

# PROVISION OF CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION IN TURATEA VILLAGE, JENEPONTO, SOUTH SULAWESI

Penyediaan air bersih dan sanitasi di Desa Jenetallasa, Jenepono, Sulawesi Selatan

**Area:** Kampong La'buwa, Dsn. Mattirobaji, Ds. Jenetallasa, Jenepono, South Sulawesi

**NGO:** Lembaga Swadaya Masyarakat Mitra Turatea

## **Background**

The lack of potable water is the main problem faced by the community in the village of Jenetallasa - Bangkala - Jenepono. This project aims to solve the problem by increasing the access of the community to potable water and by establishing a community water committee to manage the water system. There are two main outputs expected of the project, that is to build a well functioning water supply system in La'buwa hamlet, Jenetallasa village, and to establish two water committees in Panaikang dan Matirobaji hamlet of Jenetallasa to assist in maintaining the system. This project will provide benefits to 1,375 people (275 households).

The focus group discussion for the case study was held with six male and two female respondents along with two NGO representatives. A funeral taking place that day meant that many in the community were busy.

The respondents came from two neighbouring hamlets – Dusun Mattirobaji and Dusun Panaikang – which were identified by the residents of Desa Jenetallasa as the most needy hamlets.

According to the respondents the two hamlets suffered from acute lack of water during the dry season. Women and children were forced to walk at least a kilometre to the nearest wells. During the dry season it was difficult to obtain water from the wells because the source was extremely low. Changes in weather patterns meant there was much less rainfall than in years past.

Residents rely on one crop per year of corn and rice, however respondents said this was not enough to see families through to the next crops. As a result, many men left the village to find work elsewhere either as labourers or as rickshaw drivers in Makassar, the South Sulawesi capital.

The respondents said they felt that they had ownership over the programme and more control over the funding. Previously, money had been available through government funding schemes however respondents said the money did not necessarily go to the neediest. Both men and women said that before this programme women had not been involved in the decision-making process.



*Boring for clean water*

## Case Study 1

### Two hamlets work together with a common cause

Bapak Abdul Latif Lailang, Dusun Mattirobaji



In the barren hinterland of South Sulawesi, residents from the small hamlet (*dusun*) of Mattirobaji believe they have finally found their voice. When directly involved in identifying their needs the chorus was universal – clean water.

“This is different from the other programmes we have had here,” said Abdul Latif Lailang, 34. “Before the money would twist and turn and always end up in the hands of certain people – such as those on good terms with the village head. But this time we decided as a community how the money should be used.”

Abdul Latief, a farmer and father of three, represents one of 300 families from two neighbouring hamlets who are hoping to benefit from the construction of a new well. Mattirobaji suffers from near-drought conditions every hot season. Women and children walk a kilometre each way to collect water from dwindling water sources, while many of the men head for the capital of Makassar to work as rickshaw drivers in order to

help their families through the tough months.

Very little grows in the hot season – some chillies; the odd crop of spinach (*kangkung*) – and while the wet season brings one crop of rice it is not enough to sustain a family for a year. Corn remains the staple crop for people in this region.

Abdul Latief believes a new enthusiasm has emerged in Mattirobaji since the arrival of local NGO *Lembaga Swadaya Masyarakat Mitra Turatea* in 2003. Using the ACCESS project’s CLAPP (Community Led Assessment and Planning Process) methodology, the NGO conducted a major assessment in the region and then called the community together to allow them to prioritise the needs in the village. Women and the poor were targeted in the process.

“We feel like we own this program,” Abdul Latief said. “The community decided what they wanted and a lot of people were more confident about speaking out at meetings.”

Abdul Latief was a member of the first implementation group to be formed as part of the programme. He said clean water was the major issue for people in the village because only four houses had access to their own wells. As a precious resource in the dry months, water (or lack of it) has often emerged as a source of inter-village conflict. But Abdul Latief said the *Mitra Turatea* program had brought two hamlets together with a common cause and instilled a greater ethos in working together (a concept known in Indonesia as *gotong royong*).

Abdul Latief said he believed the community had been empowered through this programme and residents were now waiting to see how successful the new water source will be. The community has already decided to establish small management groups (of about 10 households each) to ensure that the water is evenly shared and used for the maximum benefit of the community.

Meanwhile, the community wants to ensure that it has more say in future programmes.

“If there are any future programs here, either from ACCESS or from the government, we will call all the community together to plan how best to implement the program,” Abdul Latief said.

(South Sulawesi 24/08/04)



Diana and Salmah with other women participated in the Focus Group Discussion

### **Air.....**

Ketiadaan Air bersih adalah salah satu masalah di desa Jennetallasa yang sangat kering dan berbatu-batu. Sebagian besar masyarakat, terutama perempuan harus berjalan 1-2 km untuk mengambil air dengan memikul 2 jerigen 10 literan, bolak-balik 2 kali pagi subuh dan 2 kali pada sore hari. Air tersebut hanya cukup untuk memasak dan mencuci piring saja. Untuk mandi, mereka lakukan di sumur. Mereka juga harus mencari kayu api 2-3 kali / minggu ke hutan dan kebun .

Rusdiana , biasa dipanggil Diana (27 tahun), adalah seorang ibu dengan 1 anak umur 3 tahun dan saat ini hamil 5 bulan, lulusan SMEA tahun 1996. Dia menikah pada tahun 1999 di dusun Mattirobajo, desa Jennetallasa, dengan seorang petani yang mencari penghasilan tambahan sebagai tukang beca di Makassar pada musim kering. Diana adalah Kader Posyandu yang juga menjadi bendahara dari kelompok implementasi kegiatan pengadaan air bersih di desa Jennetallasa yang telah direncanakan bersama dengan LSM Mitra Turatea dan didukung ACCESS. Mengenai proses kegiatannya, Diana mengatakan beberapa hal berikut ini.

“Bangga dan senang meskipun belum mendapatkan manfaat saat ini, serasa air sudah akan diperoleh”.

“Dalam beberapa proyek sebelumnya masyarakat tidak bisa mengontrol hasilnya, bagaimana pembagiannya, tidak terkontrol. Mudah-mudahan tidak terulang lagi karena dulu orang-orang tertentu saja yang terlibat. Sekarang semua terlibat, apalagi orang miskin juga terlibat”.

“Saya berharap kalau air sudah tersedia, kita dapat memanfaatkan waktu luangnya untuk mendapatkan penghasilan tambahan, untuk membantu suami misalnya, menjual baju, menganyam atau pekerjaan yang lain”.