



Completion Report

UGA-JEN-DCS-N01

Reporting Period: May to December 2015

Divine Care School

Budget: \$25,500

Update:

This project was to finish building the Divine Care School, including installing solar lights and erecting a solid perimeter fence. The final component of the project was to seed-fund an income-generating activity to ensure that the school would be financially sustainable. Located in a poor community in Eastern Uganda, school fees, while minimal to begin with, are often still out of reach of the poorest families which places the school under financial pressure.



Principal Sam inside a new classroom

The original project proposal was submitted to Entrust in April 2014 but not approved and funded until mid 2015. In the interim (official) inflation hovered between 6 to 10%. This meant that the initial budget was insufficient and it was decided to complete the building and the security fence and hold off on the income generating activities. The fence in particular is extremely important to keep the school safe and to protect any future assets once the activities can begin*. Theft in this region is rife.

Between the period May to October, four classrooms were completed, together with a concrete veranda and classroom desks and furniture. In addition, the school land now has a perimeter fence, as well as an excellent solar system which provides lighting and charging facilities for the whole school. This means that this semi-rural school is now able to provide excellent educational facilities as well as attract good teachers. Previously, such facilities would be reserved for schools in town, and as such the school is attracting students from the local community – some of whom would have travelled some distance for better education. Additionally, the school is seeing students even coming from Mbale (nearest large town) and beyond to attend the school.



Richard visited the school in November 2015 and was impressed with how clean and well maintained everything was. He was also impressed by the Principal and the quality of the education provided. Now with solar lights, students are able to study and complete homework in the evening and the standard of their learning has greatly improved.

While the project did not achieve all it set out to achieve, the results are nonetheless impressive. Thank you for enabling this school to provide safe and decent facilities to educate the next generation of Ugandans and help them break out of inter-generational poverty.

* Outside of this project, a small grant has been provided to enable a pilot project for income generation and we will continue to work with the school to seek their financial self-sufficiency.