

Walk Through Dry Regions

English script (Cantonese voice over) and super:

Super: Walk Through Dry Regions

MVO: In the summer of 2015, Lam Yi Ning, a local student who had just finished Secondary One, participated in "Journey for Living Water" organised by Amity Foundation with 16 other participants to experience water shortage in rural mountain village in Guangxi.

Super:

Hong Kong Guangxi NANNING

MVO: After a flight from Hong Kong to Nanning, they took a 7-hour road trip and finally arrived at Le Ye County in Guangxi, Chinese Mainland.

Lam Yi Ning: This is my third visit to a rural mountain region in Chinese Mainland, I have been to Hunan and Guangxi before.

Super: Lam Yi Ning

Lam Yi Ning: I hoped to bring positive messages to the villagers and students living there.

MVO: YouPing Township, located at 35 miles away from Le Ye County, is a poverty-stricken village. Due to an absence of stable water sources nearby, villagers have to either collect rainwater or carry water from far away for daily consumption. Some villagers built a tiny pond outside their houses to collect and store rainwater. However, stagnation in the pond results in and hygiene for drinking, so the water can only be used for feeding livestock or other non-potable purposes. After the rainy season, villagers are required to walk 2 kilometres to fetch water. When drought occurs, the young members of each family are occupied with the duty of fetching water which holds them back from farming. Hence, harvest is seriously affected and household income reduced. The quantity of crop yield depends on the level of rainfall. Although

the annual yield of 2015 was relatively good, the lack of a steady water source for irrigation had led to poor corn yields.

Lam Yi Ning: The knowledge I have learnt from the mountain region is unavailable in the textbook, for instance, we must cherish water, and stay positive every day. What struck me the most was that due to long-term burden of carrying water, villagers are relatively shorter than city dwellers. I was also struck by an old lady I encountered. She had been fetching and carrying water for years, causing serious bruises on her shoulders. Our tourmate had tried carrying water. His shoulders got bruises after a while as the bucket weighed 25 kilograms! That really was a tough journey but very worthwhile. Students in Hong Kong do not need to fetch and carry water. We have access to clean drinking water simply by turning on the water tap, whereas drinking water in rural mountain regions of Chinese Mainland is murky and villagers have to walk 2 hours in order to get drinking water.

Super:

Save Water At Home

Yi Ning's mum: After the "Journey to Living Water", Yi Ling and I have learnt the importance of water conservation.

Super:

Yi Ning's mum – Phoebe

Yi Ning's mum: Grandparents often share the difficult times of water rationing in Hong Kong in the old days with us, but we couldn't possibly experience the hardship of those difficult times for ourselves. After the journey, we absolutely understood the significant influence of water to our daily lives. We must do our best to conserve water.

Super:

My Water Saving Tips

Super:

Soak vegetables in a basin

Lam Yi Ning: Don't leave the faucet running, soak vegetables in a basin.

Super:

Use recycled water

Lam Yi Ning: Use recycled water for plants.

Super:

Store unheat water

Lam Yi Ning: Use bucket to collect cool water before hot bathing, reuse them to sweep the floor.

Super:

Take shower within 4 mins

Lam Yi Ning: Take shower within 4 minutes and use an hourglass to remind myself.

Super:

Take off running tap

Lam Yi Ning:

Remind or help others in school and public area to ensure the tap is turned off after usage.

Super:

Commit to save water

Lam Yi Ning: I am Lam Yi Ning, I pledge to save water!

Super:

水務署

Water Supplies Department

Special thanks: The Amity Foundation

Ms. LAM Yi Ning