

## **Final Report to Fondation Eagle**

**Wulugu Project** Reg Charity no 1060691

**Larabanga Junior High School Build**

**F.F. 0447-07**

### **Completion Report for Eagle Foundation**

We are extremely grateful to Fondation Eagle for their strong support that has contributed substantially to our work.

We received the news that we had been awarded **£32,000 from Fondation Eagle on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018** to build a much-needed 3 classroom Junior High School at Larabanga, Northern Ghana, with a store/teacher room. This was urgent due to the excessive overcrowding in the existing school.

This school is adjacent to Larabanga primary school, Funded by Fondation Eagle in 2014. It is on the edge of Mole Game Reserve

The work began mid May and was completed in time for the opening of the new school year in mid September, only slightly later than expected and close to budget. The building took four months and is expected to last for a very minimum of 20 years. Our earlier schools, built from 2003, are still all in good condition. We have made repairs where they have suffered the inevitable weather damage.

#### **Beneficiaries**

The new Junior High was needed to meet the dramatic increase in numbers of children who are now progressing to this stage of education. This increase is partly due to our Primary school that enabled many more children to go to school. Junior High is the real gateway to escape from poverty. In these schools children are equipped to take the exams they need to qualify for Senior High and then into more skilled work, vocational training or Higher Education.

Of the 360 children attending the now 2 Junior High Schools, half are in the new school, 60 in each of the three classrooms. Before the construction of the new building there were 300 children in the existing 3-room block. 100 in each room. The additional building has greatly eased the situation. At present there are 60 per class. Ghana Education Service has recruited and pays the salaries of 3 new teachers. This intervention has already increased the efficiency of both teaching and learning and exam results are expected to improve considerably. Teachers are more motivated and more families are able to send their children to this stage of schooling safely in their own village. The current increase in pupils coming to the 2 Junior Highs is 60. Numbers will inevitably increase further and the schools will deal with this as they try not to turn children away.

Fondation Eagle first helped in Larabanga in 2014 by building a much-needed second primary school to overcome the unbelievable overcrowding. In 2015 we built a hostel for women teachers to ensure that they could attend school regularly and provide role models for girls. Numbers at primary level have continued to grow and enrolment of girls matches that of boys.

Alongside this there is now a great increase in the numbers who want to enrol for the next stage of education, Junior High (JHS). The demand has increased further by the introduction of primary schooling for the children of Rangers within the game reserve at Mole. They needed an accessible Junior High and Larabanga was the best option.

Over-crowding in the grossly inadequate 3-classroom Junior High, with 100 in each of 3 classrooms, meant that many were turned away. This is what we have put right. Locals helped with builders' food and accommodation, clearing the land and storing materials safely. The village Chief gave the land, very close to the Primary School so encouraging children to continue their education.



students

**The first Larabanga Junior High was very overcrowded, with  
from Larabanga Primary 2.**



accommodation on

2018

**Blocks were cast in situ just behind the teachers'  
the Larabanga 2 campus for the new Junior High. May**

**The Construction:**

Block-making began mid May and the main body of work was completed early in August. The school equally played a supporting role by housing the workers in the office of a new Kindergarten block constructed by USAID.

The main challenges were the very hard rock of the land and the extreme weather. The rock is so hard that extra labour was needed together with help with blasting from a mining company.

The once-predictable weather pattern has changed completely in recent years but we have to live with that and adapt. The rains peaked after July when we had raised the super structure and completed the roofing. We needed the building to dry for the final painting to be done. This was unduly delayed due rains hence the delayed completion. Overall the construction phase was good except for the delayed part due to the rains. Painting was eventually carried out in September.

The school opened late in September for the start of the new school year. The heavy rain and flooding continued all that month, accompanied by increased floods from Burkina Faso where the flood gates were opened. Normal life was halted for a time.



**Larabanga JHS under construction June 2011**



**Larabanga JHS completed September 2018**





**Picture of Larabanga JHS school taken near to completion of 3 Classrooms and storage/teachers room.**

### **Impact**

The new school will greatly ease over-crowding and so improve learning for the students. .An additional advantage will be the improvement in the conditions for teachers. The government will ensure that the new school has the full complement of teachers and each will have a more reasonable number of students to teach than in the existing vastly overcrowded 3-room school. Decongestion will improve the quality of teaching and the supervision and monitoring of the performance of teachers and students. We are also concerned by the small but significant increase in number of girls dropping out in year 3 this year. Our action to deal with the overcrowding will improve the effectiveness of pastoral care.

We were pleased to have funds from The Hilden trust to build toilets and this work was carried out at the same time. All sectors of local communities strongly support our work. The support of the Imams is playing an important role in enabling increasing numbers of girls to attend Junior High and to continue to Senior High, so giving girls more parity with boys and contributing to the sustainable improvement in living standards for all.

**Budget.**

<b>LARABANGA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - THREE CLASSROOM UNIT, OFFICE &amp; STORE</b>				
	Estimated	Estimated	Actual	Actual
ITEM	CEDI	GBP @ 5.6	CEDI	GBP @ 5.8
SAND	30,600	5,464	30,600	
QUARRY STONES & DUST	19,000	3,393	19,000	
GRAVEL	10,500	1,875	10,500	
CEMENT	32,000	5,714	32,000	
ESCAVATION & FILLING	4,265	762	6,015	
IRON RODS	5,260	939	5,260	
WAWA BOARD	2,740	489	2,740	
VARIOUS NAILS	1,300	232	1,300	
METAL DOORS & WINDOWS	5,200	929	5,200	
WOOD	10,105	1,804	10,105	
ROOFING SHEETS	8,100	1,446	8,100	
LOUVRE FRAMES & BLADES	940	168	940	
OTHER MATERIALS	1,800	321	1,800	
PAINT	2,590	463	2,590	
BLOCK MOULDERS	2,800	500	2,800	
STEEL BENDER	4,500	804	4,500	
PAINTER	2,600	464	2,600	
CARPENTERS	13,200	2,357	13,200	
MASONS & LABOURERS	10,000	1,786	10,000	
TRANSPORT	6,500	1,161	6,500	
WATER(BLOCKS & WORKS)	3,000	536	3,000	
FUEL	1,500	268	1,500	
SUPERVISION & MONITORING	2,000	357	2,000	
ADDITIONAL COSTS			5,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>180,500</b>	<b>£32,232</b>	<b>187,250</b>	<b>£32,284</b>

Exchange rate £GB=5.8 Ghana cedis.

(Monies were sent out in instalments during May/June 2018, exchange rate varied from 5.6 to 5.9.

Overall average was 5.8 Ghana cedis)

The overspend of £52 was paid from our funds.