



Australia supporting education in Uganda.

Nairobi, 7th September 2015

The Australian Government recognises the importance of education in breaking the cycle of poverty by providing support to organisations such as the African Children's Choir to enable them to increase their capacity to provide quality education to vulnerable children. On Thursday 10th September the Australian High Commissioner to Uganda, John Feakes, officially opened the classroom block funded by Australian Aid at The African Children's Choir Primary School in Entebbe, Uganda. "Since its inception, the African Children's Choir has had success in its model for education, student scholarships and Choir programs and has produced leaders in health care, education, entertainment and community development. You are doing important work and Australia is proud of this partnership with the African Children's Choir and we wish you the best" said Mr Feakes.

Later in the day he hosted a reception for the visiting choral and community group Kwaya Australia, who have collaborated with the African Children's Choir both musically and with community projects.

Background:

African Children's Choir is a program in Uganda, which raises awareness on the needs of destitute and orphaned children in Africa and raises funds for continued development and support of the African Children's Choir Programs.

The organisation received partial funding, AUD30,000 (US\$77,000,000), for the construction of a classroom block at The African Children's Choir Primary School in Entebbe, Uganda that was aimed at generating revenue to offset free education to the current beneficiaries, serve the local community with a high standard in education, sports and arts, employ local labour and school staff.

Kwaya Australia is a choir consisting of singers from all parts of Australia who have travelled to Uganda to work with the local communities alongside the African Children's Choir. Activities included visits to children's homes, community and school restoration projects, and workshops in order to improve school facilities and share in music, arts, and dance. Kwaya promotes and generates cross cultural partnerships between indigenous and non-indigenous communities through singing. Kwaya aims to boost a widespread active community through music, focus on skills development for emerging artists, advance cultural diversity, and preserve and promote Australia's cultural heritage.

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