

Yenus' story



Yenus collecting water from the River Lah.



Yenus, 12,
Frat, Ethiopia



Yenus' whole community is being held back by a lack of clean water

Yenus lives in Frat, a remote part of Ethiopia where the only water source is a polluted river. It's his role to collect water for the family as his older siblings are working in the fields. Like Yenus, many of the children in Frat spend hours every day fetching water when they could be studying to fulfil their potential. Worse still, every drop could lead to life-threatening diseases.

Yenus is one of the 785 million people worldwide who don't have clean water. It can make them sick and holds them back in life. Our changing climate only makes things harder, with unpredictable weather threatening the crops they rely on. Yenus' father and other farmers worry constantly about growing enough food. Sometimes the rain doesn't come and the crops fail. Other times there are floods and the seeds get washed away.

The answer lies beneath tons of rock and sand

Hundreds of feet below where Yenus lives lies a source of spring water that could change people's lives forever. With clean water on tap, Yenus and his community can rise to a bright, secure future.

▲ "It's hard work collecting water; we usually help each other to pick up the jerry cans as they're very heavy."

Ansha, 12, Frat, Ethiopia



WaterAid



Collaborating is a way of life in Frat. They even have a word for it: "wenfell".



With the spirit of 'wenfell', anything is possible in Frat

Three villages make up the community of Frat where Christians live next door to Muslims, and collaborating is a way of life. They even have a word for it: "wenfell". Frat sits on top of a hill, which makes accessing water more difficult. But the community is determined that nothing will stand in the way of progress. With the support of groups like yours and the spirit of "wenfell", the people of Frat will be able to unearth a climate-resilient water supply that will transform their own futures.

Working in close partnership with the local community, we won't just bring clean water to the surface. The people of Frat will unearth new levels of health, sanitation, hygiene, prosperity and hope.

In nearby Derkewa, a similar project has brought clean water into the lives of people like Mulu. "Now we are safe and not threatened by diseases," Mulu says. "I never dreamed I could see water close to me. My happiness has no boundaries."

With water on tap, the uncertainties and strain that Yenus and his community face will be much less threatening. Over 6,000 people will have a constant source of strength against unpredictable weather and a chance to improve their own lives.



"I never dreamed I could see water close to me."

Mulu, farmer in Derkewa, near Frat, Ethiopia



Until 4th February 2021, the UK government will match all public donations to Future on Tap, up to £2 million, making double the difference in communities across Ethiopia.

