

The rope pump

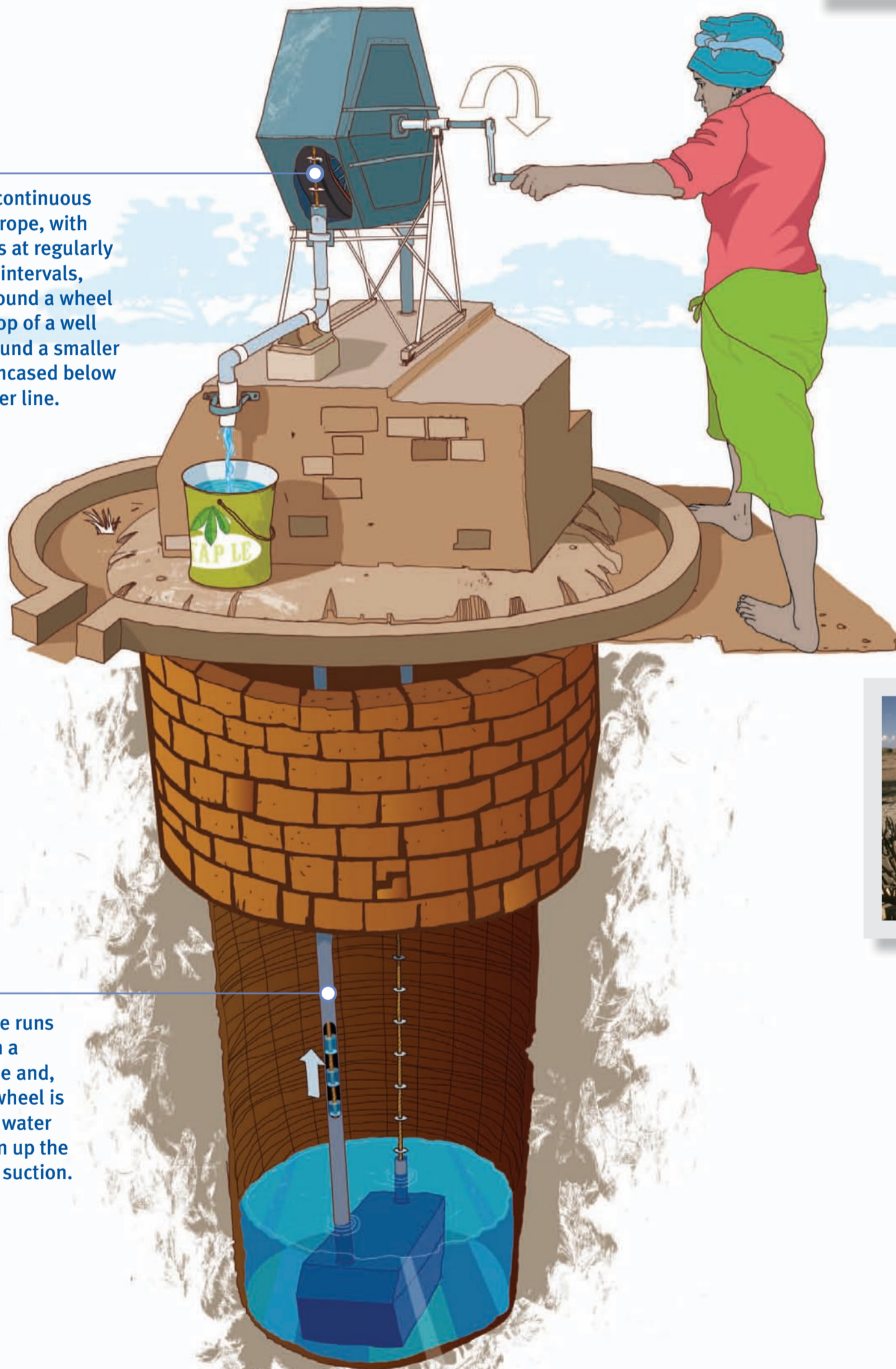
A water pump must be sustainable, which means it must be able to be fixed locally, cheaply and quickly. A rope pump is a simple technology that can be constructed from recycled parts like bicycle wheels, scrap metal and plastic. WaterAid's partners train and support local people to maintain the pumps and in some cases manufacture them.



Martin Ouedraogo has a small rope pump workshop in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, and employs five staff.

"This rope pump is a very good technology and it's easy to make. Now with the rope pump, communities have access to safer water and a reduction in diseases."

A long continuous loop of rope, with washers at regularly spaced intervals, runs around a wheel at the top of a well and around a smaller roller encased below the water line.



The rope runs through a PVC pipe and, as the wheel is turned, water is drawn up the pipe by suction.



Miza by her village's rope pump in Andoakaolo, Madagascar.

"Everyone here is so happy to have the pump. We now have good quality water and the pump is nearby so we, the women, spend less time collecting and carrying water. Since we have had the pump there is much less sickness in the village."

WaterAid.org

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Money for new rope!

Please visit our shop to watch a video of rope pumps in action and buy this lifesaving gift.

www.wateraid.org/ropepump