



Construction of 1x3 Classroom Block at Lugobo Community School



Introducing African Revival:

Our vision is **an Africa where every child has equal access to quality education** as we believe education is the key to overcoming poverty. Since 2005, we have worked with primary and nursery schools in Uganda, Zambia, and South Sudan. We don't just provide infrastructure; we empower whole communities – pupils, teachers, and parents – to transform schools into thriving learning environments that build better futures. The end goal is simple: to improve equal access to quality education.

Overview of Project:

In Country Office	Zambia
Project Name	Construction of 1x3 Classroom Block
Project Location	Lugobo Community School, Kalomo District, Southern Province, Zambia
Historical support	African Revival has previously constructed pupil and staff latrines, hand washing stands and procured desks for this school.
Is the project located within an existing programme or new?	This project is part of school infrastructure development in Southern Zambian community and primary schools.
Project Goal and Outcomes	Project Goal: Improve the learning environment and quality of education at Lugobo Community School. Outcome 1: CRB constructed. Outcome 2: School desks procured.
Target Population	297 pupils (148 girls, 149 boys)
Estimated life of Project	6 Months
Project spend	£30,273
Funding source(s)	Anonymous Donor and AR Ball 2021
Contact Person in Zambia	Name: Godwin Kamangala Email: Godwin.kamangala@africanrevival.org

**Background:**

Lugobo Community School was founded and funded by the community, although now that latrines have been built, a classroom block has been completed, and AR are in the process of building two teacher staff houses, the District Education Board Secretary (DEBS) advised the school will be listed to become registered as a government school - which means they will receive additional funding and more trained teachers.

The school is located approximately 35 km from Kalomo town, in Kalomo District, Southern Province, Zambia. There are currently 297 pupils enrolled, with 5 teachers. Two of the teachers (including the head teacher) are trained and are on the government payroll, while the other three are community teachers. The office of the DEBS has committed to sourcing more trained teachers for the school.

The school previously had inadequate classroom facilities, including a 1x3 classroom block constructed by Response Network, in poor condition, and another unfinished structure started by the community. Classes run from Preschool to Grade 7, but due to the lack of classrooms, classes for multiple grades were conducted in the same room. This made effective lesson delivery incredibly difficult for the teachers and affected learning time and the ability of pupils to focus.

The school applied for further assistance from African Revival to construct a new classroom block and teacher staff housing, to help the pupils learn effectively and attract trained teachers, as well as increase enrolment, retention and attainment over time.

Project Results:**Outputs:**

Construction of the classroom block, with one lockable office and one staff room, started in April 2022 and was completed in October 2022. An order for 42 x 3-seater desk benches (14 for each classroom) has been placed with the supplier and will be delivered shortly.

Outcomes:

297 pupils (148 girls, 149 boys) and 5 teachers will immediately benefit from the newly constructed classroom block.

Impact:

Improved infrastructure will increase enrolment and attainment of pupils over time. Due to the new classroom block having a lockable office for examination papers, the DEBS office has committed to approving the school as an examination centre, so pupils do not have to walk 7km to the next school to write exams.

Community Engagement:

Before the project commenced, African Revival agreed with the community - parents and teachers – that they would contribute river sand, stones, bricks, and other local materials for the construction. As well as providing upfront materials, the community also provided labour, assisting the professional builder that we hired, helping to dig the foundations and

supplying water and housing for the builders. Community involvement is important for a sense of ownership and helps ensure good value for money. Our Construction Coordinator, Dave Sangweni, and the builder/contractor, Konnie Simapuka, were on hand to supervise and work together with the community throughout.

Challenges:

There was a break in building, as materials from the community ran out following the sad death of the village headman, who was very active in mobilising the community. Our Construction Coordinator, Dave, worked very hard to encourage the school and community to mobilise more materials and eventually enough were collected to complete the structure.

Pictures:



Classroom block under construction



Completed classroom block



Handover:

The new classroom block was officially handed over to the community of Lugobo Community School in a ceremony that took place on 27th October 2022 and was attended by African Revival's Executive Director, Elaine Miller (who was visiting Zambia on a monitoring trip at the time); Country Manager, Godwin Kamangala and Construction Coordinator, Dave Sangweni, the District Education Board Secretary, the head teacher, community leaders and members, and pupils.



Handover ceremony

Sustainability:

African Revival creates significant impact and sustainability through close engagement with the education governing bodies, head-teachers, parents, and local community leaders. African Revival has been working in these rural locations since 2005 and in doing so we have built long standing and trusting relationships. We listen and assess critical needs, working diligently with education officials, ensuring support at many levels.

During the handover ceremony for the new classroom block, African Revival and the DEBS requested that parents and the wider community make a commitment to renovate the old 3-room classroom block (which needs to have the walls repaired and a new roof fitted). African Revival told the community that no further support will be given to the school unless this work is done. A small fundraising event took place on the day, with over £50 raised to kickstart the funding pot for refurbishment. Community leaders gave their assurance the work will be done and proposed end of March 2023 as a month for work to be completed. The DEBS promised to visit the school again once the work has been done.

Additional Support at Lugobo:**Water:**

Not an issue at this school, as they have a borehole sited in the school compound. It was towards the end of the dry season when AR visited in October '22 and the borehole was functioning with a good supply of water, whereas many other school boreholes were dry.

ZOCS:**Zambia Open Community Schools**

is an organisation of community schools in Zambia that, since 1992, empowers communities to provide quality basic education to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs), especially girls and children with disabilities. We saw many ECE classrooms built by ZOCS – funded by The Roger Federer Foundation (RFF), which supports access to quality education for marginalised and vulnerable children around the world.



In April 2019, RFF entered into a joint agreement with ZOCS to implement a 7-year School Readiness Initiative. The project's aim is to enhance access to quality ECD in community schools in 53 districts of Zambia. They are bright and inviting, however, there are no windows, so will be open to the elements - not practical during the rainy season. The ECE classroom pictured above was built at Lugobo Community School four months ago.

Monitoring & Evaluation:

Monitoring and evaluation of this project will include maintenance of the infrastructure – AR's Construction Coordinator will visit in six months' time, to ensure there are no structural defects. We will also update on the refurbishment by the community on the dilapidated 3xCRB parents have committed to repair. Primary Leaving Exam results are obtained each year from the District Education Office to track attainment.

Budget Summary:

African Revival received a donation of £25,000 towards the building of a 3-room classroom block with furniture. The project cost a total of **£30,273**, with balance of funds allocated by the Board of Trustees from the AR Ball 2021.



Children, teachers, and parents at Lugobo Community School would like to thank the Anonymous Donor and African Revival for their support.



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