

Sponsoring a Bore Well

Rural Water Supply



Introduction

The needs of India are unique. Nowhere else in the world does population growth and poverty play such a large role in affecting water management. This reflects the importance of providing for basic human needs to ensure that the livelihoods of all can be improved. In India, poverty and reduced access to safe water resources has limited the ability of the poor to improve their situation, which has only served to perpetuate the poverty cycle, especially among rural populations and women.

Providing clean drinking water (by installation of bore wells) is seen as essential for survival in these areas. Hand pumps are preferred where the electricity supply is not reliable. This project aligns well with our goals of assisting to reduce rural poverty and improving the health of the rural population.

Sustainable Development

The rural water supply Project represents an effective model of sustainable development, between Kamla Foundation and its partners, identifying villages in need of improved water supplies. The idea is that the villagers then take ownership of and maintenance of the completed hand pumps. Our partners will provide key technical expertise to locate the best sites, supervise construction, certify the water as satisfactory for drinking purposes, and provide on-going related support.

Training

In parallel to the above, the Foundation also allocates a training budget to educate community members on how to maintain their new water source, and will organise public health campaigns for hand pump beneficiaries emphasising the need for basic hygiene and sanitation. Healthcare workers from the district will come to these meetings and provide information on the safe use of water, the need to avoid water stagnation around the pump, and the importance of hygiene in its vicinity. Sustainability is key and we strongly believe in these community training programs, as they drastically improve the long-term effectiveness of the well.

After the bore well is installed, the Government Department will test the water for contaminants. Once certified, the hand pump is then turned over to the local villagers.

Management Committee for the Bore Well



Given that it is mainly the women who manage the daily household water needs, they will provide the membership for the Management Committee who will take ownership of and maintain the completed water well.

Their duties will include protecting the pipe, regularly cleaning the surrounding areas of the well, and to

perform minor repairs and maintenance, for which they will receive training. In addition the women will work with public health campaigns for the villagers providing information on the safe use of water, the need to avoid water stagnation around the pump, and the importance of hygiene in its vicinity.

Sponsor a Well

Over the last year a 'spin off' from the rural water supply project has seen the demand rise for 'legacy wells'. From as far afield as Singapore and Canada, we have had special requests to install a bore well in memory of a loved one. Building a well is an everlasting memorial tribute to the departed person and is a lovely way for family and friends to remember their loved ones and in turn support the work of the Foundation.

The completed bore well will benefit villagers in the following ways;

- Helping beneficiaries to get safe, dependable water close to their doorsteps
- Reduces the drudgery of hauling water from open wells and rivers
- Halves the time formerly needed to fetch daily water supplies for household chores
- allows for greater time for more productive activities such as day labourer childcare.
- Dramatic reduction in water-related diseases once the hand pumps go in to operation.
- simple technology means that the hand pumps can be easily operated and maintained by the local villagers.

The total cost is £1350 to fully install a bore well inclusive of all labour and materials and will be co-managed by the FORD Trust.



Example of plaque

What the Sponsor receives;

- progression the search for an appropriate site for the installation of a bore well and regular updates thereafter.
- a permanent plaque (as illustrated above) which will be erected on the hand pump with the inscription as wished by the family.
- An invitation to visit the bore well at any time. The visit will be facilitated by our partner in India, the FORD Trust.
- A full Report highlighting the plight of the villagers before and after the installation of the hand pump and indeed the difference the bore well will have made to their lives.



A completed hand pump sponsored by a family in Singapore