

# Fields of Life Project Completion Report

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**Project name:**  
Construction of 4 Classrooms at  
Haddow Secondary School

**Project location:**  
Maridi Diocese, Maridi, Maridi State,  
South Sudan

**Local partner organization:** ECSS&S  
Diocese of Maridi

**Project period:** January 2017 to June  
2017



## PROJECT AIM

This project was to provide four additional classrooms to accommodate the 187-new intake from September 2016 first year enrollment to Haddow Secondary School, Maridi, Maridi State, South Sudan.

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

Fields of Life received \$75,000, from the Tony Allen Foundation through African Revival to support the Construction of 4 Classrooms at Haddow Secondary School, Maridi Diocese, Maridi, Maridi State, South Sudan.

Fields of Life has been partnering with the Diocese of Maridi since November 2013, however the Fields of Life International Development Officer and HQ Project Manager has been working with Bishop Justin and the Maridi Diocesan team for over 12 years.

Infrastructure, especially school buildings, have been scarce for many years due to the aftermath of a 21-year civil war between Sudan and Southern Sudan. Most schools that survived, were held in temporary structures because there were no permanent buildings, the majority of classes were taught under the shade of mango trees with children sitting on tree branches supported off the ground on Y shaped branches. Most teachers were conscripted or fled and become refugees in adjoining countries. Any teaching which was carried out was delivered by untrained secondary school students at best. You can still find students in their mid to late twenties attending P1 to P4 classes.

Maridi is located in Western Equatoria, which, because it was quite cosmopolitan with a number of tribes, was relatively peaceful during the conflict. Education has been a priority of Maridi Diocese for the last decade and especially since independence in July 2011. This work has been completed largely by partners including CMS Ireland with a mix of funding sources including DfID's Basic Services Fund, individual, church and trust and foundation grants and donations. The project work has fundamentally concentrated on two areas: -

1. Infrastructure construction including water and sanitation provision
2. Teacher training

This report provides achievements of the activities carried out in this project from January 2017 to date.

## PLANNED PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Fields of Life planned the following activities:

- Construction of four classrooms block at Haddow Secondary School to accommodate the increasing enrollment of secondary level students.

## PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS JANUARY 2017 – JUNE 2017

As a result of a field assessment carried out originally in 2013 and updated in 2015 by the Fields of Life International Development Manager the need for further investment in education infrastructure and teacher training was identified as a major priority in Maridi Diocese. Using face-to-face meetings and consultations with key stakeholders including the Diocesan Development Department, the Diocesan Management team, Bishop Justin and women, men and young people in Maridi town and surrounding villages and Archdeaconries, the need for education investment was confirmed.

This was followed up by an official application and due diligence process by the Diocese covering criteria including the following: -

- Evidence of land title and ownership
- School official registration evidence
- Evidence of qualified teachers
- Active School Management Committee
- Active Parent Teacher Association
- Approval from the Maridi Education Officer
- Approval of plans by the County Engineer
- School sustainability plan
- School governance SDC and PTA



Following the approval of the Haddow Secondary School project by the Fields of Life Senior Management Team, a tender process was entered into with three construction companies, two previously used companies and one which has come highly recommended by another personally known contact from another UK charity and the other from Solidarity Teacher Training College, in Yambio.



Figure 2. Completion of the wall

***“The builder was professional and easy to work with and the project manageable. I made regular site visits, at least weekly, and he phoned me when he had any questions.”*** reported Rev Martin Atovura

The decision by the Tender Committee was to appoint J&B Company to construct the four classrooms at Haddow Secondary School. The decision was communicated to J&B Contracts and a contract was issued and signed by the three parties – Fields of Life, the Diocese of Maridi and J&B Contracts.

Despite the difficulty of acquiring some building supplies good progress was made with the construction. Some supplies had to be purchased in Uganda e.g. cement, windows and door frames etc. and transported to Maridi. Regular photos and updates were provided and passed on to the donor. Despite the situation in other parts of the country where famine plagued northern states and others where people are fleeing to bordering countries, the construction was completed on schedule.



Figure 3: The walls are plastered

The contract included an agreed payment schedule (35%, 30%, 30, and 6-month 5% retention) for the phased construction of the 4 classrooms at Haddow Secondary School. A planned monitoring visit in January 2017 by the International Development Manager, had to be postponed because of the difficulty of flying to Maridi and the insecurity in the region at the time. However, the International Development Manager met Bishop Justin in Kampala on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017 to discuss the progress and to review the contractor and construction process.



Figure 4: The completed roof on Haddow Secondary School

*“I sincerely thank Fields of Life and donors for supporting our schools. We pray that such help could be extended to the many more schools in the Diocese. We appreciate the work and it was a work well done.”* says Bishop Justin Badi, Maridi Diocese, South Sudan

Bishop Justin reported that, despite the delay in delivery of the school furniture, the 187 year-one students registered in September 2016, have now been split up between the four new classrooms.

## CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The major challenges faced and lessons learned included the following: -

- Sometimes experienced a slow response to email queries to the contractor or Project Manager due to a poor communications connection.
- Coordinating, communicating and overseeing the project from Fields of Life HQ.
- The delay of purchasing material due to travel to Uganda and transport from Uganda to Maridi
- The inconvenience to the contractor of funds transfers to a Ugandan, not South Sudan, bank account.
- Periodic delays in bank transfers due to delay in emailing invoices also need to extend transfer period
- Ordering the hand-made school furniture earlier to ensure it was delivered in time for completion

## PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

The sustainability of the school will be the responsibility of the Diocesan Education Departments and will include ensuring that the government provide teachers and text books, the governance of the School and Diocesan Management Committee and the commitment of the Parent Teachers Association. This combination has proved successful since the inception of the school some 6 years previous.



**The finished four-classroom block at Hadow Secondary School, Maridi**

*Figure 4: The finished rear of the building including painting*



*Figure 5: The completed front of school only the groundworks to complete*

**FIELDS OF LIFE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 4-CLASSES AT HADOW SECONDARY SCHOOL, MARIDI**

<b>INCOME</b>		
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Grant for the project received from African Revival	\$75,000	\$75,000
<i>Total Income</i>		\$75,000
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
		\$26,250
30% roof structure roofing and plastering		\$22,500
30% floors, porch, fitting windows, doors and painting to completion		\$22,500
<i>Contractor invoices and receipts available</i>		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>\$71,250</b>
5% retention payment, balance due 15 December 2017		\$3,750
<i>Note: - no FOL administration or cost recovery deducted</i>		