is Amelia. Every day I bring a water bottle from home to the school. If I forget to bring it, I drink the river water directly from the taps. In my school, we don’t have safe, clean water. Since the well water in the school was damaged by the earthquake, it is difficult for me and my friend to get water. Sometimes, my friends and I have to go home early because of heartburn from drinking the water.”

Amelia Putri, fifth grade student
“We do not have access to clean water. The source of water that is used every day is water from rivers. Bathing, washing and for our daily needs all use river water. For drinking and cooking needs, we have to wait in the afternoon to get clear water, because in the morning until noon, the river water is turbid with a yellow color. My deep hope is that we can get clean and safe water assistance for the needs of our residents. Because, since the earthquake struck our village, it was very minimal and very difficult to get access to clean water.”

Mr. M, Fauzi, Village Chief