



Report from the Methodist Church In the Isle of Man on the construction of a People Living with HIV/AIDS Centre in Freetown, Sierra Leone. 5 April 2017

As indicated in our correspondence in January we have experienced some slippage with the construction of the PLHIV Centre in Freetown but things have been moving since December. We had raised concerns over evidence of the ownership of the land but we eventually received documentation to reassure us. We may have been overly cautious here but we are very aware of the risks of funding a £42,800 construction project at such a distance and in the economic environment of Sierra Leone. This has been an interesting, but very steep, learning curve for our team.

We sent the first 30% of the contract sum as an advance payment in November when we were happy that everything was in place and I can report that construction of Phase 1 began in December. The photos below (over one month old now) and the report from the construction company clearly indicate the extent of the work that has been completed to date.

Phase 2 of construction is now due to start. A 30% interim payment to cover Phase 2 will only be made when we are satisfied that Phase 1 is completed to everyone's satisfaction.

The programme of works for the construction of the Centre (see below) suggests that all work will be complete by June. We suspect that this may be an optimistic deadline.

We have built into our contract with MCSL that the final payment (ie 5% of the total contract / 10% of the IOM Government contribution) will not be paid until 6 months after completion. We would expect this to be payable in November or December 2017.

Content below:

- 1 Photographs of site clearance and phase 1 construction.
- 2 Update from construction company
- 3 Programme of works

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Photographs of the site clearance and phase 1 construction



Methodist Church in the Isle of Man

Methodist Church of Sierra Leone



Latest update from the construction company, Equatorial Construction and Industrial Co Ltd.,

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Excavation of all column foundations completed
- Excavation of strip foundation for staircase completed
- Reinforcement to column foundations completed
- Concreting of column foundations completed
- Reinforcement to columns completed
- Formwork to columns completed
- Concreting of columns completed
- Concreting of strip foundation to staircase completed
- Backfilling of staircase base completed
- Concreting of floor slab of staircase completed

WORK IN PROGRESS:

- Formwork to suspended beams

WORKS TO BE DONE IN MARCH

- Formwork in suspended slab
- Reinforcement to beams and slab
- Concreting of beams and slab
- Blockwork in first floor.

