

- **Insufficient source and unsuitable drinking water**



P4 Kasagayan, Panalsalan, Maramag, Bukidnon

Water is an important component of life itself and one of the essential needs of every human being. We can survive for many days without food, but it is not the same without water. We use water every day for many different things, and access to clean, safe, and sufficient water is a right everyone should have as a person that exists in a community.

The problem regarding easy access to safe and clean water is common in my community. Many of the residents have experienced it for many years until now. Many residents are used to this lifestyle and situation where they still have to go a long way to get clean water to drink because the water is not enough for every home, and sometimes the water that flows through the faucets is dirty and murky. The barangay and *sitio* officials, with the help of the residents, tried to elevate this problem to the very best of what they could do, but the plans they laid and the action they did, did not solve the problem. For whatever reason, water systems were built before, which later were not improved. The residents and some barangay officials later reconstructed the water system with a planned water source and a reservoir. Still, it was not enough to cater to the demand for water in the whole community. The water from the water system is only used for dishwashing, clothes washing, and sanitation, not as safe drinking water. Drinking water is pitched through springs away from everyone's home.

The problems that I saw that caused this problem to occur include the lack of a concrete plan for the construction of the water system and the lack of expert advice. The water source was not adequately tested for its quality and the properties of the soil it was located. The problem also includes the lack of funding for the construction and materials. It also lacks a treatment facility and management.

The solution that I can suggest to address the community's water problem is to seek advice from experts on the safe and sustainable water supply. Make a timeline of plans for the development of the water system, from finding a strong and sufficient water source, testing it for quality, to raising funds and to its construction. Various disciplines are essential in understanding this environmental problem in finding solutions, including engineering, environmental planning, and other important fields I can't think of.