

Christian Aid Ethiopia

Annual Report 2018/19



Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

We work globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. We are part of a wider movement for social justice.

We provide urgent, practical and effective assistance where need is great, tackling the effects of poverty as well as its root causes.

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Cover: Woliso Dobi and her two children. Woliso is a member of the Okiminata Self Help Group and Radio Listening group as part of the BRACED climate change programme. Christian Aid/Indrias G Kassaye

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List of Acronyms

ASURE-Health	Access, Service and Utilisation of Reproductive Health
BINGO	British Non-Governmental Organisation
CCRDA	Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standards
CSO	civil society organisation
DEC	Disasters Emergency Committee
DEPP	Disaster Emergency Preparedness Programme
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DFID	Department for International Development
EU	European Union
NGO	non-governmental organisation
NFI	non-food item
SHG	self-help group
SNNPR	Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples' Region
SRH	sexual and reproductive health

Foreword

Greetings from Christian Aid Ethiopia

We are pleased to share our 2018/19 annual report which provides a synthesis of Christian Aid Ethiopia's major achievements and contributions to change the lives of communities we work with.

This year has been an exciting year for Christian Aid Ethiopia and the CSO and NGO sector in general. There is considerable optimism due to the 'renewal commitments' adopted by the ruling party. The reform process and initiatives to open a conducive environment for CSOs, the media and opposition parties is very encouraging, and essential for an inclusive and functioning democracy in Ethiopia.

Christian Aid has a new inspiring global strategy 'Standing Together For dignity. For equality. For justice, setting our purpose and values as One Christian Aid globally. More locally, we are finalising our country strategic plan which defines our ambition and direction for the next five years. Christian Aid Ethiopia's goal is to uplift poor and marginalised people out of poverty through fighting injustice and inequality. We work alongside poor and excluded people, their organisations, and in partnership with institutions who share our values. Our strategic priorities, programme approaches and areas of focus are well designed to systematically embark on addressing institutions, structures and systems which perpetuate poverty and injustice at all levels.

Ethiopia is currently facing humanitarian crises with a significant increase in internal displacement in 2018 because of inter-communal conflict in several pockets of the country. Christian Aid Ethiopia is among one of the first organisations to respond to the displacement crisis in Gedeo- Guji Zone, and in addition to ongoing DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction) projects, preparations are currently underway to scale up the humanitarian response initiative.

This report shows the impact of our work and testimonies that show how Christian Aid Ethiopia is supporting the most vulnerable communities in hard to reach parts of the country. It highlights our work on humanitarian response, DRR, strengthening climate services to farmers and pastoral communities, markets development and our work on promoting gender sensitive programming and support to communities to challenge power structures and systems that perpetuate gender violence.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the communities we work alongside, our partners, the Government at all levels, donors and Christian Aid colleagues in London and Nairobi. I also acknowledge and appreciate the Christian Aid Ethiopia team for their commitment and hard work in 2018/19.

Best Wishes

Yitna Tekaligne

Country Director



Introduction

Christian Aid has been working in Ethiopia for more than 30 years, initially responding to emergencies, but gradually building a long-term development programme. Our work focuses on resilient livelihoods, reproductive health, energy and climate change, gender and inclusion.

Christian Aid Ethiopia has substantial experience and a strong reputation for working in remote locations, particularly with vulnerable pastoral and agro-pastoral communities. Currently we operate in 39 districts in four regions – Oromia, Gambella, Benishangul-Gumuz, and Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples' Region (SNNPR).

Christian Aid Ethiopia delivers projects and programmes through a partnership model and we have recently started having a presence in the field, and working in partnership with community-based organisations and local Government structures. Currently, we have up to 10 partners with whom we have a funding relationship. Our local partners are primarily local non-governmental organisations (NGOs), both faith-based and secular, and include those delivering grassroots work, and national or regional networks, platforms and movements seeking higher-level influence on policy. Christian Aid Ethiopia also has active strategic level partnership engagement with national level forums and platforms including CCRDA and BINGO.

In 2018/19, Christian Aid Ethiopia has achieved significant results in building the resilience of communities to climate shocks and disasters, responding to emergencies and improving community health.

We have reached 752,669 people directly through our climate change, livelihoods, humanitarian and community health work. Our climate information and assets for resilience work has significantly improved climate information dissemination systems and community resilience through various interventions. We have made substantial contributions to enhancing the coping strategies of vulnerable small holder farmers and pastoralists affected by climate crisis.

Christian Aid emergency responses funded through the DEC programme, Band Aid and Christian Aid emergency appeal fund have reached 86,120 people directly through food aid and non-food items (NFIs), providing safe water supplies, animal feed, veterinary drugs, cash transfers and school feeding programmes for children.

Through our community health work, women are now able to access better reproductive healthcare and can make more informed family planning choices. Using interfaith dialogues and engagement, participatory community forums and dialogues, and women's groups, communities have improved their access to and use of sexual and reproductive health services.

Our programmes

Christian Aid Ethiopia work focuses on four main programme areas: resilient and inclusive markets, humanitarian response, climate change; and gender and inequality.

Livelihoods and Inclusive Markets Development

Under this thematic area Christian Aid focuses on increasing wealth creation opportunities for poor and marginalised people through supporting the diversification and intensification of alternative livelihood options and development of micro enterprises, promotion of inclusive market systems and enabling national regulatory frameworks.

Women Led Sustainable Energy Enterprise/Breaking the Barriers

Christian Aid, with funding from the EU, is implementing the Breaking the Barriers: Promoting women entrepreneurship in sustainable energy value chains through innovative approaches project in Oromia and SNNP regions.

The project is implemented through local partners in South Omo and Borena while Christian Aid is implementing directly in Konso through its field office. The project started in February 2018, with an implementation period of 42 months.

The aim of the project is to improve rural women's working, living conditions and well-being through their access to Sustainable Energy Technologies (SET) and related sub products and services. It is envisioned that this in turn will strengthen women's social status.

We will support women to produce, market and distribute sustainable energy products and related services; and work to improve the societal and institutional environment for women's entrepreneurship in the SE sector.

To date, 970 people have been selected and organised into 35 producer groups, 69 marketing and distribution groups and 6 solar enterprise groups in 6 districts

These groups are now all registered, and have received training on business planning and financial management. All groups have managed to save as part of the saving and loans scheme, and following from this grant money will be transferred to the women based on their business plans.



'I see a better life for me and my family'

Taku Okoto 45, is a widow and a mother of five living in Areeri Kebele, Borena Zone of Ethiopia. Taku describes how the death of her husband has posed real challenges for her and her family.

'He was the bread winner for the family, I felt poverty much harder than at any time of my life after the death of my husband'.

Now Taku's family depend on her small holding and hair dressing to earn a living.

As Taku explains, 'Due to a limited income, I am sending only two of my children to school while the other two must stay at home'.

As an active member of an existing self-help group, Taku was selected to be part of the Breaking the Barriers project.

'My plan and hope for the future is to work hard with my group on improved cookstove production, to save time and get more income which will help me to cover the school costs for all my children. I also foresee a better life for me and my family from reduced indoor smoke which is affecting my family's health'.



Funded by the European Union



Women participating in improved cook stove production, Konso Zone, SNNP Region

Peanut Value Chain development

Working alongside our partner Ethiopian Evangelical Mekane Yesus Church (EEMYC) Western Synod, we are supporting farmers to improve peanut production in Chewaka District, Illubabor Zone, Oromia Region. This includes the provision of improved seeds, the introduction of ground nut shelling machines, as well as creating market linkages. The project specifically supports poor women-headed households in the district.

To date, four peanut producing and marketing cooperatives with 120 members have been established. These groups have received improved varieties of peanut seeds and farming tools. The project aims to enhance production, and marketing of quality peanuts.

This year we have provided targeted training for peanut farmers on improved production techniques in collaboration with Jimma Agricultural Research Centre (JARC). Once produced, the peanuts will be shelled and supplied to Hilina Foods P.L.C by the farmers through the market linkages developed by the project.



Smallholder farmers growing peanut in Chawaka Woreda, Oromia Region

Humanitarian Response

Our Humanitarian response aims to strengthen dignity, well-being and resilience of people affected by humanitarian crisis. We work to alleviate suffering through life-saving assistance, disaster risk management, and informing and influencing humanitarian policies and practices.

Drought recovery support in Male Zone, South Omo

The impacts of the 2015/2016 El Nino-induced drought significantly peaked in the dry season in March 2017, having devastating effects for the communities in South Omo dependent on livestock for food and their incomes. Many farmers suffered due to crop failure following the erratic and the extended dry spells as well as pest attacks.

It was in response to this crisis that Christian Aid in partnership with Action for Development and Women Support Association implemented a one-year drought recovery support project in Malle and Benatsemay districts of South Omo. The response focused on humanitarian assistance as well as recovery interventions to benefit more than 50,000 people.

In 2018, through our DEC programme we reached 11,925 people with improved access to potable water as well as sanitation and hygiene services. Potable water supplies closer to the communities has reduced time spent by women collecting water from 2 hours per round trip to less than 15 minutes, which has significantly eased the burden on women and allowed them to engage in other productive activities.

An increased access to a safe water supply in the area has reduced the prevalence of waterborne diseases.

The project has supported 3,164 poor farmers and agro-pastoral households to resume their farming activities. We have supplied drought tolerant seeds and hand tools, and provided training on crop production and pest control and the construction of small-scale irrigation schemes.

Working through partners we have improved the quality of veterinary services and fodder production which as a result has improved the production and productivity of livestock for 5,299 households.

The project has provided grants and technical support to 1,215 women helping them to engage in small business. Vulnerable women who are members of self-help groups are able to access credit and save.

Unconditional cash transfers were also provided to 790 vulnerable households and vulnerable groups (including women, children, elderly people, and people living with disabilities). This has supported the most vulnerable to meet their essential needs.

Band Aid school feeding project, Zuway Dugda Woreda, Oromia Region

In response to the 2015/16 El Nino-induced drought in Zuway Dugda Woreda, Christian Aid and its partner HUNDEE Oromo Grassroots Initiatives (HUNDEE) implemented a school feeding programme providing nutritious meals for children through our Band Aid funded programme.

In 2018, school meals were provided for 6,002 children, for 10 months to address critical food gaps, and reduce the impact of drought on poor families.



Zora Katem is a wife and mother of three. When we visited her in August 2018 she was overwhelmed by the recent changes for her family. The previous year, Zora and others in her community were counting the losses from the failed rains in Male district South of Ethiopia. During this season, she lost her livestock and all her savings.

Christian Aid and Action for Development through its Drought Recovery support programme supplied the self-help group that Zora is part of with capital (both cash and in-kind, including chickens and chicken feed).

Zora received chickens which she plans to breed to sell. In addition, she also received drought resistance seeds, sorghum, maize and haricot beans, from her self-group.

'Being a member of the Bona Self Help Group has changed our lives as a family,' explains Zora.

Not only has Zora received seeds and animals, she has also gained an extended family through engaging with other members of the self-help group.

'In many ways we have become much more resilient, thanks to the training we received on how to manage the revolving fund we have been able to maximize on our savings and investments,' explains Kefa, a member of the same self-help group.

The Bona Self Help group is one of 68 groups which have received seed capital to ensure the community in Bena Tsemay district can build their resilience to climate change.



Adinsho Kori primary school students having school lunch provided through the Band Aid funded programme, Zuway Dugada district, April 2019.

The school feeding programme was successful in supporting vulnerable families who are unable to provide food and send their children to school.

To mark these changes, targeted schools witnessed an increased enrolment of students, and drop-out rates have significantly reduced. Overall attendance and performance of students has also improved, and children are able to come to school on time, and stay in school for a full day.

Response to Gedeo -Guji conflict in Kercha Woreda

Since March 2018, the conflict between Guji and Gedeo communities has left hundreds of thousands of people homeless, insecure, and without livelihoods.

People displaced by the conflict sheltered inside the EECMY church, while many others were left living in cramp conditions under plastic sheets and make shift tents in the host community. Their needs are varied and required immediate humanitarian response.

Christian Aid Ethiopia funded our partner the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, Development and Social Service Commission (EECMY-DASSC), providing just over £50,000 to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable households in Kercha, west Guji Zone, through providing supplementary food and NFIs.

The project responded to the immediate needs of 1500 internally displaced households during 2018, providing food aid, supplementary food, 550 blankets, NFIs and households utensils.

The assistance came at a critical time as no other support was available in this woreda. The assistance significantly contributed to saving the lives of vulnerable groups including children under 5, lactating and pregnant mothers and the elderly.



The Promise of Peace

Ayantu Zewude, 30, is contemplating naming her baby Nigel. Nigel, her seventh child, was born towards the end of July 2018 in Moyalle, in the south of Ethiopia. The name in Oromo means peace. Ayantu's baby was born during the height of conflict. Naming the baby Nigel is a testament to Ayantu's belief and desire for a new reality, where the Oromo and Gedeo neighbouring ethnic groups, which have a history of conflict, will one day co-exist in peace and harmony.

Ayantu and her husband, who have lived together for 6 years, used to live in Kogoa. Ayantu is from Oromo while her husband is from Gedeo. Due to a politically instigated misunderstanding, violence erupted between these ethnic groups, creating a humanitarian crisis. Just before the conflict escalated, Ayantu's husband left his wife and six children as he feared for his life. Ayantu has not seen him since.

Christian Aid and partner organisations together responded to the humanitarian needs affecting the communities displaced by the conflict in Yabello. Christian Aid provided non-food items to 1500 people in the form of blankets, jericans, cooking pots, ladles, plates and plastic cups, to supplement the work of other stakeholders responding to the crisis.

Ayantu, a beneficiary of the non-food items from Christian Aid and partner Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus- Development and Social Service Commission (EECMY-DASSC), is grateful for the humanitarian assistance offered to her.

The Federal Government of Ethiopia has set up a commission to consider the challenges arising from the current regional boundaries and explore better ways of addressing them. It has committed to work with Regional Government to promote reconciliation efforts

Climate Change

We aim to enhance the resilience of communities, community-based organisations and other governance institutions to significantly minimise irreversible loss and damage due to climate changes.

BRACED/ CIARE Programme

The Christian Aid Climate Information and Assets for Resilience in Ethiopia (CIARE/BRACED) is a multi-disciplinary initiative aimed at building the resilience of 791,530 vulnerable people to climate extremes and disasters in seven high intensity and five medium intensity woredas in Oromia and SNNPR .The programme focuses on climate information services; tangible resilience building schemes; capacity building support to local actors in DRR and resilience programme planning and action; learning through various knowledge generation and sharing approaches; and monitoring and evaluation activities.

Establishing a system for climate service provision for the target groups to make livelihood decisions and disaster risk management based on location specific, reliable and timely climate information was one of the key interventions. As a result of the project's effective approach and coordination mechanism with all actors across climate value chains, an up-take of climate information and application by end users has increased from the baseline data.

According to an internal final evaluation made by Christian Aid, there is an increase in knowledge and attitude to use scientific climate information and apply such information in day to day life. Project participants are seeking more location specific and continuous provision of climate information.

In addition, due to resilience building interventions, such as establishing community organisations and rural climate finances, economic and social empowerment of rural households were observed. This helped to significantly improve gender dynamics both at household and community level. Based on mid-term and final evaluations of the project, those who are economically empowered were found to be in a better position to respond to the impact of climate extremes.



Women's radio listening group in Bena Tsemay woreda, South .Omo zone , SNNP Region, Ethiopia

The various water schemes within the project have also contributed towards addressing practical gender issues. For example, reducing the burden on women and girls travelling long distances to gather water for the household. These water schemes also contributed towards community resilience against drought impact due to continuous access to water for longer periods in the year. Moreover, community organisations and government capacity to generate, customise and disseminate climate information is notably enhanced.

Climate and Meteorological Service Advancement in Ethiopia-CMESA-E

Based on the lessons captured from the BRACED project, Christian Aid, in partnership with the National Meteorological Agency, Farm Africa and Mercy Corps developed the climate policy project, CMESA-E.

The development of a 'National Framework for Climate Services' (NFCS), is one of the key pillars for the project. It will serve as a national framework and coordination mechanism to ensure that effective, credible and dependable climate services are provided to climate sensitive sectors, and that the services are used for better decision-making by the end users.

The framework, which includes the development of a strategic plan and a national action plan is expected to be endorsed by high-level government officials. Since its inception the project has progressed through the following major milestones.

These include;

- A regional launch workshop
- Conducting a baseline study to understanding existing climate services and needs.
- Establishing a National Steering Committee
- Establishing four technical working groups in the main climate sensitive sectors
- Organising a meeting with a panel of experts to prioritise research areas for co-production of research
- Conducting regional learning events with experts in various sectors and multi stakeholder consultative workshops.

Gender and Inequality

We aim to ensure equal opportunities for, and reduce inequalities of excluded groups and people living in poverty, especially women and girls, to make, exercise and achieve self - determined choices.

ASURE- Health (Access, Service and Utilisation of Reproductive Health)

Access, Service and Utilisation of Reproductive Health (ASURE-Health) is a five-year (2015-2019) project financed by the EU. This project is implemented through a consortium made up of Christian Aid and Amref Health Africa. Christian Aid's implementing partners are Women Support Association and Ethiopian Interfaith Forum for Development Dialogue and Action.

ASURE-Health aims to increase universal access to comprehensive reproductive health services in Gamogofa, Wolayta, Segen Zones in SNNPR. Christian Aid is working with its partners mainly on creating awareness and demand for sexual and reproductive health services. We provide quality reproductive health information and services to women of reproductive age, targeting the most vulnerable people with the least access to reproductive health, and to improve the capacity of local authorities to provide quality and friendly services to the target groups.

The project aims to provide quality reproductive health information and services to women of reproductive age. To date we have reached over 3,500 women self-help group members to engage in collective action. As a result, 2,240 women are now using family planning and 2,000 women have engaged with voluntary HIV/AIDS testing services.

The self-help group members have saved a of total 1,481,279.00 ETB and accessed loans of 1,108,502.00 ETB to engage in different income generating activities. Integrating adult literacy within the programme has ensured that self-help group members have been empowered through access to education. A total of 1,940 self-help group members have attended this aspect of the programme.

ASURE has reached 13,816 people (78% women) through community conversations and family dialogue sessions which were instrumental in creating improved access to information on health, and to discuss socio-economic activities and cultural issues. As a result, communities use of sexual and reproductive health services have significantly increased.

To address the challenges of teenage pregnancy, we have established and supported 46 youth and girls' clubs, and additional guidance and counselling services. Training, peer to peer education, life skill sessions, guidance and counselling have also taken place. Several campaigns on HIV/AIDS prevention and control, Gender Based Violence and teenage pregnancy have been organised and reached more than 5,980 young people (68% Female).



Funded by the European Union

Prompting accountability in CSOs through CCRDA

We aim to build the capacity of CSOs through training, consultative meetings and dialogues as well as sharing and learning events.

In 2018/19 we have worked alongside and supported 170 organisations through a series of consultative dialogues and peer learning workshop with relevant government stakeholders on CSO law.

CCRDA organised dialogue forums on CSO-private sector partnership, as well as producing and distributing various promotional materials.

These interventions contributed towards enhancing the operational environment of CSOs, strengthening the CSO-Private sector partnership, raising professionalism and ethical self-regulation within the CCRDA membership.

Financial Report

In 2018/19 the total expenditure for Christian Aid Ethiopia is 88,170,443 ETB (£2,414,917.96). Operational cost 20,060,197 ETB (22.75%) and 68,110,245 ETB (77.24%) for grant transfers to partners.

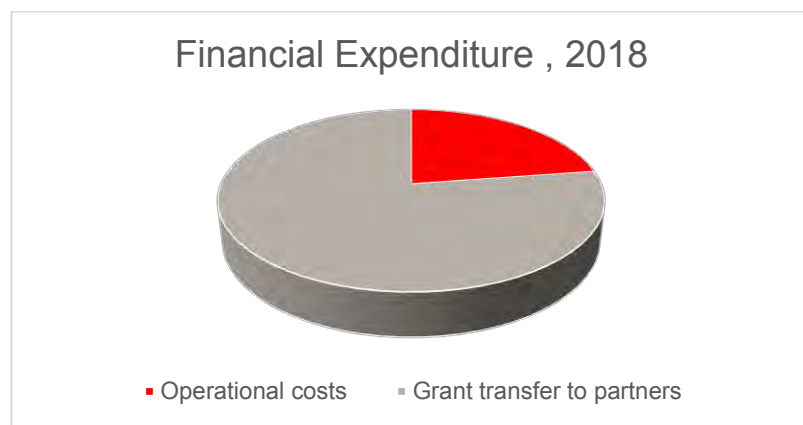


Table1. Financial expenditure report, 2018/19

Operational costs	GBP	Birr	%
Staff Salaries and benefits	416,199.75	15,277,871.47	17.3
Other operational costs	131,130.66	4,782,326.405	5.4
Total	547,330.41	20,060,197.87	22.75
Grant transfer to partners			
Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA)	8,000	301628	0.34
Action for Development	812,550.73	29,831,991.88	33.83
HUNDEE- Oromo Grassroot Development Initiative (HUNDEE)	238,979.36	8,704,010.89	9.87
SOS Sahel Ethiopia	12,623.29	475942.2145	0.53
Ethiopian Interfaith Forum for Development Dialogue and Action (EIFDDA)	13,696.31	503706.59	0.57
Women Support Association	317,965.25	11562649.89	13.11
Kings College	30,755.04	1095915.869	1.24
BBC Media Action	159,186.6	5741192.35	6.5
UK Met	19,272.19	686739.4368	0.77
Action Aid	118,614.05	4258696.85	4.83
National Metrology Agency (NMA)	38,458.73	1398241.04	1.58
Oromia Disaster Prevention	9,517	367168.7151	0.41
Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY)	87,969	3182362.02	3.6
Total Grant transfers	1,867,587.55	68,110,245.78	77.24
Total expenditure	2,414,917.96	88,170,443.65	100

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