

# School Rebuilding Project in Metcha Borodo, Ethiopia

Report from Castleknock Third World Group

Sept 2016



## Summary

The Castleknock Third World Partnership (TWP) has a supportive link with the parish of Metcha Borodo in Ethiopia since 2008. At the request of our partners in Metcha we undertook to support the rebuilding of classrooms in the school. On 6 October 2015 we received a grant of €7000 from Electric Aid towards this project. We are delighted to report back one year later that three classrooms have been built.

## Background and Aims

The Castleknock Third World Partnership (TWP) was established in July 2008 with the aim of forming a supportive link between our parish and a third world parish. The Castleknock TWP partnered with the parish of Metcha Borodo in Ethiopia, 50 miles west of Addis Ababa.



We provide funding for 185 students to go to school as well as supporting teacher training. The TWP has also supported the building of 20 new houses and dry toilets for needy families in the village.

Members of the TWP have gone at their own expense to Metcha Borodo every two years or so, to witness the effectiveness of the partnership, to conduct an audit and to meet

with the parish council so as to prioritise future projects. On our visit in March 2015 the parish council in Metcha Borodo appealed for help to establish a School Rebuilding Project to build 6 new classrooms for the school.

The school was first built in 1960 and had 90 students by 1990. Now the school has 850 students, 407 girls and 443 boys, of all denominations, in 10 classrooms. On our visit we witnessed first hand the poor condition of the school. Many of the windows had no glass. The roof and walls were falling down. It was overcrowded, unsafe and urgently needed to be replaced.



The aim of this Project is to replace six classrooms in two phases of three classrooms each.



## Project Process

Our partners in Ethiopia had received some funds from a donor in the UK who had supported the school in the past. They received €10000 from Oeuvre D'Orient, a French non- governmental organisation that supports education and social care in developing countries. The local people committed free sand and stones and local labourers who worked for free for the project.



With these funds and the proceeds of a special appeal to our parishioners in Dublin, we began building two classrooms in November 2015. With the donation of €7000 from Electric Aid in October 2015 and €8000 from the Combined Services fund

shortly after, we expanded the project in Feb 2016 to a third classroom. The project progress reports reflect this staged beginning by referring to the first two classrooms as 'previous project' and to the third classroom as 'newly started building' .

We employed a local construction engineer, Mr Hunde Taffe to oversee the project on our behalf. We established with our partners a schedule for the project and agreed to staged payments of our contribution on receipt from our supervising engineer of a satisfactory report and costings and photographs of each completed stage.

During the building, classes were held elsewhere. This was unfortunately made easier by a reduction in the number of



students attending school at that time due to local civil unrest. This has, thankfully, settled now.



In Sept 2016 we received the final report and photos that confirmed that building was completed according to plan. We are looking forward very much to receiving further photos of the children in the classrooms on reopening of the school for the new school year in September 2016.



## Financial Summary (see also details of costs in attached engineers report)

<b>Costs</b>	Eth Birr	Euro	<b>Capital</b>	Euro
First two classrooms	758814		TWP	16,000
Third Classroom	348675		Metcha contribution	14,853
Total Build Cost	1,107,489.0	44,853	Combined Services	8,000
Supervising engineer		1,000	Electric Aid	7,000
		<b>45,853</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45,853</b>



## Plans for the Future

The Castleknock Third World Partnership (TWP) plans to continue to support the people of our sister parish in Metcha Borodo, Ethiopia by continuing to support the school and the education of the children and by supporting projects towards social progress and alleviation of poverty.

We hope to use the success of this school building project to help us to raise funds to build a further three new classrooms for the school in Metcha Borodo.

We are extremely grateful to Electric Aid and to the ESB workers who generously donate some of their earnings to projects like ours. Your generosity has improved the educational environment for 900 Ethiopian children.

