



ETHIOPIAID

**BEHEBRET
TOGETHER**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Welcome to our renamed newsletter

'Behebet' meaning 'coming together' in Amharic, the widest spoken Ethiopian language. We chose this name as it is 'together' with you, our loyal supporters, and our local Ethiopian partners that we are able to instigate positive change and help more people in Ethiopia live self sustainable lives.

It has been a busy first half of the year. As you will see on page 3-4. We have been restoring water and hope in the drought stricken Afar region. Thanks to a number of generous legacies we have received from our donors we are now able to support these local communities to construct water management systems that will free them from their reliance on water trucking and emergency aid.

We have also embarked on an innovative new project using smart phone technology to help detect eye problems amongst school children in the Tigray region (see page 10). Currently there is no eye screening for children and many are unable to see in class, struggle to read or go blind. Ethiopia has one of the highest incidences of blindness per capita in the world and 80% of it is either preventable or treatable. This project aims to train teachers to use a simple app on their mobile phone called PEEK (portable eye examination kit) to pick up any issues at an early stage.

In the spirit of togetherness it is wonderful to see two of our partners, Dignity Period and APDA, team up and work together to distribute reusable, washable sanitary pads amongst pastoralist girls in remote regions of Afar. It is a challenging environment in which to work. The searing temperatures and sparsely populated rough terrain as well as the pastoralist way of life could have made it hard to reach the most needy. But thanks to your loyal support Ethiopiaid has been

able to purchase a specialist vehicle to reach the most remote communities and 6,743 Afari girls have received pads so far this year.

I would also like to highlight our small grants programme on page 8. This is a good way of helping small grass roots organizations and testing them out as potential long term partners in the future. We have been particularly impressed with the work of Hospice Ethiopia who are providing palliative nursing care to impoverished people dying from cancer and AIDS. With no palliative care or medication available for the poor many die in horrendous pain. Hospice Ethiopia are working hard to change this and bring dignity and comfort to those suffering.

I hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful work that you are supporting and I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generosity and kindness.

Warmest wishes,

Alex Chapman

Alex Chapman



30th Anniversary

On 4th October 1989, our founder Sir Alec Reed CBE officially registered Ethiopiaid and we began supporting some of Ethiopia's most vulnerable people. Throughout 2019, we will be celebrating 30 years of working with our Ethiopian partners to realise our vision of an Ethiopia free from poverty, in which every person has access to quality education, healthcare and a life of dignity.

We are planning lots of activities to commemorate this milestone anniversary. More information will follow later this year but what we can tell you is...



Bath Half Marathon 2019

Join us next March in our beautiful home city of Bath, for the Bath Half Marathon. We have 10 spaces available for eager runners or those who want to set themselves a challenge!

Each runner will need to fundraise a minimum of £200 (of which £40 is a non-refundable deposit) and in return we will provide fundraising support, a dedicated stand in the Runner's Village, cheering support whilst you are running and some treats to reward you for your hard work and training.

Visit our projects and take part in the Great Ethiopian Run 2019

If the Bath Half isn't your thing – or if you want to take on two runs for Ethiopiaid in 2019 – why not consider joining us for the Great Ethiopian Run in November 2019? This 10km run through the streets of Addis Ababa is like no other. You can walk, run or jog – and sing and dance – with 40,000 other participants, so that despite the altitude and heat you can take it at your own pace. This is an unforgettable challenge, open to everyone, and an experience you will never forget!

Whilst you are in Ethiopia, you will also be able to visit and volunteer with some of Ethiopiaid's partner charities (including Hamlin Fistula Hospital, Hope Street Children's Breakfast and Cheshire Services Children's Rehabilitation Centre). Come and see for yourself the transformational impact that your donations have had, meeting some of the many people your gifts have helped.

More information on how you can register interest, along with costs and dates for the trip, will be released in December.

If you want to organise or do something special to celebrate or fundraise with your community for us, please get in touch ahead of this special year.



The Afar Pastoralist Development Association (APDA) works with some of the most remote communities in Afar. Whilst our partnership with APDA focuses on bringing an end to female genital mutilation, recent years of drought and disease have seen us providing emergency relief to sustain thousands of lives through times of great hardship.

So much has been achieved and many lives saved, but sadly it is not the end of the story.

In a region where the dry season can last 7 months of the year, we know that these

vulnerable and destitute communities will face further droughts, floods and disease and we want to help them build resilience.

APDA have told us that households move from disease to malnutrition, continually requiring emergency support for food, water, medicines and veterinary support. Unreliable rains leave the entire household desperate to find pasture and water to keep their livestock alive. Supplies of meat and milk diminish quickly, leaving families eating a meagre diet of grain perpetuating the cycle of malnutrition. One in two children in the region are stunted and malnourished as a result.

Grazing areas now need rehabilitation from drought erosion and loss of grass-seeds, and the harvesting of rain-water and ground water is urgently required. Once families have healthy, fed and watered livestock then the household can feed, clothe and support itself.

In recent years we have been very fortunate to receive a number of generous legacies. Thanks to these incredible gifts £250,000 has been granted to APDA to provide the urgent resources, training and support needed by communities in the highly affected areas of Afar, where water trucking has become a costly and unsustainable annual need.

APDA will support these communities to construct water management systems that will create year round water access and help to rehabilitate natural pasture, grow food and marketable crops.

The whole project will take 18 months to complete and will benefit 49,200 people. The next time that drought hits the men, women and children of these communities will be better placed to survive the crisis.

RESTORING WATER AND HOPE IN AFAR

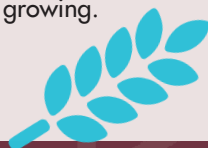


Expected impact:



9,000 people will no longer need water trucking thanks to the rehabilitation of a borehole which will bring thermal waters to the surface. It will also simplify water trucking for a further 15,000 people by shortening the journey from 270 km to 45km.

2,500 households will benefit from watershed management which will help regenerate natural vegetation, crop and fodder growing.



3,200 households will have shorter distances to collect water, a job undertaken by women and children.

6 water cisterns will be constructed to provide communities with a 3 month supply.



6 dams will be constructed in strategic places so that livestock can access water easily.

150 hectares of grazing land will be re-seeded and 500 fruit trees planted.



240 women will access micro finance so that they can grow, market and sell their produce in the local market place.

100 people employed for 60 days to work on construction and the land.





41st class of SMA's

Since 1994 we've supported obstetric fistula projects, helping women recover from and prevent child birth injuries. It's incredible to see the achievements you help make possible year on year. In 2017 your support funded:

Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia (HFE)

- Midwives working in **46** rural government health centres across Ethiopia providing skilled delivery services to **10,844** labouring women.
- **12,994** women have benefited from the treatment, prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration programs.
- **844** surgeries were conducted.

Healing Hands of Joy (HHoJ)

- **1,410** fistula survivors working in their communities.
- The **41st** class of SMA's were trained and equipped with resources to support rural health centres and engage expectant mothers.

Women and Health Alliance (WAHA)

- **422** patients with fistula and other pelvic floor disorders received free quality treatment.
- **3** senior gynaecologists, **16** residents in gynaecology and **20** nurses are working across the three fistula centres.
- **46** former fistula patients went on to benefit from the socio-economic reintegration programme and started work at the Dabat production centre making traditional baskets and scarves.
- **8,412** people were directly reached by awareness raising activities. In addition to this, the Amhara and Oromia regions were reached by radio broadcasting.

2017 FISTULA SUCCESS IN NUMBERS...



GONE, BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN



Teje Lewegneh was a resident of the Association of Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD) for three years. She came to the Addis Ababa safe house with a terrible and shocking story.

Teje was 15 when three local men abducted her on her way to school. They took her to a house and locked her up for three days without food and water. When this ordeal was finally over, the men tried to get Teje to sign a paper stating that she was there of her own free will. When she refused, they drove her to the top of a cliff, assaulted her and threw her into the river below.

Teje was found by local farmers and taken to the nearest hospital, before later being referred to the Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa – due to the severity of her spinal injuries. She came to the safe house for bed-rest and counselling, with AWSAD providing regular medical treatment and social worker support. Although still paralysed, Teje had regained some sensation in her neck and arms and learnt to knit.

AWSAD helped Teje negotiate the legal system and brought her three attackers to justice. At the end of 2017, Teje felt ready to leave the safe house and went to live with her sister on the outskirts of Addis.

Ethiopiaid and AWSAD are very sad to report that on 12th March 2018 brave Teje passed away at home, surrounded by family and her AWSAD case-workers, at the young age of just 18. We are glad that Teje received such care and affection in the last few years of her life and send our condolences to her sister and the AWSAD staff who were so fond of her.

AWSAD provide safe shelter, rehabilitation, counselling medical treatment and training to survivors of abuse. Survivors are supported through the legal process and remain at safe houses for as long as necessary.

AWSAD services are in great demand. With no woman or child turned away, the safe houses are always full and often well over capacity.





DIGNITY PERIOD AFAR EXPANSION

The United Nations defines adequate menstrual hygiene management as “women and adolescent girls using a clean menstrual management material to absorb or collect blood that can be changed in privacy as often as necessary for the duration of the menstruation period...”

The response from our supporters since we began our partnership with Dignity Period in 2016 has been overwhelming. Thanks to your donations nearly 80,000 girls have received a simple re-usable sanitary pack, with many thousands more benefiting from education and awareness workshops.



This year, Dignity Period have teamed up with our partner (APDA Afar Pastoralist Development Association) and have expanded their work to the Afar region. APDA are already well known and respected across the region within the pastoralist communities for their work against FGM and emergency drought relief. Dignity Period are able to use APDA's networks to find remote schools and help to translate information booklets and workshops into the Afar language.

The pastoralist way of life and the sparsely populated rough terrain has presented a difficult challenge for Dignity Period. The region is known for its heat, difficult road conditions, and arid landscapes. To assist Dignity Period with their valuable work, Ethiopiaid have purchased a specialist vehicle to help the team reach the most remote communities – but still some of the most remote schools are only accessible by donkey!

Despite difficulties presented by language, culture and landscapes, so far this year, Dignity Period has already reached 6,743 Afari girls. They plan to reach 13,725 in total by the end of the year. An enormous achievement and one that we believe Dignity Period will keep on building on!



ETHIOPIAID'S SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

For the last couple of years Ethiopiaid has offered opportunities for smaller Ethiopian registered charities to access essential funds; organisations that wouldn't be able to attract significant funds from anywhere else. Small grants can make a huge difference to these organisations, helping us to deliver impact where it is most needed, at grass roots level.

In 2017 Ethiopiaid were able to offer a total of £50,000 in small grant funding. 2018 will see this doubled.

Palliative Care

Palliative care is not readily available to all those who need it in Ethiopia. For those in need of care that they cannot access or even afford, Hospice Ethiopia provides free and appropriate services to adults and children during what is a scary and upsetting time, so they can live their remaining days in peace, free from pain and in dignity.

With Ethiopiaid funding, Hospice Ethiopia were able to provide cohesive palliative care services to 231 people who would otherwise have been dying in dire situations in unthinkable pain.

Project Activities

- To improve quality of life for patients suffering from cancer and/or HIV/AIDS through holistic palliative care services at the Hospice Ethiopia Care Centre and at home.
- To support families of patients through grief counselling and with financial aid.
- To provide psychosocial and spiritual care for patients.
- To give training in pain and symptom management and palliative care to health professionals from government hospitals and to community volunteers.
- Advocacy and awareness raising on palliative care.

Also receiving small grants... Independent girls:

In very rural areas of Ethiopia, sometimes, it is just not possible for girls to go to school. While our partner, For Ethiopia, provides scholarships to keep girls in school, they also run a project to provide girls with practical skills, such as sewing, with the aim of becoming economically independent. Through this, those who may not pass national exams to join higher education are still able to go on and gain full employment in the growing textile industry in Ethiopia.

Getting back on track:

In Dire Dawa, Ethiopia's second largest city not far from the Somali border, migrants constitute close to 30% of the city's population. Many migrants come from rural areas to access the labour market but this is not always successful, leading to poverty, ill health and desperate situations. Women may be forced into sex work, at risk of HIV/AIDS or have unwanted pregnancies. These women are left vulnerable and the rate of child abandonment is high. Positive Action for Development, run a Maternal Health Rehabilitation Unit for these women - with an integrated approach; helping Mothers through pregnancy, promoting health education, economic empowerment, including training, a small business loan and a safe and sanitary environment to live.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Hope Enterprises is one of 8 institutions providing Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in the Kolfe Keranyo sub city of Addis Ababa.

In recent years urban migration has significantly increased resulting in high youth unemployment in Addis. The driving factors being the lack of available productive land, a lack of food, water and fewer employment opportunities in rural areas. Young people migrate in search of work and a brighter future but sadly the majority are left disappointed.

Since 1991 over 1,500 young people have been trained by Hope Enterprises TVET programme with 90% of them securing a job in less than 6 months after graduation. Currently all graduates are employed and the average income is ETB 2,500 (£68), a 400% increase from when they initially enrolled, helping to improve the livelihoods of not just the graduate but their whole family.

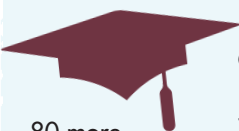
Hope's TVET programme is a story of success. They are recognised as one of the very best TVET providers by employers, the community and the Ethiopian Government. They target young people who are disadvantaged due to being disabled, orphaned, having HIV affected parents, or who cannot afford to pay tuition.

Students benefit from an apprenticeship scheme, support to find employment upon graduation and additional business and entrepreneurial training where they can access seed money, prepare business plans, produce saleable goods and run a small company on the campus.

Hope's approach works and it changes lives.

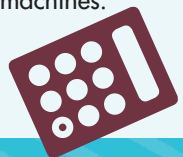
We are really pleased that this year we have been able to support Hope with their new TVET expansion plans and have granted additional funds to upgrade existing facilities and equipment. This provides space for 80 more students to enrol on their programmes.

Expected impact:



80 more students enrolled each year, taking total TVET student numbers to 400.

Graduates skilled in using modern technology and machines.



Improved employment prospects for graduates.

Expand and refurbish existing workshops and classrooms.



New technical machines and equipment



Additional teaching staff are employed.



WWW

Internet access, new ICT and multimedia equipment



PROJECTS

Smart Phones Saving Sight

In most western and advanced countries, it is normal for all children to be screened for visual and aural health at a young age. Any deficiencies can then be corrected earlier rather than later in their lives, reducing problems with development and learning, and minimising struggles with education.

In Ethiopia, this is not the case. Without screening, many children may grow up with blurred vision, unable to see in class, struggle to learn to read or are even identified as blind. A simple test and intervention such as eye drops or a pair of glasses could change their lives.

Recent developments in technology have meant that special applications (apps) on a smartphone, can be used for this sort of screening. Furthermore, the PEEK (Portable Eye Examination Kit) app can be used by any classroom teacher once they have been given the necessary training.

Ethiopiaid is funding a feasibility project, working with our partner SENTigray (Special Educational Needs Tigray) in the hope that this simple technology can be rolled out across the whole of the Tigray region. The benefits for the individual children and families are clear: no child should grow up with a sight or hearing problem, fail to reach their potential or drop out of school, for reasons that could be easily solved.

Livelihoods for the disabled

This year our partner, Cheshire Services received a generous grant to expand their work and create a livelihoods project for 100 families with a disabled person. The project will help these families build a sustainable farming project. Over the course of 12 months the families will be given farm training, start-up funds, bookkeeping and small business training. In addition, these households will be given one or a combination of the following: sheep, goats, bees, seeds, chickens and tools.

To give these families the best chance at success, the project aims to support the whole household and encourages co-operatives between different family units. After 12 months of training, the families will be supported by their local agriculture office and micro finance group. Families caring for a disabled adult or child will be able to support themselves. Livelihoods will be created and the diet of families improved, preventing malnutrition.



MAKE A DONATION



Set up a direct debit to make a regular gift*



Send a cheque or postal order



Make a credit or debit card donation



Make a fast and secure online payment at ethiopiaid.org.uk



Give over the phone on: 01225 476 385

**Regular gifts are so important to us and simple to set up. Knowing that we have a guaranteed income each month helps us to plan ahead with confidence.*



MAJOR DONORS & LEGACIES

Philanthropy and legacies enable opportunities for significant change. If you are considering giving in this way please contact Lisa Cousins, Executive Director, to discuss how you can engage with our work. Lisa can be contacted at lisa@ethiopiaid.org.uk or by calling:

01225 476 385



FUNDRAISE FOR US

We have lots of ideas - donations as wedding or birthday gifts or taking on a challenge. Take a look at 'How you can help' on our website.



TELL OTHERS

Share this newsletter with friends and family and encourage others to support us in whatever way they can.

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It's quick and simple to renew your gift aid declaration, simply get in touch with us.



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Please note names have been changed in the case studies and some library images used, to protect anonymity. In the unlikely event that all the donations from this appeal cannot be applied to the featured projects, they will, at the Trustees' discretion, be applied to the furtherance of the charity's aims.