A multi-million dollar automotive training center inaugurated in Addis Ababa

World Vision Ethiopia funded by World Vision Korea, KIA Motors and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) launched the a multi-million dollar automotive youth training center on 14 June 2017 at Lideta sub-city, in Addis Ababa.

The automotive training center will target 615 youth of whom 220 will be trained as auto mechanics and 395 as Eethio-handicraft specialists.

Speaking on the opening ceremony, Mr Edward Brown, World Vision Ethiopia National Director, said, “This project is extraordinary for us, in that it has enabled us to support the Ethiopian government’s strategy to promote skilled labour through vocational training to address unemployment among youth in cities.”

Mr. Edward appreciated the cooperation of Korean partners and the Ethiopian government in transforming the lives of young people and promoting development as Ethiopia works towards becoming a middle-income country.

KIA Motors donated two trucks, three automobiles, seven engines, eight power transmission and other materials for training purposes.

Mr. Soon Nam Lee, President of the Middle East & Africa Regional headquarters for Kia Motors, said “Green light auto mechanic training center is one of the nine training centers established in different countries. We strongly believe that the future trainees will significantly contribute to the development of their communities.”

Mr. Zeru Sumur, Head of Addis Ababa City TVET Bureau on his part said that the green light auto mechanic training center will fit right into the ongoing national effort of creating job and market opportunities for the youth, which also facilitates the transfer of technology between countries. Mr. Zeru expressed his gratitude to World Vision Ethiopia, KIA Motors, and KOICA for the support.

The project has a five-year budget of over $ 2.5 million USD ($7.8 million birr). The training center will have its own governing structure and continue to train young men and women. The training center is expected to commence classes at the beginning of July 2017.
World Vision Ethiopia launches national level campaign to end child marriage

World Vision Ethiopia launched a national level campaign to end child marriage in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (FMoWCA) on the Day of African Child celebrated on 16th June 2017 in Bishoftu town.

The national level campaign was launched in the presence of H.E. the First Lady Mrs. Roman Tesfaye, Women and Children Standing Committee of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Parliament, H.E Damitu Hambisa, the Minister of the FMoWCA and the Vice President of Oromiya Regional State, with the theme of ending child marriage.

Speaking on the occasion H.E the First Lady Mrs. Roman Tesfaye said “I appreciate what government institutions, non-government organisations, as well as faith-based organisations, are doing with the Ethiopian government to protect and safeguard children in Ethiopia. I would like to encourage all to continue in these efforts by integrating children’s issues into development programs.”

H. E Mrs. Demitu Hambisa, Minister, FMoWCA on her part said, “The responsibility of protecting and supporting children is not the job of one sectoral body but it needs every one of us to commit to sustaining the wellbeing of children in a wholistic manner.”

World Vision launched a five year global and African level campaign in February 2017, dubbed “It takes a world to end violence against children”. The campaign focuses on addressing child protection issues and violence against children such as early marriage, FGM among others.

Mr. Edward Brown, World Vision Ethiopia National Director on his part said, “World Vision prioritises serving vulnerable children such as children with disabilities, children working and living on the street, girls subjected to early marriage, abduction and FGM. WVE has achieved encouraging outcomes in addressing the needs of highly vulnerable children and their families at the grass root level which contributes to improving the well-being and wholistic development of children and young people under difficult circumstances. Today, I call on every stakeholder in this occasion to collaborate with us in a journey to rescue girls who are vulnerable to child marriage through this campaign!”

World Vision has been focused on child protection issues for many years, including the recently implemented Child Safe Space (CSS) project in Tigray regional state. As a result of persistent capacity building efforts, community members are becoming vigilant in tracking and reporting all form of violence against children in their neighborhoods to the concerned local authorities. In the last two years, a total of 220 arranged child marriages have been canceled in Tigray region, through active involvement of community-based child protection structure.

World Vision will continue to conduct subsequent regional level engagement to create awareness on the campaign among various stakeholders in Oromia and Amhara regional states in July and August 2017.

Finally, international non-governmental organisations like Save the Children, Plan International and UNICEF pledged their commitment to collaborate on efforts to improve child wellbeing.
World Vision Ethiopia has launched a pilot livelihoods project in Hawassa. The project aims to improve agricultural production, income, and nutrition of 2,638 target households at Sidama Zone of Malga and Wondogenet woredas. 

In his opening remarks, Mr. Michael Mulford, “Development Food Security Activity (DFSA) Chief of Party says, “The pilot project is intended to be implemented at Malga and Wondogenet districts which have high levels of food insecurity, low productivity, difficulty of accessing market, severe form of land degradation similar to the productive safety net program districts. The idea is to target those areas that have the potential for food production and helping people improve their livelihood and nutrition. The project will improve production and productivity, access to finance and nutritional status of families. It will also draw lessons to replicate it in other areas to benefit the most vulnerable.”

He asked the participants to closely support and work with World Vision to make the project productive and draw lessons that can be replicated to the other areas.

His Excellency Ato Mohamed Nur SNNPR Regional Office Natural Resource Development and Conservation Process Owner Deputy says, “World Vision has been working in our region for years. Its work has brought about sustainable change in the lives of our people. This pilot project is of paramount importance to our region as it will take our people one step to better life. We need to give special attention during the implementation of this program and work hand in hand with World Vision staff. I do hope that if we work hard, we will make the project successful. Thank you World Vision for this opportunity.”

The USAID representative, Mr. J. Carlos, on the other hand, said that the American people feel comfortable to supporting and contributing to the effort of the government of Ethiopia to support the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable people.

He says, “This program will help us to try and learn explicitly to inform not just USAID program but the government program. It is not trying new things but trying to do more of it and trying to think about those things that might gain efficiency in the intervention.” Pilot means from USAID perspective is a learning piece. It means we will do this because we have the confidence and this is a good idea and we also have to learn how to refine and get them right so that other parts of the country and even other parts of the world can understand how to do these things better.”

He finally encouraged all to take ownership of the learning piece.

During its two years of implementation period (March 01, 2017 up to February 28, 2019), the project in collaboration with the concerned sectorial government offices, is expected to improve the agricultural production and productivity of the target households, health in relation to nutrition, develop their economy through village economic saving association, strengthen farmers managed natural resource management practices, promote diversified livestock and fishery among other things.

World Vision Ethiopia has sponsored and took part in the second round street run event organized by Addis Ababa City Administration Education Bureau in collaboration with Melkamu Tegegne Sports organisation on April 30, 2017, in Addis Ababa. This year’s theme was “Let’s run for quality education” and “Stop violence against children”. More than 10,000 students including students with disabilities from 10 sub-cities participated in the race.
Workshop with religious leaders and communities to end new born child mortality

World Vision Ethiopia Born on Time project, conducted workshops with religious leaders and communities in three zones of Amhara region to contribute to the reduction of neonatal mortality.

The workshops were held at different times at the regional and district levels focusing on pre-term birth prevention and improving the quality of health services for mothers and newborns.

A total of 260 churches and 50 mosques were reached by the team to mobilise faith-based organisations as a force of transformation through health programs and response to different community challenges. Similarly, a total of 120 participants attended a workshop targeting male community members as a force of action in solving community problems and identifying their root causes and consequences to develop local solutions and measures.

World Vision has been implementing Born on Time (BOT) project in 15 selected districts of three zones in Amhara Regional State, since 2016.

Following the training, a consensus was reached and a partnership developed with representatives of Faith Based Organisations; trainees have planned to conduct continuous dialogue sessions in the project implementing districts.

World Vision strengthening partnerships in water and sanitation

World Vision Ethiopia’s National Director Edward Brown and WASH Director Abraham Asmare met Dr. Engineer Sileshi Bekele, Minister of Water, Irrigation and Electricity (MoWIE) to discuss how to strengthening our partnership.

The discussion, held on 12 May 2017, mainly focused on an upcoming WASH intervention including WASH in emergencies that involves development partners, World Vision and International Medical Corps, among others. In the discussion, it was stressed that mapping WASH needs is crucial, so that areas with the most needs are not left out and universal coverage is in sight. Integration of WASH projects by development partners to the government’s 2030 agenda, the One WASH program and the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP2) and ensuring sustainability of interventions have also been highlighted to be important notes to consider in WASH interventions.

Australian Government support great impact on WV projects

The Australian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and its Embassy in Ethiopia visited Water; Sanitation and Hygiene Projects implemented with the support of the Australian Government NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) in Sibu Sire Area Program (AP), Oromia.

During the visit, the team held discussions with the Woreda Administrator and his cabinet, beneficiary community members and students in project intervention schools. The visiting team expressed satisfaction over the work that World Vision Ethiopia has been doing in partnership with the local government and communities.

The ANCP program provides funding for accredited NGOs to deliver cost effective, practical and direct poverty reduction programs. Through the ANCP support, World Vision Ethiopia was able to reach thousands of children and their families in six area programs of World Vision Ethiopia in Oromia and Tigray Regions by providing access to clean water; improved sanitation and promoting healthy hygiene practices.