



OVERVIEW OF Ethiopia

Overview of Ethiopia



YEAR OF

INDEPENDENCE: **N/A**

Ethiopia is one of the few African countries to have maintained its independence.



POPULATION

82
MILLION



38.9%

Population

BELOW
poverty line

Languages

Major languages in Ethiopia are Amharic (official National), and regional working languages such as Oromifa, Somaligna, and Tigrigna. There are also other ethnic languages, some of which serve as working languages. These include Sidamigna, Wolayitigna, Guaragigna, Affarigna, Hadiyigna, and Gamo-gna. English is a major foreign language taught in schools.

Under-five Mortality Rate: 77 per 1,000 live births and Ethiopia ranks 36 in the world.

Human Development Index (HDI) for 2012: 0.396 (Ethiopia ranked 173 out of 187, indicating low level of human development).

Brief History of ChildFund in Ethiopia

ChildFund came to existence in Ethiopia: 1971

ChildFund Ethiopia Works in Four Regions

Number of enrolled children in FY13: 37,442

Number of participants in FY13: 1,093,514

ChildFund Ethiopia was established in 1971 and currently supports 13 community based child development programs in four regions (Amhara, Oromia, Southern Nation Nationalities and People's (SNNP), and Addis Ababa). It is assisting over 37,000 children and about 300,000 families directly and over 1 million community members.

Brief Program Overview



ChildFund Ethiopia's vision for children in Ethiopia is that they will grow up in an environment where their basic survival, development and protection needs are met and enabled to become productive citizens. ChildFund Ethiopia's interventions are carried out through a Life Stage approach, and focus on ensuring successful transitions between infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, adolescence and young adulthood to meet the following goals:

- Deprived, Excluded and Vulnerable infants and young children have improved cognitive, psycho-social and physical development.
- Education quality and life skills of girls and boys improved.
- Disadvantaged youth in urban and rural environments are engaged, safe, have applicable skills and are hopeful for their future.
- ChildFund is a partner of choice and builds alliances and sustainable partnerships to improve wellbeing of deprived, excluded and vulnerable children.
- Develop strong linkage between sponsorship and program and improve the sponsorship relations process at all levels.
- Increase and diversify resources for deprived, excluded and vulnerable children.

2013 Program Achievements

Care and development of infants and young children

Early Childhood Development is an important intervention for the program. It lays the foundation for a child's overall development, education and future life. ECD program includes both home based and center based interventions. Children under the age of 3 are benefiting from health and nutrition activities through regular home visits and provision of trainings for parents and caretakers. Center based interventions include awareness raising activities that aim at educating all stakeholders on the importance of ECD and establishing and/or strengthening ECD centers. As the result of ECD trainings, local partners' staff and Government representatives were motivated to develop and strengthen ECD centers in their respective areas. Accordingly 32 IPs responded that they had a plan to establish 82 new and strengthen 172 existing ECD centers and so far 181 ECD centers were strengthened and 12 centers were newly established. Over 2,475 children are benefiting from ECD services through referral in ECD centers and government "0" classes. Through coordination of care givers and the Kebele extension workers, health care services are provided to children at ECD centers on a weekly basis. The government offices are now using ECD manuals, ECD visual aids for volunteers/caregivers and ECD guidelines and observation checklist developed by ChildFund Ethiopia.



2013 Program Achievements

Quality learning opportunities and enhancing achievements in basic education

ChildFund had remarkable achievement in improving quality of education in the primary schools in its model schools. East Shoa Zone of Oromia Regional State organized a conference to evaluate the contribution of NGOs and government organizations in promoting education development objectives, including the implementation of General Education Quality Improvement Program (GEQIP). Based on the evaluation result, the commitment, role and contributions of two of ChildFund Ethiopia's local partners, namely Fentale and Boset Children and Family Development Associations, have been recognized and both Associations received medal awards in recognition of their remarkable achievement in improving quality of education in the primary schools of Boset and Fentale Districts of Oromia region. Similarly, Boze school in Aynage district in region, which is one of ChildFund's model schools has also remained to be the first model school at regional level.



Leadership and livelihood skills for youth

ChildFund Ethiopia is enhancing Reproductive Health (RH) services for youth by establishing a multi purpose youth center based on the felt need of youth. The center was built in response to the need of the youth to freely access RH and VCT messages and services without fear of being spotted by family members while accessing the services. The way the center combines these services with other services like cafeteria, indoor game and library greatly reduces the stigma that the youth usually face while accessing the services in regular health facilities. ChildFund Ethiopia handed over this youth friendly RH center, which is the first of its kind in the area, to Sodo Buee Woreda Health Office in Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region /SNNPR/. ChildFund also equipped the center with the necessary furniture, equipments and medical supplies and the center has now started providing a variety of services to the target youth. The center helps to address RH problems such as unwanted pregnancy, abortion and usage of unmonitored traditional medicine.



Disability Inclusion at ChildFund Ethiopia

With the issuance of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD), mainstreaming disability has become an even more vital need. Thus, on December, 2012, ChildFund signed a project agreement with the Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development (ECDD) to build the capacity of ChildFund Ethiopia and its local partners (LPs). The aim of the project is to facilitate the inclusion of children with disabilities in different development programs being implemented by ChildFund Ethiopia and its partners. Some of the major activities carried out in the project include awareness creation training, disability inclusion audit, and experience sharing visits. Various training sessions have been conducted on inclusive development to local partners' board members, managers, staffs, including support staffs, and children themselves. As a result, local partners' capacity to design and implement inclusive programs and projects that address the needs and interests of children with disabilities (CWDs) is significantly enhanced.



Training to LPs by ECDD

2013 Program Achievements (continued)

Further, ChildFund Ethiopia in collaboration with ECDD organized an experience sharing visit for its Local Partners to Water Aid International and Wabe Child Aid and Training (local NGO). A total of 18 (5 females/13 males) persons, drawn from all 13 LPs of ChildFund Ethiopia, participated in the visit.

Among other things, they were able to witness the importance of **Inclusive quality basic education** to children with disabilities, reproductive health related information for women and young girls with disabilities, and provision of assistive devices to children with disabilities, to ensure their school attendance, participation and achievement. The visit highlighted the need to

bring about attitudinal change in target communities and provision of basic sign language training to families, parents, and care givers. Moreover, the participants got the opportunity to observe Water Aid International's **Equitable and inclusive water and sanitation and hygiene program**, whose main goal is to enhance access to safe water and sanitation and hygiene to all regardless of their disabilities.

Furthermore, a disability audit was conducted both at the ChildFund Ethiopia National Office and its 13 local partners to assess gaps and needs in relation to disability inclusion. Informed by the audit findings and supported by the capacity building efforts of ECDD, ChildFund Ethiopia is now in a better position to design and implement inclusive programs.

"NOW I CAN SEE"

Edeo, a boy with a visual and physical disability, was born in the Boset district's Geri peasant association, which is one of the operational areas of Boset CFDA. Edeo lost his parents when he was 8 years old. He was a child who didn't have access to services due to his disability, including access to education, and as a result he had low self-esteem and confidence.

Boset CFDA in collaboration with the Woreda education office attempted to send him to Sebeta special needs school, but the school declined to admit him because of his age. Consequently the Association contacted one visually impaired teacher at Boset secondary school and arranged with him to teach Edeo during the summer break, when the teacher was free. Amazingly Edeo mastered writing and reading skills within two months and joined formal school in the 2012/13 academic year. Considering his performance of the first semester, the school gave him double passing. He stood 12

out of 73 students when he was in grade 2 now he is attending grade 3 at Wolenchiti Number 2 primary school. Besides creating access to education to the child, the Association's effort showed



LP staffs during experience sharing visit



Edeo while learning how to read & write Braille

2013 Program Achievements (continued)

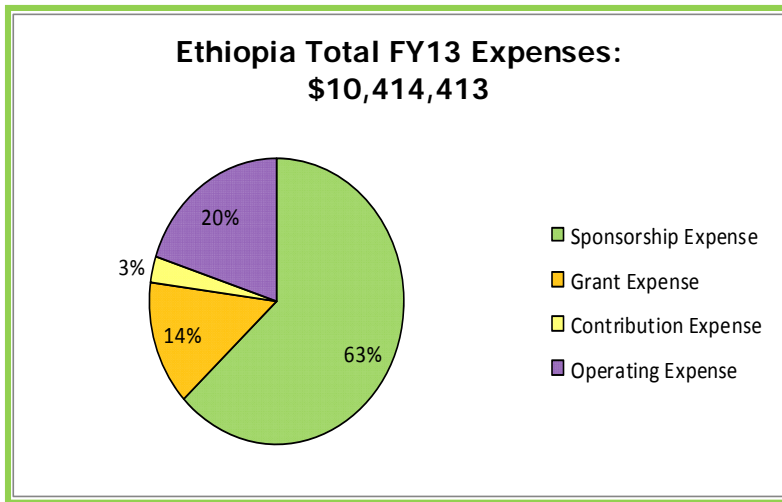
to the community that children with disabilities can perform well in education if they are given the opportunity. Reflecting on the support he was rendered with, Edeo said,

"I thank ChildFund Ethiopia and Boset CFDA for their devotion and commitment to improve my life. Although I am visually impaired and was desperate, these two organizations gave me a brighter future by creating access to education to me. I am determined to be an exemplary student and inspire other children with disabilities. I, for sure, will make ChildFund and Boset CFDA proud with my achievements. Now, I can see my future."



Edeo in class

Financial Report



| Ethiopia FY13 | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Sponsorship Expense | 6,563,409 | 63% |
| Grant Expense | 1,467,492 | 14% |
| Contribution Expense | 307,352 | 3% |
| Operating Expense | 2,076,161 | 20% |
| Total Expense | 10,414,413 | 100% |

Why Sponsorship is Important

ChildFund is known for its sustainable support to children in need. Out of 37,442 enrolled children in 13 Local Partners, 30,092 have sponsors. The majority of the sponsors are from ChildFund International and the rest are from ChildFund Alliance members. In 2013, more than 60% of the annual budget of ChildFund Ethiopia was secured through sponsorship funds. The Sponsor Relations department is working hard to keep sponsors' promise and by so doing ensures financial stability for the organization and continued support for the children.

Hindiga Muktar who was enrolled in ChildFund program in Fentale district is one of the girls that became successful through ChildFund support. She was provided with educational, health and other support starting from her enrollment date, i.e. 21/04/1997. Hindiga completed her university education this year and obtained her first degree.

In addition, like many others in the operational areas of ChildFund Ethiopia, Nurya, Hiwot and Munaja are from a poor family in Aynage (one of ChildFund's local partners), who are realizing their dreams today. They are from the community that believes that 'educating girls is wastage.' The normal expectation of parents for girls is to marry and bring a rich husband to the family who supplements the family's income. But today this belief is changing for the community and for most children, particularly for those children that are enrolled in the project, which helps them to realize the importance of education. Now these 22 year olds are attending their 4th year education in Gondar and Axum Universities with a clear vision for their lives. Nurya explained that *"Currently, I'm studying medicine at Gonder University, many thanks to the Association and ChildFund. If I was not enrolled in ChildFund's project, I would have ended up being a housewife and mother to many."* Hiwot and Munaja are also 4th year students in Axum University studying Management and Engineering, respectively.



Hindiga Muktar during graduation



Munaja, Hiwot (middle) and Nurya from left to right

Where We Work

