

Case study: Ravisoa

Meet Ravisoa, Ravisoa is the head of her household, a single mother of 4 children, 3 of which are under the age of 5. She lives in Esiasia, a small village in rural south-eastern Madagascar. Just like a lot of mums across the world, every day Ravisoa does a lot for her kids; she cleans the house, washes the clothes, cooks the dinner and as she doesn't have a running tap, she even collects all the water for them. However, the well in Ravisoa's community is broken and water can no longer be drawn from it. So, every day Ravisoa walks to the river to collect water for her and her family.



What Ravisoa doesn't know is the fact that the water she collects each day from the river is probably contaminated with faeces, parasites and other diseases, which is probably the reason that diarrhoea isn't just a regular occurrence in her household, but is a way of life. Ravisoa's children have diarrhoea almost on a weekly basis. In 2015 3,665 children died due to diarrhoea (WASH Watch, 2015). Diarrhoeal disease is the second biggest killer of children worldwide (WHO, 2016) and those mostly affected are those like Ravisoa's children; those who don't have access to safe drinking water and have no other choice than to use an unsafe drinking water source.

Through our project, we hope to repair Ravisoa's community well so it provides long-term access to safe drinking water for her, her family and her community. This improved and sustained access will significantly reduce instances of diarrhoea and malnutrition in her community.