



## **Completion Report**

UGA-NAK-PSB-P01 Nakalongo, Uganda Reporting Period: November 2017 – April 2018

## Nakalongo School Build - Stage 2 - Uganda

Budget: \$15,000 - fully funded!

## **Update:**

Our partners started a primary school for orphaned and vulnerable children in the village of Nakalongo in the north of Uganda. From small beginnings the school receives 500 - 700 students on an intermittent basis. The school had no buildings and met under the trees which is very hot in the dry season and almost impossible in the wet season. Our partners are determined to build seven classrooms and a staff room. We have partnered with them in Stage 2 to finish the construction of the initial three classrooms and to provide some start-up equipment – desks, chairs and blackboards.



We are very pleased to report that our partners have completed the three classrooms and that the classrooms are now being fully utilised. They are equipped with desks and blackboards and are a huge improvement for this community. From sitting under trees to three equipped classrooms is a dream come true as this school is the only chance for the local children to receive an education. The area is so poor that parents cannot afford to send their children attend the nearest primary school in another village.

The community is delighted with the outcome. They have chipped in wherever they can by forming a building committee and providing some food, water, building tools and security for the project. They are so pleased to see their children in a good learning environment. 125 adults who missed out on schooling when young are also using the facilities at suitable times to gain basic academic knowledge.

Government policy continues to evolve in Uganda. The Ministry of Education and Sports demands schools meet the required standards set by the government. For rural areas, this is always a huge ask due to poverty and the ensuing lack of funds, but Nakalongo has duly met these standards with much effort. Our partners have learnt so much during this project. They have gained significant knowledge in technical and building processes including getting quotes, estimating quantities, meeting government standards, inspections and working with various trades people, professionals and government bodies. It has grown their capacity significantly.

Uganda has a high percentage of children – almost 50% of the population is under 15 years of age. Due to HIV/AIDs and other illnesses, there are many orphans and grandparent-headed households. 70% of the population in the Nakalongo area live below the poverty line. When money for food is scarce, education becomes far less of a priority and intergenerational poverty is almost assured. This project has helped to address this situation.

In a letter of appreciation, our partners said, "We want to give our supporters a MASSIVE thank you for all their efforts! We are committed to helping disadvantaged children, youth, widows and others to lead improved lives. We cannot make a difference without you. Thank you once again for your tremendous support." The happy, smiling faces of the children in the photo says it all!