This is an update about life in the area of Amanuban Timur, as seen through the eyes of the children and families who live there. Amanuban Timur is made up of various communities and the situation and the activities described are representative of the area as a whole.

*We, the children, together with adults, brought this activities update information in our area during discussions that was facilitated by Plan staff.*

**Improving the learning quality**

Plan supported our effort to improve the learning quality in our area to make us enjoy studying and want to stay at school longer. Last year, the headmasters, teachers and school committee members from 21 schools were trained on school management, designing and preparing active and creative learning method, participation of parents in school monitoring. The trainings were facilitated by Plan together with district education agency. We took part in giving input for class decoration and helped our teachers to make the learning aids for our class which would help us to easily remember the school subjects. We also gave input that learning in a group method is the easiest way for us to understand the subjects.

*Gasperina*, 12 years old, a 6th grade of elementary student said that: “*On subjects such as Natural science and Indonesia language, we always discuss them in groups that help us to understand and remember.*”

**Improving health post service for better health of children**

In the meeting of children and parents last year, Plan showed us the data of women death during delivery and children death after delivery. We learned that all of the sad facts were caused by lack of knowledge of our mothers on healthy delivery and on taking care of babies’ health, including the benefit of giving full breast feeding in the first six months. Plan supported us to improve the situation by giving some training to our health post workers to open maternity and healthy babies counselling. With this program about 50 mothers have been able to have safe delivery, and more than 30 babies were saved from being malnourished.
Patricia one of the health worker shared her reflection. She is always doubts that she can help women and children in the area is now getting more confident with the knowledge and skill that she gets from the training which was supported by Plan.

Campaign for a safe school through children event
We, about 45 students from 13 schools were very enthusiastic when we actively participated in the preparation for children events with the theme: building my safer school. Previously we attended a meeting which was supported by Plan. We shared the bitter experiences of getting ill treatment in class by the teachers, and outside the class by older students. Some of us also shared that our friends hide in the field just because they were scared to be asked to go to school. The teachers, who had joined preventing child abuse at school training before, promised that they will help to change the situation and that is the reason for conducting the event. Based on the students’ talents, some performances were agreed including speech reading competition, drama and children vocal group. We made the scenario based on the data we shared, and designed them to be the content of speech, drama and songs.

Sonya, a 14 years old girl said: “I think children will be enjoyed at school if they feel safe while learning. I am glad that our teachers can see it and want to change the situation.”

Developing water system
Yufri went to school late one morning, since he had to fulfill his obligation as a son to fetch water for the family from the river of 1 km away from his house, and he had to walk to do it. He got punishment from the teachers for coming late, and his excuse was not accepted. This was a past memory for him and most of us with the availability of clean water, but now the clean water is closed to us. Plan supported the construction of water piping system, channelling the water from the nearby resources to our houses. Several tanks were also built in some places that easily accessible from the people’s houses and school. In addition to that seven rainwater catchments were also built in the area where water resources were too far to be channelled. A water committee as a group to watch the delivery of water and maintenance of water system was then made. Some of us were chosen as representatives of children club to be members of the committee. The water committee formulated regulations, and decided fee for each household for maintaining the pipes and the tanks.

Frans, a school teachers said: “Water will help children practicing the personal hygiene knowledge which have been introduced to them. We may easily showed how to wash hand and brush teeth properly.”

For next year we plan the following: continue school improvement program to other area, campaign to register birth certificates for children, Disaster Risk Reduction program to build disaster resilient people; continue clean water program in other area.

This document was reviewed and edited by Plan staff.