Delegates of World Vision Korea and representatives of the Government of South Korea meet H.E Dr. Mulatu Teshome President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

A team of delegates from World Vision Korea and representatives of the Government of South Korea met H.E Dr. Mulatu Teshome President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia at the National Palace on 28 February 2018.

While receiving the delegates H.E Dr. Mulatu expressed his appreciation to Government of South Korea’s development contributions in Ethiopia through partnering with World Vision Ethiopia.

Reminding the historical relationship between Ethiopia and South Korea, Dr. Mulatu stressed that the bilateral relationship should be strengthened and continued.

Mr. Choi Seong Ho, CEO for Dongyang Daily Newspaper in Korea, and leader of the team on his part said that South Korea will continue its support to Ethiopia in its development path.

World Vision Ethiopia National director Mr. Edward Brown also indicated that visits such as this one have a tremendous importance to show the ongoing development efforts in Ethiopia and to further strengthen the support.

World Vision responds to the needs of Internally Displaced People in Oromia Region

Mr. Edward Brown, the national director of World Vision Ethiopia visited Hararghe and Dire Dawa city administration from 27-29 December 2017 to meet with internally displaced people from the Somali and Oromia regions.

Following the visit, World Vision allocated 100,000 USD in addition to 20% of the budget from Haraghe Area Programmes to respond to the needs of the people and rebuild their lives. World Vision staffs across the country have also donated a total of 723,060 to support Somali and Oromo displaced persons.

National Director visits two Area Programmes in Tigray Region

WV Ethiopia National Director Mr. Edward Brown paid a visit to two area programmes (Wukro and Enderta), in Tigray Region between 5 to 7 March 2018.

The National Director made the visit along with staff from World Vision US and WV Ethiopia Faith and Development team. During their stay, they met with various faith leaders, community members, and children and had a discussion on development interventions carried out by WV Ethiopia.

“I have been so amazed and encouraged by the depth of engagement and commitment to children’s holistic well-being. Priests, Sheiks, Imams, and other religious leaders gave powerful testimonies on how families, communities, and schools have been transforming,” says Mr. Edward.

He appreciated children’s participation in the community citing a teenage girl’s testimony that WV gives is helping provide care for people with disabilities and the most vulnerable in the community.
Gonder Cluster Programme Office and Digeluna Tijo Area Programme receive award as best performing NGO

Gonder Cluster Office of the Amhara Region and Digeluna Tijo AP in Oromia Region received award and recognition certificate from local governments as best performing NGO on 7 and 15 March 2018, respectively.

Both offices were awarded for children and community life transforming achievements they registered in Integrated Food and Nutrition Security (iFaNS), Education and Life Skill (EdLS), Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (i-WaSH), Community Engagement and Sponsorship Programme (CESP), and others.

During the event in Gonder; Mr. Berhanu Teamalew, the Chief Administrator of Central Gondar said, “I know World Vision ever since it started operation in Gonder area. World Vision as a major development partner truly addressed the community needs filling all the development gaps where the government could not address. Moreover, I appreciate their transparency, hard work, and commitment at grass root level.”

World Vision, Digeluna Tijo area was also appreciated for its achievements on dairy local value chain development, water supply projects, ensuring quality education, women empowerment and child protection.

Sponsorship Department Conducts TFE Training

Participants of the training with Mr. Edward Brown, the National director of WV Ethiopia.

WV Ethiopia Sponsorship Department conducted Transformation Field Environment Implementation (TFE) training to over 40 sponsorship staff drawn from Head Office and 5 pilot APs in coordination with Global Center and East Africa Regional Office from 22-26 January 2018.

The overall objective of the training was to start implementation of the Pilot Transformed Field Environment (TFE) initiatives and migrate sponsorship data from Single Step system to Horizon Sponsorship Single User Interface (SSUI) system.

According to EARO Sponsorship advisor Godfrey Kalibela, the training will contribute immensely to WV Ethiopia in transforming the overall performance of the organization through leveraging technology, especially mobile phone, horizon essential, and desktop applications.

“Our objective is to simplify the business processes so that staff can spend more time on the children and the communities and less time on the business processes,” says Tsegaye Legesse, WV Ethiopia Sponsorship Manager.

According to the manager the training will contribute better quality of engagement with children, communities and local partners, increased job satisfaction by eliminating redundant processes, access to timely combinations of data, and effective sponsorship approach integrated with programming.

The pilot programme will be implemented in Asgede Tsembila, Ambassel, Sekoru, Bu’I, and South Ari and Selamango APs.
Children and families welcomed the arrival of clean water in the drought affected Tokuma Bilisuma kebele in Melka Belo District of Oromia Region. 9 water points, 2 cattle troughs, along with 100 m3 water reservoir was constructed by World Vision Ethiopia as part of its Emergency Response, with funding from UNOCHA. This water facility have benefited more than 6,000 children and families. The water points were inaugurated on 16th November at the site by the district’s water office Mr. Ibrahim Hassan, district’s government representative and WorldVision’s Integrated Programs Director, Alex Whitney.

Also representatives and leaders from education, health and water offices of the government and community members joined the celebration.

Children and Community members expressed their delight by praising World Vision and its partners through thank you notes and local songs of cheer.

The new water points were constructed and handed over in just few months following a field visit by members of World Vision Ethiopia’s senior leadership team, where they witnessed immediate response was desperately needed.

World Vision Ethiopia inaugurates a new three blocks high school at Jewi camp in Gambella region meant for South Sudanese refugee children in the presence of representatives from UNHCR, Administration for Refugee and Returnees Affairs, the Japanese embassy in Ethiopia, government officials from Gambella region, and both the National Directors of WV Ethiopia and WV Japan on 19 October 2017.

South Sudanese refugee students were seen expressing their joy through performing mass song, poem, and welcoming songs with renewed hope for education.

“Today is a joyous day. My lost hope of education has now thrived. Thanks World Vision now I am able to continue my education,” says Nyahok Khor Gai a 19 years old girl who came from Akobo County in 2015. WV provides us with school uniform, bags, and other necessary learning materials, she adds.

Due to the construction of the new school the number of refugee children enrolled has now increased from 381 to 604. According to the refugee children’s witness the new school has brought about a new opportunity: “Before WV started secondary school in Jewi camp we were wandering here and there, living unproductive life. It compensates what we missed, helps us unveil our full potential, and achieve what we aspire,” says Matthew, representative of the refugee students.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony WV Ethiopia National Director Edward Brown said Japan Platform invested more than US$1.8 million to provide access to upper primary school (grades 5 through 8) from August 2014 to September 2016 enabling 7,000 South Sudanese refugee children benefit from the programme.

Further, WV has secured 443,000 euro from Empowerment of Children and Human Rights Organization (ECHO) to implement accelerated learning program which will benefit over 800 out aged school children as well as US$ 213, 707 from Japan Platform to construct one library block, one laboratory block, and additional 2 school blocks.
Enemorna Ener District gets Solar Powered Water Supply

Smiling children, women, and community members gathered at Weshezewyer Kebele of Enemorna Ener District in the Southern Nations Nationalities and People’s Region (SNNPR), to celebrate the inauguration of solar powered water supply in their village, on 14th December 2017.

The five water points that serve about 5,000 children and families in the village was constructed by World Vision Ethiopia. The new water points are set to contribute to improve the dire need of clean water in the community. World Vision Ethiopia’s Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme Director, Abraham Asmare, joined the celebration to hear the thoughts of the community and deliver key messages to community members to manage the facilities wisely.

Community elders appreciated World Vision for its contribution and requested for more collaboration to reach thousands of people who still lack access to clean water in the district. They also vowed to manage the water system wisely and contribute their share. The Weshezewyer project is one of the solar powered water supply systems, where World Vision Ethiopia is employing innovative and sustainable approaches to replace the high cost of diesel generators with solar powered water systems.

“It Takes A World to End Violence Against Children” campaign launched in Amhara Region

WorldVision Ethiopia launched “It Takes A World to End Violence Against Children” campaign in Bair Dar City on 26 October 2017. The campaign was launched during the 12th Annual National Women and Children’s Forum.

The event was organized in collaboration with grant-funded programs including Educated, Engaged, Ethiopian Youth (E4Y)-a USDOL funded project and Born on Time (funded by Global Affairs Canada and Johnson and Johnson), which have programme interventions focused on child protection and gender equality respectively.

The event was held in the presence of Her Excellency the First Lady of Ethiopia, Mrs. Roman Tesfaye, H.E Mrs. Demitu Hambisa, Federal Women and Children Affairs Minister, His Excellency Mr. Gedu Andargachew, President of the Amhara Regional State and Mr. Gillian Mellsop, Head of UNICEF, among others.

Hundreds of people visited WV Ethiopia’s photo galleries, pictures and printed materials including details about sponsorship and grant-funded programmes with great interest.