

Project: Roofing Project Report
Bingavula, Kameva Primary Schools and St Martin de
Porres Father's House
Narrative Report

List of abbreviations

GVH – Group Village Headman

PTA – Parents and Teachers Association

SMC – School Management Committee

MG – Mother Groups

1. Introduction

The Education Department of the Diocese of Mzuzu (DOMED) implemented a project of roofing classroom block at Bingavula Primary School in the area of GVH Msafiri and GVH Tepichara in TA Mtwalo, Teachers houses at Kameva Primary School in Mpherembe and Father’s House in St Martin de Porres Parish at Chizani in TA Khosolo in Mzimba District. The project is funded by the Heart to Hand an Irish charity organization with a total cost of MK 63,000,000. The purpose of the project was to roof the said buildings to provide safe and conducive learning and dwelling environment for learners, teachers and priests in the target institutions. This report seeks to present a detailed account of project activities carried out in the project.

2. Progress on the activities implemented in the project

The project carried out a series of activities in its implementation. Some of the activities included community mobilization, procurement of materials and the actual roofing of the buildings.

2.1. Visit of the Heart to hand team leader

The project welcomed the team leader, Mr. Denny, who came to asses and verify the need for roofing of the buildings. Mr. Denny was taken around to 11 sampled schools of the Diocese priority in which he collected all the necessary information which was used to determine their action. When the team leader went back, the team resolved that they will concentrate on the first 3 centers of their choice, namely; Bingavula Primary (Project 11) in St Thomas Parish, Central Deanery, Kameva Primary (Project 7), St Cecilia Parish, Northern Deanery and St Martin de Porres Father’s House (Project 9) in Chizani, Southern Deanery.

2.2. Community mobilization

The Education Department through the project facilitated sensitization meetings with communities on the project and lobbied for their participation in the project implementation. The communities which included traditional leaders, School Management Committees, Mother Groups, Parents and Teachers Association and Catholic Church leaders cordially welcomed the project and willingly agreed to participate in whole project freely. Clear distribution of roles and duties were spelt and agreed upon. The communities committed to provide all unskilled labour that the carpenters would require, provide security for the materials and the general welfare of the implementing partners of the project. While the Heart to Hand team provided all the roofing materials and technically carry out the roofing work. The community was also asked to prepare the buildings as recommended by the team leader, for instance, building a concrete bean around the building, and complete the building ready for roofing.

2.3. Procurement of tools and roofing materials

The project through the Internal Procurement Committee of the Diocese of Mzuzu purchased all the roofing materials and tools for the roofing project and delivered to the project site.

2.4. Roofing of the buildings

The roofing started on the 25th of April to the 7th of May 2024 as follows:

a. Bingavula Primary School classroom block (Project 11) Bingavula

At Bingavula primary school, the team roofed and classroom block of two classrooms with an office in between. The classroom block was completed in 3 days. The work went on very well with the total support of the community who were present and participated in each day of the work. There was also good support from the church community which included the parish priest and the catechist who were present every day of the project implementation period.

Refer pictorial focus below:



Timber works completed and starting sheeting works



Sheeting works in progress



Team interacting with learners and community members after completion of roofing work



Back view of the roofed classroom block

b. Kameva Primary School teachers' houses (project 7) Mpherembe

At Kameva Primary School, the team roofed one teacher's house because the super structure of the second house was not complete. Nevertheless, the team had prepared and set all the roofing

materials for the second house so that once the super structure is completed, the local carpenters should do the roofing. The work at Kameva took only 2 days to complete. I am pleased to report that the super structure of the second house has been completed and successfully roofed by the local carpenters.

Refer pictorial focus below:

Kameva primary school – teachers' houses



Kameva Teachers' house timber work



Kameva teacher's house No1 sheeting



Teacher's house No 1.



House No 1 and 2 roofed.

c. St Martin de Porres Parish Father's House (Project 9) Chizani

St Martin de Porres is a newly established parish in a rural area of Chizani, the parish did not have a parish house for the priests who are currently living in a rented house. Heart to Hand came to support the parish with roofing the father's house. Due to the size and design of the house, the timber work took 4 days to be completed. Unfortunately, due to time factor, galvanized sheets were not done. All the same I am pleased to report that the work has been completed by the local carpenters.

Refer pictorial focus below:



Setting up the roofing works – Father’s house – Chizani



Timber works in progress – Father’s house



Timber works completed



Celebrating completion of timber works at Chizani – Father’s house



Completion of sheeting by local carpenters.



Front view – completing of sheeting by local carpenters.

5. Key project results

The project has achieved the following results

1. A classroom block with two classrooms and an office in between has been roofed. At least 120 learners will be learning in a decent classroom and the head teacher will have an office
2. Two teachers' houses have been roofed, this will provide decent and conducive accommodation to 2 teachers. This will lead to the opening of the school in the next academic year which starts September 2024.
3. One Fathers' house has been roofed, this will provide a conducive accommodation for priests in the newly established parish.

6. Challenges and recommendations

The project has faced a few challenges in its implementation which are worthy noting

Key challenges	Possible cause	Possible Solution
1. Poor quality of timber used for roofing in all the centers.	Inadequate time for ordering timber from professional suppliers.	Making timely bookings for required timber at least 3 months before project implementation time.

2. Inadequate materials for use	Under estimation of materials	Making thorough calculations
3. Inability to make timely purchases of extra materials	Lengthy procurement procedures which do not respond to urgent needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash should be made available for such purchases • There should be pre-qualified suppliers to whom we can go and collect the goods for payment thereafter.

7. Conclusion

The project has been a great success because all the planned work has been completed successfully, all the earmarked buildings have been roofed. This has been a milestone that will contribute greatly towards the education of learners at Kameva and Bingavula and also the welfare of the priests and Christians of St Martin de Porres parish (Chizani). However, there are a lot needs in the schools to attend to; there are no desks in the classrooms, inadequate classrooms, teaching and learning materials and teachers houses. The Diocese of Mzuzu is very grateful for the financial and technical support of the Hand to heart in the implementation of the project.