



November 2017

CongoAction NEWS



We are pleased to bring you an update of our most recent work: the start of the re-building of our Kavumba school, near Bukavu, in the South Kivu province, in the DRC Congo.

When Kavumba school was built in 2007, wood was used, but after years of attack by climate, it started showing signs of serious disrepair. Our main concern has since been to provide the community with a long standing legacy:

A permanent school brick building.

And here we are, Autumn 2017, with brilliant news for all of our supporters!

The first permanent three classrooms are in use!

Community effort, hard work and your donations pay dividends. In just three months the first block of brick build classrooms are complete and being used. Congo Action have met their first target which was to complete the first block of three permanent classrooms by September 2017. Thank you to all our supporters and all of those who have donated to this cause and the achievement of the first target. Thank you also to Working Together Congo a small UK charity, who has recently joined and assisted us in this venture!

Some of the teachers gave up their summer break to give a hand to the builders. The villagers themselves joined in by bringing Jerry cans full of water fetched, on foot, from a long way away. The most difficult challenge was the transporting of materials from the town of Bukavu to the remote village of Muganzo a journey of two hours on very hazardous tracks due to the lack of proper roads. The building



work was actually completed in just 70 days. We have to commend the dedication and determination of Vital Kulimushi (Congo Action's counterpart in the DRC) for his integrity and dedication to the task. Well done Vital, the results are formidable, The children and teachers were so proud when they started the term in September.

What makes this project very worthwhile is the fact that this school has been running so successfully since it was first built in 2007, resulting in school places being very much in demand. Also, all of the 40 children who completed their primary education at Kavumba were successful in their exam, which enabled them to move into secondary education. This demonstrates the dedication of the teachers who have to work with basic materials having no access to electricity, computers and the like. These seven teachers have, themselves, been highly encouraged by the formidable "gift" of these new classrooms and proud of the message of friendship and acknowledgement given to their work.

Our next target is to build the two more blocks of six classrooms needed to complete the project.

We are going to do everything we can to make this happen. Please keep your donations coming to enable the school to thrive.

Thank you and best wishes from CA.

Photos

Very top from left:
Children in yard showing both old and new blocks
A new classroom with the new desks
The new block

Above from left:
New desks
Old desks

Below:
The building of the new teaching block

