



PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE

LOWER PRIMARY
STORIES



WEEK 4: ARSAD, INDONESIA

Photos supplied by Laz Harfa



? If you did not have a toilet, what would you do?



This is Arsad's story.



Arsad lives in Indonesia with his family.



With no toilet in their house, Arsad and his family had to use the forest instead. They walked a long way and it was worse at night!



45 million people in Indonesia go to the toilet outdoors in fields, forests and other open spaces. Many people don't realise that this can cause sickness and other health problems.



When Arsad heard about hygiene and sanitation training, supported by Caritas Australia, he was keen to get involved.



Through the training, Arsad became more willing to talk about going to the toilet in the forest, something he had been too embarrassed to talk about in the past.



Arsad learnt how to save the money he needed and then built a toilet and piped water system in his house.



Arsad became the leader of his local *Arisan Jamban* group. The members of the group save money together.



Each month one family is chosen to receive money from the Arisan Jamban group savings to build their own toilet.



Now there are over 280 toilets!
Arsad's family and community can now enjoy a safe clean environment. They held a special event to celebrate!



Arsad set a good example and then slowly encouraged and helped his neighbours build toilets too.



“Most people at first did not understand about health. Now, they’re willing to listen and they have an easy way to build toilets. We help each other, the ‘togetherness’ is growing.” - Arsad

QUESTIONS



1. Where does Arsad live?
2. What made life hard for Arsad and his community?
3. How did Arsad help his community?
4. How did Caritas Australia help?