

# Ethiopians Fighting Against Child Exploitation (E-FACE)





## Facts and Figures

- \* **An estimated 10.5 million children worldwide are working as domestic workers in people's homes, in hazardous and sometimes slavery-like conditions. 6.5 million of those children are between 5 and 14 years-old and more than 71% are girls. (ILO, 2013)**
- \* **Asia and the Pacific still has the largest numbers (almost 78 million child population), but Sub-Saharan Africa continues to be the region with the highest incidence of child labour, 59 million. (ILO-IPEC, 2013)**
- \* **Global number of children in child labour has declined by one third since 2000, from 246 million to 168 million children. More than half of them, 85 million, are in hazardous work. (ILO-IPEC, 2013)**
- \* **Child labour among girls fell by 40% since 2000, compared to 25% for boys. (ILO-IPEC, 2013)**
- \* **27 percent of children age 5-14 in Ethiopia are involved in child labour—17% of children age 5-11 and 55% of children age 12-14. (Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2011)**
- \* **18 % of children age 5-11 and 40% of children age 12-14 are engaged in household chores for 28 or more hours in a week. (Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2011)**
- \* **The government of Ethiopia is working to eliminate exploitative child labour by 2016. (NAP, MOLSA, 2013)**





In the past two years the E-FACE project has made significant contributions to the institutional capacity of Ethiopia working against child labor. To date, the project has impacted the lives of more than 18,000 children engaged in child labor; allowing them to attend school and reducing the risk of dropout. Going forward, WVE will scale up and consolidate the interventions at household, community, school, and national levels to ensure the project's sustainability and children's protection within their community. E-FACE supports the broader plan for the country to eliminate exploitative child labour by 2016.

*Margaret Schuler*

National Director  
World Vision Ethiopia



## About World Vision Ethiopia (WVE)

World Vision is an international Christian relief and development organization. It began its first intervention in Ethiopia in 1971 with relief and opened the Ethiopia office in 1975. During the 1984/85 drought, World Vision Ethiopia (WVE) participated in a massive relief operation that saved the lives of millions of people. After an intensive relief and rehabilitation programme, the organization developed a new

integrated development approach to ensure empowerment and transformational development. World Vision Ethiopia operates in more than 80 Districts of the country, in addition it carries out emergency response in Buramino, Tongo, and Tierkidi responding to the Somali, Sudanese, and South Sudanese refugees fleeing violence and drought in their countries.

Supporting World Vision's objective of contributing towards the well-being of millions of vulnerable children WVE is focused on six integrated and complimentary areas: Livelihoods; Education; Child Protection; Humanitarian Emergency Affairs; Health, Nutrition and HIV and AIDS; and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.



## About E-FACE

E-FACE is a project working on child protection to prevent and respond to exploitation, neglect, abuse, and all other forms of violence affecting children. The project strives to eliminate exploitative child labor, mainly in the traditional weaving sector, through promoting education opportunities for children, improving livelihood of families, strengthening social (community based) protection for children, improving institutional capacity and increasing the national knowledge base on child labor through researches. The project also addresses other child labor sectors including agriculture, domestic work, fishing, street vending, pottery, and construction in the project operational areas.

The four year project, which started in December, 2011, targets 20,000

children in nine Districts of Gamo Gofa and Wolaita Zones of Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Regional State and five districts of Gullele Sub-city in Addis Ababa City Administration.

The project, funded by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), is implemented by a consortium of three NGOs: WVE (lead), Mennonite Economic Development Associates, and Mission for Community Development Program.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) is the prime partner and overseer of the project, while the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs, and Ministry of Education are among the key actors. Other

partners include the government line offices at national, regional, zonal, woreda, and kebele levels. Research institutions such as the Addis Ababa University, University of Gondar, and other organizations that work on similar objectives; as well as law enforcement bodies, schools, community volunteers, and other NGOs are also contributing partners.





# Promoting Education Opportunities for Children

Education interventions are bringing changes to the lives of children by contributing to the reduction of child vulnerabilities including child labor and trafficking. Accomplishments include:

- \* Healthy and attractive school environments created through construction of latrines and water points as well as rehabilitation of dilapidated school blocks for 39 target schools
- \* 18,459 target children who had been engaged in and at high risk of entering to child labor have been supported to attend school regularly
- \* Innovative centers established in 28 target schools
- \* Organized 24 target schools' classrooms with speaking walls and visual prints
- \* Established and strengthened 47 early childhood care and education centers
- \* Trained more than 90% of teachers in 50 target school on interactive/innovative pedagogical methods
- \* 1,269 children who had been engaged in and at high risk of entering to child labor have been supported to be enrolled in vocational services



*\* Gross enrollment in target schools has now reached 95.1%*

*\* 86.1% of target children have been retained in formal education*

*\* Dropout in target schools has decreased from its baseline of 12% to 6%*

*\* Awareness has increased in communities of target schools on the values of educational interventions*

# Economic Development

The project has also been working to implement livelihood interventions in all of its operational areas to promote child protection and participation. It has strengthened target communities into saving groups to create a path for savings and credit, created an efficient and competitive textile marketing system, and ensured safe working conditions for young workers

- \* 3,313 target households were provided with access to financial services, 686 business owners in the weaving sector adopted codes of conduct regarding labor conditions for youth
- \* 428 target households (weavers) linked to sustainable markets while enabling them to capture increased shares of the value of production
- \* 377 business owners mitigated workplace hazards
- \* More than 3,000 households were able to keep their children well-nourished and become more resilient to shocks



- \* *Income of households has increased by 42.6%*
- \* *Assets owned by households have increased by 12.8%*
- \* *Annual Household expenditure has increased by 39.8%*
- \* *16.8% of households have additional employment sources that remain active for more than a year.*
- \* *35% of target working children work in businesses with minimum occupational safety and health standards.*

# Strengthening Social Protection for Children

Absence of child protection bylaws, birth certificates and child labor monitoring system makes the law enforcement process difficult to ensure social protection for children. In order to overcome these impediments, E-FACE, in collaboration with the respective government offices, has made significant improvements, helping to identify crucial issues to the responsible government body

- \* Delivered more than 8,500 birth certificates for target children
- \* Child Labor Protection bylaws have been developed and approved in all target Kebele administrations and districts
- \* Established community based child labor monitoring and referral system in 67 target Kebeles
- \* Trained 62 school clubs on the effects and hazards of child labor, 305 labor inspectors on child labor inspection, 1,952 government staff on child labor and how to mainstream child labor issue in their activities
- \* Organized workshops to internalize International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions and policies for 150 judges from all Regions; and to internalize National Action Plan (NAP) for 77 Regional and Federal offices and media groups



- \* *More child abuse cases have been referred to court and resolved.*
- \* *Child abuse cases being reported to concerned bodies along the reporting line/system*



# National Institutions Capacity Building

One of E-FACE's priorities is to build the capacity of existing government structures to ensure sustainability. In support of this effort, in partnership with MOLSA and SNNPR Education Bureau, it has facilitated and financed

- \* The development, approval, and publication of 1,600 copies of Labor Inspection Guidelines
- \* The amendment of 6,000 copies of draft NAP to eliminate worst forms of child labor document, as well as endorsement, approval and publication
- \* The preparation, endorsement, approval and publication of 1,000 copies of a Child Labor Mainstreaming manual for SNNPR Education Bureau

*\* Comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation System in place*

*\* Periodic child status monitoring being carried out*

Moreover, in an effort to improve the national knowledge base, the project has also conducted three researches on “Workplace Hazard Assessment and How to Regulate Standards in the Informal Sector” (by Gondar University), “Push-pull Factors in Child Trafficking” (by Addis Ababa University)” and “Knowledge, Attitude and Practice on Child Vulnerabilities, Including Child Labor” (by Population Media Centre) and disseminated the findings and recommendations to a wide range of stakeholders.





## Serkalem Bihon



15-year-old Serkalem Bihon and her parents reside in Addis Ababa city, Kechene Medhanealem area. Serkalem's father is a weaver and her mother is a potter, though their income is not enough to maintain themselves. That is why their only child started to lend a hand both in the housework and income generation when she was 9. Since then, Serkalem is busy from dawn to dusk. After school she goes back to her daily chores to work until night. "Other than the housework, I help my father in the weaving and my mother in the pottery. Afterwards, I will be sent to three or four other weavers to wind cotton on the spool for which I earn a weekly wage of 30 birr," she confirms.

According to her the work affects her health. "Because of the work, I am experiencing back, shoulder and arm pain, though not permanent." Her education became a low priority. "At home, if I am not working, I am sleeping. No time for study. So I usually feel sleepy during class," she says. Serkalem misses classes often and interrupted schooling a couple of times. "I am now in 5th grade while my age mates are in higher classes." She still remembers the days of her life when she was using every scrap of paper she came across to make her own pad for school.

She was able to go back to school because WVE covers all her school expenses. "WVE is encouraging me and advising my family. So they are now aware of the situation and telling me to study. Unlike the past, now I am only working for one weaver."

Serkalem hopes to become a medical doctor and her message for the society is, "Children should not be asked to do beyond their age."



## Surafel Getu



14-year-old Surafel Getu, lives with his father in Addis Ababa, Shiromeda area. Surafel engaged in traditional weaving with his father from the early age of 7. “My main duty is to wind the cotton in the spool for my father and sometimes weaving when he is not able to do so,” said Surafel. Every day, Surafel used to spend four hours or more on work. As he is a day time student, he is supposed to work in the evenings and night times and it conflicts with his sleeping time. According to him, “Sometimes I felt sleepy in class. On top of that, I used to be absent from school

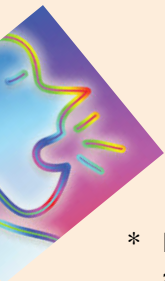
on most Fridays as I have to finish the products to be sold in the week.” Surafel continues, “There is a play ground near our house. Always I hear children playing while I am working. That makes me jealous,” he shared.

“When I finished work, I usually feel the pain on my shoulder, arm, and waist and it went away after some time.”

Surafel met WVE in June 2012. Before that, it was difficult for him to go to school because his father was unable to pay for his school materials and uniform. “I used to wear one uniform for three or four years. BWorldVision gave me school materials and a uniform and facilitates tutorial classes for us. Now, I am learning freely and my results are improving.” Also, WVE Child Protection Committees and volunteers visit Surafel’s family frequently, advising his father to minimize Surafel’s burden. “After WVE’s visit, my father realized my situation, regretted it, and decided to find ways to manage most of the work on his own,” Surafel attests.

An 8th grader, Surafel likes Amharic and Civic subjects and hopes to become a scientist. “I want to study water and curb the electricity problem in my country,” he says of his future plan. He concluded by saying, “No parent should practice child labor because it affects the children’s future lives.”





## Picture Voice

WVE selected more than 70 children between the ages of 11 to 15 years from 8 schools in Addis Ababa for a drawing contest and storytelling with the objective of:

- \* Promoting child participation to voice their issues in the area of child labour;
- \* Encouraging children to unleash their creativity by focusing on the issue of child labor and exploitation that many children the same age are facing;
- \* Encouraging children, parents, and teachers to share stories, to improve children's ability to understand, imagine, illustrate, draw lessons and narrate events of their day to day lives.
- \* Exposing the dangers of child labor and exploitation through the eyes of children to inspire others to play their role in reducing the incidents of child labor and exploitation

Accordingly, after evaluating all the drawings in collaboration with the Ethiopian Visual Artists Association, the following three pictures are identified as the top three drawings that best portray the observation, hopes and fears of Ethiopian children regarding exploitative child labor.

**1<sup>st</sup>** Helen  
Anchachaw, 15 years  
old. She wants to be a  
pilot and painter.



**2<sup>nd</sup>** Kalkidan Nega,  
14 years old. He wants  
to be an Engineer.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Yoseph Taye, 12  
years old. He wants  
to be a doctor.



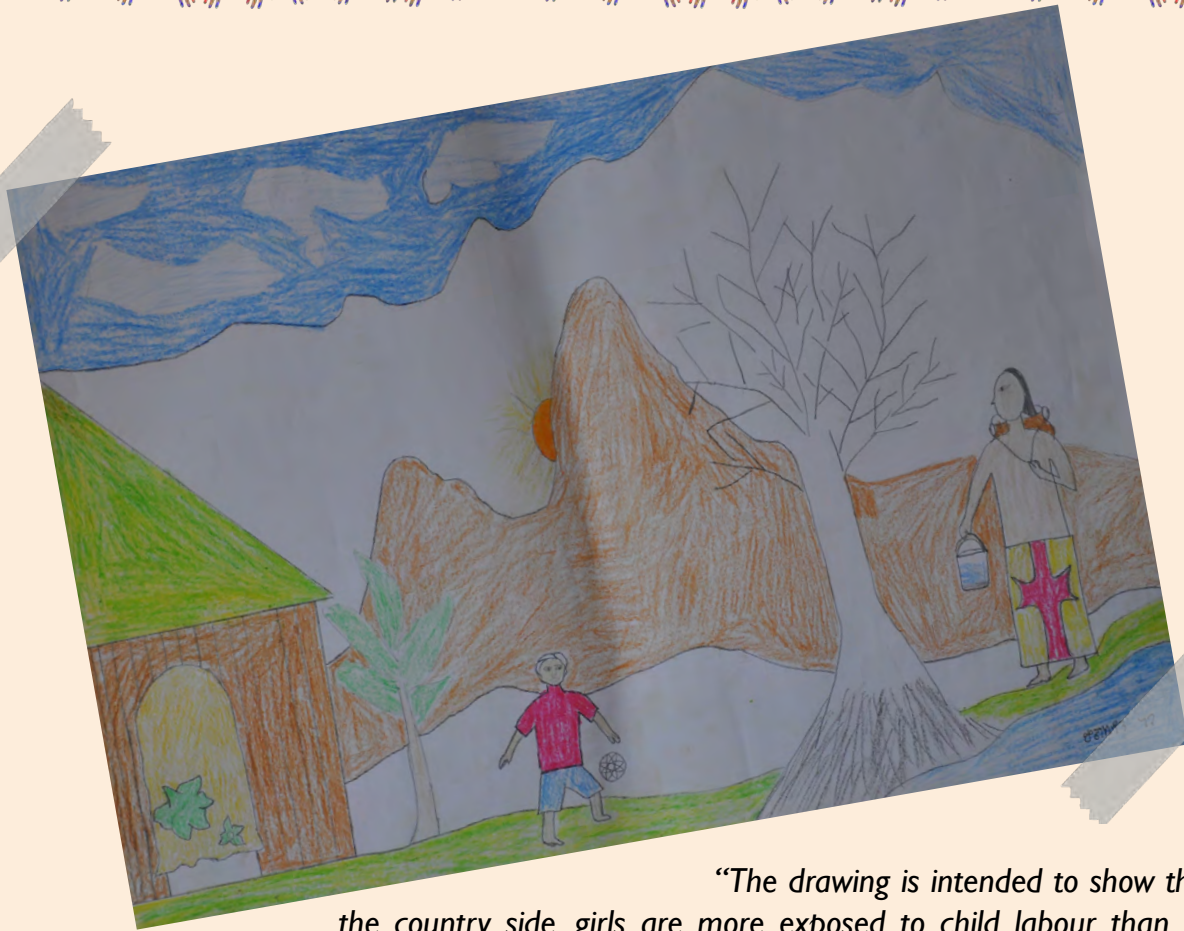




“The drawing shows children in exploitative child labour and also those poor children who have a strong desire to go to school like their age mates but are unable to do so.”

Helen Anchachaw





*“The drawing is intended to show that in the country side, girls are more exposed to child labour than boys.”*

*Kalkidan Nega*



“The drawing depicts a girl child grinding on a grinder higher than her height that she is supposed to stand on a stool while carrying a baby on her back.”

Yoseph Taye

*Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness;  
Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.*

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