Namabondo Community School in Zambia

School Background

Namabondo Community School lies about 20 km east of Kalomo in Kalomo District. It was founded in 2000 and currently there are over 346 pupils enrolled. The school has five teachers of which one – the headmaster – is trained and paid by the government.

The community’s main source of income is subsistence farming. The families grow maize and keep goats, cattle, sheep and chicken.

In 2017 the school had a block with three classrooms and a partially competed classroom block with two rooms, three latrines for girls and three for boys, two incomplete staff houses and a (dry) borehole.

Project

With the donation from ATD Foundation, African Revival started to upgrade the school’s infrastructure.

Together with the PTA (Parents and Teachers Association) completion and refurbishment of the two classroom blocks, washrooms for girls and staff latrines were prioritised.
Impact

The 346 pupils that attend Namabondo Community School, along with their teachers, families and the local community, are the direct beneficiaries of this project – increasing year on year as more children pass through the school.

With an enrolment of over 346 pupils spread over 8 grades – preschool to grade 7 - the school was in desperate need of classrooms. Completion of the two-classroom block and refurbishment of the other three-classroom block now allows the school to meet its capacity requirements. This makes lesson delivery much easier for the teachers.

There were no designated latrines for staff use at Namabondo Community School. Construction of two stance latrines for teachers will give both pupils and staff a sense of privacy. Providing a good educational environment will help this school secure good teaching staff. The attraction and retention of staff is incredibly important in rural schools.

The educational outcome of this project is improved academic environment, affecting thousands of children in the coming years.

Improved education has been shown to have a causal and direct impact on numerous social markers such as sanitation, health and mortality, nutrition, civic participation, and rural poverty. Over time improved education in the Kalomo District will create notable returns both financially and with regard to health. These returns will contribute towards rural development, eventually lifting many children and families out of poverty.

Statistics collected by the District Education Board, at schools that ARZ has previously worked with, point to menstruation as a causal factor of girls' absenteeism and high dropout rates. The construction of changing rooms gives the girls private hygienic facilities to wash and change.

As part of our Girls and Sanitation programme, we organised a sanitation workshop for the pupils in June. They learned about hand washing, toilet use, and toilet cleaning. With girls older than 12 (40 of them) we did a session on menstrual health and provided them with washable pads.

Financial summary

This project was implemented at a total cost of £15,934: £13,103 for the classroom blocks completion and refurbishment and £2,831 for girls' changing rooms and staff latrines. That is £232 under estimated budget. Detailed budgets and details of exchange rate gain will also be provided.
Project/Progress in Pictures

Meeting with the Parents and Teachers Association with Jake Criswick (April 2018) & Teaching under a tree with Oliver Brendon (June 2018)

Completed classroom blocks & Pupils in freshly painted classroom (July 2018)

Latrine pits dug by community members (September 2018) and progress staff latrines, with Oliver Brendon (November 2018)
Handover ceremony with ATD team (April 2019)
For more information about this project and further projects that require funding, please contact inge.akerboom@africanrevival.org in Zambia or catherine.inch@africanrevival.org in the UK office.