The Open University

World in transition: Managing Resources

Using technology to change

Sudhar Bhuchar

The main well that serves Mbama village is deep, because the water table is so low. People have to keep digging down. The worry for the villagers every day, is whether or not there'll be enough water.

The school children are the first ones to address the question of whether or not the water's actually clean.

Schoolboy (subtitles)

Everybody goes into the well without shoes and leaves dirt in the water.

We're putting in the poles so people will stand on them rather than in the water.

Man (subtitles)

Why are you students doing this, not the adults?

Schoolboy (subtitles)

We're doing this because some of these adults, even if you asked them to do it, they'd refuse **Sudhar Bhuchar**

Tatu Sbanghu tries out the new platform. The students have used technology to improve public health and Tatu is grateful.

Tatu Sbanghu (subtitles)

They've put in a platform for us so we can get clean water.

Man (subtitles)

Before this was the water dirty?

Tatu Sbanghu (subtitles)

The water was dirty because we were stepping in it.

Man (subtitles)

So the students did a good thing.

Tatu Sbanghu (subtitles)

They did

Woman

If there's constant education of this kind through the children the message will spread and I have faith things will change because these children are growing. This knowledge will grow with them and the whole village will change.