Final Donor Report





Background

Funding from donations at the Glam Rock Ball 2018 enabled African Revival to complete a block of 1x3 Classrooms at Lutuk Community Primary School in the Nwoya District of Northern Uganda. The project was completed and handed over in September 2019.

Lutuk is a Community Primary School situated in Koch Goma Sub County Nwoya District in Northern Uganda - a district located a 30 minute drive South-West of Gulu town.

Additional classroom need became priority because of the growing enrolment for Primary 4 and 5 classes, safety of learning aids/materials, and provision of a conducive learning environment for learners.

Many school going children are out of school due several factors like distance to the nearest school, poverty, seasonal heavy rainfalls that makes roads impassable due to flooding, lack of safe learning structures, lack of trained teachers, and scholastic materials.

The community school has volunteer teachers, 3 of whom were supported by African Revival and are now qualified to grade III certificate - a minimum requirement for a primary school teacher according to government standards. Walter, the head teacher, is motivated and is now doing his diploma programme. The Local Government leadership has submitted an application to the Ministry of Education and Sports for coding of the school which would enable government aid to come through. Government takeover is bureaucratic, and follow up is continuing with hope that the new classroom structure meets the list of requirements for approval.

Community contribution of the parents at school was very good and included quarrying sand and collecting stones and PTA fees.

The purpose of adding this classroom is to improve students' enrolment, retention of learners, attainment of better performances, teacher's motivation, and reduced dropout rate.

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Image Caption:
The newly completed
CRB block



The Need for a new classroom block

Many pupils at the school had been studying in makeshift structures built by the parents or under the shade of trees.

The schools didn't have sufficient safe classrooms to accommodate all pupils. One of the temporary structures nearly collapsed on the learners during a study session. The temporary facilities required annual replacement of the roof materials and supporting pole. It was not only un-safe students did not have furniture and were open to the elements which halted lessons on windy and rainy days.

A good classroom contributes to good learning environment as a teacher can organise, display and control the class from external distractions (rain, wind, noise, etc) which would otherwise impact on the study periods and concentration of the learners.

The new classroom block built by African Revival in Lutuk Community Primary school is now ready to benefit approximately 162 students by design where children comfortably sit 54 in each of the classrooms. However, it will need to accommodate more than that number since P4 current enrolment is 146.

According to the Ministry of Education and Sports in Uganda the teacher pupil ratio is 1:50. However, when primary four classroom is broken to two streams approximately each class will be having 73 learners.

The Need







Project Implementation

Work began on the 24th Jan 2019 with a formal site handover to the selected contractor Emma Supplies and Construction Company Ltd in the presence of both community and district leaders. The contractor was expected to commence work in seven days from the handover date. The community had pledged fine aggregates, hard core stones and clay burnt bricks as their contribution for the local materials.

The school community contribution raised 5 trips of fine aggregate (sand), offered unskilled labour for trench excavation, collecting water for construction, provided accommodation/storage facilities, security for construction materials and guided the contractor to good sources of local materials.

The district leaders did joint monitoring and inspection our project to ensure compliance to the design specifications and district development plan.

Furnished new classrooms will now make teaching more productive and meaningful as you can manage the learners, monitor assignments, foster communication and boost collaboration. This will provide safety and security of students, learning materials, and other school resources.

The headteacher Walter remarked that now with the three new classrooms, Lutuk has 8 classrooms which will give them an opportunity to create an extra stream for P4 class.

The PTA and SMC chair-person both appreciated the support from AR:

The DEO Nwoya Mr. Ayipe Butelle said, 'African Revival is tangible Partner in education that supports the district with visible items.'

He also mentioned that 'challenges come with opportunities e.g. the lack of facilities presented an opportunity to bring a new permanent classroom in Lutuk community primary school'

He encouraged the Headteacher to work very hard with his team to produce good results that would attract more learners. 'Let us learn to solve our problems locally...' he said

The chief guest of the day Mr. Ojok the Secretary for Education and Health Nwoya District Local Government pledged, 'I want to monitor school attendance next term and will attend the 2019 Annual General Meeting'. He said with this good learning environment it is possible to achieve quality education when put to good use. He also said, 'we gladly receive this facility, completely own it and will take good care of it while using it'.

He said 'when the time for recruitment comes, they will give priority/consideration to the teachers who have volunteered, sacrificed for the community over a long period of time in this school'

He also appreciated the bee keeping project AR has introduced in selected schools of Nwoya saying 'this will empower the parents, beekeeping products still has very high market example a kilogram of honey currently goes at UGX 15,000 whereas a kilogram of wax at UGX 18,000 with very low chances of this prices coming down'.



Progress in Pictures



Vice Chair of Trustees – Glen Grant and Elaine Miller – Executive Director locating Site for new classroom block in Nov 2018.



January 2019 - Ground-breaking for the classroom



The super structure brick walls at window level coming up the superstructure walls completed; the timber roof structure also put in place. P1 teacher and Walter walking around appreciation of the new classroom





Corrugated Iron sheets now fixed on the timber roof structure











New classroom structure

Primary one learners testing the new furnished classroom



Memorial photo with district leaders on commissioning of the classroom day



Handing over the keys from Contractor – African Revival - District officials - School Administration









Opening the classrooms- DEO and Contractor

Walter and guest of honour visiting the classrooms



Below the students and headteacher thanking the donors



Thank you

Video footage of our support for Lutuk Community Primary School since 2013 is available to view - https://vimeo.com/365065499

We are pleased to report the project was completed on budget. For more information about this project and further projects that require funding, please contact elaine.miller@africanrevival.org in the UK office.