



SHOCC is a small charity working with trusted partners. We work with managers who have demonstrated need and have clear goals. We will then support a project financially and through tailored advice and encouragement. As a result, our projects illustrate reciprocal philanthropy where we have an ongoing relationship with our partners, treat them with respect and have a two-way, empathetic approach, aiming for projects quickly to become self-sustainable. We have very few administrative costs and 99% of every donated pound goes to our projects.

MUTHETHENI SECONDARY GIRLS' SCHOOL MACHAKOS KENYA [SDGs 4, 5, 8]

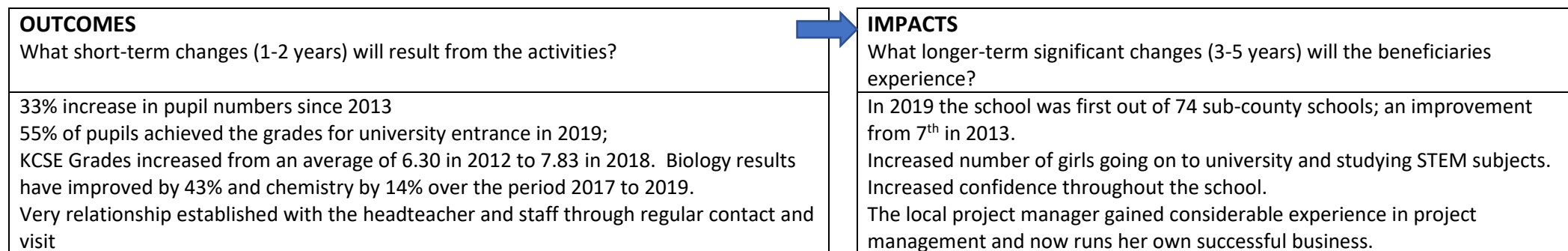
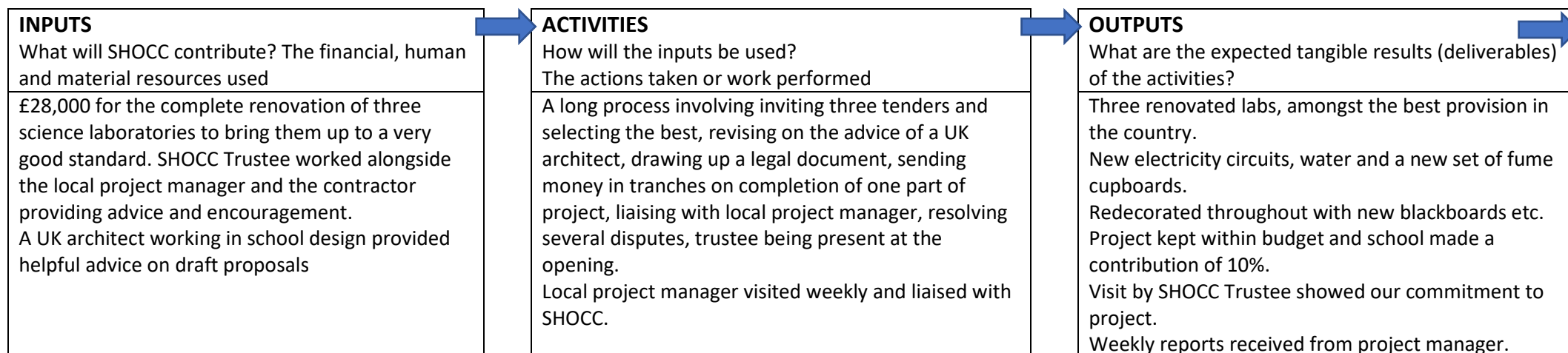
PROJECT STATUS: COMPLETE

Project brief: Girl's secondary education remains underrepresented in Kenya. This project seeks to provide funding to improve Muthetheni girls' school's science laboratories.

Date of entry:	23.06.2022
Project type:	School build
Year(s) of project:	2014
Awarded to date:	£28,000

Background: In 2014 SHOCC received a legacy from the estate of deceased St Mary's geography lecturer, Ms. Amy Hemmings. It represented the charity's largest-ever donation of nearly £80,000 and the Trustees wanted to use some of the funds in memory of Ms. Hemmings. At the same time, it received another bequest from past St Mary's Vice-Principal and head of science, Anthony Kenney. It seemed appropriate to provide funding to renovate three science laboratories at a girls' secondary school at Muthetheni north of Machakos in Kenya. Not only would this help develop the sciences but would also help raise the status of girls' education; both issues close to Amy and Anthony's hearts. The final quotation came to £30,000 with the school providing 10%. Work started in 2014 and was completed in 2015. The three laboratories were completely cleared of all equipment, wiring, and water piping, and new ceilings, gas and electricity, sinks and benches, and enlarged fume cupboards were provided. Trustee Dr Kevin Cook attended the official opening in the summer of 2015 and the laboratories were named in honour of Amy Hemmings and Anthony Kenney.

Our theory of change



Stories and case studies, with descriptions and anecdotes from beneficiaries

- “The improvement in science performance has played a major role in the improvement in overall performance”. (Marcellina Nziu Principal December 2020)

Photographs taken by Trustees and others when visiting the project.



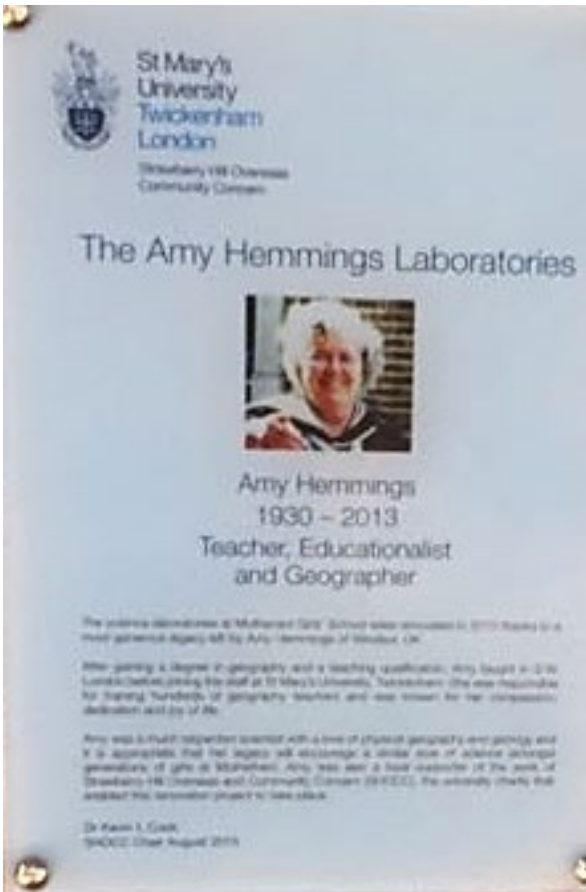
The lower photographs show the laboratories before and after renovation. Benches lacked electricity, gas, and water and were of a variety of shapes and sizes. There were only four sinks on the side benches. The floors were degraded and dangerous. The doors did not close properly and the window glass was broken. The grass was growing through the floor of a laboratory.

The three labs were completely cleared, tracks were provided for underfloor pipes for the three utilities, new benching was installed, the floor was resurfaced, the windows were repaired and the labs were completely decorated.

The top left photo shows a final-year student carrying out an experiment on one of the new benches with water and gas easily available. Space is available for taking notes and results.

Top right is a photo of Ms. Amy Hemmings, the retired St Mary's University geography lecturer whose kind legacy enabled the renovations to be completed. The laboratories have been named in her memory and a plaque erected at the entrance describing a life devoted to the sciences.





Work on the laboratory renovations was completed with no problems in less than six months. A set of rooms in very poor condition was transformed into some of the best science laboratories in the District.

The official opening took place at the end of 2016 and was attended by SHOCC Trustee, Dr Kevin Cook. A plaque in honour of Ms. Amy Hemmings was attached to each laboratory to inform pupils and staff of the legacy that made the work possible.

This set of four photos shows work in progress on the renovations.

