



## West Java project

### Why is everyone gathered?

The team from Caritas' partner HARFA (Hope for the Poor) gathers everyone in the village, to talk about the importance of clean drinking water and toilets. Sanitation can be a very embarrassing subject. The team explains the connection between going to the toilet in the open and common sicknesses in the community, like diarrhoea.

### What is everyone doing?

As a way to help the community understand how important clean water and toilets are, the team asks everyone to draw a map on the ground of the village, and mark where their houses are, where the river is, and so on. The community starts to understand that when everyone goes to the toilet in the open, it is a real problem for the health of the community. In helping the community to find ways of improving sanitation, the Caritas supported HARFA team suggest building pit toilets.

### Water and sanitation

Along with the pit toilets, the team explains that a supply of clean water is also very important. They explain that unclean water is unsafe and can make people sick, for example, with diarrhoea. The team also explains the need to wash hands with clean water and soap after going to the toilet, after playing and before eating. Community water groups have been set up. In the past, bamboo pipes were used to carry the water from the spring to the village. However, bamboo pipes are not strong and when they break, the water is polluted. These pipes are being replaced with plastic pipes and taps have been installed. To date 85% of households now have access to clean water with the aim that all will be able to access clean water in the near future.