

Construction of a Complete School at JIRO PRIMARY SCHOOL Koboko District, Northern Uganda



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PROJECT OUTPUTS



1
new classroom block with
3 classrooms



12
stances of latrines for
pupils and staff, including
a girls' changing room



1

rainwater
harvesting tank

54



desk benches



320

new trees
planted

393

beneficiaries



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Name	Jiro Primary School - Complete School
Location	Jiro Village, Monudu Parish, Kuluba, Koboko District, Northern Uganda
Wider Programme	Improving infrastructure and quality of education in Koboko District, Northern Uganda - where we have built 12 schools (including Jiro) since 2018.
Project Goal and Outcomes	<p>Project Goal: Improved school learning environment, to increase enrolment, retention, and attainment of pupils.</p> <p>Output 1: Construction of 1x3 classroom block with 54 three-seater desks, 3 teacher tables & chairs.</p> <p>Output 2: Construction of 1x 20,000L rainwater tank.</p> <p>Output 3: Construction of 5x stances latrines for boys, 5x for girls (with a changing room) and 2x stances for teachers.</p> <p>Output 4: Training local people in ISSB building technology.</p> <p>Output 5: Hundreds of trees planted on the school site; to provide shade and food.</p>
Target Population	393 primary school pupils (212 girls, 181 boys) and 6 teachers.
Project Duration	August 2025 - January 2026 (5 months)
Project Budget	£59,730
Donors	AR Ball 2024 & 2025 donors, Ward Family Charitable Trust (latrines), Rushmoor Rotary Club, AR Golf Day 2025 donors, The Rasche Family Charitable Trust, Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust, C.B & H.H. Taylor 1984 Trust (furniture), and The Kula Foundation's Community Resilience Fund.

PREPARED BY

Vincent Komakech - ARU
Country Manager & Engineer

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Charity Reg No.: 1108718



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About 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 **over 300 primary and nursery schools** in Uganda, South Sudan and (until recently) Zambia, to allow **over 120,000 children** to fulfil their potential. We don't just provide infrastructure; we empower whole communities – pupils, teachers, and parents – to transform schools into thriving learning environments that build brighter, better futures.

Project Background & Need

Jiro Primary School was founded by the community in 2005. At the start of the project, enrolment was 393 primary school pupils (212 girls, 181 boys), with 6 teachers (1 female, 5 male). Only the headteacher is qualified. The nearest school is 5km away (Kuluba Primary School). The school previously had only one temporary, roofed mud-structure classroom; other classes took place in the nearby church building or under trees. Two latrines were shared with the church, and the school had one 5,000L rainwater harvesting tank (RWHT) and an unprotected well for water. There were no desks and very few books.

Project Inputs

Construction was carried out in partnership with Haileybury Youth Trust (HYT) **using eco-friendly ISSB (interlocking stabilised soil block) technology**. ISSB blocks are compressed then cured in the sun, rather than fired, eliminating the need for firewood. Less cement is used to make and build with ISSB compared to traditional building methods. As part of the contract, HYT employed several local young people, who had previously been trained to build with ISSB as part of earlier AR projects – providing jobs and ensuring the community will be able to maintain their new structures.

Community Engagement

Before the project commenced, African Revival agreed with the community (parents and teachers) that they would contribute local building materials (e.g. river sand and hardcore), as well as some labour, security of building materials, and accommodation for the contractors. **Community involvement is important for sense of ownership and helps to reduce project costs**. The community had already donated the land for the school site and all the new infrastructure is to be taken care of by them.

Project Outputs

The project delivered a new 1x3 classroom block, furnished with 54x three-seater desk benches, 3x teacher tables and chairs, 1x 20,000L rainwater harvesting tank, as well as latrines for boys, girls (with a changing room) and teachers – all built with eco-friendly ISSB. Classrooms and latrines are disability and wheelchair accessible. Hundreds of young trees were also planted. The new school infrastructure was officially handed over to the community on 25th February 2026.

Project Outcomes

The new classrooms and furniture have had a significant impact on the quality of education at Jiro Primary School, as all lessons now take place indoors and children do not have to learn sitting on the ground. This has created a more stable and motivating learning environment, where teachers can deliver lessons without disruption from weather or overcrowding.

Provision of more water on the school site will reduce the number of hours of learning missed by pupils, as previously they had to travel down the valley to collect water. The new latrines will improve sanitation and have provided a changing room for girls to use during menstruation.

[Outcomes continued on next page]

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Outcomes (continued)

The environmentally friendly building methods used have reduced pressure on local ecosystems, eliminating the need for charcoal to fire bricks and supporting the planting of hundreds of new trees around the school grounds. The development has also helped to foster positive relations between local families and refugee communities, who jointly benefit from the improved school environment.

The project has strengthened local capacity as well. Young people trained in ISSB have gained valuable employment and practical skills; contributing to household incomes and reinforcing community ownership of the school's development.

Long-Term Impacts

The improvements made at Jiro are expected to translate into higher enrolment and stronger academic performance in the coming school year, as children benefit from a safer, more supportive learning environment. Longer term, access to quality primary education is known to drive wider social progress, including better health and hygiene, reduced child mortality, improved nutrition, greater civic participation, and lower levels of rural poverty.

As a direct result of our intervention, we hope this school will now be coded as a government school; to eventually receive trained teachers and additional funding, further improving academic performance.

Sustainability

One of the most important ways we create such significant impact and sustainability is through our close engagement with District Education Offices, headteachers, parents, and local community leaders. African Revival has been working in these rural locations for many years and in doing so we have built long-standing and trusting relationships.

Risk Assessment

A risk assessment was carried out - no issues arose during project implementation and there were no safeguarding concerns.

Challenges

This project progressed smoothly with no major challenges encountered. The site conditions were favourable, and the use of ISSB technology helped streamline the building process. Minor delays due to intermittent rainfall were managed effectively and did not impact the overall timeline. There were no safeguarding concerns or cost overruns, and the project was completed quickly and to a high standard.

Monitoring & Evaluation

Monitoring of this project is the responsibility of ARU Country Manager, Vincent Komakech, who will continue to liaise with Koboko District local government to assess usage of the school and its impact on the quality of education through enrolment and attendance data. The School Management Committee agrees to be part of this monitoring process and pledges to allocate a budget to conduct repairs/replacement of worn-out parts.

Budget Summary

10% Retention is held by African Revival and due for payment to the contractor six months after project completion - following an inspection of the infrastructure by our Country Manager, who is a qualified engineer. The total project cost will be approximately **£47,000**, with the underspend mainly due to a large fluctuation in the exchange rate during the project. Un-spent funds (from AR's charity ball 2025) will be allocated to construction of the same infrastructure at nearby Goya Primary School (subject to approval by our Board of Trustees).

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The Project in Pictures...



Before the project started



Ground-breaking



Foundations, superstructure and roofing



Completed infrastructure



Thank you for supporting this project!