

Soroptimist International

About Soroptimist International

- Global volunteer movement with over 75,000 members in 122 countries.
- Advocates for the human rights of women and girls, and gender equality for all.
- Works on grassroots projects that help women and girls achieve their potential.
- Retained General Consultative Status with the United Nations since 1966.



Description of Programme

- How villagers were involved in all phases of the project to create ownership.
- How women learned about personal hygiene, sanitation, water conservation, and the importance of using clean water.
- How women and girls were trained in the maintenance of water systems and organic farming.
- How women-led organic farms resulted in healthy food for families while increasing their income.
- How women and girls are being empowered through the project and decision-making process in their communities.

Mission of Programme

- To bring clean water to Long Tanyit and Kampung Gana, both located in Malaysia.
- To improve the health and well-being of villagers.
- To assist villagers in generating income by cultivating their lands and preserving the biodiversity.
- To upgrade the welding skills of selected girls and enable them to become welding inspectors.
- To train women in organic farming skills.

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Impact: Access to Water

- Enabled **steady supply of clean water** for drinking and cooking.
- Dam provided water for **irrigation of crops** in the organic farm.
- Gravity-fed water supply provided an **additional source of water** to the villagers.
- Incidence rates of **water-borne diseases** and **conjunctivitis** have **decreased** after the installation of water system.

Impact: Vocational Training

- Women and girls were trained in maintenance of the water systems, organic farming, and in attaining positions of leadership in the community.
- They also received workshops in basic sanitation, hygiene practices, and water conservation.
- Five girls upskilled by taking a diploma course in welding.
 - Mentoring programme initiated to coach and support them.
 - Helped enhance their financial and leadership capabilities.
 - Broke all gender stereotypes to undergo training in a male-dominated field.

Impact: Organic Farming

- Farming activities resulted in new nutritious sources of fresh vegetables.
- Improving the health and well-being of villagers.
- Women were able to generate income by selling vegetables to neighbouring villagers and logging camps.
- Women and girls are empowered to make their own decisions and take responsibility.