

Report to Fondation Eagle **Dzenza Secondary School IT Lab Project**

Ref: FF 458-18

Introduction

In September 2018 Fondation Eagle kindly donated £14,702 to IT Schools Africa, for the installation of an IT lab at Dzenza Secondary School, in Malawi.

The project took 1 month to complete; work started at the end of September and the IT Lab was officially opened on 26th October.

How we used the grant

We used the grant to renovate one of the school's classrooms and installed a fully equipped IT lab for the students and teachers so they can benefit from accessing ICT. The lab has 40 networked computers, server, printer, digital projector, whiteboard, teacher's laptop and Internet subscription for the teacher's laptop.



Dzenza Secondary School

The school is in the Lilongwe district, Central Region of Malawi. The distance from our office in Blantyre is approximately 300 kms. Before the lab the school had no computers so was not able to offer IT education to its students. The new lab will transform the school and the new facilities will provide access to e-Learning for the 542 school students as well as schools in the area.

Renovating the classroom

The walls were prepared and the old blackboard was taken down. The classroom floor was filled in places where the old cement had come away, to make sure the floor is level so the desks are stable. We replaced broken window handles, and secured the door locks and window protectors.



Electrical pipe work

Channels for the electrical cables were dug in the classroom floor and the pipes were laid.



Fabrication of classroom furniture

We built the student desks and benches and the teacher's desk, as well as the student bag shelves and a cupboard for the teacher's books.



Painting

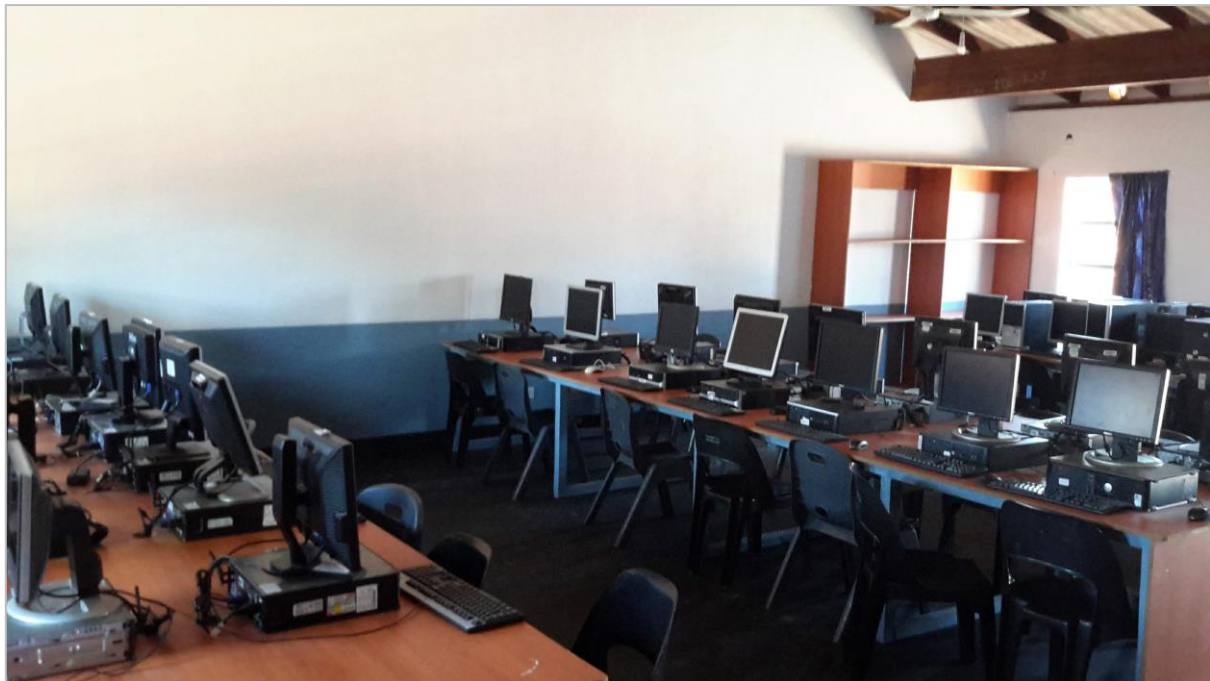
We painted the walls, windows and doors in the appropriate school colours. The floor was also painted.



Equipment installation

We installed 40 networked computers, a server, the teacher's laptop, laser printer and photocopier in the lab. The server will store educational materials to support the students' learning. We installed six ceiling fans and one wall fan for the teacher. We also provided a subscription of six months Internet as well as a white board and stationery.

The completed lab



Teacher training

Sabina's technician delivered the training course for the all teachers in time for the opening of the lab.



Opening Ceremony

The lab was officially handed to Dzenza Secondary School on 26th October. PTA Mr Elton M Chapusa, Head Teacher Mr Charles E Kaiton, Principal Inspector of Education Mrs Joyce Hamsini, The Chairman of CFMS Mr Kulasinghe and the students and teachers were all in attendance. The head teachers from nearby schools, Chitukula CDSS, Dzenza Mission CDSS, and Mzumazi CDSS also attended. Mrs Joyce Hamsini cut the ribbon and declared the computer lab open.

The new lab is a major upgrade of the facilities at Dzenza and the school invited the surrounding schools to join hands and promised to share their computer lab with them.

The head boy delivered a poem about how he as the head boy will make sure the lab is used properly and thanked all the organisations that made the computer lab possible. The ceremony ended with a song and the signing of the Lab Agreement between Dzenza Secondary and CFMS.



Financial report

The exchange rate for the budget was 960 Mk

Dzenza Secondary School IT Lab Budget - Actual				
	COST MALAWI KWACHA	CONVERT TO GBP	ACTUAL KWACHA	ACTUAL GBP
Exchange rate 960	960			
Classroom refurbishment				
Re-wiring materials	1,250,000.00	£1,302.08	1,158,942.00	£1,207.23
Labour	400,000.00	£416.67	400,000.00	£416.67
Painting materials	200,000.00	£208.33	408,772.00	£425.80
Labour	150,000.00	£156.25	200,000.00	£208.33
Fabrication of desks materials	700,000.00	£729.17	831,045.00	£865.67
Labour	350,000.00	£364.58	350,000.00	£364.58
Curtains	100,000.00	£104.17	52,160.00	£54.33
Signage	15,000.00	£15.63	10,000.00	£10.42
Teachers chair	50,000.00	£52.08	118,000.00	£122.92
Ceiling fans x 6 and 1 wall fan for the teacher	208,000.00	£216.67	225,078.00	£234.46
Whiteboard and stationary	150,000.00	£156.25	201,719.00	£210.12
Welder (benches/windows/door)	800,000.00	£833.33	155,899.00	£162.39
Plumber labour	25,000.00	£26.04		
Builder labour (for maintenance)	50,000.00	£52.08	50,000.00	£52.08
Computer equipment				
Windows 10 licences x 41	196,800.00	£205.00	196,800.00	£205.00
Refurbished computers x 40	3,600,000.00	£3,750.00	3,600,000.00	£3,750.00
Refurbished laptop x 1	100,000.00	£104.17	100,000.00	£104.17
Projector ACER X113 Multimedia	400,000.00	£416.67	325,000.00	£338.54
Ceiling mount	20,000.00	£20.83	12,000.00	£12.50
Printer	366,000.00	£381.25	335,000.00	£348.96
Printer cartridge	90,000.00	£93.75	65,000.00	£67.71
Internet and networking				
Router/dongle/data	1,600,000.00	£1,666.67	1,643,540.00	£1,712.02
25mtr VGA Cable	21,000.00	£21.88	35,000.00	£36.46
Technical support				
6 monthly maintenance visits (for 3 years)	500,000.00	£520.83	500,000.00	£520.83
CFMS technician installation and training teachers	150,000.00	£156.25	100,000.00	£104.17
Project Management				
Cost of transporting materials from Blantyre to Lilongwe (300kms)	700,000.00	£729.17	750,000.00	£781.25
Accommodation, food and transport for team (7 days)	750,000.00	£781.25	963,262.00	£1,003.40
Transport and accomodation for the manager to oversee the project	500,000.00	£520.83	1,000,000.00	£1,041.67
Sub total	13,441,800.00	£14,001.88		
Contingency	192,000.00	£200.00	-	£0.00
Monitoring and evaluation of project (Malawi and UK)	480,000.00	£500.00	480,000.00	£500.00
ADDITIONS				
Server			85,000.00	£88.54
Extra mice x 2			10,000.00	£10.42
Grand total	14,113,800.00	£14,701.88	14,362,217.00	£14,960.64
Overspend	£258.77			

Key variances

- The welding cost less (£671) than budgeted as the classroom required less work than originally planned.
- Overall the materials and some of the classroom equipment (stationery and furniture) cost more than the original budget, as prices had increased.

- The management costs were more (£521) partly due to Sabina extending her stay (as the project took longer than planned) and also more transport was required to ferry staff to and from the school.
- The total overspend was £258.77

Conclusion

Sabina and her team have done another fantastic job of transforming the facilities at a rural school on the outskirts of Lilongwe. It's particularly good to see the interest the new lab has already created in the area with the neighbouring schools, whose students should also benefit from the new facilities.

This makes our 10th IT lab project funded by Fondation Eagle and we couldn't be more grateful for their continued support. We recognise areas that we would like to develop further; for instance increasing the number of teachers that teach basic IT and motivate students to improve their digital skills as well increasing the number of schools that have IT equipment. We are in talks with the Director of ICT from the Malawian Ministry of Education Science and Technology to agree a strategy to help improve these two vital issues. I hope that the Fondation Eagle Board might consider supporting our plan to further improve IT education for schools throughout Malawi.

Thank you Fondation Eagle for your support,

With warm regards



Lucy Pollock
General Manager
IT Schools Africa
lucy@itschoolsafrica.org

Appendix A

Letter of thanks from the Dzenza School Head teacher

From : The Head master,
Dzenza Boarding Secondary School
P.O. Box 40136
Kanengo
LILONGWE 4
Cell : 0881461515
Email : cekaitoni@gmail.com

To : The Program Manager
Computers For Malawian Schools
BLANTYRE

Date : 1st November, 2018

Dear madam,

VOTE OF THANKS

I, on my own behalf and on behalf of students, teachers and communities of Dzenza Boarding Secondary School sincerely thank you madam and your organisation for facilitating the donors to consider our school as the beneficiary of refurbished computer laboratory and 40 computers, scanner, server, projector, printer and internet.


You may wish to know that Dzenza Boarding Secondary School is a cluster leader of five secondary schools namely Chitukula, Mzumazi, Mngwangwa, Dzenza Mission and Dzenza secondary schools.

As a leader we assist other schools with information, reference books, laboratory chemicals and pieces of apparatus and in many ways.

Therefore your assistance of any kind will have multiplication effect because other schools will also benefit from it.

We promise to fully use and care for the facilities.

Yours faithfully,



Charles Kaitoni
Head master

