Kwale county, Kenya

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Chalice

698 students students in pre-primary to grade 8. 24 staff members

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School

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The big challenge: rural poverty and drought.

Families in Kwale county face many grave challenges. The area is very rural and lacks proper roads, piped water, and other basics. Students' parents are mainly subsistence farmers who are only able to grow enough food for themselves. Families must walk long distances to rivers and streams to fetch water to drink, wash, water their crops and livestock. A multi-year draught has made water scarcer and caused the crops to fail. Families in this area are highly vulnerable to food insecurity and famine. Children walk long distances (8-10km) to reach school and arrive without having eaten.

Vuga Primary's needs:



Windows and doors: Classrooms without windows are get dusty and cold. Lacking doors is a security risk.

Floors, Walls, and Roof: The classroom floors are full of potholes making them dangerous and very difficult to keep clean. Their roofs are rusty and leaky. Classroom walls are in poor condition.



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Textbooks: The students have to share a small number of books, and doing homework and studying is very difficult.

Water Tanks and Taps. They need water storage tanks to collect rainwater that students and staff can use for drinking and washing. More taps will save the children from queuing for long times to wash their hands or dishes.

Kitchen Equipment and Utensils. The kitchen is very small and underequipped to feed 700+ students a hot lunch daily. Children do not have proper dishes and eat from reused plastic containers and other unsuitable items.

Feminine hygiene supplies: Female students will choose to stay home during their cycles, meaning they miss a week of school every month.

Wiring for Electricity. Students have to crowd into 4 few rooms if they want to study outside of daylight hours.

Desks and Chairs. Each class has 60 students, and currently three students share one desk.



chalice.ca/school-connections