



**ETHIOPIAID**

**WE'VE  
ALREADY  
CHANGED  
LIVES IN  
2017**



**TOGETHER WE  
CAN CHANGE EVEN MORE**

# RESPONDING TO CRISIS

**This year has, again, seen devastating droughts in Ethiopia and across the whole of East Africa. These back to back droughts have destroyed communities and livelihoods and left areas of Ethiopia barely surviving.**

We have been overwhelmed by you, our loyal supporters, who have responded once again to our partners' needs and stepped up to save lives.

The life-threatening thirst in Ethiopia has not been the only challenge. An outbreak of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) has impacted on thousands of people in Afar.

Our newest partner, the Afar Pastoralist Development Association (APDA), is addressing this additional health crisis through water trucking and sanitation and hygiene support. In affected communities, there are very low levels of sanitation with over 85% of adults and children drinking contaminated water and just 23% having access to a safe latrine.

Since January, Ethiopiaaid has been supporting APDA in their emergency relief efforts. APDA's health workers tackled the AWD outbreak through house to house visits, hygiene and sanitation awareness, provision of soap and clean water.

The impact of the drought and subsequent food shortage is far reaching with many of our partners elsewhere in the country struggling.



**YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR EAST AFRICA APPEAL ARE EMERGENCY RELIEF TO COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT HUM**

## APDA's RELIEF EFFORTS SO FAR:



**88**

**days**

**of trucked  
water to  
remote  
areas**

**269,656**  
people reached  
by APDA's  
healthcare  
workers



**1,560**  
vulnerable  
individuals  
saved from  
AWD



**17,100**  
people each  
received 1.63  
litres clean  
water daily



- Vulnerable women and girls migrating to the city and at risk of exploitation and violence – Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD).
- Disabled children unable to travel for surgery, rehabilitation and outreach clinics – Cheshire Services.
- Fistula sufferers unable to reach centres for treatment – Hamlin Fistula Hospital.
- Noma survivors too weak and malnourished for surgery – Facing Africa.
- Children and young people unable to concentrate in class or even attend school – Hope Enterprises.



**ENABLING APDA TO CONTINUE PROVIDING  
SANITARIAN CRISIS. THANK YOU!**

# SAFE FROM HARM

**Ethiopian women face some serious challenges to their independence and development. Ethiopiaaid works with a number of local partners, many with strong and dynamic female leadership, to provide opportunities for women and girls.**

Through our partnerships we aim to change cultural attitudes and eliminate harmful practices for good.

## Child Marriage & FGM

Although rates of early marriage are declining (largely due to investment in education), it still remains a deeply-rooted tradition. There are many factors that perpetuate this, especially attitudes to women, poverty and illiteracy. The Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD) supports victims of gender based violence at four safe houses

across Ethiopia. They work closely with local law enforcement, community leaders and schools to raise awareness on the importance of opportunities, respect, choice and education for women and girls. AWSAD is a safe haven for so many survivors of violence, including young women and girls who were child brides (and their children). AWSAD staff listen to them, offer legal advice, provide medical treatment and provide skills training.

## Help end harmful practices

## Fistula

One of our primary focuses is the treatment of Fistula. Our dedicated partner, the Hamlin Fistula Hospital, offers a holistic approach to ending fistula, from fixing existing pre-existing cases, to putting in long term solutions to fistula prevention with trained midwives and community awareness. This last year has shown very positive improvements; the Ethiopian government task force to search for fistula patients is showing signs of success, not only bringing fistula patients to be treated but also women with other health issues such as prolapse. Overall, our partner reports that fewer incidences of new fistula patients are occurring, however there are still an estimated 39,000 women living with untreated fistula in Ethiopia.

## Help eradicate fistula



## Family Planning

Around 5.1% of Ethiopian births are by girls under the age of 18 – compared with 6.3% six years earlier (Demographic Health Survey). The country is taking steps in the right direction. Delays in sexual activity and the uptake of contraception has reduced underage birth rates and family sizes. Women are becoming more aware that they have a choice and say over their bodies.

Having lots of children can be a strain on a woman's body, and expensive for families to manage. Many are unaware of the simple contraceptives that are available or are embarrassed to discuss their sexual health. The Hamlin Fistula Hospital, advises fistula survivors on family planning and encourages open discussions about reproductive health.

In 2016, a total of 44,793 women had received contraceptives at the health centres where Hamlin graduated Midwives were deployed. Out of this, 16,515 women have used long-acting contraceptive methods.

### Help to give women a choice

## Violence Against Women

'Survivors' is how AWSAD describe their safe house residents, and rightly so. All of the women and girls have endured devastating physical and emotional violence, including rape, trafficking, forced prostitution, domestic abuse, acid attacks and child marriage. Before finding AWSAD the survivors were terrified about what would happen to themselves and their children.

AWSAD's holistic approach offers shelter, food, medical care, counselling, legal advice and skills training to help

them to recover and go on to lead happy, prosperous futures. Together, they help the women to take legal action against their attackers.

Maria Munir, AWSAD's founder and Executive Directress, is a former High Court Judge and feels that the silence around abuse of women is breaking, with more people willing to come forward and talk openly. Women's affairs officers are appointed across Ethiopia and more survivors are coming forward. AWSAD rarely turn a woman away and ensure that all have a safe place to stay, even if it means sleeping upon a mattress on the floor.

### Help provide a safe place for women and children



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# LOVE TO LEARN

**Hope Enterprises gives vulnerable and impoverished children a way out of poverty and the confidence for a better and brighter future. Their philosophy 'Ladders of Hope' aims to help the whole person: the body – through provisions of basic necessities; the mind – through education and skills training; and the heart – through character development and encouragement.**

University is an aspiration for so many young people, however vocational training offers a different path to employment for students, street children and parents of pupils.

In 2017, Hope plans to expand its vocational training programmes which currently include metal and wood work, industrial electronics, office administration,

catering and hospitality. In response to the demands of the growing textile and garment industry, Hope will be offering new training so that student can acquire skills for employment:

- **Tailoring school uniforms** – women design and tailor uniforms for schools
- **Street girls' tailoring** – a six -month course for girls who would otherwise look to the streets to survive
- **Mothers' tailoring** – a three-month course for impoverished mothers

Hope's catering and hospitality training has provided its students with the skills required by some of the best hotels in Addis.



There are 24 students currently on the one-year course studying international and national cuisine, catering, pastry and housekeeping. Each student has a placement in a hotel and this year Hope has partnered with The Sheraton, a 5\* hotel which is considered the best in Addis. Earlier in March, Hope were informed that the Sheraton Hotel were so

impressed by the calibre of the students that they wanted to employ 14 of them.

*'I am so grateful for the chance I got to acquire skills training and generate income. Hope has not only supported me in raising and educating my child, but also helps for our economic sustainability.'*

**Baridou, Mother of Hope pupil.**



Tigist is an articulate and quietly spoken girl, who joined Mekele Blind School in 2009. Her favourite subject is Civics.

Tigist lost her sight aged 1. Only her uncle knew where to get the specialised support she needed, but her parents wanted her to stay at home and told her that if she left, they would not let her return. Tigist was determined to go to school and once her parents visited the school, they realised how much it was helping Tigist. They understood that being blind need not stop you from being successful and getting a good education.

Tigist told us how the talking textbooks have helped her studies.

*'I have access to many subjects and can listen whenever I want... Learning independently, I no longer have to depend on friends to help me understand... Increased confidence, both in personality and in my academic ability.'*

We asked Tigist what she hopes to do for a career, and she said "a human rights lawyer, particularly so that I can help protect people living with disabilities."

She wanted to pass on a message to Ethiopiaid supporters: **"Thank you for your help. We need your support in order to do well, be independent and be role models."**





# A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD MEMBER

It has been a very busy first half of the year, especially with the ongoing drought crisis in Ethiopia. Our efforts have been focused on continuing to support our partner, APDA, in the Afar region. I would like to personally thank all our supporters who donated to our emergency appeal and enabled us to step up our response, which has been used to mobilise water trucking and provide vital hygiene and sanitation support against deadly outbreaks of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD).

The assistance we have been able to provide is absolutely lifesaving. Although water trucking is expensive, and a last resort there has been no alternative. Women in the Kori area of Afar were having to walk up to 24 hours to collect water and carry it home which was untenable. Thanks to the water trucking over 17,000 people in the remotest areas have so far received 1.63 litres of clean water a day. Not one person had died of thirst in the target area, although the situation remains dire. APDA's health workers have also distributed over 20,000 pieces of soap and water purification tablets-targeting the poorest households and those affected by AWD, to prevent further contamination.

The impact of the drought has been far reaching with many of our other partners reporting difficulties due to a sharp rise in food prices, increased internal migration of people and a marked increase in malnutrition. We are monitoring the situation carefully as further support will be needed for these desperate communities.

As well as the ongoing challenges, there are also many positive developments to report. Our partner Cheshire Services Ethiopia, who work tirelessly to support disabled children and adults have been awarded the 'Hero of Health Development Award' by the Ministry of Health in Ethiopia in honour of their excellent service to people with disabilities. We are immensely proud and congratulate them on their achievement.

I hope you enjoyed reading about the progress our partners are making. Although Ethiopia has had a long association with drought and poverty it is important to remember the positive developments that are also taking place in many areas thanks to the wonderful work of our dedicated partners and to your generous support.

*Alex Chapman*

**Alex Chapman**

Ethiopiaid Ireland Board Member

# ETHIOPIAN ART SHOW

OCTOBER 12TH-15TH



Ethiopiaid, in collaboration with the Makush Art Gallery of Addis Ababa, is proud to host a remarkable exhibition of Ethiopian art at the Smock Alley Theatre for second time in Dublin.

We have partnered with the Makush Art Gallery of Addis Ababa with the intent of showing our supporters and the Irish public a different side of Ethiopia. Over 100 beautiful artworks from all parts of Ethiopia will be on display this October at the Smock Alley Theatre, with proceeds from the exhibition going to fund our partners' projects in Ethiopia.

To celebrate Ethiopiaid 15th Anniversary in Ireland we would like to invite you to our Ethiopian art exhibition. Any donation received in reply to our Fistula appeal will be added to a raffle draw for a beautiful and original piece of Ethiopian art, with the winner being announced on the opening night of the exhibition, October 12th.

**Please fill in the form below and send it back to us in the self-addressed pre-paid envelope enclosed.**

Name:

(Please include names of all attending the event)

Email:

Phone Number:

I will be attending the opening event of the Ethiopian Art Exhibition on October 12th

I am interested in attending the Ethiopian Art Show, please send me more information

I will not be attending the exhibition. I enclose my donation, please enter me in the draw

# KEEPING IN TOUCH THE RIGHT WAY

We know that our supporters like to hear about our Ethiopian partners and many of you have told us that you enjoy hearing from us on a regular basis.

With the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming into force from **28 May 2018**, it is more important than ever that you **tell us your preferences urgently**. The GDPR will affect every organisation that processes personal data, including charities like us, and those who fail to comply will face hefty fines.

If we know your preferences we can be more cost effective with our administrative, marketing and fundraising activities.

Knowing your preferences means you will hear from us in the way you want to, whether that is contact by post, email or telephone– the choice is yours.

In the eyes of the GDPR **silence** or no response **does not constitute consent** so we need you to provide **positive** and **clear affirmation** of your preferences. If you don't let us know your preferences you could miss out on hearing from us in the future.

## Telling us your preferences

Please tell us what you wish to receive from us by ticking one of the boxes from the list below:

- Only our bi-annual newsletter (Summer and Christmas).
- Our bi-annual newsletter and 2 fundraising appeals.
- Our bi-annual newsletter and all fundraising appeals (usually 5 appeals).
- Do not send me any further fundraising or marketing appeals.

Alternatively, let us know by post, email or telephone. If there is an area of our work which you particularly like to hear about then let us know and we will make sure you don't miss anything. You can email your preferences to **hello@ethiopiaid.ie**, telephone **01 677 5188**, or write to us. You can also complete the 'contact' section of the donation form (on the bottom of our letters) and return it in the freepost envelope. We promise never to sell or swap your details.

**Thank you for your support.**