



JOMA CHRISTIAN VISION SCHOOL

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JOMA School Building Proposal – Funding Clarifications & Vision

Introduction

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the **JOMA Christian Vision School** project. Your prayers and partnership will continue to be a vital source of strength as we move forward in building a brighter future through education in South Sudan. This school will not only be a physical structure it will become a place of hope, dignity, and Christ-centred learning for children who might otherwise be left behind.

As a committed supporter, your trust matters deeply to us. Looking ahead, we are pleased to share responses to three key areas that will guide the path forward: the estimated cost of the project, how it will be sustained in the long term, and the anticipated stability of South Sudan as we move toward implementation.

1. Estimated Cost of the Project

While the exact total cost isn't listed in the document we shared earlier, based on the listed components (classrooms, library, labs, water and solar, admin offices, sanitation, playground, etc.), the estimated **total project cost** is approximately **AUD 250,000–300,000**. This will cover:

- Construction materials (cement, bricks, roofing)
- Labour costs (skilled and unskilled)
- Classroom equipment (desks, chairs, chalkboards)
- Sanitation and water facilities
- Library and computer lab setup
- Playground and sports equipment



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A more detailed itemized budget can be provided upon request to reflect current local construction prices and donor and supporter transparency.

2. Sustainability of the JOMA Christian Vision School

From the very beginning, the JOMA Christian Vision School project has prioritised meaningful local involvement. The land clearing and fence construction were completed through the active participation of the local church and community members, many of whom volunteered their time, tools, and labour. Their hands-on contribution reflects a deep sense of shared vision and commitment to the future of their children.

Moving forward, the project will continue to engage local contractors, builders, and suppliers for the main construction work. This approach not only stimulates the local economy but also strengthens the community's sense of responsibility and pride. When a community helps to build something from the ground up — not just financially, but physically — they are more likely to protect it, sustain it, and pass it on to the next generation with care. Local ownership is not just a strategy; it's a foundation for long-term stewardship and stability.

Ongoing Income: The school's operation will be supported by a combination of modest, means-tested school fees, assistance from the *Light Along My Path* (LAMP) charity, and ongoing partnerships with local churches. The fees will be kept affordable and scaled based on family income, ensuring that no child is turned away due to poverty. Meanwhile, LAMP will continue to seek grants, sponsors, and donations from Australia and abroad, while churches provide logistical and spiritual support.

Trained Local Staff: Teachers and administrative staff will be sourced from the surrounding community and trained at nearby teacher colleges. Employing local educators significantly reduces salary burdens compared to bringing in outside staff. It also ensures that the curriculum and classroom environment remain culturally relevant, nurturing both academic learning and moral development within a familiar context.

Solar Energy & Water Pump: To reduce ongoing utility costs and support environmental sustainability, the school will be equipped with solar panels for electricity and a solar-powered borehole water pump. These systems will eliminate reliance on costly diesel generators or unstable government power and water systems. Once installed, solar and borehole systems require minimal maintenance and drastically lower monthly operating expenses.



Community Engagement:

The school will not only serve children — it will be a hub of community life. Plans include offering adult literacy classes, parenting workshops, health awareness campaigns, and after-hours Bible study programs. By engaging in the wider community, the school will gain protection, loyalty, and active participation from local families, reinforcing its position as a centre of learning and transformation for all ages.

3. Stability of South Sudan

While South Sudan continues to face political and economic challenges, there are signs of encouraging progress, especially in key urban centres. Juba, the capital city and the location of the JOMA Christian Vision School, has remained relatively stable in recent years, providing a more secure environment for development projects such as ours. Our confidence is based on several key factors:

Secured Land and Infrastructure: The school site is already legally secured, cleared, and fenced. This not only ensures physical safety for future students and staff but also removes legal obstacles that often delay or derail similar projects elsewhere in the country.

Active Development Sector: Local and international NGOs including UN agencies, Christian charities, and community organisations continue to implement health, education, and peacebuilding initiatives in Juba. Their consistent presence is evidence that structured and well-managed projects can thrive despite broader national difficulties.

Strong Community Backing: The school is supported by local churches, elders, and parents who are eager to see their children access quality education. This grassroots enthusiasm translates into a protective environment around the project and a commitment to keep it safe and running.

Trusted Leadership: Light Along My Path (LAMP) is a newly registered charitable organisation, but it is founded and led by individuals with deep experience in delivering education, pastoral care, and community development both in South Sudan and among diaspora communities in Australia. Drawing on these strong foundations, LAMP will implement this school project with cultural sensitivity, practical insight, and a commitment to long-term impact. As we continue to grow, our aim is to build a reputation of integrity,



transparency, and effectiveness in every initiative we undertake. This school project will be a cornerstone of that vision demonstrating our ability to deliver lasting change through trusted local partnerships and Gospel-shaped leadership.

To ensure strong local governance, a dedicated board has been established in Juba, South Sudan, chaired by Archbishop Abraham Yel Nhial, a respected church leader with deep roots in both ecclesiastical and community development work. The Board of JOMA (Joma Christian Vision School) will play a key role in overseeing implementation, ensuring accountability, managing local staff, and maintaining community trust and spiritual integrity.

With this leadership model combining experienced diaspora oversight and trusted local guidance we are confident the school project will be carried out with wisdom, transparency, and lasting impact.

We believe that education is one of the most effective long-term peace-building tools. By equipping children with knowledge, values, and hope, your support contributes not only to a school building, but to a more peaceful, empowered generation ready to rebuild South Sudan from the inside out.

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Thank you for your support and commitment to education in South Sudan!





