



## Let's build a bridge in Uganda! Project "SEISA Africa Asia Bridge" is completed!



As we have reported in previous FGC news, the bridge on the school route to KOMOREBI Primary School in Omoro District, northern Uganda, has finally been completed. This project, which started last year, reached its crowdfunding target. Thanks to everyone's support, construction of the bridge began at the end of April this year.

Construction on site was a battle against the rain, but thanks to the cooperation of the construction company and the villagers, the bridge is finally completed! From now on, the children can safely go to school no matter how much it rains.

This bridge was named "SEISA Africa Asia Bridge" in the hope that it would symbolize the efforts of the founder of the Foundation for Global Children, former Chairman Yasuo Miyazawa, and the SEISA Group, who hoped to serve as a bridge between Africa and Asia. In this issue, we will feature background on the "Let's build a bridge in Uganda! project", its launch, and the construction of the bridge.







## About KOMOREBI Primary School

Omoro District in northern Uganda, where KOMOREBI Primary School is located, is an area that once suffered from damage caused by anti-government armed groups. In this land where so many people lost their lives, people strive for peace and development, and hope to give

their children a bright future. KOMOREBI Primary School was built in collaboration between the Japanese NPO Gojo Club and the people of Uganda, and aims to create ideas and develop human resources by fusing Ugandan education with Japanese culture. Children learn Japanese greetings, cleaning, hand washing habits, and Japanese culture. They have also established a soccer club to promote the development of children through the power of sports. The opening of a new school in their village was a great ray of hope for them.



## KOMOREBI Primary School's Challenge and the Beginning of the Project

Although KOMOREBI Primary School became a ray of hope for the local people, it faced a major challenge: the problem of the route to school.

Omoro experiences drastic changes in climate between the rainy and dry seasons. During the rainy season the rivers swell and flood the roads. As a result, children were unable to go to school. The bridge was essential for the safety of the children and the development of the school. We heard about this situation from NPO Gojo Club, the NPO that founded KOMOREBI Primary School. After discussions with them and the Embassy of the Republic of Uganda in Japan, we decided to participate in this project, as we wanted to provide a safe environment for the children of Omoro.



### About the Republic of Uganda

- Elevation: 1200m
- Average temperature: 23°C The year is divided into a rainy season (October to December and March to May) and a dry season.
- Size of the country: Approximately the same size as Honshu, Japan
- Population: Approximately 44 million people

Uganda is a country located on the eastern side of the African continent, directly on the equator. The country is known as the "Pearl of Africa" for its beautiful and abundant nature. On the other hand, the country faces many challenges, including high infant mortality rates, poor maternal and child health, an increase in early pregnancies among girls, a shortage of water and sanitation facilities, and a low primary education completion rate.

### About Comoro County

Located about 350km north of the capital, Kampala, a six-to-seven-hour drive, the area gives the impression of being a very peaceful rural village, but it has a history of suffering from conflict for the past 20 years.



# Project Launch and Progress

We decided to raise donations to support KOMOREBI Primary School

November 11, 2023      Project launch / Crowdfunding and call for support

At the 9th SEISA Africa Asia Bridge (SAAB) event, We announced the "Let's build a bridge to Uganda! Project" and launched a crowdfunding campaign at the same time. We also participated in various events not only at SAAB but also inside and outside the SEISA Group to call for support for this initiative. Thanks to the support of many people, the crowdfunding campaign was able to reach its goal of 5 million yen by December 31, 2023.



December 2023      Site visit

We visited Uganda and inspected KOMOREBI Primary School and the proposed bridge construction site. The route to school, which floods during the rainy season, is a sunken marshland; even in the dry season of December, if you try to wade along it, your feet will sink up to your knees in the swamp. In addition to reaffirming the need for the bridge, seeing the smiling faces of the children, KOMOREBI Primary School became a major driving force for us to continue our activities. During the stay in Uganda, a comprehensive collaboration agreement was also signed between the Chief Executive of the local Omoro District Government, the NPO Gojo Club, and the Foundation for Global Children to support KOMOREBI Primary School.

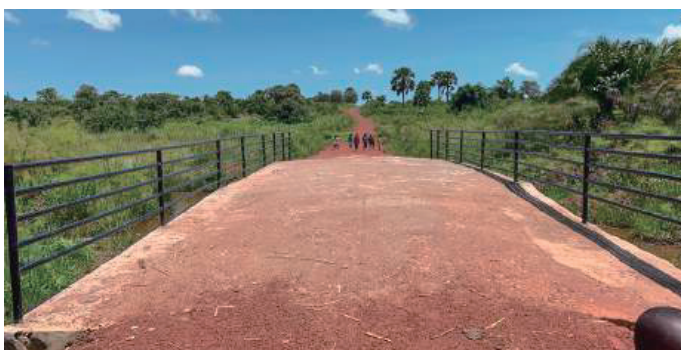


April 2024      Construction of the bridge began

After coordination, construction of the bridge began. However, construction work on site was difficult as the rainy season had already started. While taking safety into consideration, local workers continued to work hard, burying huge drainage pipes called culverts into the ground and allowing the accumulated water and mud to drain.



## "SEISA Africa Asia Bridge" Completed!



In July 2024, the bridge was finally completed. The children at KOMOREBI Primary School go to school every day safely and with peace of mind. Preparations are currently underway for a memorial to be installed near the bridge. This monument will inscribe the names of everyone who helped build the "SEISA Africa Asia Bridge." In the future, we will not only continue building the bridge, but also aim to expand the number of classrooms at the school and promote continued foster exchanges.



# We Sincerely Thank You

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the NPO Gojo Club, the Embassy of the Republic of Uganda in Japan, Omoro County, KOMOREBI Primary School, the volunteers, and everyone who supported us through crowdfunding. We will continue to support and interact with KOMOREBI Primary School, including by improving the classroom environment. We will continue to work toward the day when the children who cross this bridge to attend KOMOREBI Primary School will grow up and study at SEISA as international students. Thank you all so much for your continued support.



From the Office

## Future for the World's Children Thank you for your support

We invite you to join us in reaching out to children around the world. Last year, 411 individuals and 90 corporate members and cooperating companies supported our activities. Please join us in creating a better future for our children.

### • Supporting Members

Individual	Annual Fee 6000 yen / share
Corporate	Annual Fee 120,000 yen / share

### • Donations

We accept donations of any amount at any time.

### • Request for installation of donation vending machines

Currently, FGC is partnering with various beverage manufacturers to actively promote the installation of "donation-type vending machines." A portion of the proceeds from the drinks purchased is donated to our foundation, which is linked to the children's future. There are no installation costs or management and operation fees for vending machines. If you are at all interested or willing to install one, please feel free to contact us.

For more information, please visit the FGC website or feel free to contact our office.



Issued in December 2024

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