

**Boys in Nepal
should collect all
the household
water and do all the
household chores**

**Girls in Nepal
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<p>There is a water supply system under construction in the area. The project was started by the Government almost a decade ago and has yet to be complete, so most of the communities are dependent on shallow wells.</p>	<p>“Education and social awareness are the key factors for change. If we can educate a girl, then her next generations would obviously be improved” <i>Ram, Secondary School Teacher in Nepal</i></p>	<p>Water dries in the well from March to June/July. The water from the well is also not good. Micro-organisms and insects are in the water. The water is muddy and does not taste good. The depth of the well is around 60 feet.</p>
<p>Students leave their lessons to fetch water from a nearby well, but this is also contaminated and dirty.</p>	<p>Girls are responsible for the collection of water for their families before going to school.</p>	<p>The water facility is available in the toilets, but they are not managed properly. The toilets are not clean. Mostly boys and girls go in an open field to urinate.</p>
<p>There are 2 boys' toilets and 2 girls' toilets for about 500 students.</p>	<p>There are no dedicated handwashing stations in schools. No soap available.</p>	<p>Many schools have a lack of gender friendly toilets</p>
<p>15% of absences in school are menstruating girls who are usually absent between 4-5 days per month</p>	<p>Sanitary pads are not freely available and 80% of girls are embarrassed to talk about menstruation.</p>	<p>Students at the school say that having an education is valuable. If you don't have one, you miss out on getting a good job in the future.</p>
<p>Girls only go to Primary School; they do not need to be educated further.</p>		



Girls, education and water: The global story

Imagine a world where every girl has a say in her future. Yet if you are deprived of an education, you do not get a chance to understand your choices or make the most of what you have to offer the world.

Right now, a lack of clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene in schools is holding too many girls back. With a third of schools still without a decent toilet, millions of girls around the world are being forced to stay at home when they have their period. Dirty water at schools and in communities also makes children ill, meaning they miss more lessons. And because girls are responsible for collecting water in 8 out of 10 households, they spend hours walking to and from the nearest water source instead of going to school like boys. Without water, another generation of girls and young women are being left behind.

Clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene in schools and close to people's homes can quench every girl's thirst for learning. It means more girls will have an equal chance to learn with dignity and in safety.

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<p>Actions that WaterAid will support in Lahan, Nepal</p>	<p>Construct drinking and handwashing stations so children can easily wash and drink without missing lessons</p>	<p>Build new toilets and repair existing toilets, ensuring that girls have separate facilities with a supply of clean running water so they can stay in school when they have their period</p>
<p>Introduce activities which boost incomes, such as making liquid soap and sanitary pads, to further involve parents and guardians and encourage them to consider how they can help keep girls in school.</p>	<p>Set up school awareness campaigns about the right to clean water, good hygiene and safe menstrual health, to help children stay healthy and in school and break down the stigma people experience when they have their period.</p>	<p>Install a new school water system, including a deep borehole and water pump fitted with bio sand filters, to overcome the dirty water problems in the community and ensure a supply of clean, running water.</p>
<p>Run training sessions through children's clubs, as well as encouraging support between siblings, to help girls better manage their periods and take control of their lives.</p>	<p>Provide disposal facilities for sanitary pads, so girls can safely manage their period without worry and focus on their education.</p>	<p>Run community awareness sessions for parents on clean water, safe hygiene and menstrual health, as well a girl's right to education, to help provide the support girls need to stay in school and thrive.</p>

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“Education and social awareness are the key factors for change. If we can educate a girl, then next generations would obviously be improved”

*Ram,
Secondary School
Teacher in Nepal*

There is a water system under construction in the area where the students live. The project was started by the Government almost a decade ago and has yet to be complete, so most communities are dependent on water extracted from shallow wells.

The water facility is available in the toilets, but they are not managed properly. The toilets are not clean. Mostly boys and girls go in an open field to urinate.

"We need to go to school to learn something - someone who has no education is of no value these days."

Nepalese Secondary School student

Sanitary pads are not freely available and 80% of girls are embarrassed to talk about menstruation. 15% of absences in school are menstruating girls, usually absent for between 4 or 5 days every month.

Students leave their lessons to fetch water from a nearby well, but this is also contaminated and dirty.

Girls only go to primary school; they do not need to be educated further.

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There are 2 boys' toilets and 2 girls' toilets for about 500 students.

Many schools have a lack of gender friendly toilets.

There are no dedicated handwashing stations in schools. No soap is available.

Girls are responsible for the collection of water for their families before going to school.

Write your chosen focus statement on the line below:

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	is	did	was	could	if
What?					
Where?					
Who?					
Why?					
How?					