

USAID Food for Peace delegates visit WVE's food distribution for **Gedeo-Guji** internally displaced people



Mr. Edward Brown, the National Director of World Vision Ethiopia, with Senior USAID delegates Mr. Clifford Davison and Mr. Ross Wood at Gedeo-Guji IDP.

Senior delegates from USAID Office of Food for Peace based in Washington D.C., Clifford Davison and Ross Wood, along with WV Ethiopia National Director Edward Brown paid visit to internally displaced people (IDPs) due to inter-communal conflict between Gedeos and Guji Oromos on 9 August 2018. The delegates have witnessed that World Vision Ethiopia is providing food commodity for the internally displaced people using Last Miles Mobile Solutions (LMMS) technology to effectively and efficiently address the immediate needs of the people swiftly. "Thanks to everyone here World Vision Ethiopia Team to pilot one of the electronic mobile technologies. This is a good chance to see how technology is assisting the food distribution," said Clifford Davison.

The delegate amazed by the commitment of World Vision Ethiopia team as they have reached tens of thousands of beneficiaries in less than 12 hours while addressing the immediate needs of the people particularly that of children. "On behalf of the government of the United States we are thankful for the JEOP consortium particularly WV for scaling up food assistance for nearly 800,000 internally displaced people to reach within this short period of time," Mr. Clifford added.

World Vision Ethiopia National Director, Edward Brown on his part appreciated the rapid response effort to the dire situation on the ground that relived the burdens of thousands of needy people. "We have fed 125,000 people in 10 days. This is best distribution I have seen so far in terms of being well organized and executed in a timely manner due to the application of fastest LMMS technology," Mr. Brown said.

WV Ethiopia holds National Livelihood and Nutrition Summit



Mr. Edward Brown, the national director of World Vision Ethiopia, staffs, and partners after the summit.

World Vision Ethiopia conducted a national level livelihood and nutrition summit that has brought together government officials, model farmers, community members, and other stakeholders from across Ethiopia on 27 July 2018 in Hawassa.

The summit was aimed at recognizing farmers who become successful through working with World Vision and applying integrated development models as well as celebrate its achievements that have registered so far through working with the government, the community, and partners.

In his keynote speech Nutrition Adviser with the Ministry of Agriculture Dr. Kebede Abegaz said "The good works of World Vision in Ethiopia has been shining since the early 1970s. Its integrated development efforts particularly in agriculture and food security are bearing fruit while transforming the lives and livelihoods of thousands of Ethiopians."

World Vision Ethiopia's Livelihood and Nutrition programme has established 3,847 saving groups across Ethiopia embracing 75,499 rural farmers with high engagement of women and people with disabilities. This resulted in the creation of asset valued 29,813,717 birr and disbursement of 12,167,360 birr in loan.

The Saving for Transformation programme has opened opportunity for over 168,000 children cared for, have nutritious diet, and educated.

World Vision Ethiopia names renowned Ethiopian philanthropist and children advocate as its Goodwill Ambassador



Mrs. Firealem Shibabaw, a philanthropist and children advocate, named as World Vision's Goodwill Ambassador.

World Vision Ethiopia names Mrs. Firealem Shibabaw, a renowned philanthropist and children advocate, as its Goodwill Ambassador at a National Livelihood and Nutrition Summit held on 27 July 2018 in Hawassa.

Firealem's philanthropism and relationship with World Vision dates back to 25 years when she first sponsored a Tanzanian child while she was a young university student in the US. Since then Mrs. Firealem has devoted her life as child advocate focusing on child nutrition. She advocated for children with her peculiar belief that providing children with nutritious food is justice and healthy growth of children is a development index of a country.

Speaking on the occasion Mrs. Firealem said "Food insecurity has remained the major challenge in Ethiopia amid abundant resources the country has. In Ethiopia many children grow malnourished and stunted. Children who have grown without the adequate nutrition in their early ages will face lifelong effect." "I will be the voice of all Ethiopian children and see them enjoy balanced diet, well-nourished, grow healthy and be productive in their future life," she added.

National Director of World Vision Ethiopia, Mr. Edward Brown on his part said "I am grateful to Mrs. Firealem for her willingness to take this huge responsibility to ensure all children enjoy healthy life and achieve their full potential in Ethiopia." Having Mrs. Firealem as a Goodwill Ambassador of World Vision Ethiopia is instrumental in realizing malnutrition free and non-stunted children in Ethiopia.

World Vision Ethiopia celebrates Day of African Child



Children performing song on the event.

World Vision Ethiopia in collaboration with the Harari Regional State Women, Children, and Youth Affairs Bureau celebrated the Day of African Child with various assortments in Harar City on 19 June 2018.

The Day was celebrated under the theme 'Let Us Rescue Street Children' as part of the national move in mobilizing all stakeholders to end all forms of violence against children.

Speaking at the ceremony UNICEF Ethiopia country representative Julian Messop said "Sadly, millions of children are growing in a violence situation worldwide. Violence against children can and must stop and we should give due attention in this regard."

School children from Harar City and its environs presented songs and read poems related to child right and violence against children to participants of the event.

12-year-old Elizabeth Tamene is a member of child parliament. "I advocate for women, children, and gender equality. I along with other members of child parliament organized girls club and gender club in my school in order to make girls participate and raise awareness on issues related to child right and violence against children," she explained.

On the occasion high level policy makers and implementers pledged to renew their commitment in the fight against any form of violence against including UNICEF Ethiopia country representative, representative of Harar City Child Parliament, World Vision Ethiopia National Director, President of the Harari Regional State, Heads of Women and Children Affairs of the Harari Regional State and the Dire Dawa City Administration, and Zonal Administrators of East and West Hararghe.

“It takes a world” campaign reaches Harari Regional State



(from left to right) Mr. Edward Brown, Mrs. Yalem Tsegaye, Minister of Women and Children Affairs and opening the event.

World Vision Ethiopia in collaboration with the Harari Regional State launches “It takes a world to end violence against children” campaign in the presence of President of the Harari Region, Minister of the Federal Women’s and Children Affairs, Head of the Harari Regional State Women, Children, and Youth Affairs, UNICEF Ethiopia Country Representative, religious leaders, and local communities in Harar City on 19 June 2018.

In her keynote speech UNICEF Ethiopia country representative Julian Messop said “Over 3 million children worldwide are facing violence in one way or the other. I congratulate World Vision for the timely launching of ‘It takes a world to end violence against children’ campaign to end early marriage in Ethiopia.” She pledged that UNICEF will support World Vision’s effort in alleviating early marriage in Ethiopia.

Minister of Women and Children Affairs Yalem Tsegaye on her part said “Ethiopia is one of the top 20 countries in the world where harmful traditional practices prevail in various forms.” All stakeholders including the government, religious leaders, NGOs, and others must work hand in hand to alleviate this dire problem. Following the first launch of the campaign at national level promising results have been achieved due to the ongoing efforts of catalyzing in attitudes and raising awareness in partnership with the government, religious leaders, and the community at large across the country. “Over 300 arranged marriages have been canceled in different parts of the country where World Vision operates,” said Edward Brown, National Director of World Vision Ethiopia.

World Vision will continue its effort in a strengthened manner in order to ensure all children enjoy life in all its fullness and reach their full potential, he added. He urged all participants to join hands and engage actively so as to fully realize a world which is free of child violence.

World Vision launched “It takes a world to end violence against children” campaign first at Pan-African level in Addis Ababa on 6 February 2016 followed by National level launch in June 2017. Since then WV has been launching the campaign in different parts of the country.

World Vision Ethiopia launches a new project to break the transmission of intestinal parasites in Wolaita zone



Mr. Moe Assoum Manager for Elimination and Breaking Transmission, Mr. Edward Brown the National Director of WV Ethiopia, Dr. Getahun Garedew, Wolaita Zone Chief Administrator and other participants after the launching event.

World Vision Ethiopia, in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Health and Children Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) launched a new project called ‘Geshiyaro’ in Wolaita Zone of the Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region on 1st September 2018.

‘Geshiyaro’ roughly translated as ‘Cleansing’ in Wolaita is a project that aims to break the transmission of intestinal parasites and Schistosomiasis in 15 districts of Woliata Zone for the next five years (between 2018 and 2021), with a total budget of US\$27.6 million funded by CIFF.

The project was launched in the presence of higher government officials and CIFF donors.

In his opening remark Dr. Getahun Garedew, Wolaita Zone Chief Administrator said, “World Vision has achieved a big reputation with a strong community based approach. Communities around Humbo and nearby woredas of Soddo know World Vision very well. Government officials should play a key role in facilitating the project towards achieving the desired goal. The project will be successful only when we are collaborating and stand as one.”

Manager for Elimination and Breaking Transmission Mr. Moe Assoum on his part said that this project is the first of its kind in the world and it hopefully will be the foundation to move forward and present to the rest of the world.

“Children are more susceptible to diseases than adults. This programme seeks to focus on breaking transmission of diseases and the impact will be felt first and foremost on children. It gears towards producing results in a quick and sustainable manner as the project is the most ambitious in many ways,” said Edward Brown National Director, World Vision Ethiopia.

The Project aims to demonstrate the feasibility of breaking the transmission of Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH) and Schistosomiasis through innovative market based Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme and Mass Drug Administration, coupled with intensive Behavioral Change Communication (BCC). The Mass Drug Administration will be led by the Ministry of Health with the support of World Vision and WASH Programme will be implemented by World Vision Ethiopia.

WVE implements LMMS technology to Gedeo-Guji IDPs food distribution



Last Mile Mobile Solution (LMMS) implementation at the IDP center.

WVE implements LMMS (Last Mile Mobile Solution) to accelerate food distribution efforts to internally displaced peoples (IDPs) due to inter-communal conflicts along the border areas of Gedeo Zone in SNNP and West Guji Zone in Oromia Region beginning 1 August 2018.

LMMS is the latest mobile solution to facilitate the distribution process by reducing double collecting of items, identifying beneficiaries for both distribution and rehabilitation, and ensuring commodity management standard.

Through this technology, WV Ethiopia emergency response workers at Gedeo-Guji response provided food assistance and other commodities in quality, speedy, and accountable manner. "We have fed 125,000 people in 10 days due to the application of fastest LMMS technology," said Edward Brown, National Director of World Vision Ethiopia.

World Vision Ethiopia employees support internally displaced people (IDPs)



The internally displaced people receiving non food items.

In response to the looming needs of internally displaced peoples due to inter-communal conflicts in Somali and Oromia regions World Vision Ethiopia (WVE) staff have contributed 469,185 birr from their salary, purchased various items including milk, soap, paraffin oil, and pasta and handed over to the IDPs who settled in Batu District of the Oromia Region in the presence of local government officials, community members, and pertinent bodies on 16 April 2018.

The displaced communities were grateful to noble deeds of World Vision Ethiopia staff for standing along their side at this difficult time. Neima Habib, 22, is one of the beneficiary IDPs. She says "I was in need of cleaning items and yet I had no finance to purchase any of them. This support has now relieved my need. Whenever, I see good hands like this, I feel that I have somebody who share my burden."

"I was desperate and thought that there was no one to give me a hand for filling my critical needs. But now thanks to WV employees, they have stood by my side during this critical time. May Allah bless them," says another 20-year-old woman Mustina Dinna.

During the handover ceremony Batu Town Administration Mayor said "WV Ethiopia as a humanitarian organization and its employees are doing really a great humanitarian work. We thank you for all the contributions. We will never forget this charity."

A total of 1,743 IDPs took refuge at this camp, of this figure 403 are children aged under five, 55 expectant women waiting delivery, and 185 lactating women.

AMCE- Bole Road, Bole Sub-City; Kebele 11, H # 518



3330, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



+251 11 629 33 50



+251 11 629 33 46



info_et@wvi.org



www.wvi.org/ethiopia



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@WorldVisionEth