

HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

Equipping Rural Schools with Desks, Uganda



Background

Rural schools in East Africa are massively under-resourced by Government. Most schools have limited access to text books, desks and chairs and other learning resources, along with crumbling and inadequate infrastructure. The majority of schools hence rely for the greatest part on contributions from the local community to enable them to function, but it is these very people who have the least living as they do in abject poverty. Their children, therefore, get trapped in the cycle of poverty as the educational environment in which they are schooled is severely deprived.

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One of the biggest challenges facing these rural schools is their inability to provide desks and chairs for pupils. Sitting on the floor or sharing desks with up to 5 others leads to impaired concentration and poor learning outcomes.



High Five Club has been working with **Busoga Volunteers for Community Development**, a community-owned and run NGO in Mpigi District, Uganda, on clean water provision in rural areas for

the last 3 years. Through Busoga, we have recently reached out to a neighbouring community-based self-help group called **Helping Hands 4 Africa** in Jinja, Uganda to assist them in providing desks and chairs for rural primary schools in wildlife areas.

High Five Club Support: We have worked in partnership with Helping Hands 4 Africa to increase accessibility to better classroom learning environments for 210 rural children by funding 70 locally-produced desks and chairs for pupils aged 5-8 years (primary 1 - 3) at Wanyange primary school (982 pupils at the school - 35 desks supplied), Grace community school (384 pupils - 20 desks supplied) and high level primary school - Namungalwe (362 pupils - 15 desks supplied). This has reduced the desk seating ratio from 1:6 to 1:3 pupils hence improving the learning environment significantly for these 210 pupils. At a cost of £1,376 this equates to just £6.55 per child. We would like to thank our educational projects supporter Roffey Homes for joining hands with H5C members to supply these desks.

We hope to be in a position to help provide more desks for these schools in the future.

For more information contact Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk