

2013

Annual Report



ETHIOPIAID CANADA

Local partnerships • Sustainable solutions • Lasting & positive change

Our Mission

*Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world. At Ethiopiaid Canada, we seek to **create lasting and positive change in Ethiopia** by reducing poverty; improving health; and increasing access to education.*

Our Goals

- ❖ To make a real difference for those in desperate need by providing solutions to daily hardships.
- ❖ To embrace a grassroots development approach by supporting local community projects in Ethiopia.
- ❖ To build people's capacity to help themselves.
- ❖ To increase access to health care and education services for people in Ethiopia, and to alleviate the effects of poverty.
- ❖ To provide an opportunity for Canadians to contribute to positive development in Ethiopia.

Our Method

We provide direct support to **local community projects** in Ethiopia. Our trusted Ethiopian partner organizations do the life-changing work on the ground, every day.

Current Projects & Implementing Partners:

Maternal Health:

- ❖ Treatment for women suffering from obstetric fistula | **Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia**
- ❖ Life-saving antenatal and delivery care for women living rurally | **KMG Ethiopia**

Education:

- ❖ Physical and educational support for children with disabilities | **Cheshire Services Ethiopia**
- ❖ Vocational Training for vulnerable and AIDS-orphaned youth | **HOPE Enterprises**

Poverty Relief:

- ❖ Community Infrastructure Development | **St. Francis Integrated Development Organization**

Our Impact: 2013

The Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital

Obstetric fistula is a childbirth injury resulting from a prolonged and obstructed labour. This devastating condition can cause permanent incontinence if left untreated, along with physical discomfort, leg nerve damage, and emotional trauma. The usual outcome for a victim of obstetric fistula is a stillborn child, abandonment by her husband and family, and social ostracisation due to her offensive smell.

It is estimated that there are 100,000 new fistula cases each year, worldwide. In Ethiopia the fistula rate is high, due to lack of adequate maternal health care in many areas.



In 2013, we funded 225 fistula repair operations at the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital. The Hospital provides truly holistic care, including nutritional support; physiotherapy; literacy and numeracy classes; sewing and handicraft training; and counselling. Some women can be at the hospital for as long as 6 months, regaining their strength prior to the surgery and recovering afterwards.

Hope Enterprises

Ethiopiaid Canada partners with HOPE Enterprises to run a successful **Vocational Training Program** for disadvantaged and AIDS-affected youth. These young people have lost the opportunity to continue their schooling due to deep-rooted poverty. They might have to care for younger siblings after the loss of a parent; find unskilled work to support the family income; or they may simply not be able to afford their school fees, books, and uniforms.

In 2013, we supported the training of 120 students, in the fields of General Metal Fabrication & Assembly, Industrial Electric Machines & Drives Technology, Carpentry, and Hospitality & Catering. The training is 70% practical and all students are placed on two month apprenticeships, which help many secure permanent jobs upon graduation. HOPE, in partnership with Ethiopiaid, aims to promote enterprise and self-sufficiency and to train students with the skills necessary for growing industries in Ethiopia.

The HOPE Vocational Training Program has broken the cycle of poverty for thousands of youth over the years, including Joseph, who used the metal fabrication skills he gained in 2012 to start his own business. Joseph built a bread oven and now bakes and sells



Our Impact continued...

his own bread. This business has been so successful that in just one year, he had enough capital to build a second bread oven, which he will be able to sell for a very good price.

Cheshire Services Ethiopia

For a child living with a disability in Ethiopia, access to education is almost impossible. Disabilities are widely misunderstood and are often considered a curse. As a result, rejection by family and society is common. Moreover, the lack of adequate healthcare in Ethiopia means things like mobility, hearing, and vision aids are not readily available. Those who are unable to walk unassisted must be carried, or crawl to achieve mobility.



In 2013, we funded mobility, hearing and vision aids for over 200 children with disabilities. In addition to helping them overcome their disability physically, the Cheshire staff also made sure that children could attend school, by covering fees for those who couldn't afford them, and arranging for any tutoring or support needed. Additionally, we supported Cheshire to construct **6 ramps and an accessible toilet** at a local school, making it wheelchair-accessible.

Our partnership with Cheshire also includes a micro-finance component. **In 2013, we provided micro-loans to 26 mothers of children with disabilities and adults with disabilities,** so that they could start small businesses and bring in a sustainable income for their family.

St. Francis Integrated Development Organization (F.I.D.O.)

F.I.D.O. works in the slum areas of Addis Ababa to improve living conditions for people living in desperate poverty. F.I.D.O. is one of our long-term partners and over the years we have supported them to install clean water access points; carry out much-needed home improvements; and install latrines.

In 2013, we finished an ongoing project to construct **a new Mother-Child Health Centre in the Kirkos slum of Addis Ababa.** Final touches were put on the centre and we supported F.I.D.O. to purchase the needed equipment, including beds and an autoclave. This centre will help thousands of women to give birth safely, in the presence of a skilled health worker. The centre will also act as an information hub on maternal health and issues like HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

In 2013 we also focused on sanitation, supporting F.I.D.O. to build **communal latrine stations at a secondary school in Yeka slum, Addis Ababa serving 1200 students.** Up until 2013, all the students and staff shared one dilapidated unisex latrine station with 4 toilets.

Our Impact continued...

The lack of adequate sanitation facilities was affecting girls' attendance at school. Now, there are 10 new toilets for girls, 2 new toilets for female staff, and the original 4 toilets have been restored for use by male students and staff. Not only will the new latrines encourage increased attendance by girls, they will also reduce the risk of water-borne disease in the community as a whole. It is estimated that 60-80% of diseases in Ethiopia are water-borne, and latrines are a crucial step in the prevention of these diseases.



KMG Ethiopia



Our partnership with KMG began in December 2013. Over the next year, we will partner with KMG to **improve maternal health for women living in rural areas in Southern Ethiopia**. Our program will include dispatching specially-trained health workers to provide ante-natal and delivery care for pregnant women, along with making measures available for emergency obstetric care. The health workers will be on the lookout for signs of complication or danger throughout women's pregnancies and will ensure that new mothers deliver in a health facility if needed.

Currently, most women living in rural Ethiopia deliver their babies at home, without a trained health professional present. If and when complications arise there is often no way of accessing help, which can result in an obstructed labour, causing stillbirth, obstetric fistula, and/or maternal mortality. We are looking forward to **preventing unnecessary child and maternal deaths** with this important partnership.



Our Organization

Ethiopiaid Canada Management & Board of Directors 2014

Management: Elizabeth Mengesha, Executive Director

Board of Directors: Robert Gowan (Ottawa), President
Betty Hope-Gittens (Ottawa), Chair
Pierre Barbeau (Ottawa), Treasurer
Alexandra Chapman (Bath, UK), Director
Robert Clifford (Bath, UK), Director
Erica Dorvault (Ottawa), Director
Mahlet Seifu (Ottawa), Director

Financial Management

We are committed to using our donations efficiently. In 2013, **96% of our donations were allocated to programming** (\$242,394 out of \$252,507 in Canadian donations). Our remaining expenses were covered through an operations grant from Ethiopiaid UK.

