Do Something!

Part 1

A. In pairs, discuss the problems in the Community Problems diagram. Check (✓) the problems you see in your community. Add another problem you see in your community. Then discuss the problems with the class

Community Problems

☐ **The "brain drain"**

1

People who finish college move away for work.

☐ **Recreation**

2

Few activities and places for fun, such as swimming pools and tennis courts.

☐ **Transportation**

3

Traffic problems because of bad bus or subway systems.

☐ **The environment**

4

Problems such as garbage, air pollution, or water pollution.

☐ **My Community**

5

A: *I don't think transportation is a problem in our community because ...*

B: *I think the roads are a problem because ...*

B. Match the problems (1–4) in Activity A to the possible solutions (a–d). Can you think of any other solutions to these problems?

____ **a.** Spend more money on community clubs or sports; ask people to help with community projects.

____ **b.** Pay people more for doing their jobs; provide more jobs in the community.

____ **c.** Walk or ride a bike to work or school; share car trips to work.

____ **d.** Use less coal, oil, and gas; encourage people to recycle things.

Part 2

A. In groups, choose a problem your group could solve from one of the problems in the diagram in Part 1 (including the problem you described).

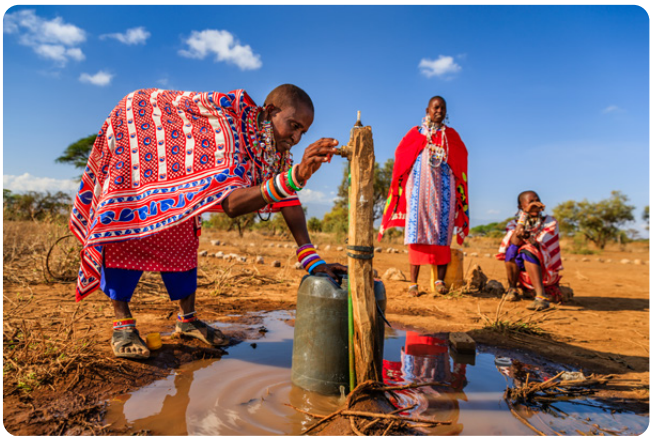
B. In groups, complete the chart about the problem. You can search online to help with ideas.

What is the problem?	
What solutions have people tried? Were they successful? Why or why not?	
How can people in your community help solve the problem?	
How can your local government help solve the problem?	
How can people in other communities, cities, or countries help solve the problem?	
What other solutions can you think of?	
How will you know if your solutions work?	

C. Share the information in your chart with the class.

Part 3

A. Read the text on the *Zero Mass Water Project*. Then answer the questions.



Nearly one in four people in the world live in a community without a convenient water supply. This may be because they live in a remote area, far from the center of a city or town. It may also be because they don't have clean water and have to get water from rivers. Without clean water, illnesses like cholera and diarrhea are more common.

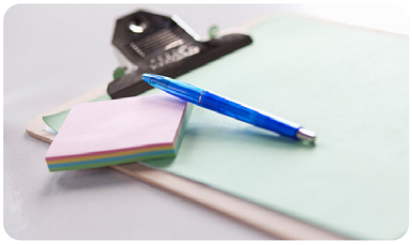
To give people easier access to clean water, a US company started working on the *Zero Mass Water Project* in 2015. With the help of one billion dollars from Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos, designers made *hydropanels*– small flat pieces of glass that use the sun to change water in the air into clean drinking water. A "wall" of 149 panels can produce 22,000 liters of clean water every month for a local community.

1. How do the glass panels produce water? _____
2. How many liters of water can the hydropanels produce each month? _____
3. How do you think having clean water can help a community? _____

center	centre
diarrhea	diarrhoea
liter	litre

B. Work in groups. Read the Collaboration Checklist. Then follow the steps to find a way to help another community that needs water.

Collaboration Checklist



1. Understand the stages of the project.
2. Choose a group leader.
3. Create goals for each stage and work together to reach those goals.
4. Give your opinion on how well you collaborated.

Step 1: Choose a community that would benefit from better access to water. The community can be in your area, your country, or another country.

Step 2: Choose people in the community who need the most help (e.g. residents, local businesses, women and children, people in remote areas).

Step 3: Choose the best way to help improve the community's access to water (e.g. use less water, get a water meter, join an organization such as *End Water Poverty*).

C. Share your findings with the class.

Extension

A. Work in groups. Imagine that you are working on a new project for the *Zero Mass Water Project*. Complete the chart.

name of the project	
what skills and abilities the volunteers need	
where the project is happening	
what the volunteers will do	
any other important information	

B. Make a poster or online advertisement to encourage volunteers to work on the new project. Use the information from the chart in Activity A.

C. Share your poster or advertisement with the class.