

# PROJECT UPDATE

A new primary school for Kisimenyi  
August 2011

**Project summary** - an extensive project to rebuild a dilapidated primary school in rural Kenya for the benefit of over 550 children, to include the construction of large furnished classrooms, a dedicated nursery school, a fully-stocked library as well as the installation of modern sanitation facilities and rainwater harvesting capabilities...

## Phase 1a

The construction only of:

- 2 x four-room classroom blocks with store rooms;
- dedicated 120 square metre library;
- an administration block including large staffroom and private offices for h/teacher, deputy head and senior teacher;
- separate two classroom nursery school with store and teachers office



## Phase 1b/c

Equipping and furnishing of:

- all primary classrooms - with tables chairs for lower primary and individual lockable desks for upper primary;
- nursery school - with low-level tables & chairs;
- library - with shelving, tables, benches and books;
- administration block

Installation of sanitation facilities

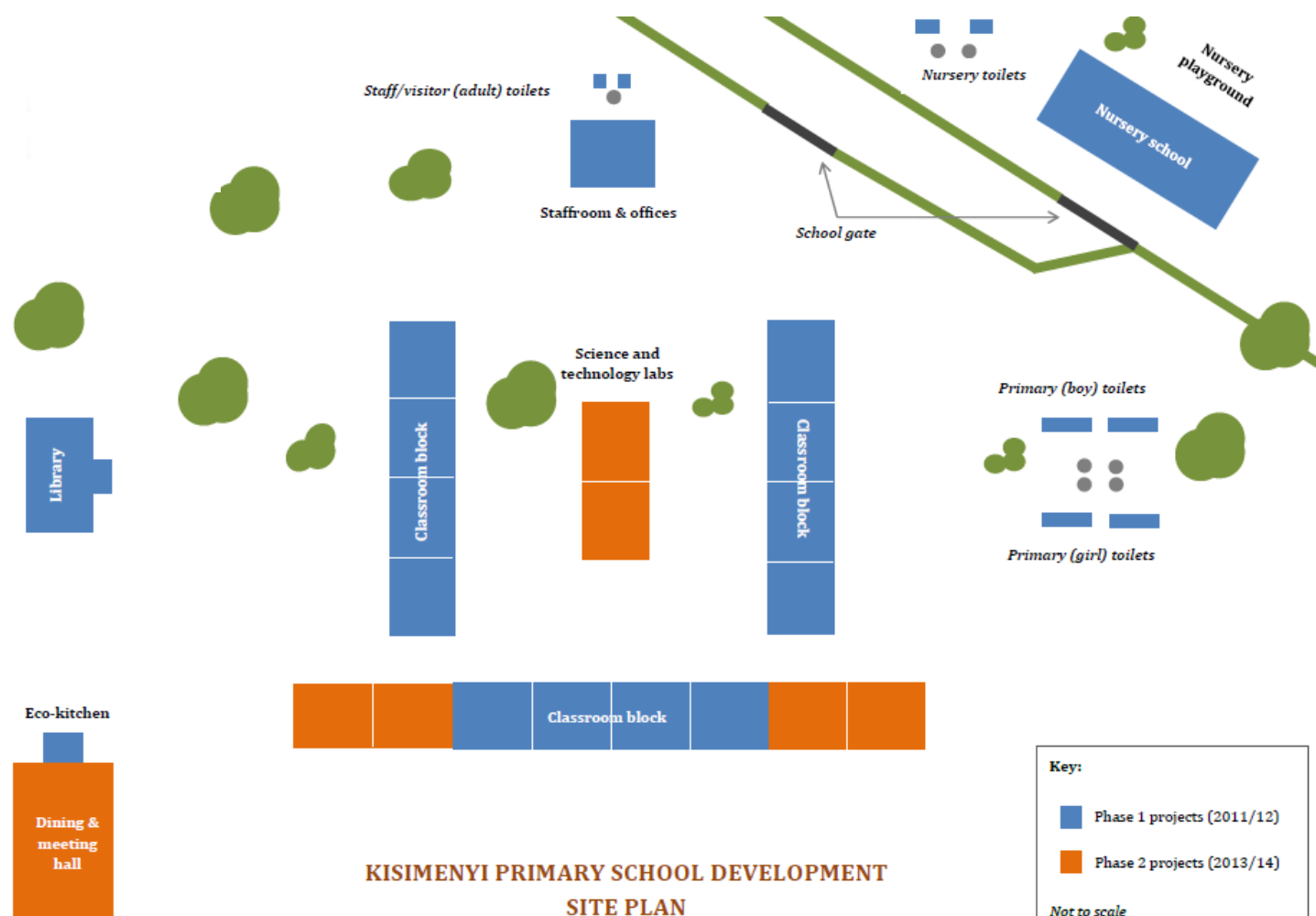


## Phase 1d

The construction of:

- 1 x four-room classroom block;
- large kitchen with energy-saving stoves;

Installation of rainwater catchment and storage facilities



## Progress so far...

### March 10<sup>th</sup> 2011 - ground-breaking ceremony

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March the Kisimenyi community (including pupils, parents, staff and the school management committee) as well as local government officials and dignitaries came together to launch the project to rebuild Kisimenyi Primary School.

During a memorable, if exhausting day, for all involved the Kenyan national anthem was beautifully sung, a range of other songs, poems and dances were performed by pupils and the community, speeches were made and, finally, ground was broken on the site for the new school by a select group of individuals behind the project. [Click here for videos from the day >>>](#)



### March 10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June - preparatory work

Immediately following the ceremony, the project management team (including Founding Director Charles Coldman, Project Manager Denis Mwanyiro, Headmaster Amon Mwandoe and Engineer Tom Mwakireti) marked out the rough footings of the first phase of buildings. There then followed a lengthy period of preparation as the site was cleared and levelled, locally available materials such as sand, gravel and hardcore were delivered to site and over 32,000 bricks and 4,500 concrete blocks were individually hand-made. Time was also needed to recruit a team of builders and this was done in consultation with the community and head builder, Elude Mwachofe.

### 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011 - construction begins

Construction work got underway on the 20<sup>th</sup> June with the engineer coming to site to accurately mark out the foundations (as accurately as one can using traditional local techniques!). Foundation trenches for all the five buildings were then dug by hand using a large team of labourers, mainly young men.

Digging took a couple of weeks, and was followed by the mixing (again by hand) of tonnes of concrete for the buildings foundation footings. On top of this, three courses of concrete blocks were laid before the trenches were backfilled.



Work has reached different stages on each of the buildings as recent progress has been staggered.

- **library** - nine courses of bricks laid and walls just about window mantle level;
- **classroom block** - six courses of bricks laid on one building and work on brick laying getting underway on the other;
- **staffroom & office block** - all exterior and interior walls at lintel level awaiting preparation of timber mould and steel reinforcements for concrete lintel;
- **nursery** - foundations completed



### Problems and successes

Because of the location of Kisimenyi and the extended dry spell in the area, we have experienced problems accessing water. Though we harvested many thousands of litres of rainwater from the roof of the existing school building in the run up to work beginning this has long since expired and we are now being forced to pay for bowzers of water brought in from the nearest town. This was costing around £30 for 10,000lit using a tank from the local water board but we are now paying a private contractor twice as much for just 12,000lit as demand for receiving water in such a way has escalated. This extra cost is being covered by our contingency fund.

## Financial information...

Income secured to date (20 <sup>th</sup> August 2011)		
<b>Phase 1a</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Saga Charitable Trust	8,000	<i>for library construction</i>
Marr-Munning Trust	8,000	
Equitable Charitable Trust	10,000	<i>pledged - conditional on raising balance of funds</i>
Aspect Capital Ltd	22,000	
Dragon Christmas Charity Sale	1,000	
Kids4Kenya	1,040	
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,040</b>	
<b>Budgeted cost of phase</b>	<b>73,000</b>	
<b>Funding shortfall</b>	<b>22,960</b>	
<b>Phase 1b/c</b>		
Saga Charitable Trust	4,500	<i>for library furnishing and stocking</i>
The Herrod Foundation	12,500	
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,000</b>	
<b>Budgeted cost of phase</b>	<b>33,500</b>	
<b>Funding shortfall</b>	<b>16,500</b>	
<b>Phase 1d</b>		
No income received*	<b>0</b>	<i>*fundraising to start from end of 2011</i>
<b>Funding shortfall</b>	<b>42,396</b>	