



# HOPE for CHILDREN in ETHIOPIA

Newsletter for the month DECEMBER

## ADMINISTRATION ISSUES

### HCE-RDA team arranged a farewell session for EFS interns

Hope for Children in Ethiopia's RDA team has prepared a farewell session for Swedish Evangelical Church interns (EFS). The interns have spent three to four months delivering internships in the various initiatives of the organization. HCE-RDA has maintained a habit of hosting interns every year, which improves the relationship of the two organisations. The interns have made a tremendous contribution in the kindergarten and in the girls' home in cultural exchanges. We profoundly missed their engagement and diligence in their internship. The organisation is thrilled for hosting interns and incredibly grateful for their participation.

*Farewell session at the HCE-RDA head office*



# PRESCHOOL AND SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Christmas was celebrated at the kindergarten

Entoto Hope Kindergarten staff members and students colorfully celebrated Christmas 2026 in their compound. Students dressed in traditional clothes, presented poems and monologues, and read Bible scriptures about Christ's birth. Every year, children in kindergarten celebrated Christmas. This year, sixty-five children participated in the celebration. Furthermore, their parents received holiday gifts from the organization, as HCE-RDA participated every holiday season to share their financial burdens. Sixty-five families received wheat flour and cooking oil. It has also been reminded the HCE team that Church of Sweden partners had organised fundraising events in various congregations by displaying wheat flour and edible oil in order to provide assistance to the children's parents during the Christmas season.

The parents are extremely enthusiastic and express their deepest thankfulness to the partners who provided them spend the day with their families in incredible satisfaction and contentment.

Celebrating Christmas with Entoto Hope Kindergarten children





*Shared the burden of the holiday with Children's family through the provision of wheat flour and edible oil*

# NIGAT PROJECT

## Target groups of the NIGAT project provided incentives

The NIGAT initiative provides incentives to the project's target employers. Nineteen women received a certain amount of money to participate in income-generating activities. The intention of incentives for employers is to establish a positive working environment for their CDWs, to allow the organization's social workers to visit their CDWs, to allow them participate in short-term vocational training, and to improve the overall well-being their domestic workers. Their financial support has also been saved in a block account, and they work closely with the district labor and skill offices.

Similarly, seven older CDWs who worked as domestic workers for longer periods with little amount of wage are selected and identified to engage in income-generating activities (IGAs). The intention of the support is to affect the lifestyle of these older domestic workers so that their working condition and wage become improved. These older CDWs also integrated their business ideas with the district labor and skill office, and the financial support has been saved in a block account. The project has been diligently attempting to enhance the condition of child and older domestic workers through an assortment of interventions. One activity to smooth and impact CDWs' conditions is the provision of incentives to employers and older domestic workers.

# NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND PROJECT

## “No Child Left Behind Project” has been evaluated

With the invitation of HCE-RDA, the Sidama Region's Leku City Administration performed a terminal assessment. The regional and municipal governments, as well as the offices for women, children, social affairs, and finance, assessed the project's implementation and impact. Five members of the team attended the assessment session.

The branch program coordinator presented the project accomplishment to the team, prompting the team to share their issues and questions. Their concerns and queries were adequately acknowledged and answered. The team also went on a field trip to discuss the influence of project activities on the lives of the targeted women.

Women who received financial and technical assistance for engaging in income-generating activities have been visited. The women overtly expressed the benefit they earned from pursuing different kinds of training and the financial support they received. They are extremely inspired to convey their sentiments, the type of small business they run, and the amount of income they make within a day.

The team also observed the successful completion of project operations with little human capital, finances, and resources. They complimented the project design, implementations, and the staff's dedication to completing project operations on schedule.

## Poultry products were supplied to targeted women

Thirty-eight targeted women were provided with poultry supplies to help supplement their income. Thirty-eight women have been given 114 Bovans Brown pullets (egg-laying chickens) and 600 kilogram of poultry feed (fodder).

Most women benefited from poultry products by selling eggs. They provide for their children and save money on a weekly basis alongside other SHG members. In other ways, the distribution encourages women to improve their income and savings so that they can satisfy their children's educational demands while still using the products for domestic purposes.

Women, on the other hand, are particularly concerned about the high expense of poultry feed. The women indicated that the feed might encourage them to not spend the earnings that they acquired for their own home usage, but rather to buy chicken feed, and requested any possibilities to solve their fear.



*Government experts from Sidama Region and Leku City Administration finance and WCSA officers while evaluating the effect of start-up capitals in the lives of women*



*Targeted women while receiving poultry products*

# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FUNDED BY CHURCH OF SWEDEN

## Training for new cluster level association

A total of eighty-seven women took part in the new cluster-level association training that lasted for one day. As well as elucidating the advantages of being integrated in order to become a cluster association, the training was designed to raise awareness among the members of the SHGs about the possibility of advancing to the cluster association.

The cluster association provides assistance to the women in obtaining a legal identity and a certificate from the district finance. Additionally, it enables the women to contribute to the improvement of the socioeconomic situations of women. They eventually arrange themselves to the point where they are able to cooperate with one another, which will enable them to become sustainable, empower women in every direction, and become socioeconomically influential.

## Training to members of the SHGs on Health and child protection

Sixty women participated in health and child protection training at Elo Kebele. The training has been provided with the intention of preventing children's health from communicable diseases caused by insufficient personal cleanliness and eating with hands that are not clean.

The district health officer provided women with training on the manner in which to prevent such potentially infectious conditions that repeatedly threaten their children's health. The training emphasised the significance of washing hands to prevent and protect children from any unexpected disease.

Furthermore, the training enhances SHG members' awareness concerning how to protect their children from recurring bacterial infections.

## The success story of Tadelech Bisamo

One of the individuals who are a part of the SHGs is Tadelech Bisamo. Throughout the process of raising her three girls, she has encountered a variety of obstacles. She has worked as a day labourer, domestic worker, and cattle keeper to confront the harsh realities of life, but she has been unable to overcome her financial crisis. She mentioned that she spent an uncomfortable moment raising her children and sending them to school. When she went through these occurrences, she was very sick and compelled to spend time in bed for a month. Her condition exposed them to major challenges. When she was in this predicament, women came to her home to enquire about her circumstances and inform her about Hope for Children, the training provided, and the benefits of joining SHGs. When she recovered well, she was welcomed by the project and became part of the SHGs. The organisation has supplied her spinning machine, which has completely transformed her situation. She is currently using the spinning instruments to sell cotton products to weavers, saving some money with her members. She has been able to send her daughters to school and engages in her own income-generating pursuits. She becomes extremely pleased after noticing the transformation. She is grateful to all members of the SHGs and the organisation.



*Training for members of the SHGs*



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I am very grateful for getting the opportunity to be part of the member of the SHGs and extend my heartfelt gratitude to HCE-RDA

*The story of Tadelech Bisamo*

## SECOND CHANCE PROJECT

### Technical support has been offered to schools

Second Chance and Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) facilitators received technical support for one day. Twenty Six district educational experts and supervisors have carried out technical support to SC and ALP facilitators and monitor the actual status of students attended in the second phase of the project. It has also concentrated on providing assistance with classroom administration and document structure, such as attendance, assessment lists, and lesson plans. The training has enhanced facilitators' awareness regarding how to effectively and efficiently carry out the teaching and learning process. The offices are planning to give such training that will assist the facilitators attain their full potential.