

Report on the rehabilitation of a classroom block at Mfuwe Primary School

Introduction

In August 2022 an appeal was made to Chipembele by Mohammed Mphande, Head Teacher at Mfuwe Primary School, for assistance with the rehabilitation of an old classroom block. The classroom block (comprising 3 classrooms and an office) had been left derelict for several years. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Education did not have to funds to renovate it.





Earlier in the year a local safari guide had sourced some funding and had overseen some structural repairs including plastering, repairing of cracks and roofing. However, he ran out of funds before the work was completed. Funding was still need to complete the following:

- The provision and fitting of doors with locks on all rooms
- The making of a grill gate for the teacher office
- The fitting of window stays and handles
- The painting of all internal and external walls
- The painting of all windows
- The painting of blackboards in all classrooms
- Furniture for the teacher office to make it usable
- Provision of desks for the classrooms

In September 2023 Markus Wenger of Schulprojekte Sambia, visited Mfuwe. I took him to meet with Mr Mphande at Mfuwe Primary School on 16th September and he saw the part-finished classroom block. He asked for a budget to be completed so he and his Board could consider the appeal for funding. Mr Mphande submitted a budget to me which I carefully checked and adjusted slightly, then forwarded it to Schulprojekte Sambia. The total cost was estimated at \$5091. On 9th October Markus notified me that the Board had approved the budget and the work.

The Project

I acted as Project Manager and Olivia Petre (CEO) oversaw the finances. I closely liaised with Mr Mphande who oversaw the work on a daily basis. I ordered materials from a hardware store in Chipata and ordered desks, office furniture, doors and a grill gate from local craftsmen. A local painter was engaged to paint the classrooms inside and out, including the windows.









A total of 120 double bench-style desks were made (all-metal to reduce the use of trees) and carried by hand by pupils for a distance of over 1km from the welder's workshop to the school. This saved the desks from being damaged or the paint scratched if they were loaded into the back of a truck.













The teacher's office was furnished with a desk, chair and bookshelves. It is mainly being used by Senior Teacher Mr Sakala who is also the Chongololo Club (conservation club) patron for the school works very closely with Chipembele.









Conclusion

All the work was successfully completed by 31st October and I inspected it all to confirm it was all of a good standard. The final cost of the project was \$4598(see table on Page 6), which is \$493 under budget.

Mr Mphande kept in contact with me regularly over the progress of the work and sent me pictures at every stage. He has sent me several messages of thanks and is hugely grateful to Schulprojekte Sambia for the generous donation that enabled this once dilapidated classroom block to be able to be used again for so many children.



A huge thanks from Chipembele to Schulprojekte Sambia for the financial support and the encouragement they provided to this very deserving project.

Anna Tolan

Founding Director

Expenditure for 1 x 3 classroom block at Mfuwe Primary School			
Material	Quantity	Cost ZMW	Cost USD
Blackboard paint	10 ltrs	960	57
PVA paint - terracotta	40 ltrs	980	58
Desks	120	55,800	3314
PVA paint - cream	40 ltrs	560	33
PVA paint - cream (additional)	40 ltrs	560	33
Gloss paint	10 ltrs	780	46
Paint brushes, various	6	190	11
Roller brushes and trays		110	7
Mortice locks	4	1800	107
Wooden doors	4	4400	261
Window stays/handles	30	1140	68
Desk, chair, bookshelves	-	3900	232
Grill gates	1	1500	89
Padlocks for grill gates	2	240	14
Filler for walls	2kg	60	4
Transport of materials from Chipata		500	20
Cleaning all windows		100	30 6
Fitting grill gate		250	15
Labour cost - painting and fitting window stays and	1	3,500	13
pegs			208
Transport of bookshelves		100	6
	TOTAL	K77,430	\$4598