

## Koch Lila Primary School



### Written by:

**Komakech Vincent**

Construction

Coordinator

And

Ekit Scovia Opuch

Programmes Manager

**African Revival  
Uganda**

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### Image Caption:

The Newly Completed  
1x3 ECD Classroom  
Block

### Background

**In 2016 African Revival completed a 1x3 classrooms block at Koch Lila Primary School in Nwoya District in Northern Uganda. The first ECD classroom block (above) was completed in December 2016.**

Koch Lila Primary School is situated in the eastern part of Nwoya District in Northern Uganda, nearly 38 kilometres off Gulu Town. Though only accessible via a dirt road, the school remains accessible throughout the year, even in the rainy season. AR has worked with Koch Lila since 2009 through the School Linking and other structured programmes.

The school is serving about 6 villages with approximately 500 households, and in 2009 the enrolment stood at 230 students and 2016 at 652 students. The community has estimated that the targeted 75 ECD School going children would be surpassed/outnumbered by those who are not yet enrolled at the school but living in the area. The nearest other schools are beyond 6 km.

The Community of Koch Lila has improved in their support of the school programs. This has been possible through consultative meeting with the management and community Village Savings and Loans groups. This positive change is also attributed to the new ECD project in the school. They are in support and commitment to the education of their children. This has been evident through big turn up of the community members when called for meetings; contributions towards PTA fees. Over the years, their willingness to support construction projects has been through; provision of materials, unskilled labor for constructions.

This report provides an account of the work that has taken place to rehabilitate one double classroom block and complete the adjacent partially-built double classroom building.

## The Need

### 1x3 ECD Classrooms Block

This is the first ECD classroom building constructed by African Revival, Uganda. The school required attention in a number of areas to make it adequate and safe to use, and to improve it aesthetically.

As you can see, it had a threatening structure where the learners' lives had been put at risk (the mud and wattle with a thatched roof). This was temporal community initiative to start up the ECD centre that could be used as long term plans be laid out. So when the idea of putting up a durable classroom block came through as a pela from the school and the parent community, it was very encouraging.

Their willingness to make burnt bricks as their contribution even when some of them didn't have school going children in the nurseries is very recommendable. It signified adire need for support to come up with a conducive learning environment for children aged 3-6

The classroom proposal was for 1x2 block with an office attached. However, during implementation we decided that they have three classrooms instead to take care of the 3 levels of kindergarten and a desk could be used in one of the classes as an office. The learners became a priority over the office need.

Currently the classroom serves about 75 children aged 3-6 years. The school have made plans for maintenance and involving more parents to support learning.

This school is located about 6km off Gulu –Nwoya District road and is easily accessible from both ends of Gulu and Nwoya.

The 2 nearest schools to Koch Lila are Koch Goma P7 at 6km and Lutuk Community School at 8km.

The Government policy recommends that the nearest should not be more than 2km, and each school should have at least 8 classrooms as confirmed by the District Education Officer of Nwoya.





## Project Implementation



We work very closely with the school communities on their school development plans. They identify the needs that the school has that they can be co-supported on. Their involvement from day one is key because we believe that it goes a long way in strengthening relationship, ownership, maintenance and sustainability. With recommendation from the District Local Government we carried out a community project sensitization and information sharing meeting to stress out roles and responsibilities of each party involved.



Work began on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016 with a formal site handover to the selected contractors in the presence of both community and district leaders. The community pledged and excavated the foundation trenches, fetched water, quarried sand, the district leaders carried out joint monitoring and supervision with AR team to ensure compliance to the design and specifications. The community also provided security for the construction materials and directed the contractor to good sources of local materials.

The completion of the 1x3 ECD classroom block brings the total number of classrooms at the school to 11. The new school term begins on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 and pupils shall return from their holidays to find 3 brand new classrooms awaiting them! The building has already been approved and commissioned for use by the District Local Government.





## Progress in Pictures

**From top:**  
Materials delivered.

Super  
structure  
walls under  
construction:



**Bottom:**

Ring beams,  
beam filling,  
roof structure,  
plastering





## Progress in Pictures

### October

**From top:**  
Finishes  
ongoing AR  
team and  
teachers  
visiting the site,  
painting interior  
and external.



Nursery  
children using  
the play facility  
adjacent to the  
new classroom  
under  
construction.



Vincent the  
Construction  
Manager carrying  
out the  
assessment of  
existing structure  
within the school.



## Progress in Pictures

### November-December



**Row 1 (l-r):** Front and Rear Elevation of the completed classroom

**Row 2 (l-r):** Side view and isometric view of the classroom

**Row 3 (l-r):** Commissioning the classrooms and wall plaque!

## Budget and Expenditure

The construction of the 1x3 classrooms block was carried out using donations of **£23,618.40** and (equivalent of **UGX102,669,745/=** Ugandan Shillings).

The table below shows the total project expenditure. As the work has now been completed, no more expenditure will be incurred.

Cost Area	Expenditure	
	UGX	GBP*
<b><i>Rehabilitation of 1<sup>st</sup> Classroom Block</i></b>		
Construction of a block of 1x3 classroom	85,569,745	19,447.67
Admin & Operations -Construction Management (Construction Supervisor: proportion of salary, communications, and reporting)	17,100,000	4,170..73
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>UGX102,669,745</i></b>	<b><i>£23,618.4</i></b>

\* Exchange rate used – UGX/4400

For more information about this project and further projects that require funding, please contact [elaine.miller@africanrevival.org](mailto:elaine.miller@africanrevival.org) in the UK office - 020 8939 3190



**Thank you for your time, commitment and support  
for African Revival and Koch Lila Primary School**

**From this...**



**...to this...**



**...to this!**



African Revival, 159a High Street, Hampton Hill, TW12 1NL  
Telephone: 020 8939 3190  
<http://www.africanrevival.org>  
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