

Rainbows4Children Milestones

2003 - Max & Kathryn visit Mekele, meet the Tigray Disabled Veteran's Association, and decide to build a kindergarten for the children of the disabled veterans



2004 – Laying of the corner stone of the kindergarten and work begins



2005 – The kindergarten opens for 4 classes, with 40 children in each



2006 – the kindergarten is extended to 6 classes, capacity is a total of 240 children. The playground is built in memory of Laura Wolf.



2007 – Work starts on the primary school, ground floor. In September the first 80 children join in grade 1



2008 – The first and second floors are added to the primary school, giving a total of 14 classrooms. Some are used as service rooms; for a library, staff room, pedagogy. The kindergarten is landscaped to give a grassy playing area.



2009 – Work begins on the primary school staff building, but completion delayed by cement shortages. The first water tank at the school is built holding 50,000 litres. Later refinements will be made. Kindergarten playground landscaping is improved.



2010 – Kindergarten guard hut built. Complete the staff building in the primary school. Build the 4th floor of the primary school



2011 – build kindergarten eating room, start work on library and music room for primary school. Build wall around secondary/high school land.



2012 – finish primary library and music room, build Secondary/High School classroom block (8 classes) laboratories (IT, chemistry, physics, biology), 2 student toilet blocks



2013 –Equip laboratories of secondary/high school with furniture, landscaping of primary school with hard surface sports area. Football field for secondary/high school. Staff building for the secondary/high school.



2014 – we built staff toilets for the secondary/high school using the successful dry latrine process again. A second block of classrooms was built for grades 11 and 12.



2015 – landscaping around the classrooms and the staff room was completed to keep the compound clean and dry. Landscaping with the addition of many trees and bushes continues to keep a green compound. A donor enabled us to add 4 workshops for the training of practical subjects to get the students who do not go to university into work quickly and effectively.



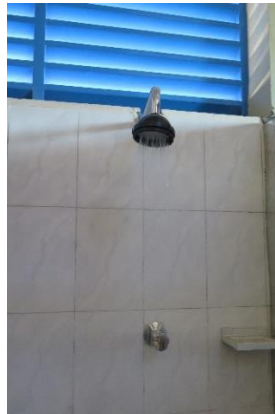
2016: A practical training block for cooking, sewing and practical technical skills has been constructed. Rooms for first aid, a girls room and pedagogy and a store were added as well as showers for the secondary school boys and girls. A water cleaning system, to take water from a well on the land and convert it to drinking quality water for the showers and for the students to use, was installed.



First aid rooms



the water cleaning unit



The new showers



Filling the store



Preparing the reed bed filtration



The training workshops

2017: the training workshops were equipped for the start of hospitality training in February 2017. The first course was food preparation and then serving at table was added for the second group. We were assisted by the Dutch training organisation PUM who helped train our trainers. During the summer work started on cleaning and clearing land for a running track (80m) and other sports facilities as well as tidying areas for more landscaping and tidying the campus.





Students in the new food preparation training workshop



Landscaping the road leading to the running track, work in progress, July 2017



Completed sports work in December

2018: landscaping work and small site improvements were made in all schools. In addition the KG toilets were renovated as they are now more than 15 years old.





Landscaping in the primary school



Landscaping in the secondary school

2019: ICT training has started with a trial in March 2019 and a course for teachers was run in the summer vacation. Entrepreneurship training started in May 2019 and a second successful intensive course was run by PUM in November 2019. A traditional house has been built as a cosy break-out area to encourage spoken English. In the staff café area, a traditional coffee house is now used to entertain guests and celebrate special occasions and the café area has been extended.



ICT training for adults (school teachers)

opening ceremony, English place

Greening of the compound continues and we are improving the access to water and electricity throughout the school. On an academic level the school continues to be assessed as the highest quality school in Tigray and our students continue to apply for opportunities in further education overseas. In 2017 and 2019 students were sent to United World College in Thailand and Hong Kong, to study for IB. In 2019 we place our first student at African Leadership Academy. All with full scholarships. Our students continue to apply for these opportunities in 2020 and beyond.



Traditional coffee area



The primary school now has mature trees