



Fatuma Aliyi from Iftuha kebele, Kombolcha, Woreda of Oromiya soon after receiving emergency livestock feed provided by ActionAid

Newsflash

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Locations of ActionAid Development Areas (DA)

Name of DAs	Distance from Adiss Ababa	Location
Decha	480 kms	Southern Nations Nationalities & Peoples' Regional State
Azernet Berbere	255 kms	
Gena Bossa	517 kms	
Kemba	602 kms	
Seru	300 kms	Oromiya
Saba Bouru	589 kms	
Kombolcha	540 kms	
Girar Jarso	110 kms	
Janamora	920 kms	Amhara
Ankober	172 kms	
Ofla	620 kms	Tigray
Kamashi	561 kms	Benishangul Gumz



ActionAid supplied water tanker was placed in Awchara elementary school in a remote village in Janamora woreda of Amhara Regional State. This enabled students to collect water without traveling extra miles, hence, without missing classes

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ActionAid Ethiopia's Background

ActionAid Ethiopia (AAE) is a member of the ActionAid International Federation. It envisions a poverty free Ethiopia *where every person lives in dignity and prosperity*. AAE has been supporting the implementation of various development works in Ethiopia since 1989.

AAE aims at strengthening the organizational capability of people living in poverty. It supports efforts towards achieving their development and emergency preparedness and mitigating risks. It works in partnership with community based organizations, local NGOs, the government as well as other development players.

ActionAid's prior engagement areas include; climate resilient sustainable agriculture, emergency preparedness and resilience building, education and women development. In addition, ActionAid works at community level to support alternatives in the poverty eradication process.

This issue of our Newsletter carries news and change stories pertaining to our interventions.

ACTIONAID IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE

By Tizita Kebede

Millions of people needed humanitarian support in Ethiopia in 2015/16 due to the El Nino-triggered drought and climate change effect. The drought was the worst of its kind the country experienced for decades. Yet, the drought impact was not as serious compared to those of similar emergencies in the past as the country has been growing resilient. Nonetheless, shortage of water for human and livestock consumption, shortage of human food and livestock feed and the consequent nutrition crises have affected communities in different parts of the country.

The Ethiopian government played a leading role in addressing the needs of the people affected by the crises.

Six of the 15 ActionAid Ethiopia intervention areas were among those affected by the drought. Accordingly, ActionAid has been responding to the needs of communities in these affected areas.

ActionAid worked in partnership with district and

kebele offices and community-based organizations. District and Kebele level committees were strengthened to coordinate the humanitarian response including facilitating community mobilization and beneficiary targeting. The committees also played key roles in the whole process of response to the crisis, including procurement, transportation and timely distribution of food to the beneficiaries. The committees also addressed complaints coming from communities. The district level committee includes local government sector offices and NGOs working in the district.

Targeting beneficiaries: This is a community-centered process through which representatives of communities agree on the selection criteria and carry out beneficiary selection. The beneficiary targeting process is participatory, transparent, and accountable. The list of selected beneficiaries is posted at public places in the respective villages; including sub-district administration centers, where the community members can easily see and

comment on it. Targeting mainly considers the most affected and vulnerable people, particularly households headed by women and those led by children (orphans). ActionAid consciously take sides with women in emergency responses, prioritizing their material, psychosocial, and information needs and also their ability to provide leadership in humanitarian preparedness and response.

Downward accountability: Community members present their complaints to the district committee that is composed of district sector offices; administration, agriculture, education, health, women affairs and ActionAid's representative. Then the committee discusses and passes appropriate and timely decision to address complaints. The affected communities are informed about who members of the committee are and their roles in complaint handling.

ActionAid’s emergency response: a bird’s eye view

AAE believes that building the resilience capacities of people living in poverty and their agencies helps to bring about lasting changes in the lives of disaster affected and vulnerable people. In line with this, ActionAid has responded to the needs of drought affected people.

The following is a summary of ActionAid’s emergency support to communities affected by the El Nino triggered drought. Most of the response interventions are designed to contribute for the long-term recovery of the people. Long-term development initiatives have also been carried out side by side.

- *May to July 2016, Janamora, in Amhara, Ofla, in Tigray and Seru, in Oromia Regions:* With AAE’s internal fund of 4,139,724 birr, emergency seed was supplied to 8,500 households affected during 2016 ‘Meher’ cropping season.

January to May 2016, Janamora, in Amhara Region: With 4,400,000 birr out of which 3,300,000 birr was secured from the Spanish *Ayuda en*

accion, AAE provided emergency water support to 33,000 drought affected people by using trucks and donkey backs as well as water buckets. The emergency water support also included the construction of clean water supply schemes such as springs, shallow wells and hand dug wells. The scheme was carried out with the aim of contributing to long term recovery and resilience.

- *November 2015 to January 2016, Grarjarso, in Oromiya Regional State, and Ankober, in Amhara Regional State:* food assistance worth 4,539,000 birr was supplied to 21,300 people through cash transfer and direct food distribution.
- *July to December 2015, Kombolcha (East Hararghe) and Seru (Arsi zone) in Oromiya Region:* 1,189,000 birr, was channeled to support the recovery of 3,030 smallholding farmers through emergency seed support.

Stories of the response at various stages of the emergency situation are presented below.

ActionAid supplies 4.5 million in emergency response

ActionAid Ethiopia supplied emergency food to 7800 and 13,500 ElniNo affected people in Girar Jarso and Ankober woredas in Oromiya and Amhara Regional States, respectively.

ActionAid’s support of worth 4,537,650 birr (about 226,882.5 USD) was in immediate response to project proposals from its partner organizations operating in the areas, namely ANPPCAN Ethiopia and PADeT. ANPPCAN reported that 7,000 children, women, and other vulnerable groups sought emergency response while PADeT reported

that 6,500 people needed immediate support.

ActionAid Country Director Jemal Ahmed signed the support agreement of birr 2,353,450 and 2,184,200 with Workayehu Bizu, ANPPCAN Ethiopia Executive Director and Amare Worku, Executive Director of PADeT respectively on 27 November 2015.

Speaking during the signing of the agreement, Jemal said that AAE’s mission informs the immediate response to support people affected by the crisis. He said that ActionAid participated in the need assessment, followed emergency tips from partners and that it values its partnership even more in

handling such an emergency situation. He noted the need to work in a transparent and just way during the food distribution.

Jemal further emphasized that women’s leadership in the process of food distribution is key while they are beneficiaries that need to be given due attention.

Ato Workayehu and Ato Amare on their part appreciated the organization’s prompt response in participating during the process to verify the emergency situation and during the discussions on the strategies and processes of providing support as well as in its timely response to the problem.



Representatives of the three organizations signing the agreement

This immediate support is supposed to avail standard food ration (grain, pulses and edible oil) to the most affected people for the period of December 1, 2015 to January 15, 2016. The medium and long-term supports are planned to be carried out through raising additional funds from humanitarian donors outside and inside the country as well as from ActionAid International.

Bringing Women to Leadership in Humanitarian Response

Men and women reveal vulnerabilities to disasters differently. Thus, disasters affect men and women, and boys and girls, differently. No doubt, gender perspective to emergencies can help identify distinct gender-specific capacities and vulnerabilities to disasters. It was with the intention to bring these perspectives into emergency responses that ActionAid carried an action research on promoting contributions of women as leaders in humanitarian response. The paper produced evidence on the barriers and opportunities for women leadership in such situations.

The research found out that women play a significant role in addressing the needs of affected people in various ways during emergencies. This includes their individual contributions at household

and community levels through different social networks and their CBOs. At community level, women get better information on their neighbors in terms of household needs such as food. Thus, they share resources about the most affected people in their community through their neighborhood connections and networks. Through their CBOs such as cooperatives, women access information about the affected people, especially women. Thus, they can address those needs with the resources of their CBO. Women provide supports to affected women through their saving and credit cooperatives. They provide loans to members and non-members of the cooperatives, which are severely affected, particularly women. Yet, women's representation at the district and kebele levels in emergency response bodies is very minimal. Their representation at the kebele level committees in managing such responses is insignificant. Yet, they

contribute a lot regardless of the challenges of sufficient space in the committee's tasks.

The paper recommends points below as necessary to enhance women's leadership in humanitarian works.

- **Economic and social empowerment by creating strong agency of women:** CBO membership positively contributes to their empowerment and participation in leadership roles. Thus, creating opportunities for women to be organized as well as their economic and social empowerment is highly recommended.
- **Challenging patriarchal values and norms including unpaid care work:** Women need to be empowered to fight against norms that discourage their participation in meetings and public issues. Women's access and control of resources and economic opportunities can contribute to their empowerment. Community awareness

on equal participation of women in leadership positions is mandatory. Even more important is the need to empower women so that they would be able to challenge the stereotypes.

The burden of unpaid care work is the major and most critical barrier mentioned by the women who participated in the research. So, putting a coordinated and concerted effort to minimize the burden of unpaid care work on women is very critical.

- **Removing structural barriers:** Structural barriers are also limiting women's participation in humanitarian leadership. The district office criteria for membership to disaster prevention committee should clearly indicate directions for the sufficient inclusion of women. Women's representation in leadership roles at the lower kebele level structures, as village development group leaders need to be considered. Women in the two districts witnessed that taking leadership

roles in these structures is very basic to come to the kebele level disaster prevention committee. Inappropriate timing of meetings discourages and inhibits women from assuming leadership positions. Thus, timing of meetings should be appropriate for women. Another important structural barrier is illiteracy. Thus, adult literacy programs are very important to promote women in leadership roles.

Water rationing in Janamora

Actionaid distributed drinking water to people and livestock in Janamora woreda of the Amhara Regional State. In relation to the drought that impacted thousands of people in the area, Actionaid has been engaged in developing water schemes such as springs, shallow and hand dug wells as part of the long-term solution.

Janamora is one of the food insecure woredas in North Gonder Zone of the Amhara State. As a development partner of the Janamora community, ActionAid intervened by supporting the people and their organizations in building capacities against poverty for the past ten years. Working in collaboration with the Woreda government, ActionAid has been supporting the community in parts of the woreda to access clean water, health, education and other service facilities.

ActionAid distributed potable water in six affected kebeles in Janamora beginning February 2016. In total, 1,203,050 birr was allocated for the provision of drinking water to 33,000 people and their cattle. The amount included the cost of 160 donkeys and 360 Jerry cans distributed to community members located in areas inaccessible to the water tracking.

ActionAid, the woreda government and Concern World Wide joined efforts to address the water, food aid and emergency nutrition support, respectively.

In areas accessible to tracks like the Awchara peasants enclave, ActionAid provided water tankers that were filled twice a day. For example, AAE supplied water tanker was placed in Awchara elementary school compound. This enabled students to collect water without traveling extra miles, hence, without missing classes

Teguada Mekonen, 20, was in charge of supervising the water tracking in Awchara peasants' enclave. She said, "This location made collecting water easier for students who put their Jerry cans in the line in the morning and take them back home full of water after class."

Also among the parties in the all-out fight against the drought effects was the high school in Mekane Birhan town of Janamora. The school has been closely observing the conditions of students from the affected areas. The student council and the school administration strictly followed up the situation after 21 students from the affected kebeles dropped out of the school. Cases of dropping out of school used to be major problem even before the advent of the drought; yet the slight rise in the number of students who dropped out alerted teachers and the school administration to follow up the situation very closely.

Two of the teachers who observed the situation agreed

to seek some support to address the problem and to make sure that no student drops out of school due to food shortage. They developed and distributed a Progress, seeking support for school

feeding although they haven't got any support yet.

Despite this kind of all-out campaign, Janamora still needs to tighten its belt to overcome the precarious

situation. Even with the availability of normal rains during the short and long rainy seasons, the community need seed to sow and food to sustain them until the harvest time.

Support to inaccessible areas

Fenta Teshager and his four friends travelled 12 hours from their village of Worke to Mekane Birhan town to collect Jerry cans supplied by ActionAid. Worke community delegated them to fetch the containers and donkeys from Mekane Birhan town where AAE has its office. Fenta, a father of three, said that he and other young people in his village support elderly and weak people in fetching water from distant water sources.

In response to how serious the water shortage in Worke is, Fenta said, "water shortage

had been a problem in our area even before the drought. We used to travel two to three hours to find water. It is worse now. We spend up to 12 hours traveling to and from the nearest water source. Sometimes, people cannot return home with water until sunset. We used to fetch water using heavy traditional mud-pots. This would have been unmanageable due to the long distance. Now thanks to ActionAid's provision of donkeys, people no more carry water from the distant water sources." Worke is one of the kebeles inaccessible to any transportation according to Fenta.

Asked how will the situation improve if it rains in the coming few days, Fenta said, "that will be very good as it means we will have water nearby. This will be good for the cattle as grass will grow and they will have water to drink. Yet, people harvested only over two years ago and there is no seed to sow. Many people lack food grains to eat for the coming few months before harvest time. Seed and food items are mandatory. The other problem is that needy people have been borrowing from those who had better resources, hence, what they take as aid, they pay back to lenders. Hence, they will face much more problem," Fenta said.



Fenta front, and his friends collecting the Jericans

Donkey relieves family burden

By Grace Cahill

“I would wake up at dawn and the first thing I would do is go and fetch water”, says 14 year-old Dinberu.

Dinberu lives in the mountain village of Choca in northern Ethiopia, around 800km north of the capital Addis Ababa. Once a reliably green location, Dinberu’s village has recently been affected by the worst drought the country has seen in 50 years.

Supporting his mother and elderly, frail grandmother, Dinberu helps with the daily collection of water for drinking, cooking, washing clothes and bathing. When the drought started to take hold in the middle of 2015, the streams that used to flow with fresh mountain water began to dry up, and Dinberu had to travel further and further to get water for the simplest family tasks.

“I had to drop out of school because the distance was too far to fetch the water and get to school on time,” Dinberu explains. Severe drought has damaged families’ crops, and livestock, putting a strain on money for food, as well as other needs. With crops dying and nearby streams dry, the priority for Dinberu’s family quickly became one of survival rather than school.

“The grains, bananas, all the vegetables were not growing, not the peppers either. We were going far to get the water, we were having to walk 30 minutes to reach the water. It was hilly, up and down.

And up and down,” explains Dinberu’s mother, Tanane, as she stands next to her son in their village deep inside a mountainous ravine.

But a four-legged friend has come to the family’s rescue. To help with the collection of water, ActionAid has donated donkeys to the community. Each morning and evening, Dinberu and his mother now take the donkey out along the rough and rocky mountain paths to find the nearest stream. There they fill two plastic water containers with fresh mountain water, strap them onto the donkey’s back and travel back home.

“I’m relieved now that I don’t have to carry the jerrycans myself, my shoulders got very tired,” says Dinberu. Each

jerrycan weighs upwards of 20kg and is back-breaking work for a young boy.

The intervention from ActionAid is an emergency measure to help families who are living in extremely remote locations - Dinberu’s village is a four hour walk on foot through steep mountain passes from the nearest road. Water is the most basic of needs in the village but it also lacks a health clinic, adequate sanitation facilities and a permanent school building.

Many families rely on donkeys for transporting goods in rural Ethiopia but it is the poorest ones, like Dinberu’s, who would not usually be able to afford such an asset. This particular donkey is shared between eight families in the community for maximum help collecting water, and when the drought ends, it will retire to the most vulnerable family – in this case, Dinberu’s.

“We’re very happy now we have the donkey,” says Tanane, Dinberu’s mother. “She’s new so we haven’t given her a name yet but I want to call her ‘Given by Mary’. But my mother doesn’t agree and wants to call her ‘Gift of Mary’.”

But while Dinberu’s mother and grandmother argue over what exactly to call their gift, Dinberu is happy to be back at school. “I want to be a teacher when I’ve finished school. I want to be a teacher here in the village so I can serve my own people,” he says.



Dinberu and his mother, collecting water

Women at war with effects of drought

By Grace Cahill

"I feel I'm responsible for everyone," says Wubalech Admasu, the young female Manager of the district Water Association in one of the worst drought affected areas of Ethiopia. The association is run entirely by women and provides water to the northern town of Mekane Birhan, with population of 30,000, and its surrounding area.

In Mekane Birhan, Amhara region, water shortages were biting hard. Since the drought began in mid-2015, the natural springs and boreholes dried up and were no longer providing the community with enough water.

"The drought is clear in the town. There are now extremely long lines at distribution points," Wublech says of the queues that community members form, along with their jerry cans, at water points in the town. The job of securing clean drinking water for the family is almost always done by women and girls who frequently spend hours on end under the beat of the hot sun. Wubalech's Water Association estimates that, due to the drought, the town currently has less than half the water it needs.

And the situation in more rural areas outside the town

is often much more difficult. In surrounding villages, some women are walking up to 12 hours a day to find water. "We are compelled to walk long distances to find rivers to get water. When we sometimes do not find a water source, we would return back home because we would be too tired to go further. So we drink whatever is leftover in the house, and try the next day," says Worke Belete, a mother who has travelled into Mekane Birhan to use a water point newly constructed with the support of ActionAid.

"Families have to go and fetch from unclean water sources and people have been suffering from hygiene problems because they don't have enough water to be hygienic," Wubalech explains, "and so they contract water-borne diseases like amoebas and giardia."

Herself a mother, Wubalech is feeling the responsibility of having to look after her family and her community during the drought. "We get three months maternity leave here but I never took more than 20 days. It's not that the government would deny me but since the workload is too much I need to continuously come into the office to fix issues. The drought is so

demanding that I didn't have a choice," she says. But she remains undeterred, "I want to continue this very difficult job and I'm very happy to continue doing it. It's my earnest conviction with all the hard work women should continue leading it."

ActionAid is working with the community in Mekane Birhan and across Janamora to help people suffering from the drought. It is working to rehabilitate existing water infrastructure such as wells and boreholes, as well as providing emergency measures such as delivering water by truck and even sending donkeys to rural areas to help people carrying water across, what are now, far greater distances.

"With the help of ActionAid we've been providing people with some means of water, they had no means of water otherwise," says Wubalech. "It would have been impossible for people to live here without the help they received this year."

Wubalech Admasu is 27 years old and is the Manager of Mekane Birhan's Water Association, a project supported by ActionAid.

Impact of our resilience work

ActionAid International Resilience Workshop was held in Debre Berhan, from 29 February to 4 March 2016 with the goal of consolidating a federation-wide approach to resilience and exploring ways

to further strengthen AA's resilience work.

The workshop offered an opportunity for ActionAid resilience practitioners to learn from each other's experiences, best practices and innovation. The workshop was funded by the DFID resilience pilot project. It brought together

33 participants from 18 country programs, including delegated countries on disaster risk reduction, resilience and women's rights in emergencies as well as from the international secretariat.

The workshop offered an opportunity to take stock of the impact of ActionAid's

resilience work, to share a broad spectrum of approaches, successes, lessons learned and best practices, and to identify actions to further strengthen AA's resilience programming.

ActionAid's activities are making a huge difference in people's lives, and this was demonstrated during a field visit organized by ActionAid Ethiopia to Afajehegn community, in an El Niño drought hotspot area. Unlike neighboring communities, Afajehegn does not presently require humanitarian assistance. This is due to, among other factors, to a

watershed management scheme that was initiated in 2013.

The visitors congratulated their Ethiopian colleagues on the visible difference that the resilience program has made in the lives, livelihoods and the natural resource base of this community.

The experiences and case studies that country programs shared during the workshop demonstrated the important role women play as leaders in resilience building of their families and community at large. Participants agreed to collate these case studies to demonstrate the impact

of women's leadership in resilience.

The participants also discussed and recognized the importance of measuring the impact of resilience works so as to demonstrate the achievements. They acknowledged that measuring resilience can be complex, and made especially complicated amid shocks and stresses. However, they pointed out that there are several tools and methodologies existing in ActionAid, and country programs can learn a great deal from each other's' approaches.

ActionAid – partners sign agreement

By Tizta Kebede

ActionAid signed agreements worth about 9 million birr with its three long term development partners (ANPPCAN, PADeT and RCWDO).

The agreements are considered to be part of the continuous regular program intervention and complementing donor funded projects in the respective areas to enhance the institutional capacities of the community and their agencies and lay grounds for sustainability.

The programmes will benefit over 40,000 people in Ankober in Amhara Regional State as well as Girarjarso, and Sababoru areas of the Oromiya Regional State before the end of 2016.

Global Safe Cities Day: Highlights

By Tizta Kebede



Women discussing common concerns

AAE and its partner organizations, Pro Pride, and Fana Broadcasting Corporate have been promoting the safe city agenda organizing women in self-help groups. Safe city radio program has been featuring two regular and live interactive radio programs since 2013.

Reflection action has been introduced in the already organized 64 self-help groups in two districts of Addis Ketema Sub-city. These comprise 764 women, who engage in informal vending. These women have started saving, are trained and participating in business competitions to engage in income generation.

In their weekly reflection-action circles they discuss concerns related to safety and security in their areas, lack of safe and healthy decent working environment affecting their livelihoods.

Pro Pride and Self-Help Groups Cluster Level Associations' Federation organized Global Safe Cities Day campaign event, May 26, 2016 at Addis Ketema Sub-city, Woreda six Youth Center. Women representing six sub-cities self-help groups participated in this event. The gathering was an opportunity and a space to push the safe city agenda forward not only towards highlighting the issue to local government but also within the existing Self-help Groups Cluster Level Associations' Federation called "Yitawek Federation" (Yitawek means -let it be known).

The federation has members organized in six Sub-cities out of the 10 Sub-cities in Addis Ababa. It has 32

Cluster Level Associations, 315 Self-help groups and 4,685 individual members. Our partner organization Pro Pride is among a few NGOs that supported the formation of the federation, eight years ago.

On May 24, self-help groups were given a white yarn to write their thoughts, concerns about "why the city is safe or not" for them. This was later displayed on the May 26th event whereby more than 350 women from the sub-cities, local government bodies (district administration, women and children affairs office, police, and local level security guards), schools, and representatives of CSOs were represented at the exhibition.

Among the issues women identified with safer city were: financial support for the purchase of uniforms for their children who go to school, having schools nearby and for free, peace and stability. On the contrary, issues they identified as making the city

unsafe for them included lack of standard housing, lack of kitchen and toilet that are affecting their health, living in a congested small house with large family size, lack of decent and safe vending areas for their goods and services, sexual harassment, substance abuse by youth, including 'chat' and alcohol, as a result of increasing youth unemployment and dropping out from school at younger age as well as lack of transport leading to theft and sexual violence.

Zeitun from the Federation Leadership Committee noted that growth of the city in a way that addresses the needs of women in the informal sector can check migration which is a serious challenge to both women and youth living in poverty. She said that attitudes, behaviors and practices that are adversely affecting the interests and needs of women and girls in the city need to be curbed.

Basic Principles of Cooperative Training

By **Ebisa Gashu**

ActionAid conducted Saving and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOs) Basic Principles Training between mid-March and the first week of April 2016 for 13 SACCOs in Seru and Bele Woredas of Arsi zone, Oromia Regional State. 1,000 cooperative members (742 women) attended the five round training drawing knowledge, concepts, processes as well as skills on the basics of cooperative principles.

To make the training more practical and impactful, AAE provided training of trainers (ToT) for four resource persons selected from both Woreda Cooperatives Promotion Offices. The ToT equipped the government experts with training facilitation skills, adult learning techniques, rapport building with community and other basic facilitation skills. The participants witnessed that the trainings were critical for capacity building to facilitate the cooperative promotion activities. Training of SACCOs members was conducted on the way of practical adult learning methodology to explain to the participants how to understand cooperative values, members' roles, responsibilities, basic

principles of cooperatives, bylaws and other fundamentals of cooperative development. An estimated 45 to 50 participants attended the training at each selected kebele.

Some of the participants at the training said the following: *"the training was useful for us to understand the role of cooperatives in improving our livelihoods. Before this training, there were no chances to discuss the role of cooperatives in bringing about changes in our livelihoods with the resources we have. Thanks to the project, now we are capable to give*

detailed information about our cooperative.”

At the end of the training, the participants developed an action plan for their cooperatives in order to

implement the concepts they acquired from the training. They promised to encourage more women to become SACCOs members, encourage members to hold more share values,

conduct regular meeting, and strengthen financial record keeping and other required actions for their cooperative development.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Lalutie: from grassroots to continental leadership



Lalutie Redi

Lalutie Redi, a model farmer from Azernet Berbere, which is one of ActionAid Ethiopia’s intervention areas, is elected Vice President of Africa Rural Women Farmers Forum (RWFF).

RWFF is a project of public financing for agriculture. It empowers African women smallholding farmers to influence national and international decision makers to ensure policies respond to their needs.

Lalutie attributes her success to ActionAid’s women empowerment interventions in her area. She is an award winning model farmer who organizes and inspires fellow women farmers. She said that she influences women in her area to enhance productivity using compost and employing different methods. “About two years ago, I mobilized women in my area to produce vegetable in respective gardens. We all used compost and had bumper harvest that we sold in Addis Ababa,” she said.

Lalutie is also a leader of Women Watch Groups that ActionAid initiated in her area before 2009. Women Watch Groups used to be AAE’s women empowerment model working with local government sectors and traditional as well as religious leaders. These played key role fighting female genital mutilation, early marriage and other harmful traditional practices. “We work to raise awareness of community and especially that of women. We mobilize women and other partners against harmful practices. I was awarded for my contribution to the initiative over five years ago,” she said.

Lalutie was elected second Vice President of the Africa Rural Women Farmers Forum in the Forum’s second meeting held in Addis Ababa, from 12 to 15 October, 2015.

The meeting was a follow up of the first held in Rwanda,

in September 2014, where members agreed to organize annual experience sharing gatherings. Accordingly, the Addis Ababa meeting was held by bringing forum representatives from around the continent to discuss national and regional issues. At the conference, participants shared ideas on the performances; they approved the Africa Rural Women Farmers Forum structure and elected their leaders.

Thirteen African countries including Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Mozambique, Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, South Africa, and Malawi attended the Addis Ababa conference. Ethiopia was represented by four female farmers from Azernet Berbere, Kemba, Seru and Ankober intervention areas. Another Ethiopian female food hero from North Wello was also delegated by Oxfam America.

Addressing the opening session of the conference, Jemal Ahmed, ActionAid Ethiopia Country Director promised ActionAid’s support to the Rural Women Farmers Forum. He said that AAE commits to support for the reasons that women development is at the core of its development program and by the virtue of its location in Ethiopia, the seat of Africa Union with whom Africa Rural Women Farmers Forum needs to work closely.

Mima from Dependence to Leadership



Mima Abagissa

Mima Abagissa is a member of Birhan Saving and Credit Cooperative in Yem Special woreda of southern Region. She is also one of the leaders of the Women Watch Groups in the Area. Both community based institutions were

initiated and supported by ActionAid.

Before the advent of ActionAid to her area, Mima was a house wife and led a hand to mouth type of life. Mima said that her relation with the Women Watch Group gave her the awareness and confidence to participate in these and later in the leadership of many community based organizations. She is, especially, happy about the achievements of the Women Watch Group she leads as a Chairwoman. She said, "Awareness rising and trainings we attended first changed our understanding of harmful traditional practices like early marriage and abduction. Gradually, we were also equipped to fight these. After ActionAids intervention over 12 years now, our community has outlawed such harmful practices. Accordingly, these are considerably reduced in our area. Members are also considered as community custodians as against in the beginning when we were accused as treats to the culture"

Mima also said that the skills trainings and loans from the Saving and Credit Cooperative enabled her to

own assets that changed her life. She recalled a time when her family led a life of destitution. "My husband sold our house as he needed money. This made the family homeless. We rented dilapidated cooking shade from one of the neighbours. We had no asset not even a chicken. After I joined the cooperative and saved some money, I took a loan of 800 birr (about 50 USD at that time) and bought a cow with 500 birr. I used the balance of 300 birr to buy a plot of land where I grow grass for cattle. People also use it as cover for their roof tops of their huts. My income spared my family from hunger and homelessness. The greatest thing that happened to me is that I was enabled to buy my house back."

"I have also bought a land that now I rent out to farmers for crop sharing. The farmers cultivate the land using their own seed and fertilizer and pay back part of the crop they produce as rent fee. I grow maize and teff to feed my family on my other land. Many of the members of both institutions are capacitated to change lives of respective families like me."

AAE as trailblazer: Yem media visit highlights

The Yem people and government acknowledge AAE as catalyst in the anti-poverty foundations laid all over the woreda. Both the community and the government pledged to keep on enhancing these initiatives. "AAE's intervention over the past 14 years was unique in that it equipped the community with the necessary awareness and the skills to sustain

and expand the education, food security and women development initiatives that have changed the lives," said the woreda Administrator.

This was what representatives of community based groups and that of the woreda government told a group of visiting journalists from Addis Zemen, Herald, Addis Admass and Radio Fana. The journalists travelled to Yem from 1st to 4th February 2016, visiting and documenting AAE's contributions for public dissemination.



Yem Special Woreda Administrator, Mulugeta Mamo

The Yem media visit also included a film crew with the assignment to document a case story depicting the impacts of AAE's works on a woman who can serve as



Tarikwa during the interview

Members of the cooperatives union have now grown to 2527 from 1193 during its formation about seven years ago.

Tarikwa Abebe, 40, is a mother of five and a member of Saja Chora saving and credit cooperative. Before she joined the cooperative, she lived on selling traditional drinks. Tarikwa says that members of her cooperative started saving 50 cents a month each and the maximum initial loan was only 200 birr. Yet, most of the members hesitated to take the loan for fear of failure to repay it. Today, I save more than 100 birr a month and borrow up to 5000 birr. All members believe that the amount we can borrow should considerably exceed this.

a showcase of the changes in the lives of women in particular and in community empowerment due to the various interventions.

The journalists paid a visit to and held interviews with community organizations and local government bodies who had been working with ActionAid over the years. Following are extracts from some of the conversations the

journalists had with members of ActionAid initiated community organizations and the woreda government.

Yem Tebaber Farmer's Cooperative Union was among those AAE initiated and supported unions in Yem Special Woreda. Yem Tebaber has a vision to grow in to a full-fledged cooperative bank in eight years from now.

Today, Tarikwa owns a restaurant and a butcher's shop. She is grateful to AAE for the skills and confidence she picked through the various training and experience sharing visits she had to Sodere and other areas.

Highlights of the 2016 cooperatives' exhibition

ActionAid participated in the 3rd National Cooperatives Exhibition and Bazaar held 12 to 16 February 2016.

Visitors and exhibitors were basic cooperatives leaders, and citizens of the capital as well as agents of community based organizations seeking technical and financial support.

At the AAE's stall, explanations were always followed by reactions, most of the time emotional, at times strategic and sometimes inadvertent. Individuals tried to link with AAE seeking



AAE at the Cooperatives Exhibition

solution to their personal and immediate needs. ActionAid has been supporting 265 cooperatives with a total capital of 168, 000,000 birr. Many leaders of cooperatives

and members as well asked how they could get support from AAE. Some visitors said that they were motivated to visit the exhibition because of the presence of organizations

like AAE with which they want to establish relations. Some said they that wanted to visit AAE's office and talk to pertinent professionals for partnership.

To the exhibitors, the occasion offered a very good opportunity to introduce their products to a wider market. Many were able

to establish market linkages with business people in and out of the capital.

The National Cooperatives Agency was also keen in helping some of them some sign formal agreements with individuals and organizations who sought to buy their products in bulks.

The National Cooperatives Agency awarded ActionAid two certificates for its participation as an organizing body of the exhibition and for its exemplary supports in initiating and building the capacities of cooperatives and their unions in various parts of the country.

AAE REVIEWS GLOBAL STRATEGY 2028

ActionAid Ethiopia reviewed and inputted the Zero Draft of ActionAid global Strategy 2028: "A Just World for All".

Three consultation meetings that were held at the beginning of July 2016 are believed to help internalize and enrich the global strategy. These will also contribute to the AAE meeting on strategy development process which will be held next year.

The meetings were opened with Jemal's welcoming address and general information on the strategy development process. The Country Director highlighted the global emerging issues and financial crises as reasons that necessitated the strategy development process. He noted that AA embarked on the strategy development process a year before the completion of "People Action to End Poverty", the previous strategy period. Participants

had the opportunity to share their first impressions after reading the Zero and 1st Draft Strategy document.

The staff and partners' consultations examined gaps in the strategy and gave their suggestions to make it complete. A full day wider staff sessions was held on August, 15-16, 2016. On August 18, 2016 a half-day partners' consultation session was also held.

CHANGE MANAGEMENT FOR ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

AAE carried restructuring to ensure organizational sustainability. The process involved a series of staff consultations for over five months beginning in February 2016. Crucial in-depth discussions were held regarding the kind of changes made as well as the length and range of the scope of the change process.

Major imperatives for the restructuring process were the increasing decline of general

income and increasing cost of running. AAE as an organization had to go through the change process to ensure its legal compliance with government regulations as well as to attain financial sustainability.

Once, Jemal noted that one of the strategies necessary to be taken was financial management measure, which he divided into two: immediate and medium-term holistic measures, such as reducing

the number of development areas to a feasible size, in addition to running these with a minimal cost maintaining the salient operations and discontinuing those that are not.

The restructuring process that included staff size reduction was a painful process, yet it had to be made in order to protect the mission of the organization.

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አክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ

አክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ የአክሽንኤይድ አለም አቀፍ ፌዴሬሽን አባል ነው። ራዥም ከድህነት የተላቀቀችና እያንዳንዱ ሰው በክብርና በብልፅግና የሚኖርባት ኢትዮጵያን ማየት ነው። በዚህም መሰረት ከ1981ጀምሮ በኢትዮጵያ የሚካሄዱ የተለያዩ የልማት እንቅስቃሴዎችን ሲደግፍ ቆይቷል።

አክሽንኤይድ በድህነት የሚኖሩ ዜጎችን አቅም በማጠናከር ነው የሚሰራው። በመሆኑም እድገታቸውን፣ የአደጋ ጊዜ ተጋለጭታቸውን እንዲሁም ሌሎች አሉታዊ ተፅዕኖዎች የመቋቋም አቅማቸውን ለማዳበር የሚደረጉ ጥረቶችን ይደግፋል። የሚሰራውም ማህበረሰቡን መሰረት ካደረጉ አደረጃጀቶች፣ መንግስታዊ ካልሆኑ አገር

በቀል ድርጅቶችና እንዲሁም ከመነግሥት ጋር በመተባበር ነው።

አክሽንኤይድ ቅድሚያ በመስጠት የሚሰራባቸው የትኩረት አቅጣጫዎች የተፈጥሮ አደጋዎችን መቋቋም የሚያስችል ቀጣይነት ያለው እርሻ፣ ለአስቸኳይ ጊዜ ዝግጅትና የተፈጥሮ አደጋዎችን የመቋቋም አቅም ግንባታ እንዲሁም የሴቶች ትምህርት ልማት ናቸው።

በአመት ሁለት ጊዜ የሚታተመው ይህ የዜና መፅሔታችን አክሽንኤይድ ከሚንቀሳቀስባቸው አካባቢዎች የተጠናከሩ ዜናዎችና የለውጥ ታሪኮችን አካቷል።

ድርቁና የአክሽንኤይድ የተጠናከረ ምላሽ

በ2008 ዓ.ም. በሚሊዮኖች የሚቆጠሩ ኢትዮጵያውያን የአየር ለውጥ ባስከተለው ችግር የተነሳ ሰብአዊ ድጋፍ ያስፈልጋቸው ነበር። ከዚህ የተከተለው ድርቅም አገሪቷ በአያሌ አስርት አመታት ውስጥ ከገጠማት እጅግ የከፋው ነበር። ሆኖም ግን አገሪቷ ላለፉት ሁለት አሥርት አመታት አደጋን የመቋቋም አቅሟን በማሳደን ከቀድሞው ዘመን ጋር ሲነፃፀር ድርቁ ያሳደረው አሉታዊ ተፅዕኖ ያን ያህል ከፍተኛ የሚባል አይደለም።

የኢትዮጵያ መንግስት በድርቁ የተጎዱትን ወገኖች ፍላጎት በማሟላት በኩል ግንባር ቀደም ሚና ሲጫወት ቆይቷል።

አስራ አምስት ከሚሆኑት የአክሽንኤይድ የልማት አካባቢዎች ስድስቱ በዚህ ድርቅ የተጠቁ ናቸው። ስለሆነም አክሽንኤይድ በነዚህ በድርቅ በተጠቁ አካባቢዎች ለሚኖሩት ማህበረሰቦች የአስቸኳይ ምላሽ ኮሚቴዎች በየአካባቢው በማቋቋም ድጋፍ ሲያደርግ ቆይቷል።

በአክሽንኤይድ ድጋፍ የሚሹ ተጠቃሚዎችን መምረጥ ማህበረሰቡን ማእከል ያደረገ እንቅስቃሴ ነው። ተጠቃሚዎችን በመምረጥ ረገድ ታሳቢ የሚሆኑትን መመዘኛዎች በተመለከተ የማህበረሰቦቹ ተወካዮች(ኮሚቴው) ስምምነት ላይ አደረሱ በኋላ ተጠቃሚዎቹን ይመርጣሉ። ይህ ተጠቃሚዎችን የመምረጡ ሂደት በተሳትፎ ላይ የተመሰረተና ተጠያቂነትን ያካተተ ነው።

በዚህ ጉዳይ የማህበረሰቡ አባላት ቅሬታ ቢኖራቸው ለአካባቢው ኮሚቴ የሚያቀርቡ ሲሆን የዚህም ኮሚቴ አባላት የማህበረሰብ ተወካዮች፣ የተለያዩ የአካባቢው መንግስታዊ አካላትና የአክሽንኤይድ ተወካዮች ናቸው። አባላቱም የቀረቡትን ቅሬታዎች

በተመለከተ ወቅታዊና አስፈላጊውን ውሳኔ ያሳልፋሉ።

ከዚህ በታች የተመለከቱት ነጥቦች በኤልኒያ ሳቢያ በተፈጠረው ድርቅ አክሽንኤይድ ለተጎዱ ማህበረሰቦች ያደረገው ድጋፍ አጠቃላይ መግለጫ ዋና ዋና ነጥቦች ናቸው፡-

ከሚያዚያ እስከ ሰኔ 2007 በአማራ ክልል በጃናምራ፣ በትግራይ ክልል አፍላ እንዲሁም በኦሮሚያ ሴሩ በተባሉት ቦታዎች አክሽንኤይድ 4,139, 724 ብር በመመደብ አስቸኳይ የእህል ዘር ለ8,500 ቤተሰቦች አቅርቧል።

ከጥር እስከ ሰኔ ወር 2008 በአማራ ክልል በጃናምራ 4,400,000 ብር በመመደብ ለ33,000 በድርቅ ለተጠቁ ነዋሪዎች የውሃ አቅርቦ ድጋፍ አድርጓል። ከዚህ ገንዘብ ውስጥ 3,300,000 ብር የተገኘው አዩዳ ኤን አክሲዮን ከተባለ የስፔይን ሰጠ አድራጎት ድርጅት ነው።

ከህዳር 2007 እስከ ጥር 2008 ባለው ጊዜ ውስጥ ግምቱ 4,539,000 ብር የሆነ የምግብ እህል በኦሮሚያ ክልል ግራርጃርሶ፣ በአማራ ክልል አንኮበር ለ21,300 ነዋሪዎች አቅርቧል።

ከሃምሌ 2007 እስከ ጥር 2008 በምስራቅ ሃረርጌ በኮምቦልቻ እንዲሁም በኦሮሚያ አርሲ ዞን ሴሩ ወረዳ 1,189,000 ብር በመመደብ 3,030 ለሚሆኑ የአነስተኛ ማሳ አርሶ አደሮች የማገገሚያ ድጋፍ በማድረግ አስቸኳይ የዘር እህል ድጋፍ አድርጓል።

የአስቸኳይ ጊዜ እርዳታ ስምምነት



የሶስቱ ድርጅቶች ተወካዮች ስምንቱን ሲፈርሙ

አክሽንኤይድ በድርቅ ለተጠቁ ለ7,800 የግራርጃርሶ (ኦሮሚያ) ነዋሪዎችና 13,500 የአንኮበር (አማራ ክልል) ነዋሪዎች የ4,537,650 ብር አስቸኳይ ጊዜ የምግብ እርዳታ አድርጓል።

አክሽንኤይድ ያደረገው ይህ እርዳታ በአካባቢው በሚሰሩ አጋር ድርጅቶች በኩል የተደረገ ነው።

እርዳታውም የ2,353,450 ብር አንብካን በተባለው አጋር ድርጅት አማካኝነት ለግራርጃርሶ ህዝብ የሚደርስ ሲሆን የ2,184 200 ብር ደግሞ ፓዴት በተባለው አጋር ድርጅት አማካኝነት በአንኮበር በድርቅ ለተጠቁ ወገኖች የሚደርስ ነበር።

በሰብአዊ እርዳታ እንቅስቃሴ የሴቶች ተሳትፎ

ሴቶች በአስቸኳይ የሰብአዊ እርዳታ እንቅስቃሴ ውስጥ የሚኖራቸውን ተሳትፎና የመሪነት ሚና ለማዳበር በማሰብ አክሽንኤይድ በዚሁ ጉዳይ ዙሪያ ተግባር ተኮር ጥናት አካሂዷል። የተደረገውም ጥናት ሴቶች በአስቸኳይ የአደጋ ጊዜዎች በሚያደርጓቸው ድጋፍ የመስጠትና የአመራር እንቅስቃሴዎች የተለያዩ ተግዳሮቶችና መልካም አጋጣሚዎች እንደሚፈጠሩላቸው አረጋግጧል።

የተደረገው ጥናት ሴቶች በሰብአዊ እርዳታ እንቅስቃሴ ወቅት የሚኖራቸውን የመሪነት ሚና

ለማጎልመስ የሚረዱ ነጥቦችን ያስቀመጠ ሲሆን በሰብአዊ እርዳታ ወቅት የሴቶችን የተጠናከረ ውክልናና የመሪነት ተሳትፎ ማረጋገጥ ስራውን ውጤታማ ያደርጋልም ብሏል።

ሴቶች ማህበረሰብን መሰረት ያደረጉ ድጅቶች አባላት መሆናቸው የመሪነት ሚናቸውን በማጠናከር ረገድ አዎንታዊ ውጤት ይኖረዋል። ስለሆነም የሴቶች በመደራጀት ኢኮኖሚያዊና ማህበራዊ አቅማቸው እንዲያጠናክሩ ማድረግ አማራጭ የለውም ብሏል።

ፈታኝ የሆኑና አባታዊ ስርዓት ላይ የተመሰረቱ የቆዩ ልማዳዊ አሰራሮች የሴቶችን አቅም የሚያዳክሙ ናቸው። ስለሆነም ሴቶች የማህበረሰቡ ጉዳዮች በሚመክሩላቸው ስብሰባዎች ላይ እንዳይገኙ

የሚያደርጉ አሰራሮችን ለመታገል የሚያስችላቸውን አቅም ማዳበር ይኖርባቸዋል። ሴቶች በአካባቢያቸው በሚገኙ ሃብቶች ላይ የመወሰንና የባለቤትነት እድሎች እንዲኖሯቸው ማድረግም አቅማቸውን ለማዳበር ይረዳል።

መዋቅራዊ መሰናክሎች ሴቶች በማህበረሰብ እንቅስቃሴዎች ውስጥ የሚኖራቸውን ሚና የሚገድቡ ናቸው። በሌላ በኩል ማነብብና መፃፍ አለመቻላቸው እንቅፋት ነው። ስለሆነም የጎልማሶች ትምህርት በማስፋፋት የሴቶችን የመሪነት ሚና ማጎልበት ነው ሲል ጥናቱ አመለክቷል።

የመጠጥ ውሃ ስርጭት

አክሽንኤይድ በአማራ ክልላዊ መንግስት በድርቅ ለተጠቁ ለጃናሞራ ወረዳ ነዋሪዎችና ለከብቶቻቸው የሚሆን የመጠጥ ውሃ አከፋፍሏል። ከዚህም በተጨማሪ አክሽንኤይድ የውሃ ምንጮችን በማዳበርና በእጅ የሚቆፈሩ ጥልቅ የውሃ ጉድጓዶችን በማስቆፈር በአካባቢው የሚታየውን የመጠጥ ውሃ እጥረት መቅረፍ የዘለቁታዊ መፍትሄ አካል አድርጎ እየሰራ ነው። ድርጅቱ ከ1.2 ሚሊዮን ብር በላይ ወጪ በማድረግ 33,000 በድርቅ የተጠቁ ወገኖችና ከብቶቻቸው ንፁህ የመጠጥ ውሃ እንዲያገኙ አድርጓል። 160 አህዮችና 360 የውሃ መቅጃ ጄሪካኖችንም አበርክቷል።



ፈንታ ተሻገርና አራት ጓደኞቹ ወርቁ ከሚባለው መንደር እስከ መካነ ብርሃን ከተማ ለ12 ሰዓቶች በእግር በመጓዝ የአክሽንኤይድ ቢሮ ከሚገኝበት ከመካነ ብርሃን ከተማ በድርጅቱ ለአካባቢያቸው ማህበረሰብ የተበረከቱትን የውሃ መቅጃ ጄሪካኖችንና አህዮችን የተረከቡ ናቸው። ፈንታ ተሻገር የሶስት ልጆች አባት ሲሆን እሱ እደሚለው እሱና ሌሎች ወጣቶች ከሩቅ ቦታ ውሃ በመቅዳት በመንደራቸው የሚገኙትን በእድሜ የገፉትንና አቅመ ደካሞችን ይደግፋሉ። “የውሃ እጥረት ከድርቁም በፊት ቢሆን በአካባቢያችን ከፍተኛ ችግር ነበር” ይላል ፈንታ ተሻገር ስለ ሁኔታው ሲያስረዳ፣ “አሁን ድርቅ ከሆነ ግን በቅርብ ከሚገኝ የውሃ ምንጭ ለመቅዳት እስከ 12 ሰዓት መጓዝ ይኖርብናል። አንዳንድ ጊዜ ፀሃይ እስክትጠልቅ ውሃ ይዘው ወደየቤታቸው የማይመለሱ ሰዎችም ይኖራሉ” ብሏል።

ፈንታ(በስተቀኝ)ና ካሳው አክሽንኤይድ ያቀረበላቸውን ጄሪካኖች እንደተረከቡ

የ2028 አክሽንኤይድ አለም አቀፍ ስትራቴጂ ዳሰሳ

አክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ “አለም አቀፍ ስትራቴጂ 2028፡- ፍትሃዊ አለም ለሁሉም” የተባለውን ረቂቅ ሰነድ በመዳሰስ የራሱን ተጨማሪ ሃሳብ አክሎበታል።

መሆናቸው የታመነባቸው ናቸው። በተጨማሪም በሚቀጥለው አመት ለሚካሄደው የአክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ የስትራቴጂ ዝግጅት ሂደት አስተዋፅኦ እንደሚያደርጉ ታምናባቸዋል።

በ2008 ነሃሴና መስከረም መጀመሪያ ላይ የተካሄዱት ተደጋጋሚ የውይይት መድረኮች ሰነዱን ይበልጥ ለመረዳትና ለማዳበር የሚረዱ

የአክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ አጋር ድርጅቶችም በስብሰባዎቹ በመሳተፍ ስትራቴጂውን አዳብረዋል።

ለድርጅታዊ ዘላቂነት

አክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ ድርጅታዊ ዘላቂነቱን ለማረጋገጥ በ2008 መዋቅራዊ መሻሻል አድርጓል። ይህም ሂደት በድርጅቱ ስራተኞች አማካይነት የተካሄዱ አያሌ የውይይት ስብሰባዎችን አስተናግዷል። መዋቅራዊ ለውጡን አስፈላጊ ያደረጉት አብይ ክስተቶች የድርጅቱ አጠቃላይ

ገቢ መቀነሱና አክሽንኤይድ እንደ ድርጅት ወጪው እየጨመረ መምጣቱ ናቸው። በዚህም መሰረት ደርጅቱ በለውጥ ሂደት ውስጥ ማለፍና እንቅስቃሴውን ከመንግስት መመሪያዎች ጋር ማጣጣም እንዲሁም የገንዘብ አቅሙን አስተማማኝ ለማድረግ የለውጥ ሂደቱን አካሂዷል። ሂደቱ በስራተኞች ቁጥርና በልማት አካባቢዎች አደረጃጀት ላይ የማሻሻያ ለውጥ አስከትሏል።

የ “ምቹ ከተሞች ለሴቶች” ቀን ተከበረ

አክሽንኤይድ እንዲሁም አጋር ድርጅቶች የሆኑት ፕሮፕራይድና ፋና ብሮድካስቲንግ ኮርፖሬት እንዲሁም የሴቶች የራስ አገዝ ቡድኖች ከተሞች ለሴቶች ምቹ እንዲሆኑ የሚሰሩትን ስራዎች ሲደግፉ ቆይተዋል። በፋና ብሮድካስቲንግ ከ2006 ጀምሮ የሚተላለፈው “ምቹ ከተሞች” የሬዲዮ ፕሮግራም

በሳምንት ሁለት ቋሚ ፕሮግራሞችንና ከአድማጮች ጋር የሚደረጉ ውይይቶች ያስተላልፋል።

የ “ምቹ ከተሞች ለሴቶች” ቀን ግንቦት 16 ሲከበር ምቹ የሆኑና የልሆኑ ከተሞች ባህሪያትና መፈትሄች ላይ ውይይት ተካሂዷል። በበግሉ የመንግስትና መንግስታዊ ያልሆኑ ድርጅቶች ተወካዮችም ተገኝተዋል።

የቁጠባና ብድር ህብረት ስራ ማህበራት ስልጠና

መጋቢት ወር አጋማሽ ላይ እንዲሁም በሚያዚያ ወር 2008 አክሽንኤይድ በኦሮሚያ ክልላዊ መንግስት በአርሲ ዞን በሴኔና ቤሌ ወረዳዎች ለቁጠባና ብድር የህብረት ስራ ማህበራት አባላት በመሰረታዊ መርሆዎች ዙሪያ ስልጠና ሰጥቷል።

ስልጠናው በአምስት ዙር የተካሄደ ሲሆን 742 ሴቶችን ጨምሮ 1000 የቁጠባ ማህበራት አባላት ተሳትፈውበታል። በዚህ ጊዜ ለአራት ከወረዳዎቹ የቁጠባ ማህበራት ማድራጃ ቢሮ ለተመረጡ ባለሙያዎች የአሰልጣኞች ስልጠናም ተሰጥቷል።

ላሎቴ ከአካባቢ ድጋፍ ሰጪነት ወደ አህጉራዊ አመራር

ላሎቴ ረዲ አክሽንኤይድ በሚንቀሳቀስበት በጉራጌ ዞን አዘርነት በርበሬ ውስጥ የምትኖር ሞዴል አርሶ አደር ናት። በ2008 አጋማሽ በገጠር የሚኖሩ የአፍሪካ ሴት አርሶ አደሮች ፎረም ምክትል ፕሬዘዳንት በመሆን ተመርጧለች። ፎረሙ በአፍሪካ ገጠር እርሻን በገንዘብ ለመደገፍ የቋቋመ ሲሆን በአነስተኛ ማሳዎች ላይ የእርሻ ስራ

የሚያካሂዱ ሴቶችን ለማጠናከርና በየአገሮቻቸውና በአለም አቀፍ ደረጃ ፖሊሲ አውጪዎች ላይ ተፅእኖ በማሳደር የሴት አርሶ አደሮችን ጥቅሞች ለማራመድ የሚረዱ ፖሊሲዎች እንዲወጡ ግፊት ያደርጋል።

ላሎቴ ላሁኑ ሀላፊነት ያበቃት አክሽንኤይድ ባካባቢዋ በሚያድረገው የሴቶች ልማት ስራ ቀጥተኛ ተሳትፎ ስታደርግ መቆየት እንደሆነ ተናግራለች።

አክሽንኤይድ ከአጋር ድርጅቶች ጋር ስምምነት ተፈራረመ

አክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ ከሶስት የረጅም ጊዜ አጋሮቹ ጋር የትብብር ስምምነቶች ተፈራርሟል። በነዚህ የዘጠኝ ሚሊዮን ብር ስምምነቶች አማካይነት የሚካሄዱ ፕሮግራሞች በአማራ ክልል አንኮበር

ወርዳና በግራርጃርሶና ሳባቦሩ በሚባሉ የኦሮሚያ ወርዳዎች 40,000 የሚሆኑ ሰዎች ተጠቃሚዎች እንደሚሆኑ ታውቋል።

አክሽንኤይድ በየም : ፋና ወጊ የልማት ኢጋር

የየም ወረዳ ህዝብና መንግስት ድህነትን ከወረዳው ለማስወገድ ዕድገትና ያለውን የልማት እንቅስቃሴ በመደገፍና አመርቂ ውጤቶችን በማስግኘት አክሽንኤይድ ፋና ወጊ የኢጋርንት ሚና መጫወቱን ያረጋገጡ ሲሆን ወደፊትም የተጀመሩት ፀረ-ድህነት እንቅስቃሴዎች አጠናክረው እንደሚቀጥሉ አስታውቀዋል።

ይህንንም ያረጋገጡት የማህበረሰብ ተኮር ቡድኖች ተወካዮችና የወረዳው አስተዳደር ናቸው። ማረጋገጫውን የሰጡትም ከአዲስ ዘመንና ከኢትዮጵያን ሄራልድ ጋዜጦች፣ ከአዲስ አድማስ እንዲሁም ከፋና ሬዲዮ የተወጣጡ ጋዜጠኞች ከየካቲት 1-4 2008 በየም ወረዳ ተገኝተው

የአክሽንኤይድን እንቅስቃሴዎች በተመለከቱበት ወቅት ነው።

አክሽንኤይድ በየም ልዩ ወረዳ ለ12 ዓመታት በትምህርት ጥራትና ተደራሽነት፣ በምግብ ዋስትናና በሴቶች ልማት ሲስራ የቆየ ሲሆን ሴቶች በመደራጀትና አቅማቸውን በማጎልብት ከድህነት እንዲወጡ፣ ብሎም በመንግስት መዋቅሮችና በማህበረሰብ ተቋማት መሪነት ትርጉም ያለው ተሳትፎ አንዲያደርጉ አቅማቸውን አጎልብቷል። በወረዳው የሚደርገውን የልማት ስራ መርህግብር በመፈጸሙ በዚህ ዓመት ስራዎቹን ለማህበረሰብ ተቋማትና ለወረዳው መንግስት አስረክቦ ወጥቷል።

በ2008 የተካሄደው የህብረት ስራ ማህበራት አውደ ርእይ

አክሽንኤይድ በ3ኛው አገር አቀፍ የህብረት ስራ ማህበራት አውደ ርእይ ላይ የተካፈለ ሲሆን አውደ ርእይ የተካሄደው ከጥር 12-16 2008 ነበር። የአውደ ርእይ ጎብኚዎችና አደራጆች መሰረታዊ የህብረት ስራ ማህበራት መሪዎች፣ የአዲስ አበባ ከተማ ነዋሪዎች እንዲሁም ቴክኒካዊና የገንዘብ ድጋፍ የሚፈልጉ የማህበረሰብ ተኮር ድርጅቶች መሪዎች ነበሩ።

አክሽንኤይድ በድምሩ 168,000,000 ብር ካፒታል በመመደብ 265 የህብረት ስራ ማህበራትን ሲደግፍ ቆይቷል። ለስኬታማ የማህበራት ስራውና ለኤግዚብሽኑ ዝግጅት ላደረገው ድጋፍ ኤጀንሲው በአውደ ርእይ ፍጻሜ ሁለት የምስክር ወረቀቶችን አበርክቶልታል።

የጸረ - ተጋላጭነት ስራዎቻችን በጎ ተፅእኖ

የአክሽንኤይድ አለም አቀፍ ፀረ ተጋላጭነት አውደ ጥናት ከየካቲት 29 እስከ መገቢት 4 2008 በደብረ ብርሃን ከተማ ተካሂዷል። አውደ ጥናቱ የተካሄደውም የተጋላጭነትን መፍትሄዎች በተመለከተ ሰፊ እይታ ለመፍጠርና የአክሽንኤይድን የጸረ- ተጋላጭነት ስራዎች ለማጠናከር ታስቦ ነው።

አውደ ጥናቱ በተለያዩ ሀገራት በስራው ላይ የተሰማሩት ስራተኞች እርስ በራሳቸው ከተሞክሯቸው እንዲማማሩና ይበልጥ ውጤታማ የሆኑትን ልምዶቻቸውና አዳዲስ ፈጠራዎቻቸውን እዲካፈሉ አመቺ መድረክ ፈጥረዋል። ከ18 አገሮች የተወጣጡ 33 ተካፋዮች በአውደ ጥናቱ ላይ የተገኙ ሲሆን እነዚህም የተፈጥሮ አደጋ በሚያስከትለውን ጥፋት ቅነሳ፣ መልሶ በማቋቋምና

በወቅታዊ ምላሽ ስራ፣ የሴቶችን መብቶች በማስከበር ስራ ላይ የተሰማሩ እንዲሁም የአለም አቀፉ የአክሽንኤይድ ፅህፈት ቤት ተወካዮች ናቸው።

የአክሽንኤይድ እንቅስቃሴዎች በድርቁ ጉዳተኞች ህይወት ላይ ከፍተኛ አዎንታዊ ለውጥ ያስከተሉ ሲሆኑ ይህም አክሽንኤይድ ኢትዮጵያ በሚያግዘውና በድርቅ ተጠቂ በሆነው በአፋጆኸኝ ማህበረሰብ አካባቢ በተጨማሪም የታየ ነው። አካባቢው በድርቁ ቢጠቃም የአፋጆኸኝ ህዝብ በአክሽንኤይድና በኢጋሩ ፓዴት ድጋፍ በተሰሩት የጸረ ተጋላጭነት ስራዎች አቅሙን ስላዳበረ ድርቁን መቋቋም ችሏል። አካባቢውን የጎበኙት እንግዶች እንዳረጋገጡት የአክሽንኤይድ ስራተኞች የተገብሯቸው ድርቅን የመቋቋም ፕሮግራሞች በህብረተሰቡ ህይወትና በተፈጥሮ ሃብቱ ላይ ለውጥ አምጥተዋል።