



Simon Cocha, Peru

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Residents of the Simon Cocha community faced a difficult reality. With no safe water sources nearby, women and children had to walk long distances to fetch water from the local river. As a result of drinking this water, many became ill from waterborne diseases.

Juan Nochomata Masho, a 36-year-old fisherman, shared his family's experience with the water crisis: "One day, my children went to collect water to prepare lunch. On the way, they encountered a large and dangerous snake, which attacked them and bit one of my children. By God's grace, my son recovered, but the experience was deeply shocking and frightening for our entire family."

In addition to worrying about the impact illness had on their families, residents grew increasingly concerned about the safety of their loved ones. No matter how careful residents were, snake bites became almost inevitable. Residents rushed to the health center, forced to pay high treatment costs they could not afford.

Knowing that things could not go on as they were, community leaders came together to see what they could do about the situation. When they heard about the work that Living Water International was doing in the area, they reached out for help. Living Water Peru responded by drilling a borehole and installing a new hand pump.

"Having safe water is a dream come true for us," Juan gratefully said. "Safe water will improve our lives, especially the children's lives. This is a big step forward for our community."



Residents fetch water from the river, which they share with local wildlife, posing a constant threat to their safety.



Children are grateful to have access to reliable, safe water, which enables them to attend school regularly and maintain good health.