

Ssuubi Foundation offers hope to Gulu District pupils

Robert Okello
Gulu

Canadian organisation Ssuubi Foundation has constructed a Shs150m library and teachers quarters for Lela Obaro Primary School in Bobi Sub County in Gulu District.

The new buildings were commissioned last week by Gulu LC V Chairman Norbert Mao. Mr Mao said he had never seen buildings constructed as such speed.

"We would like to commend the Ssuubi Foundation for this new experience in our district. We call upon all NGOs working in the district to emulate Ssuubi. All we now want in the district are development partners. I know Ssuubi means hope but you have wiped out tears with more than hope," Mao said.

He urged the school's pupils to use the library facilities to perform better in their Primary Leaving Examinations. Former area MP Mr Jacob Oulanyah said the foundation

had lifted people's lives.

"I was here exactly one month ago. The fully furnished teachers quarters and the library are all a manifestation of hope. By coming to my people, you have not only touched by heart, but brought an entire district to life," he said.

Mr Abdul Byakagaba, a senior geologist from Heritage Oil, which helped to fund the teachers quarters, said Heritage had teamed up with Ssuubi to boost education in the north because they share a similar vision of uplifting learning. He said the company would soon renovate a bore hole in the area.

Ssuubi founder Mr Phillip Ndugga said they want to uplift the standard of the people in Northern Uganda.

"This is not our first project here. We started by building a two classroom block for Lela Obaro when it was still hosted at Palenga IDP. We made a promise that we would follow it up when it goes back to its site, a promise that we have



GREAT IMPETUS: Lela Obaro pupils study in the newly constructed school library. PHOTO BY ROBERT OKELLO.

fulfilled today," he said.

Mr Ndugga revealed that the library was built in honour of the late Rick Theari, one of the foundations' first volunteers in Uganda. He passed away last year in

a tragic accident in Calgary, Canada.

Foundation official Mr Dusman Okee urged the school authorities to ensure the facilities are well utilised.

"We want Lela Obaro to be

a model school for the whole north," Mr Okee said. He told the school administrators that he would make impromptu visits to the school to make sure that the facilities are properly used.