

Nyagihamba Primary School Refurbishment and Development Project

FF 483

Final Report

June 2020

Food for the Hungry UK / Food for the Hungry Rwanda

The Eagle Foundation

Introduction

In June 2019, The Eagle Foundation generously granted FH UK the sum of GBP41,874 (which amounted to US\$50,124.01 on arrival) to upgrade infrastructure at Nyagihamba Primary school, Kamonyi District, Southern Province, Rwanda. The grant was given for the following activities over a 12-month period:

- 1) Four new classrooms
- 2) Six pit latrines
- 3) One hand washing facility
- 4) One 1,000 litre water tank
- 5) Classroom equipment – 120 desks, 4 tables, 4 chairs
- 6) WASH training for PTA

Project location

Nyagihamba Primary School is located in Kambeyi Cell, Nyarubaka Sector, Kamonyi District, Southern District, Rwanda. Its nearest town is Muhanga. The catchment population for Nyagihamba Primary is 13,693. The satellite images below show Nyagihamba Primary School in relation to its nearest town, Muhanga town, as well as close up.



Figure 1: The orange arrow shows Muhanga town, the closest town to Nyagihamba Primary School, in relation to the location of Nyagihamba Primary School (close to the marked Nyagihamba Health Centre).



Figure 2: Nyagihamba Primary School is shown above in the blue circle. Prior to the construction of new classrooms, the school was split across the main road depicted in the picture.

Project Implementation

Activities began in August 2019, with the advert for tender put out for the construction work. A number of companies applied, but following a rigorous procurement process, the contract was awarded to Hillrock Company Ltd for their experience completing similar work, and for the good references they received.

Following consultation meetings with the local community, one hundred local volunteers (many of them relatives of pupils at the school) then spent 2 days preparing the ground for the construction of the classrooms, latrines and hand washing facilities. Their contribution is estimated to have been worth 120,000 Rwandan francs, equivalent to approximately £100 in labour costs.

Construction of the classrooms, latrines, handwashing facilities and water tank began in September 2019 and was complete by the end of December 2019, meaning children were able to start using the new classrooms in January 2020.

In February 2020, two days of water, sanitation and health (WASH) training was conducted to improve overall health and sanitation amongst school staff, committee members and students. 20 School General Assembly Committee members consisting of 10 parents, 8 teachers, 1 cell staff and 1 sector education officer, as well as 20 lead pupils attended the two day training course.

Day 1 was dedicated to WASH with topics including what constitutes a WASH-friendly school, key hygiene practices, consequences of fecal contamination, and poor hygiene practices. As part of the training, participants had the opportunity to do an assessment of the hygiene, water and sanitation situation at the school, with a commitment on completion to resolve any poor practices or gaps in provision.

Day 2 of the training focused on school management, with participants receiving training in school resources management, discipline, the role of parents in education and the wider life of the school.

Calendar of achievements

Activity	2019					2020			
	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Meeting with local community to discuss project	x								
Selection of building contractor	x								
Construction of four new classrooms		x	x	x	x				
Construction of six pit latrines		x	x	x	x				
Construction of one hand washing facility		x	x	x	x				
Installation of one 1,000 litre water tank		x	x	x	x				
Provision of 30 desks with benches, 1 table, 1 chair / classroom					x				
WASH training (2 days)							x		
Cement covering for hole close to pit latrines							x	x	
Retaining wall around classrooms (outstanding, awaiting decision on budget balance)									

Photographs of project achievements



Figure 3: The four new classrooms



Figure 4: Inside one of the new classrooms



Figure 5: A 10 m³ water tank installed next to the classrooms



Figure 6: The constructed hand washing facility with three taps on each side



Figure 7 and 8: School management and WASH training

Challenges that resulted in changes to the original planned activities

- 1) The first challenge that led to a change was that during land preparation for the selected site for classroom construction, hard rock was encountered, meaning that the exact location had to change, with an alternative site within the school premises selected for classroom construction. On this site, the four classrooms were constructed as planned. However, there is a slope close to the new classrooms which, following advice from different engineers, requires a retaining wall to minimize the risks of land slides in the future.
- 2) The second challenge which required extra work, concerned the site of the pit latrines. Following the near completion of the pit latrines, an unknown underground water source was discovered. The engineer managed to protect the new pit latrines by deviating the water away from them. However, the deviated water then created a hole which proved unsafe for the children. The advice of three different engineers was sought, and their unanimous suggestion was to use cement and cover the hole. This was carried out, and completed in early March.
- 3) The third issue relating to the project came about due to COVID-19. The payment for all the construction relating to the project was scheduled to happen in three instalments, with the last one (10%) planned to be paid three months after the completion of the work. This period serves as a guarantee and the contractor is responsible for any necessary reparations before claiming the remaining 10%. The final payment was planned for mid-March, but it was unable to happen as from 14th March, the government announced curbs to movement, with full lock down taking hold from 20th March. This meant programme officers were unable to leave their homes to go to the bank to make the payment. This final payment is still outstanding and will be made as soon as movement allows.

Project Outcomes and Benefits

- 1) The construction of all planned activities has successful taken place. As a result of the four new classrooms, pupils are now able to all be educated on the same school site, without needing to cross the dividing road. The four old classrooms on the opposite side of the road are no longer in use. Subsequently, average number of children per classroom has not really reduced (it currently stands at 50), but safety has improved considerably. What has improved significantly within the classroom context is the provision of desks. With the new desks in the four new classrooms, children are now able to comfortably sit 3 at a desk, and in some cases 2 per desk. This improved learning environment has already increased the ability of pupils to work more comfortably and concentrate, and is anticipated to improve educational attainment. As one pupil shared, *"I used to struggle but now I am comfortable when taking notes because our number on the desk has been reduced and will help us do better in class"*.

2) As stated, the construction of four new classrooms on the same side of the road as the main school building, has significantly increased the safety of children as they no longer have to cross the road and risk being hit by a car or truck. Parents have reported feeling more at ease about sending their children to school, and less worried about their safety.

3) The new latrines and water tank have considerably improved hygiene and sanitation at Nyagihamba Primary School. Prior to this project, there were 6 pit latrines constructed by FH Rwanda, and four other very old pit latrines which are now going to be demolished. With the newly constructed pit latrines, the number of children per latrine has reduced from 94 to 50. Furthermore, the 6 new latrines have allowed for gender separation, where the new ones have been allocated to the girls, and the 6 older ones constructed by FH Rwanda are now assigned to the boys. This gender separation is particularly important for the girls who value their privacy – especially when they reach puberty.

The cleanliness of both the latrines and classrooms have also improved due to additional rain water provided by the water tank. Personal hygiene of the children has been enhanced through the construction of the hand washing facility, with 6 taps, allowing children to wash their hands after using the toilet or at any other time. This is expected to reduce water borne bacterial diseases, as well as assist in preventing the transmission of COVID-19.

While the WASH training and school management activities have not yet borne fruit, the testimonies of participants have revealed commitment to ensuring good management of school resources and promoting good hygiene practices.

4) This school construction and refurbishment project has directly benefited 598 pupils and 9 teachers at Nyagihamba Primary School, and indirectly benefited an estimated 13,693 people in the local community through improved quality of education and health amongst children. Both community members and local leaders are very excited and grateful for this project. As one Sector Education Officer said, *“In my view, this project is not here for promoting education only but also saving lives by providing a water tank and handwashing facilities that are very instrumental in the reduction of hygiene-related diseases. Most importantly, it has lowered the risks of accidents by moving all children onto the same side of the road. Children are now in a safe and healthy environment. Many blessings to the Donor”.*

Breakdown of Project Beneficiaries

For the 2019-2020 school year, pupil numbers at Nyagihamba Primary School have been as follows:

Primary School Year	Number of pupils	Number of parallel classes	Classes that benefited from new classrooms
Grade 1	124	2	
Grade 2	114	2	
Grade 3	96	2	
Grade 4	95	2	
Grade 5	98	2	2
Grade 6	71	2	2
TOTAL	598	12	4

During this year there have been 9 teachers and one headmaster, all of whom have also benefited from the new facilities. Teachers have reported a more conducive environment for teaching in Years 5 and 6, with more space, and better attention from students who are more comfortable and able to concentrate. Although it is too early to measure improved educational attainment, it is anticipated that with new classrooms and increased comfort in Years 5 and 6, students improved ability to concentrate will capitalise into improved educational attainment.

Figure 9: Picture of the new classrooms – taken on the day pupils returned



Expenditure Summary

Item	Budget in GBP	Budget in USD	Expense in Rwf	Expense in USD	Variance	%Variance	Comment
One block of classrooms (4 classrooms)	27,148	33,723	29,054,800	31,275	2,448	7%	We had one contractor for classrooms, latrines, hand washing and water tank. During the tender analysis we considered the total amount and it happened that the successful candidate had higher price for hand washing than we budgeted for but less price than the budget for all the remaining items
Classroom equipment (Desks, Teachers' table and chair x 4)	3,257	4,046	3,636,533	3,904.96	141	3%	
One block of latrines (6 latrines)	4,227	5,251	3,582,978	3,856.81	1,394	27%	
Hand-washing facilities	720	894	1,069,980	1,151.75	-258	-29%	
1,000 litre plastic water tank with concrete base	1,489	1,850	1,200,000	1,291.71	558	30%	
Training in management and hygiene	525	652	524,400	559.06	93	14%	
Technical supervision and branding	701	871	740,389	794.89	76	9%	
In-country Rwanda staff time and support costs @ 6%	2,284	2,837	2,672,462	2,834	3	0%	
UK project admin and support costs @ 4%	1,523				0		
Total	41,874	50,124.01	42,481,542	45,669	4,455	9%	We kindly request to use this balance to construct the retaining wall for sustainability of the constructed classrooms
Balance				4,455			

On behalf of Food for the Hungry, Rwanda and all those that have benefited at Nyagihamba Primary School, and in the surrounding community, thank you to the Eagle Foundation for your generous support to this project.

Appendices

1) Summary of companies that applied for the construction tender

MINUTE ON THE BIDDERS' ANALYSIS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 4 CLASSROOMS, 6 DOOR LATRINES WITH HAND WASH AND 1 WATER TANK AT NYAGIHAMBA

I. Analysis of the documents for Construction of 4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba

The FH Rwanda tender analysis team has analyzed all the submitted documents and found that PHILANGE COMPANY LTD has all requested documents. HILLROCK COMPANY LTD has all requested document. ECOEF LTD has all requested document. ECAS LTD has all requested document. KING CONSTRUCTION LTD has quoted over market rate for construction. KHC LTD has all requested document except RSSB certificate. WINNER MULTI-SERVICES LTD has submitted incomplete document (no CV submitted). 

Company Name	LOTS 5	Total price
WINNER MULTI-SERVICES LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	30 655 600 Rwf
PHILANGE COMPANY LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	30 942 348 Rwf
KHC LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	32 250 761 Rwf
HILLROCK COMPANY LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	34 517 770 Rwf 
ECAS LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	34 560 000 Rwf
OLECIDO BUSINESS GROUP LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	35 075 514 Rwf
ECOEF LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	38 604 078 Rwf
KING CONSTRUCTION LTD	4 classrooms, 6 door latrines with hand wash at Nyagihamba	45 502 854 Rwf

FH Rwanda tender analysis team selected HILLROCK COMPANY LTD to construct 4 classrooms and 6 door latrines and installation of 1 plastic water tank at the cost of 34 517 770 Rwf. *NB: KHC LTD was awarded another lot. the same to philange company ltd.*

Done at Kigali, September 16th 2019

No	Participants	Signature
1	Prudence Ndagijimana	
2	Boniface Rizinde	
3	Clemance Ingabire	
4	Marie Paule Twizilurwe	
5	Eric Hirimana	
6	Judith Mukabalisa	
7	Faustin Ndayisaba	

Secretary: Nsanzimana Jean Bosco

Approved  17/9/2019

2) Appreciation letter from Educational officer in Nyarubaka Sector

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



SOUTHERN PROVINCE

KAMONYI DISTRICT

NYARUBAKA SECTOR

EMAIL: nyarubakaseo@gmail.com

Contact: 0788 884 421

May 28, 2020

TO: The country Director of FH Rwanda

Subject: APPRECIATION LETTER

Dear Madam,

We would like to thank you so much for your support of Construction of four new classrooms and equip them, 6 pit door latrines, installation of water tank and hand washing at Nyagihamba Primary school.

This has contributed to move all children from small and old classrooms to the new ones on one side of the road. This increased hygiene and avoid cases of children that could be injured through road accidents.

Your donation will make a crucial difference in the career of teaching and learning environment.

Sincerely thank you

Jean Damascene
Po MUKAMANA Devota
Sector Education officer

MUDAHEMUKA Jean Damascene

Nyarubaka sector Executive secretary

