

File Form Ref 418- 0015

Wulugu Project; Repairs Sayoo Primary School, Northern Ghana Completion report.



The completed front of Sayoo Primary School showing the flag pole for Assembly

Sayoo is one of the first schools built by ‘Wulugu Project’. It opened in 2005 with 6 classrooms and a store/teacher room. Soon after this we provided simple rooms for women teachers to ensure that the girls have good role models.

Enrolment of children has increased each year. Currently there are 304 children with approximately equal numbers of boys and girls. Attendance is excellent. The numbers transferring to Junior High each year is also increasing, with parents very keen now that girls have this chance of achieving worthwhile qualifications. Ghana Education Service has provided 9 teachers. Four of these are ‘National Service’ teachers supporting the teaching of maths and English.

Since the school opened, extremes of weather, termites, goats and cattle have caused damage to the point that the buildings were in danger of collapse and increasingly hazardous to use, hence the need for these urgent repairs.



Before and after showing the new improved aprons that protect the foundations and increase the life of the school.

The building was fully repaired using strengthening, particularly better concrete mix. The wooden doors were replaced with galvanised metal doors to avoid future termite destruction. The whole school was painted for further protection.

Work was completed before the start of the September term. There is no longer any danger of collapse.

Our Ghana team reported:

'The school has had a great facelift by the repairs. The community have put up a hut for the Kindergarten class and are greatly involved in the affairs of the school. When we mobilised materials to site, the community organised young men to be sleeping and keeping watch over the materials till we arrived to start work. They helped move furniture around to allow the works to go on as well as support the workers with food. The only downside was they couldn't support us with water'.

The repairs here were carried out rapidly and the building team were pleased that there were no major obstacles. This school is relatively near to Nasyria, so the team moved straight to Sayoo after completing Nasyria. Fortunately the school was closed for the 'summer' break so no lessons were disturbed.

The teachers, head and children will be greatly encouraged by the bright building without the hazards of holes in floors and badly broken doors and window frames. The school is now safe for many years ahead.

Communities across Northern Ghana, supported by the Imams and tribal chiefs have reached a dramatic turning point in their attitude to education for girls and women. This is remarkable for villages where education is still a new concept and where the fate of most Muslim girls was sealed at birth when they were betrothed to marry on first menstruation.

For the remote communities, however, this has caused considerable distress. They are so far from the notice of politicians and influencers that finding the support they need to improve education is impossible.

'Wulugu Project' is seen as their only hope. The Sayoo people always help where they can and are greatly involved in the affairs of the school. The people put up a hut to use as a kindergarten. When we mobilised materials to the site, they organised young men to sleep there and keep guard over the materials until we arrived to start building.

Numbers of children in Sayoo have risen steadily. As with all of our schools, the numbers of girls now closely match those of boys. Our strong partnership with Ghana education service has provided well-qualified teachers who are paid by local government.

The team involved in this project have worked with us for many years. They are reliable and have strong local knowledge as well as backgrounds in education and construction industry. As with the school we repaired at Nasyria at this time, the building team worked hard to ensure all work was completed ready for the start of the new school year in mid September. The painting was delayed due to torrential rains, but the re-opening of the school ran to schedule.

Budget. We very gratefully received £7,000 from Fondation Eagle

The repairs were completed within budget at a slightly lower than estimated cost of (35,197 GHC or) **£7,039**.

Ref 418-15 Wulugu Project Completion Budget - SAYOO PRIMARY SCHOOL REPAIRS		
ITEM	Estimated Price	Actual Costs
	GB POUND	GB POUND
Sand, Cement, Gravel, Aggregate and Water	2,700	2,458
Metal Doors, Whiteboard and Nails	1,199	1,027
Paint	494	494
Painters, Carpenters, Masons, Labourers and Supervision	2,590	2,700
Transport and Fuel	420	360
Grand Total	7,403	7,039