

# Building Block Toilets from Recycled Plastic

Lombok, Indonesia



**FACT SHEET**

## Building Block Toilets in Lombok, Indonesia

Indonesia's Lombok was jolted with devastating earthquakes in mid-2018. These earthquakes caused the deaths of more than 500 people, left hundreds injured and forced thousands of people to evacuate their homes. The earthquakes heavily damaged over 400 schools, leaving young students with no place to learn.

Toilets were also destroyed by the earthquakes and roughly 95% of the schools we are re-building need toilets. The toilet to student ratio at these schools is lower than the Indonesian standard of 1 toilet per 60 male students and 1 toilet per 40 female students. A lack of access to clean toilets and proper sanitation facilities poses a barrier to education.

When clean toilets are unavailable, children, especially girls, can feel discouraged from going to school and remaining in the school system. Children can also miss school due to hygiene-related diseases. Clean toilets play an important role in creating safe and healthy school environments where children can focus on education. When we provide Block Toilets, we improve the toilet to student ratio and help students to feel more comfortable at school while removing plastic waste from the environment and reducing our carbon footprint.



## Indonesia's Plastic Pollution Problem

Indonesia is second only to China as the world's largest contributor to plastic pollution, generating roughly 24,500 tonnes of plastic waste per day. 81% of waste in Indonesia is unsorted, making it difficult to recycle and causing plastic waste to end up in landfills or leak into the ocean.

According to a World Bank study, 20% of plastic waste in Indonesia is believed to end up in rivers and coastal waters. Four of Indonesia's rivers rank among the top 20 most polluted rivers in the world. The Indonesian government has been working hard to resolve these issues and has set a target to reduce plastic waste by 70% by 2025 in line with its circular economy strategy.

## What are Block Modules?

Classroom of Hope has partnered with Block Solutions Indonesia for our Block Schools and Toilets programs. Block Solutions has developed eco-friendly "block modules" which we use to build Block Schools and Block Toilets. We purchase blocks made from Indonesia's recycled plastic waste to build sustainable and safe buildings that are affordable, durable, easy to assemble and can be dismantled and rebuilt. The carbon footprint of a block is close to zero.

# Building Block Schools from Recycled Plastic

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## About Our NGO Partner in Lombok

We believe that sustainable work is locally driven. That's why we develop partnerships with best practice local NGO's who have the vision, drive and community standing to create change. Our local NGO partner, Happy Hearts Indonesia (HHI), envisions that every child in Indonesia has access to education by attending safe and earthquake-resistant schools. HHI supports schools affected by natural disaster and those in underserved areas to provide proper education. We partner with HHI for our Block Schools and Block Toilets programs.



## Approach

Guided by a collaborative approach, community leaders, school management, our local NGO partner and the government are engaged from the early stages through to the development and construction of the facilities. We believe in fostering good relationships with the communities, as it enables us to understand their real needs and ensure the projects' sustainability. Through regular follow-ups and communication, we remain sensitive to the needs of the community even after the project is completed, enabling us to continue supporting them in promoting education, sanitation and hygiene and increasing children and youth's participation in school.

The school staff and local community are responsible for the maintenance of the new toilet blocks.

## Budgeting & Reporting

The cost for a 4 toilet block is USD 10,000 and a 2 toilet block is USD 6,000.

As with all our projects, a detailed final impact report and financial reconciliation will be provided.