**Prompt 7: What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?**

Introduced to a community service in Kei Island, a remote island in Maluku, Indonesia by my dad, it was not a surprise that I willingly took up that opportunity. I was briefed by Dr Vanessa, head of the doctorSHARE compound, for an introduction of the island. “....and many locals are experiencing diarrhoea, possibly coming from their consumption…” stated Dr Vanessa. Being a water geek, I jumped at this chance to ask about the water condition there. Although she wasn't sure, she claimed that their water contained white residues.

It goes without saying that this information piqued my interest. Asking for several litres of water sample to be sent to Jakarta, I tested the water at the Indonesian Government’s water testing facility and discovered that it contained high calcium carbonate levels. “A water filter would definitely help to reduce the contaminants!”, my brain thought. I consulted with a water specialist to ask for his advice on the water filter’s layers.

I spent several weeks prototyping the water filter and testing it out on the Kei Island’s water sample. When the filtered water was retested in the lab, the percentage of contaminants did actually drop.

When I reached the island, I explained my findings and the effectiveness of the water filter to the residents of the doctorSHARE compound. Given the short amount of time I had there and the inability to build an actual water filtration system, I made the decision to conduct a demonstration on how to build a scaled-down model and then made and distributed a brief instruction manual on how to make the water filter. I also taught a few boarding school seniors on my water filtration system and encouraged them to teach it throughout the island.

In order to improve their quality of health, the locals were inspired to enhance the water quality on Kei Island. They grew more conscious of the water they’re using and are more motivated to start building their own water filter. In fact, the students are spreading this information around the island and the residents of the doctorSHARE area are currently building their own water filter.

Hi Vicky!

This is a pretty good draft! As a reader, I can definitely see the impact that you have had on the community in Kei.

What we want to do now is to focus on making the story tighter and more compelling by cutting out the unnecessary parts and emphasising the important ones. I’ve written comments throughout to suggest which parts you can cut and which need to be expanded on.

Best of luck!

Chiara