

## **Report to Fondation Eagle** **Kapanda CDSS IT Lab Project with RIPPLE Africa**

Ref: FF 442-02

### **Introduction**

In May 2018 Fondation Eagle kindly donated £36,890 to IT Schools Africa, for the build (£19,936) and installation of an IT lab (£16,954) at Kapanda Community Day Secondary School, in conjunction with RIPPLE Africa.

The project took 3 months to complete, work started early June and the IT Lab was officially opened on 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

### **How we used the grant**

We used the grant to build a 10 x 14 metre classroom and install a fully equipped IT lab for the students and teachers so they can benefit from accessing ICT. The lab has 60 networked computers, server, printer, digital projector, whiteboard, teacher's laptop and Internet subscription for the teacher's laptop.



### **Kapanda Community Day Secondary School**

Kapanda Secondary School was built by RIPPLE Africa in 2007. Before this students in the local area had to walk 13km each way to attend the nearest secondary school. The school was formally taken over by the government in 2013. The school had only 5 laptops prior to the new IT lab, which will now enable the children to have access to digital resources to support their learning. The children

are keen to learn computing skills to help them study more effectively and to support them in securing further education and employment.

### *Building the classroom*

Before work commenced we altered the plans slightly to make the building a little longer and have a konde (porch) running the full length of the building.



### *Electrical pipe work*

Once the walls were up the CFMS team got started with the electrical work. They laid the underground cables from the new classroom to the power source. Six lines were installed for the six rows of desks (each with 10 computers).



The width of the iron sheets available differed to the original budget which increased the number of panels we needed. We used 15" and 6" panels and joined them together to make 20" panels. These were large enough to cover the konde so there was no need for the 8" panels (originally budgeted for).

Once the roof was on we used pine timber for the ceiling trusses. Again due to the availability of materials we had to use slightly different sizes and make adjustments where necessary. Then the ceiling panels were fitted and painted and the floor was polished. We fitted six ceiling fans to keep the room cool when the computers are on.





### *Fabrication of classroom furniture*

We built 6 x 6.5mtr long student desks and benches, teacher's platform desk, student bag shelves and a cupboard for the teacher's books.



### *Painting*

The whole building was painted, ceilings, walls, window frames. To manage with the power shortages the team worked at night to make sure the work was finished on time.



### *Equipment installation*

We installed 60 refurbished computers as well as a server, the teacher's laptop, laser printer and digital projector in the lab. The server will store educational materials to support the students' learning.



### *The completed lab*

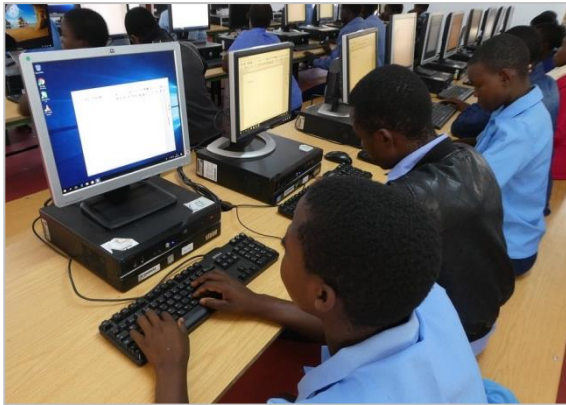


*Before*



*After*





### *Opening Ceremony*

On Monday 23rd September 2018, we officially handed over the IT lab to Kapanda Secondary School. In attendance was Mr. Robin Msiska (ICT Manager from the Ministry of Education), Head Teacher Mr. Collence Msiska, CFMS Manager Sabina Kulasinghe, the RIPPLE team, the Chief, school staff, students, Pastor Alick Phiri (the PTA chair) and British and American RIPPLE volunteers.

The Head Teacher thanked CFMS and RIPPLE Africa for their hard work and completing the project in such a timely manner;

***"A complete building from the foundation to how it looks now, in less than 3 months is unbelievable. I have never seen that in my life. Buildings get constructed and go on for a good year or so. But this one in less than half a year!"***

He also thanked IT Schools Africa and Fondation Eagle, extending his profound gratitude for a great donation for their community.

Please see the link to a You Tube video of the transformation [here](#).

## Financial report

The exchange rate for the budget was 985 Mk /£ but the actual exchange rates were between 910 and 966.46 MK /£

### SUMMARY COSTINGS - BUILDING KAPANDA COMPUTER LAB

Cost Description	Code	BUDGET		ACTUAL	
		MK	£	MK	£
			Exchange rate 985		Exchange rate 910 to 966.46
Cement	ACE	1,680,000	£1,706	1,786,800	£1,896
Local Building Materials	BLB	948,000	£962	1,705,000	£1,781
General Building Materials	CGB	1,198,700	£1,217	1,361,988	£1,461
Steel	DST	1,238,000	£1,257	1,240,800	£1,313
Timber	ETI	1,664,900	£1,690	1,162,500	£1,221
Roofing	FRO	699,600	£710	980,576	£1,051
Paint	GPA	1,586,000	£1,610	1,782,574	£1,947
Furniture	HFU	20,000	£20	0	£0
Electrical	IEL	0	£0	0	£0
Plumbing	JPL	0	£0	0	£0
Other contractor	KOC	0	£0	0	£0
Transport	LTR	1,501,000	£1,524	1,943,000	£2,038
Labour	MLA	5,828,000	£5,917	5,625,147	£6,116
Management	NOM	1,636,420	£1,661	1,758,839	£1,882
Contingency Costs	OCC	1,636,420	£1,661	0	£0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>19,637,040</b>	<b>£19,936</b>	<b>19,347,224</b>	<b>£20,705</b>

OVER SPEND

£769

### SUMMARY COSTINGS - INSTALLATION OF KAPANDA COMPUTER LAB

Cost Description	Code	BUDGET		ACTUAL	
		MK	£	MK	£
			Exchange rate 985		Exchange rate 910 to 966.46
Classroom		4,349,894	£4,416	5,354,481	£5,543
Computer installation		8,106,425	£8,230	8,256,725	£8,547
Transport and accomodation		1,460,000	£1,482	1,825,026	£1,889
Management		1,391,632	£1,413	1,391,632	£1,441
Contingency Costs		1,391,632	£1,413	0	£0
		<b>16,699,583</b>	<b>£16,954</b>	<b>16,827,864</b>	<b>£17,420</b>

OVER SPEND

£466

**TOTAL COST** £38,126  
**ORIGINAL BUDGET** £36,890  
**TOTAL OVERSPEND** £1,236

### *Key variances - Construction*

- We bought 3000 more bricks to extend the classroom slightly, as without the library originally planned we felt for such a large room it needed a bit more space at the front. A combination of increased prices (for bricks) and the lower exchange rate meant we overspent £356.
- The iron sheets cost more (£310) due to price increases and the rate in July (K933)
- The timber for construction was cheaper (£469) than budgeted because CFMS built the shelving.
- The exchange rate variance had a significant effect on the budget and overall there was an overspend of £769.

### *Key variances – IT lab installation*

- We had not factored in the electrician's first visit to the site (he had to travel 560kms from Blantyre to Nkhata Bay) to lay the cables during the construction (£410)
- The price of materials had increased from the original budget, particularly for timber, because we decided CFMS could build the shelving whilst the building work continued.
- Transport costs were higher (£196) than we originally budgeted due to additional trips to transport staff and materials.
- Overall the budget was affected by the change in exchange rate, from K985 to K966, this amounted to £353.
- The total overspend was £466

### *Summary*

The variance in the exchange rate was K56 from the project start in May (K966) to the project end in September (K910). The original budget was set at K985. This impacted the construction budget significantly raising costs by £1,063. The costs were lower for timber as CFMS prepared the shelving. This however, increased CFMS classroom costs as did the electrician's initial trip to lay the cabling. Additional transport not factored into the original budgets contributed towards the overspend. The cost of local materials also affected the budgets, price fluctuations are typical in Malawi which makes planning for projects over a relatively prolonged period difficult to forecast.

The total combined overspend for the project was **£1,236**.

### **Conclusion**

We are absolutely delighted with the results of our first project in collaboration with another charity, and on such a grand scale. For IT Schools Africa it is our largest project to date and we are hugely grateful to Fondation Eagle for not only granting the funds to make the project possible but for connecting us to RIPPLE Africa.

The project was one of our most challenging but at the same time our teams' had fun working together and were able to finish all the work on time, and in time for the new school year.

It has been a pleasure working together with them to deliver such an impressive facility in a region of Malawi that has extremely poor IT services and facilities.

In our recently developed Theory of Change we identified how working in partnership is a fundamental part of our organisation strategy. This project is a great example of how impactful collaboration can be and we hope we can develop many more similar projects in the future.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Fondation Eagle for their generous and continued support, we simply could not do what we do without their help.

With warm regards



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## Appendix A

### Handover ceremony of IT Lab to Kapanda Secondary School (by Sabina Kulasinghe)

#### Cutting of the Ribbon and Signing of Agreement

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018, we officially handed over the lab to Kapanda Secondary School. There was a good team building with the staff from Ripple Africa and we all met our target. The whole project was completed within 3 months' time.

This is one of the biggest lab we have done. It consisted brand new computer room with 60 desktops, 6 ceiling fans, wall fans, 6 of 6.5mtr long student desks and benches, teacher's platform desk with a chair, printer, projector, laptop, scanner, saver, whiteboard, student bag shelves, teacher books cupboard and Curtains.

In declaring the new lab opening, *Mr. ROBIN MSISKA ( ICT MANGER FROM EDUCATION)* – *The Head Teacher Mr. Collence Msiska , The programme Manager of CFMS Sabina Kulasinghe, school staff, students, pastor Alick Phiri ( the PTA chair), the Chief, Mother board, USA and UK volunteers, Ripple Africa staff, Guards, Builder were all present.*

*The programme opened with a prayer by PTA chair who was a church pastor too, followed by Deputy teacher who introduced everyone present followed by Ripple Africa Manager, CFMS Programme manager, Head teacher together with The ICT manager from the education jointly cut the ribbon for the opening of the new computer lab.*

*After cutting the ribbon, opened the door for all to enter. While we were in the lab everyone admiring the lab, the deputy head teacher was master of ceremony.*

*He first asked the CFMS to introduce our programme and why we chose Kapande out of all the schools in the Nkhata-bay area. With all that, He also asked Ripple Africa manager to introduce themselves, then he asked the chief to say something and encouraging the schools to look after the gift that was given to the school. He also asked the mother board to say something and of course the PTA chair that he is also a pastor of a church. He was hard on the teachers. He had told them not to abuse the equipment or steal them or borrow to their home. He promised as a pastor and a father of my son in the school, he will personally take extra care of the lab. He wants to see children benefiting ICT for more year to come. He thanked all organizations that donated the great gift to exist in there town.*

*Thereafter, the Head Teacher acknowledged everyone present and thanks the PTA chair what he said about the abusing of the equipment will not happened on his watch. We will indeed look after the lab. He also thanked CFMS and Ripple Africa for their hard work and having a complete building from the foundation to what it looked now in less than 3 months is unbelievable he said. He has never seen that in his life. He said building get constructed and go on for a good year or so. But this one less than half a year??? He thanked us. He also acknowledge the IT Schools Africa and Fondation Eagle extending his profound gratitude for a great donation for their community.*

*In closing, the head teacher asked the ICT manager Mr Msiska to talk. He was speechless about the whole donation. In fact he did not even know Kapanda existed. He promised the head and the students that from now on, he will make sure Kapanda becomes a double shift school. And will be the centre of all schools. He himself is in charge of that and he will make sure it happens. He also promised to get more IT teachers for the school and he will report*

*to his boss EDM and make her come visit the school and admire the new development that came in their zone.*

*He also said he will now be selecting more student from other school to go to Kapanda. He wants to see the school grow. He closed with a thank you and wanted to try to get to know more about CFMS and see if we could work together in developing the Northern side.*

*We ended with a closing prayer, then signing agreement between Kapanda School, Ministry of Education ICT manager, PTA and CFMS.*

*The Whole ceremony started from 10:20am to 1:00 pm.*