

Hanging

with Ariyanto in Indonesia

Hi, my name is Ariyanto. I am 13 years old and in Year 6 at school. I live with my parents and four younger sisters in a village between two hills called Lingu Lango. My village is on an island called West Sumba, just near East Timor.

You might not believe this but even though I live on a small island surrounded by water, I had to walk four kilometres to get clean, fresh water for my family. I made the trip twice every day - in the morning and in the afternoon. After I took the water back to my home in the morning, I walked two kilometres to reach my school. With all that walking I was often late for school and when I got there I was so tired that I found it hard to concentrate. I didn't do very well in my lessons.

After school I had to collect more water and help my parents do the chores. I didn't have much time to play with my friends and do my homework.

My life changed a lot when World Vision and our community leaders fixed the broken water pipes and laid new ones. World Vision also made sure that people in the village learnt how to repair the pipes if they get damaged again.

Now I don't have to walk four kilometres to collect a bucket of water. I can get clean water by walking 30 metres from home. There is enough water for everyone.

We now have a lot more time to play. I am not late to school anymore and I have time to do my homework. I've also been going to a World Vision study club in the afternoon to help me catch up with the work I have missed.





A hut near Ariyanto's family field.



Atiyanto gets water for his family from a pump near his home.



Ariyanto in class. He likes school and can concentrate on his lessons.