

Kathmandu | Nepal

DISASTER RELIEF PROJECT

Monthly Report - July 2015



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BUILDING UPDATE

The completion of the brickwork for the school's main building meant that the local workers could begin to apply the plywood partitions between the classrooms; this gave everybody a great sense of what the finished school would look like. With the walls of the classrooms being completed as well, we were able to begin painting and preparing the floor for the classrooms.

FLOORING

Before laying the floor blocks, we needed to make sure that the ground was flat and even. Working in groups of three, volunteers used shovels to remove excess clay and then evenly distributed the remaining dirt throughout the classroom floor. The floors were then flattened using tampers.

Under the guidance of the local workers, volunteers applied a layer of sand before placing the floor blocks. A string was tied from one side of the room to the other as a reference for what height each floor block should have been. This also helped to level the ground much better.

Once the job of laying the floor blocks was finished, the gaps around the edge of the floor were filled with concrete so that the blocks stayed in place.



A volunteer uses a tamper to level the floor



Volunteers laying the floor blocks

PAINTING



Completed exterior paintwork on main school building

We first had to use a layer of primer to protect the wooden partitions before applying the final layers of blue paint. These protective measures also applied to the metal frame of the structure, as we used rust-preventing primer before painting them with black metallic paint.

NEW STRUCTURE

We soon turned our attention to the new structure that consisted of a staffroom, library, kitchen and classroom. Sitting on the lower level of what was once a paddy field, this area is particularly vulnerable to heavy rainfall. For this reason, volunteers dug large trenches and drainage pools to offer some relief from flooding.

Progress on the structure's foundations had previously been inhibited by the monsoon rain, but with unexpected clear skies overhead we seized the opportunity to dig foundations and begin some brickwork. In order to combat the inevitable monsoons, the floors of this structure needed to be raised above ground-level. To accommodate this raised floor, we first had to complete brickwork that would hold six inches of dirt above ground-level and then a further three inches of concrete.



Completing the brickwork that will contain the raised 9" floors