

OceansWatch humanitarian aid proposal.

Water system for Kargos, Mom, Marangis and Mater Primary School.

About the area.

Kargos, Mom and Marangis are coastal villages on the west end of Karkar Island, Madang district, Papua New Guinea. Mater primary school is in Mater, adjacent to Marangis village. The schools serves the 3 villages and also Mater village. Populations are: Kargos – 150 Mom – 800 Marangis – 600 Mater primary school – 180 pupils

The population are mainly subsistence farmers and fishermen with a small income being derived from copra and cocoa. Some handicrafts are made and a few people work in local foreign owned copra plantations.

Current situation.

Currently there is no water or sewage system and no electricity. In this part of the country the women are expected to collect the water. The girls start helping get water at about 8 years old. Boys and girls do the family dish washing. Clothes washing is a woman only job. In the last few months mobile phone coverage has become available but few can afford phones. There is no Internet available.

Kargos and Mom water.



Access track to first spring for Mom and Kargos

The people from these villages have a 45 minute walk to a spring. The walk is very steep in places and sometimes one needs to crawl, relying on tree roots to prevent one falling. The path is slippery and dangerous. The women carry about 20 litres of water using old plastic drink bottles in their bilams. In addition they may have to carry a baby and the clothes for washing.

Marangis water.



People from Marangis collect their water from a spring in the beach. The spring is about 20 minutes walk from the main village. The beach is fairly soft black sand and is hard to walk on. Water can not be collected at high tide as it's covered then by the sea. The clothes washing is also done at this spring.



This lady is returning from the Mom spring. She is carrying her family washing plus >20 kg of water.



This lady is returning to Karkar on the beach with water, washing and the baby. It was 36c that day.



This is the path back from Mom's spring. The drop close to the man in the foreground is about 25 metres.



Young women washing at the Mater water hole. Like Karkar's this water can not be used at high tide. Access involves a short but arduous rock climb.