



*Watoto*

# NATION BUILDERS

**A SAFE & HEALTHY  
PLACE TO LEARN**

WATOTO VILLAGE EDUCATION PROJECT



# ABOUT WATOTO

Watoto is a family made up of people from all over the world who are working together to ensure that the forgotten have a place to belong. As we work alongside the most vulnerable in Uganda, our aim is to rescue individuals and raise each one as a leader in his or her sphere of life so that, in turn, they will rebuild the nation.

Watoto educates over 3000 vulnerable children, including over 100 children who live in surrounding communities, and neighbourhood children who board at our villages during the school term. Watoto started its first education facility in 1995. Today we have four primary schools, three secondary schools and a technical institute. Some of these schools have been in existence for over 20 years and the facilities need to be renovated to continue to offer a safe, clean and healthy environment for students to learn and grow to the full potential.

## THE REALITY



Only 16% of school aged children are enrolled in secondary school.<sup>1</sup>

33

children die each day in Uganda from Diarrhoea.<sup>2</sup>



A classroom environment can affect a child's academic progress by as much as 25%.<sup>3</sup>

1. Situation Analysis of Children in Uganda. 2015. Unicef.

2. [https://www.unicef.org/uganda/WASH\\_print\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/uganda/WASH_print(1).pdf)

3. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2012.09.016> [P.S.Barrett, Y. Zhang, J. Moffat and K.Kobbacy (2012). "An holistic, multi-level analysis identifying the impact of classroom design on pupils' learning." Building and Environment.]

# THE REALITY CONTINUED

In Sub-Saharan Africa, one in five children between the ages of 6 and 11 do not attend school.<sup>1</sup> By age 12, one in three will no longer be attending, and by the time they reach secondary school,<sup>1</sup> only 16% of school aged children in Uganda will be attending school. Those who are unable to complete their education struggle to find employment or sustain an income to then care for their own children, creating a never ending poverty cycle. This is one of the reasons why education is such an important part of the holistic care that Watoto offers to both the children living in our villages and the children from the community who go to school at Watoto.

Many of the children that come to school in our villages have a late start to their education and are already setback in comparison to their peers. With these setbacks in mind, we know the value of a classroom environment that fosters learning and helps those behind start catching up. According to a study by the University of Salford, a classroom environment can affect a child's academic progress by as much as 25%,<sup>2</sup> which is not something we can afford for some of Africa's most vulnerable children who already face significant setbacks.

Over the past 20 years, many of our school buildings have been well used, but are now in dire need of renovation so that we can continue to provide a quality education to our students and hygienic and healthy facilities. Waterborne diseases are one of the deadliest childhood killers in Uganda, which is why we value upgrading our toilet blocks so that they can continue to be safe and clean facilities with working taps and toilets for our children to use.



1. <http://uis.unesco.org/en/topic/education-africa>

2. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2012.09.016> [P.S.Barrett, Y. Zhang, J. Moffat and K.Kobbacy (2012). "An holistic, multi-level analysis identifying the impact of classroom design on pupils' learning." Building and Environment.]



# THE PROJECT

All eight Watoto schools have either a classroom or bathroom that is in need of renovation. This has affected the learning environment of our children. The floors are derelict, paint is peeling off the walls and many of the windows have broken glass. When it rains, the water comes inside the classroom and this hampers learning and adversely affects morale. Many of the doors are not entirely on their hinges and do not close properly. In addition, the plumbing in the bathrooms is poor and often causes clogging and flooding. This is a major health and hygiene risk that we urgently need to fix to prevent the spread of disease and keep our kids happy and healthy. There are 45 blocks across our three campuses that need funding in order for the classrooms and bathrooms to be renovated.

## MORE THAN JUST A BUILDING



Through the renovation of these classrooms and bathroom blocks, we hope to achieve the following:

- Enable orphaned, abandoned or vulnerable children to continue to receive a quality education and break the poverty cycle
- Give children who are behind because they started school late in life the opportunity to catch up in a safe and healthy learning environment
- Prevent the spread of killer waterborne diseases with hygienic bathroom facilities
- Be in a position to open more places for vulnerable children in surrounding communities or neighbourhood children to receive an education in the future





*“I am inspired by the change I see in each child. Seeing a child who came in struggling begin to change and progress is the most fulfilling thing for me. It’s great to be part of a child’s transformation.” - Rachael, Head Teacher at Watoto*

## **SYLVIA’S STORY**

After Sylvia’s parents died, Sylvia’s relatives were unable to care for her and her brother.

“We never went to school as we did not have money to pay for our school fees. We would wake up every day to go to the garden and dig so that we could have food,” said Sylvia.

Since Sylvia joined Watoto in 2011, she has received holistic care and access to education. Sylvia currently attends Hope Junior School and is in Primary 6. Sylvia enjoys learning to spell and reading books at school. When she grows up, Sylvia aspires to be a teacher.

“I am inspired by Teacher Rachael. She is so calm and always corrects us in a polite way and encourages us to work hard,” shared Sylvia.

With your support, Sylvia and the thousands of children in our care have the opportunity to catch up on the education they’ve missed, and work towards achieving their dreams. Repairing and maintaining our school buildings helps us provide a safe place for those who’ve had a rough start to life and their education.

*Pictured: Sylvia with her teacher Rachael and friend Goretti.*

# PROJECT TIMELINE & COSTS

	Description of Work	Anticipated Costs per Block (AUD)	Timeline
Partial Completion of Classroom Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Painting</li> <li>• Small masonry repairs on walls</li> <li>• Electrical repairs</li> <li>• Glass replacement</li> <li>• Adding soft boards</li> </ul>	\$4140	1 month
Full Completion of Classroom Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repair four classroom floors</li> <li>• Repair four teacher's offices</li> <li>• Painting the walls, windows, doors and roof trusses</li> <li>• Repair cracks in walls and installing five framed soft boards</li> </ul>	\$7100	1 month
Full Completion of Bathroom Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full plumbing system</li> <li>• Painting the walls</li> <li>• Replacing doors</li> <li>• Masonry work</li> <li>• Floor tiling</li> <li>• Replacing the urinal system</li> <li>• Electrical repairs</li> </ul>	\$14,630	2 months

## MAKE IT A REALITY

We invite you to partner with us to make this dream a reality so that thousands of vulnerable children can continue to learn and grow at Watoto's schools by providing a healthy, safe and hygienic learning environment. Together, we can make a difference, and to ensure that you know that, we commit to providing project updates to you. Help us make this a reality by contacting our Development Director at **partnerau@watoto.com** or call our office on **07 3806 0311**.

PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Watoto Child Care Ministries Australia is proud to partner with Global Development Group. Global Development Group is an Australian NGO approved by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and responsible for aid & development projects J210 and J416 according to OAGDS guidelines.

**WATOTO AUSTRALIA**

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