



The New Build, Uganda 2008

Food For Thought School Building Project

Uganda, July-October 2008



This year New Build Uganda has decided to focus on two different Primary schools in Mubende District. Kabowa, which is linked to Oxford Road Primary School in Reading and Kasaana, which is linked to Manor Primary School in Ivybridge, Devon.

Kabowa Primary School

Like many Primary Schools in Uganda Kabowa is short of school buildings. It was founded in the mid-1990s and currently consists of only two brick built classrooms and four constructed of wattle and daub. This is despite the fact that there are seven years in Primary School. The remaining classes are held in improvised shelters and under trees. Until the introduction of free primary

education for all, following debt relief in 1997, this system was bearable, if awkward, but now some classes have soared to 150 pupils. It is easy to imagine some of the problems with teaching outside. When it rains, classes have to be abandoned and when it is too hot the pupils are very weary. It is also very distracting to be outdoors! There is always something more interesting to look at rather than study!

There is also a lack of water at the school. The nearest water source is 2km away and there is no tank to store water on site. Some pupils have a 5km walk to school and there may be no water for them to drink when they arrive. The lack of water also makes it very difficult for pupils to learn clear lessons about water hygiene. In a country where 25% of all child deaths are due to dirty water



this is a necessary part of the curriculum.

The Kabowa section of the New Build Uganda 2008 project will consist of the construction of a new block of three classrooms and a 100,000-litre water tank. The additional classrooms will enable all of the classes to be held indoors and the water tank will be sufficiently large so that all of the children have access to safe drinking water at school.

Oxford Road Primary school in Reading has already collected a significant amount of money towards the construction of the water tank and this work will be carried out in partnership with them.



Kasaana Primary School

Unlike Kabowa, the biggest challenge facing Kasaana Primary school is not the construction of new school buildings but the renovation of what is already there.

The key problems are the lack of a water tank and associated guttering etc to harvest the rainwater from the roofs, the deterioration of the classroom floors and the erosion of soil around the foundations of the buildings.

New Build Uganda 2008 intends to address these problems with the help of the local government. Mubende District Education Authority will provide a 100,000 litre plastic water tank and New Build will construct a base and install the necessary guttering and pipework. An apron will be constructed around the perimeter of the buildings to protect the foundations and damaged sections of the classroom floors will be reconstructed.

Overall Cost

It is estimated that the project will cost approximately £15,000. All of this money will be spent directly on building materials. Local volunteers will work alongside their UK counterparts to ensure that this project is a success! Please help us to improve the lives and education of Ugandan primary school children in Mubende District.

Any donations should be made payable to 'Devon Development Education' and posted to Devon Development Education, The Global Centre, Exeter Community Centre, 17 St David's Hill, Exeter, EX4 3RG. Registered Charity: 1102233. Please include a note specifying The New Build Uganda as recipient of your donation and who you are. For further information about this project contact Mark Errington at the above address or alternatively by email at: markerrington@thenewbuild.org.uk <http://www.thenewbuild.org.uk>

