

Anatercia

Mozambique



Anatercia is a 12-year-old girl living in a small village in southern Mozambique. After her father passed away and her mother became incapacitated due to chronic health issues, life became a daily struggle.

Anatercia moved in with her elderly grandparents and began to take on more and more adult responsibilities. She did most of the household chores and had to walk up to five hours every day to collect clean water. Water scarcity also meant that harvests were poor and there was never enough to eat.

With your support, Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Regional Chokwe, helped Anatercia's community to install a gravity irrigation system on their farm, as well as water taps in the village.

Now, Anatercia can easily access clean drinking water, community members are able to grow healthy crops all year round, and there is enough nutritious food to eat. Anatercia no longer needs to walk long distances for water and has more time to study so that she can fulfil her dream of becoming a nurse one day.



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Photo: Emidio Josine.

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Maria

Tanzania



Maria lives in a village in northern Tanzania, in a region with long-term food and water insecurity. With little way of earning a sustainable income, it was a daily struggle for Maria and her husband to feed their young family. Maria had to walk a **four-kilometre** round trip to fetch water her household.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Diocese of Mbulu Development Department (DMDD), Maria's community was able to install a new borehole closer to the village so that they no longer have to walk long distances to access safe, clean water. Improved irrigation also boosted food production, enabling Maria's family to have enough to eat all year round, as well as increasing their income.

"We have increased happiness in our family as we are able to fulfil basic needs," Maria says. "In the future, I would like have a dairy cow, to build a good house and I want my children to do well in school so they can get good jobs and have a good future."

Photo: August Lucky.



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Margret

Solomon Islands

Margret teaches students who are deaf at a vocational school in the Solomon Islands. Margret was born deaf herself, so she knows the challenges many of her students face in pursuing their education and employment.

An ongoing challenge for students at her school was sourcing water. The school's four small tanks always ran out of water during the dry season. This meant that the school had a shortage of water for half the year. Students and teachers had to walk off campus, twice every day, to collect water.

With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school was able to install water tanks, repair school property and help to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Now, the school can maintain its own water supply and is also boosting food security by increasing its agricultural production.

"Water is always available now for drinking, washing, bathing, gardening. Water is so important for our life, our music and our culture," Margret said.



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Salin

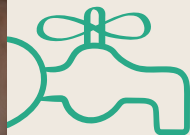
Cambodia



29-year-old Salin is a mother and a principal of a primary school in rural Cambodia. Like many families in her village, Salin faced constant water shortages which made it difficult to provide safe drinking water for her daughter. Salin's family struggled to regularly access clean drinking water, with the nearest water well over **1.5 kilometres** from their village. Children at her school also regularly missed school because of waterborne diseases.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partners in Cambodia, Salin and her community constructed a water station near her school to supply clean water to people in her community. Children at her school are healthier and less likely to miss school because they can access clean water, handwash, and toilet facilities. Salin's community voted her to be the chairperson of her village's water station committee and she is now leading her community to ensure clean water for all.

"I am proud that I can help the community have access to water," Salin said.



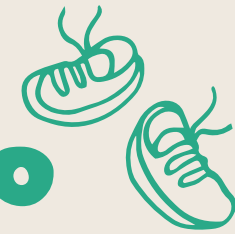
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Thandolwayo

zimbabwe



Life in her village in north-western Zimbabwe wasn't easy for 12 year old Thandolwayo.

Every morning Thandolwayo would walk **7 kilometres** and risk being attacked by crocodiles as she collected contaminated water for her family. She'd then go to school feeling exhausted.

Thandolwayo's hope to be a nurse seemed almost impossible to realise, until Caritas Hwange helped the village to install two solar powered pumps and two 10,000 litre water storage tanks. The pumps draw the water up from the river to the storage tanks.

Thanks to Caritas' support, water is now on tap in the village, benefitting the whole community - and Thandolwayo can concentrate on her education.

"Now I can bathe every day, the distance to collect water for the family has been reduced," Thandolwayo says. ***"We now drink clean, safe water and diseases are no longer affecting us."***

The plentiful water supply has also triggered new ventures. Water is being used to mould bricks for building houses and to pound maize to sell. Plans are underway to establish a community garden and a fish pond, to generate a better income.

Photo: Richard Wainwright.



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