



ChildFund
Ethiopia



Annual 20
Report 24

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Abbreviations

AOP	Annual Operational Plan
CBF	Children Believe Fund
CFSs	Child-Friendly Spaces
CPIE	Child Protection in Emergency
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ETB	Ethiopian Birr
FHIDO	Future Hope Integrated Development Organization
FY	Fiscal Year
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication

IO	International Office (of ChildFund)
IRC	International Rescue Committee
NSP	Non-Sponsorship Program
PEER	Protection and Education in Emergency and Recovery Project
SHG	Self-help Group
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Associations
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



ChildFund®

Because we need each other.

Our Vision

A world where every child realizes their rights and achieves their potential.

Our Mission

HELP children to have the capacity to improve their lives and opportunity to become young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting and positive change in their communities.

PROMOTE societies whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting, and advancing the worth and rights of children.

ENRICH supporters' lives through their support of our cause.

From the Country Director



In response to conflicts in the Tigray and Amhara regions, we focused on emergency response, rehabilitation, and long-term recovery, supporting 174,866 people, including 106,400 children, with a budget of USD 1.2 million.



It is with great joy that I acknowledge the outstanding achievements of ChildFund Ethiopia in the fiscal year 2024. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of our staff, local partners, sponsors, and donors.

During this fiscal year, the conflict in the Amhara and Oromia regions continued to hinder consistent access to affected communities. Schools remained closed in some parts of the Amhara region, negatively impacting school programs. Despite these challenges, we implemented Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) and Education in Emergency (EiE) programs, supporting conflict-affected communities with essential interventions. This included mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), cash transfers, and assistance for survivors of gender-based violence. Schools were renovated, and children were provided with scholastic materials to enable learning. However, the ongoing conflict led to additional school closures as many parents were hesitant to send their children to school due to safety concerns.

Meanwhile, relative stability in the Tigray region allowed ChildFund to extend its operations there.

In Tigray, we provided MHPSS to internally displaced persons (IDPs), rehabilitated schools and WASH facilities, distributed scholastic materials, high-energy biscuits, and non-food items, and supported both returnees and IDPs in settling down. Psychosocial support and mental health training were also offered to teachers, students, and community volunteers, helping them cope with the trauma of the conflict.

These achievements were accomplished despite significant financial challenges during the year. Although the annual budget was expected to match that of the previous FY 2023, ChildFund Ethiopia raised less funding than anticipated. This shortfall was primarily due to the global economic downturn and the impacts of the Ukraine-Russia war, which significantly strained available resources. The budget reduction adversely affected our overall programming, making it more difficult to sustain the crucial support we provide.

Nevertheless, during FY 2024, ChildFund made significant strides in its development and humanitarian programs. Through various projects,

programs, and mass awareness-raising activities, we reached a total of 10.1 million children and their families in Ethiopia, improving their well-being and resilience.

We supported 40,084 children enrolled in the sponsorship program and reached 246,884 families, siblings, and other community members. Additionally, 288,269 individuals, including school community members, gained access to safe water from various facilities. Of these, 46,731 children and youth were supported through the Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) project.

In response to conflicts in the Tigray and Amhara regions, our efforts focused on emergency response, rehabilitation, and long-term recovery. We supported 174,866 individuals, including 106,400 children, with a budget of USD 1.2 million through the successful implementation of the following projects:

- Protection and Education in Emergency and Recovery Project (PEER) (July 2023 – December 2024), funded by Radiohjälpen through Barnfonden (\$400,000 USD), which reached 20,000 people (8,000 boys and girls) in the Amhara Region, North Wello Zone, Raya Kobo District.
- Joining Forces on Child Protection in Emergency Project (CPiE) (July 2022 – June 2024), supported by the German Foreign Fund Office (GFFO) (\$600,000 USD), which assisted 146,366 people, including 95,000 children, in the Amhara region, North and South Wello Zones across five Woredas.
- Tigray Education in Emergency Project (July 2023 – June 2024), funded by

IO, CBF, PEF, and German NSP (\$243,510.65 USD), which reached 8,500 people (3,400 children) in Kiltawlaelo Woreda, Eastern Zone of the Tigray Region.

In education, we reached a total of 50,000 children and youth. Of these, 2,110 children received life skills training, and 260 children previously engaged in child labor were re-enrolled in school. With financial support from the KSD Foundation through ChildFund Korea, we constructed an Early Childhood Development (ECD) center equipped with age-appropriate facilities to support children's holistic development. To further enhance accessibility to the learning environment for students with special needs, essential materials like braille paper and white canes were provided to five high schools in Addis Ababa, aiding these students in achieving greater learning outcomes.

These successes underscore the belief that, with the right support and opportunities, every child can achieve their desired potential.

Finally, I thank our donors, sponsors, Government Ministries and Offices, local partners and other stakeholders for their generous supports and unwavering commitment to improve the well-being of children and encourage all our team of dedicated staff to continue in the same spirit in year to come.

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About ChildFund

ChildFund is a child-focused international development organization operating in three continents: Asia, Africa and the Americas.

ChildFund works to address the underlying conditions hindering children and youth from realizing their full potential. Emphasizing child protection in its approach, ChildFund recognizes the detrimental impact of violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect on developmental progress. ChildFund works to improve holistic child development and helps children grow up healthy, educated and safe.

In FY 24, ChildFund's reach extends to over 21 million children and family members in 23 countries across Africa, Asia, and the Americas through programs, services, and informative broadcasts.

Our Program Priorities



Child Protection



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



Health and Nutrition



Youth Development



Education



Household Economic Strengthening



Climate Action



Humanitarian Response



Food Security



Early Childhood Development



Advocacy

LIFE STAGE

1

Healthy and Secure Infants (0 to 5 years)



LIFE STAGE

2

Educated and Confident Children (6 to 14 years)



LIFE STAGE

3

Skilled and Involved Youth (15 to 24 years)



ChildFund programs are implemented using a distinctive 3-part life stage programming approach.

This approach promotes children's optimal development at every age by tailoring interventions to their unique needs as they grow from infants to young adults.

The life stage approach is classified as follows:



ChildFund Ethiopia

ChildFund Ethiopia, operational since 1971 (about 53 years), currently supports 13 community-based local partners across five regions: Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia, Central Ethiopia and Addis Ababa.

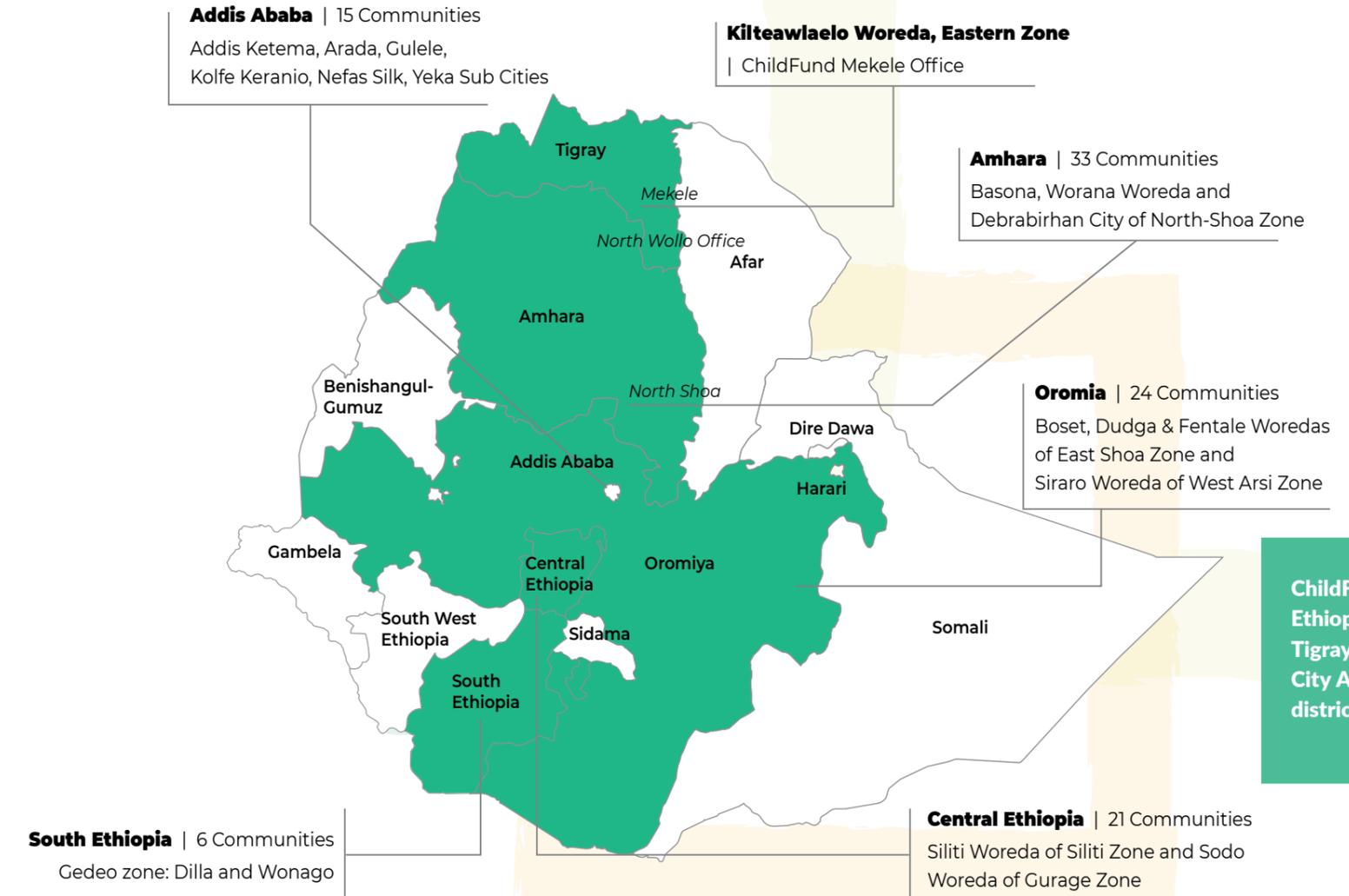
The organization serves 39,678 enrolled children, 48,682 families, 107,224 siblings directly, and reaches 4.89 million community members currently, operating in Amhara, Central Ethiopia, South Ethiopia, Oromia and Tigray regional states and Addis Ababa City Administration.

Supported by over 412 community-based volunteers and 52,228 home-based caregivers, ChildFund Ethiopia primarily focuses on long-term community development, ensuring access to healthcare, nutrition, education, and safety, throughout children's lives.

Funded by individual sponsors, governments, and bilateral & multilateral donors, ChildFund Ethiopia engages in both development and emergency relief and disaster mitigation programs, with a primary focus on children and their families.

We have established strong relationships with international, national, and community-based organizations, academia, private sector partners, as well as central, regional and district local governments.

Geographical Coverage



ChildFund operates in Amhara, Central Ethiopia, South Ethiopia, Oromia and Tigray regional states and Addis Ababa City Administration covering 103 sub-districts (kebeles).

Areas of Operation

Region	Local Partners	Operational Areas: Name of Woreda/Kebele	Number of kebeles [communities]
Addis Ababa	Future Hope Integrated Development Organization	Arada Sub-City: Woreda 1, 2, 3, 4 5, and 10	6
	Love for Children and Family Development Charitable Organization	Nifas Silk Lafto: Woreda 02 and Kolfe Keraneio: Woreda 01	2
	Addis Integrated Development Organization	Addis Ketema Sub-City: W 06 & 07	2
	Sheger Child and Family Development Charitable Society	Gulele Sub-City: Woreda 4, 5 & Woreda 7	3
	EOC-CFAO Genete Eyesus Child and family Development Program Coordination Office	Yeka Sub-City: Woreda 01 & 02	2
Amhara	TesfaBirhan Child and Family Development Organization	North Shewa Zone: Sariya, Chiraro Debir, Addisge, Bakelo, Keyit, Abamotie, Gudoberet, Gudoberet Zuria and Bassodengora Kebeles of Bassona Worana and 01, 02, 06 & 08 Kebeles of Debre Berhan town	13
	ChildFund (direct implementation)	North Wollo Zone: Mersa Woreda, Woldia Town, and Raya Kobo Woreda	20

Region	Local Partners	Operational Areas: Name of Woreda/Kebele	Number of kebeles [communities]
Central Ethiopia	Silti-Aynage Child and Family Development Organization	Silti: Agode Lobrera, Boze Sabola, Kibet 01, Kibet 02, Koto Balosa, Senena Gerera, Weliya Sidist, Agode Lobrera silti, Dobo Bedeno silti, Koto Balosa silti, and Senena Gerera	12
	Sodo-Buee Child and Family Development Charitable Organization	Sodo: Anati, Adazer, Buee zuria, Buee town, Firshi, Suten zuria, Sewatinagedam, Wachomoregi, and Wudegetnagerfessa	9
South Ethiopia	Reach the Needy-Ethiopia	Gedeo Zone; Dilla Zuria: Golla, Michile sisota and Chichu; Wonago: Jemjemo, Balebukisa and Tumata Chericha	6
Oromia	Care for Children and Family Organization	East Shewa Zone, Boset: Geri, Feto, Borchota, Degaga, Migra and Wolenchiti-01	6
	Dugda Children and Family Charitable Organization	East Shewa Zone, Dugda Woreda: Bole, Hate Leman, Giraba Korke Adi, Tepo Choroke, Oda, Oda Bokota, Melka Dubisa,	7
	Future Generation Organization	East Shewa Zone, Fentale Woreda: Metahara, Haro adi, Gola, Alge, Gelcha & Ilala	6
	Siraro Child and Family Development Association	Siraro Woreda: Ropi town, Ropi sinta, Boye awarkasa, Alemtena Sirbo & Damine Leman	5
Tigray	ChildFund (direct implementation)	Kilteawlaelo Woreda, Eastern Zone of the Tigray Region.	4
Total			103



Child Protection

All children have the right to grow up free from harm. But too many grow up in violent environments, making them more likely to turn to violence themselves at home, at school and in the community, or even online.

Our child protection work involves supporting children, families and communities to access quality prevention and response services where they are.

We also work at the local and national levels to strengthen nationwide child protection systems as a way of building sustainable and comprehensive protection for children.

ChildFund implements community-based child protection programs that contribute to the safety and empowerment of children across all of target areas in six regions (Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Central Ethiopia, South Ethiopia and Addis Ababa) actively involving key stakeholders.

ChildFund raised awareness of the community members on key child protection risks in conflict affected areas, provided life skills training to children, and supporting children who were engaged in child labor to be re-enrolled in school through Circlod or Negelcha project, which focuses on a community-integrated response to child labor, and establishing Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSs).

Key Achievements



352,098 children affected by conflict participated in awareness-raising campaigns on key child protection risks while, **2,110** children participated in trainings on life skills.



ChildFund established **7** Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSs) in North Wollo and South Wollo Zones in Amhara Regional State, reaching over **10,100** children affected by armed conflict. The CFSs provide children a chance to play, learn, and receive psychosocial support.



260 children previously engaged in child labor were re-enrolled to school. This is through our Circlod or Negelcha project focusing on community-integrated response to child labor.



Over **100** members of child parliament attending special meeting on advocating the protection of child right and prevention of child exploitation and abuse.

“I stopped beating my child and started treating him with love” - Aisha



Mustafa, 13, with his mother Aisha, on his way to school.

Mustafa is a 13-year-old boy from a region heavily impacted by the Northern Ethiopian Conflict. His father was tragically killed on his way to work, and Mustafa was alone at home when he received the heartbreaking news. Witnessing his father’s body at the mosque was an overwhelming and traumatic experience for him, which led to changes in his behavior. Mustafa became aggressive and disobedient, struggling to cope with his grief. His mother, also devastated by the loss, found herself becoming more aggressive as well.

Reflecting on the changes, Mustafa’s mother, Aisha shared, “After my husband died, my son’s behavior changed drastically. He began insulting me and taking me for granted. The only way I knew to respond was by punishing him, as was the norm in our village.”

However, things began to improve after Mustafa’s mother attended a positive parenting session facilitated by the Joining Forces for Child Protection in Emergency project. The training equipped her with new skills and a different approach to parenting. She stopped punishing Mustafa and focused on healing their relationship. She has become an advocate for positive parenting and has learned how to listen to her son and understand him better.

“I stopped beating my child and started treating him with love. Now, we get along well. He has become a good student and a loving boy. When he gets angry, I respond with politeness and love,” she explained. The training I took has been very useful, not just for me but also for many of my relatives.”

Things began to improve after Mustafa’s mother attended a positive parenting session training, which equipped her with new skills and a different approach to parenting.

Early Childhood development

Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW) - East Africa

The Growth and Economic Opportunities (GrOW) project, implemented by ChildFund Ethiopia in collaboration with its local partner and ChildFund Alliance member with financial and technical support from International Development Research Centre (IDRC), focused on subsidizing and enhancing the quality of community-based childcare services.

This initiative not only improved women's economic well-being and empowerment but also promoted Early Childhood Development (ECD). The project demonstrated that quality childcare centers contribute significantly to the holistic development of children while simultaneously enhancing the economic well-being of women.

This project aims to enhance women's ability to work and generate income while supporting Early Childhood Development (ECD).

As part of the initiative, 16 ECD centers were renovated in Addis Ababa, Adama, and Debrebirhan, benefiting 380 children aged 1 to 3.

Key Achievements



Women's Economic Empowerment:

Established 16 self-help groups (SHGs) with 320 members, resulting in USD 11,450 in savings and a USD 37,798.95 loan for income-generating activities.



Social Cohesion:

Strengthened through platforms for discussing children's growth and development at household and community levels.



Skills Enhancement:

Improved leadership, decision-making, entrepreneurship, networking, lobbying, and advocacy skills among participants.



Increased Stakeholder Engagement:

Greater involvement of local government entities, including the education bureau and women and children's bureau.



Education

Access to quality pre-primary education

Quality pre-primary education is one of the best investments available for ensuring the future success of children. Pre-primary education sets the stage for a positive transformation in learning outcomes throughout a child's lifetime.

In FY24, ChildFund implemented various interventions in its communities of operation to increase access to quality pre-primary education. This included equipping and furnishing early childhood development centers with learning and play materials and equipment, mattresses and constructing playgrounds.

Teacher Training on ECD framework

Notably, 17 program officers from local partner organizations were trained on the new Early Childhood Development and Education National Policy Framework. This training improved their understanding of the updated ECD policy and equipped them to conduct sensitization programs on the new ECD framework at community level.

Construction and renovation of ECD centers

With funding (4.2 million Birr) from the KSD Foundation through ChildFund Korea, ChildFund Ethiopia constructed a 3-classroom ECD center in Addis Ababa, and equipped the facility with supplementary books, mattresses, chairs, and tables. Previously the ECD center was dilapidated making learning, teaching and play difficult.



Before



After

This newly constructed and equipped ECD center at Tigil Lenetsanet pre-primary school in addis Ababa has two learning rooms and one napping room.

Key Achievements



Classroom Rehabilitation:

We rehabilitated 40 classrooms and offices in six pre-primary and primary schools (two in Raya and four in Kiltawlaelo), enhancing safety, accessibility, and creating a child-friendly learning environment.



Scholastic materials:

A total of 3,292 conflict-affected students received essential supplies such as exercise books, pens, pencils, and erasers, to help them continue their education.



Learning Resources:

We improved learning conditions in 14 conflict-affected schools by providing 300 desk/seat units, 300 chairs, 200 tables, 50 blackboards, 256 dusters, and 660 boxes of chalk.



Provision of supplementary reading materials:

Supplementary reading materials significantly enhance children's learning outcomes. To support this, we assessed the reading material needs of target school children and subject teachers. Based on the assessment, we procured 355 supplementary reading materials in various subjects and provided them to Tigil Lenetsanet Primary School in 2024. These resources offer students valuable reference materials that align with the content of the new education policy textbooks.

Providing assistive devices and learning aids for children and youth with special needs



ChildFund in collaboration with its local partner, Future Hope Integrated Development Organization (FHIDO), implements the "I Leader Follow-on" project in 5 high schools in the Arada Sub-City of Addis Ababa City. The project aims to create conducive learning environments for students with special needs by providing essential materials such as braille paper, slates and styluses, and white canes, helping these students achieve greater success in their education.

Through this project, 500 high school children and 31 youths with different special needs received hearing aids, white canes, headsets, recorders, flashes, slates, stiles and brail paper.

Health and Nutrition

ChildFund, in collaboration with Future Hopes Integrated Development Organization, provided food support to improve the health and nutritional status of children.

This assistance was extended to 155 parents/guardians of children under five and included essential items such as white flour, rice, and cooking oil. On average, each recipient received 10 kg of rice and 4 liters of cooking oil.

ChildFund, in collaboration with FHIDO and local health institutions, conducted health screenings for 1,516 children (738 boys and 778 girls) at 12 ECD centers and project sites throughout the year. These screenings, which included Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements, identified 43 children with moderate nutritional issues and 12 children with severe malnutrition. As a result, 55 children received nutritional supplements, including FAFA, vitamin A, and deworming tablets.



Anthropometric measurement to identify nutritional status of children at pre-school and ECD centers.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

To improve hygiene and sanitation for schools affected by conflict, ChildFund:



Rehabilitated school water systems in 8 schools, including pipeline extensions, construction and maintenance of water points, handwashing basins, and installation of water reservoirs.



Installed 3 handwashing facilities in 3 schools in Tigray to prevent communicable diseases, promote menstrual hygiene management for girls, and encourage good hygiene practices.



Constructed 10 toilets serving over 4,500 students in 6 schools across Tigray and Amhara regions.



Distributed 1,000 blankets to households affected by crises.

Supporting Menstrual Health Management for Girls in Crises

ChildFund is committed to addressing menstrual health management to enhance the health, education, and dignity of girls and women in crises. Over 500 adolescent girls received dignity kits, which include essential items such as reusable sanitary pads, underwear, laundry and body soap, and educational

information on menstrual hygiene, all packed in bags. These kits are distributed in drought and conflict affected communities, providing girls and women with the necessary materials to manage their menstruation safely and hygienically.



“Before receiving the dignity kit, I often missed school during my period because I had no proper materials to manage it. Now, with the reusable pads and the information on menstrual hygiene, I feel more confident and can attend class without worry.”

~ Alem, 15, Amhara Region.

Youth Development

ChildFund Ethiopia's programs for youth focus on three aspects:



Decent work:

Youth employment and livelihoods.



Youth sexual reproductive health:

Adolescent health and healthy behavior promotion.



Youth voices:

Meaningful youth participation and youth agency.



To empower youth for sustainable development, entrepreneurship and employment, ChildFund conducted extensive training programs to equip youth with valuable vocational skills. These encompass a wide array of disciplines including metalwork, hairdressing, woodworking, photography, mobile maintenance, tailoring, and embroidery.

Recognizing the importance of enhancing youth employability, ChildFund implemented various programs to enhance their readiness for the job market. These include comprehensive career counselling, specialized job search techniques, CV writing workshops, and interview skill training sessions.

ChildFund also forged partnerships with private enterprises to facilitate internships and apprenticeships. Through strategic alliances with local organizations such as Tesfa Birhan, Sheger, and Love for Children, we aim to provide youth with invaluable hands-on experience within local companies.

These initiatives not only broaden their skill sets but also serve as vital pathways to employment. By fostering collaboration with private enterprises, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions, and employers, we aim to align youth skills with the dynamic demands of the private sector.

Central to our approach is the enhancement of vocational training curricula to ensure alignment with the evolving needs of the job market.



Youth in Addis Ababa undergoing training on tailoring, fashion and design.

Youth Skills Development and Employment

Recognizing the importance of enhancing youth employability, ChildFund implemented various programs to enhance their readiness for the job market. In FY24, ChildFund implemented various interventions, including Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), entrepreneurship training, , business development training, and provided seed capital to enable youth engage in income generating activities and subsequently improve their livelihood .

With support from ChildFund, local partners conducted market-driven short-term skill training for enrolled youth in areas such as tailoring fashion design, obtaining driving licenses, metalwork, small business management, mobile maintenance, and rural agriculture.

Through these income-generating activities, over 1,250 young people received livelihood opportunity creation training to enhance their skills, build confidence, and develop job creation abilities. Additionally, entrepreneurship training, financial literacy programs, and access to microfinance services empowered young people to start their businesses and become self-employed.



Youth-Friendly Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) services

Ensuring youth's access to comprehensive Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) services is key to promoting their holistic well-being. One pivotal strategy involves facilitating youth access to nearby health centers, where they can receive essential health services, HIV/AIDS prevention measures, and Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) services. Through collaboration with local partners, ChildFund equipped these health facilities with the necessary clinical materials and kits, ensuring that youth can access the care they need.

These youth centers serve as invaluable platforms for delivering these services, especially given the myriad SRH challenges faced by adolescents, including teenage pregnancy, abortion, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) such as HIV.

The youth centers offer various facilities, including indoor game equipment, musical instruments, circus group mats, computers, library books, Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) materials, speakers for dance groups, and amplifiers. These youth centers serve as important hubs for young people, offering leisure activities, art, recreation, leadership development, job/life skills training, and referrals to other programs. They play a significant role in providing youth-friendly services and creating opportunities for positive youth development.

In forging partnerships with government health offices, ChildFund trained health workers on delivering standardized adolescent and youth-friendly SRH services. This effort has strengthened referral systems between health centers and youth centers, ensuring seamless access to care for young people.



Through collaboration with local partners, ChildFund equipped these health facilities with the necessary clinical materials and kits, ensuring that youth can access the care they need.

My Body, My Rights! Women embrace family planning



Kesetch, a 21-year-old lady from Makne, a small village 10 kilometers outside the town of Dilla, is transforming her life and the lives of young girls around her. With her husband, who works at a local seedling farm and earns a modest income of \$52 per month, Kesetch supports their two-year-old child. Despite the challenging circumstances, she has taken inspiring steps to build a sustainable future for her family.

"My education in family planning, gained at the youth-friendly SRH (Sexual and Reproductive Health) clinic constructed by ChildFund, is helping me change my life while I serve as a model of success to other young girls," says Kesetch. The clinic, built by ChildFund in 2021, has been a vital resource for her and other youth in the community, offering information and services that empower young people to make informed decisions about their futures.

For Kesetch, learning about family planning was a lifeline. "I decided to use birth control to manage my family's size, choosing Implanon, a long-acting method, with a plan to have a second child only when my family is financially stronger. I started using birth control to prevent another pregnancy while my child is still very young," she shares. In a community where traditional expectations often pressurize young women into early motherhood, her choice to delay another pregnancy stands out as a powerful act of independence.

In addition to caring for her family, Kesetch contributes to their income by selling coffee, bananas, salt, and onions at the local market. Twice a week, she also sells a liter of milk for about \$1 to \$2, which allows her to buy supplementary food for her child. With every small effort, Kesetch helps to stabilize her family's finances.

Kesetch is also a role model for other young women in her village. Thanks to youth leadership training at the local youth center, she now encourages girls to stay in school, build confidence, and resist social pressures to marry early. Her outreach includes teaching girls about family planning options that remain largely unfamiliar and misunderstood in the community. Kesetch actively works to dispel myths around birth control methods, explaining that they are safe and offer women more control over their lives.

ChildFund has constructed a total of 20 youth friendly SRH centres that provide services to an estimated 1,500,000 youth in 5 regions of Amhara, Addis Ababa, Central Ethiopia, Southern Ethiopia, and Oromia.

“I grew up in the Piazza area of Addis Ababa City. I grew up lacking so many things but that did not stop me from pursuing my goals. My parents did all they could to raise five children by working as casual laborers. I remember going to the ChildFund-supported kindergarten when I was young. After that I went to primary school, then high school and university, all with support from ChildFund.

I now hold a degree in public health. I believe we can give hope to many young people in our community if we address their health needs. We should train more youth in sexual reproductive health, gender equality and help to build their self-awareness and confidence. That is why I chose to study public health.

Unfortunately, I was not employed for nine months after I completed my studies. I started to work as a volunteer at a local clinic dealing with HIV, providing support and treatment to patients. Soon after, I was employed at this ChildFund-supported clinic in Arada Sub-City. I enjoy working with the youth and I am willing to help them study hard, prevent illnesses, use technology positively and create harmony between modernity and tradition. A lot of the problems affecting youth could be solved if we took reproductive health more seriously. For example, this facility serves over 200 youths every month. We come across all kinds of cases. Mostly it is issues to do with health, arising simply from a lack of knowledge and information. We also have many cases of drug and alcohol abuse.” – Hanna, 22.



Menstrual Hygiene Management



Recognizing the critical role of menstrual hygiene management in empowering adolescent girls, ChildFund and its partners stepped up the provision of 500 sets of sanitary pads. This simple yet impactful intervention has bolstered the confidence of adolescent girls, enabling them to attend school more regularly.

Local partners and youth forum members conducted peer education and awareness campaigns reaching 583 youth (363 males and 220 females). These initiatives successfully increased awareness and use of reproductive health services among over 10,000 in-school and out-of-school youth. The effective use of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials, such as brochures, and mass awareness strategies provided youth and adolescents with better information on sexual and reproductive health, associated risks, and available health services.



A lot of the problems affecting the youth could be solved if we took reproductive health more seriously.”

~ Hanna, 22.



I believe we can give hope to many young people in our community if we address their health needs. We should train more youth in sexual reproductive health, gender equality and help to build their self-awareness and confidence. ~ Hanna, 22.



ChildFund and its partners stepped up the provision of 500 sets of sanitary pads.



Local partners and youth forum members conducted peer education and awareness campaigns reaching 583 youth



The initiatives successfully increased awareness and use of reproductive health services among over 10,000 in-school and out-of-school youth.

New Youth-Friendly Health Clinic constructed in Wonago District

In partnership with ChildFund, RTN-Ethiopia built a Youth-Friendly Reproductive Health (YFRH) clinic at the Wonago district health center to improve access to reproductive and sexual health services for young people.

The clinic is designed to provide youth with accessible, acceptable, and appropriate care, including free services when needed, while respecting their specific needs. It is expected to serve over 15,000 youths in the area. To ensure sustainable operations, the clinic will have assigned professionals based on an agreement with the health office.



The clinic is designed to provide youth with accessible, acceptable, and appropriate care, including free services when needed, while respecting their specific needs.

Youth Participation

Youth centers have increased engagement by fostering responsibility, national identity, and good citizenship among young people through diverse programs. These centers encourage social responsibility by promoting volunteer work, connecting youth to national projects, keeping them informed about global events, and celebrating national milestones.

By participating in activities like tree planting, assisting the elderly, and renovating homes for the homeless, youth gained early exposure to

meaningful volunteer opportunities, building their civic identity as leaders and changemakers. Community service provides real-world experience, helping them develop habits essential for their growth.

Volunteering also offers platforms for self-expression through poetry, fiction, plays, art, music, and media, enhancing their civic engagement and impact on their communities.

The Transformative Power of Child Sponsorship - Habtamu's Story

"I lost my father when I was very young. I was just 1 year old at the time. My mother, a small trader, would sell vegetables like red pepper and other food items at the nearby small market to earn a living.

But I was very lucky to be sponsored by ChildFund at the age of 4 years. Sponsorship covered our basic needs including food expenses and buying school materials like uniforms.

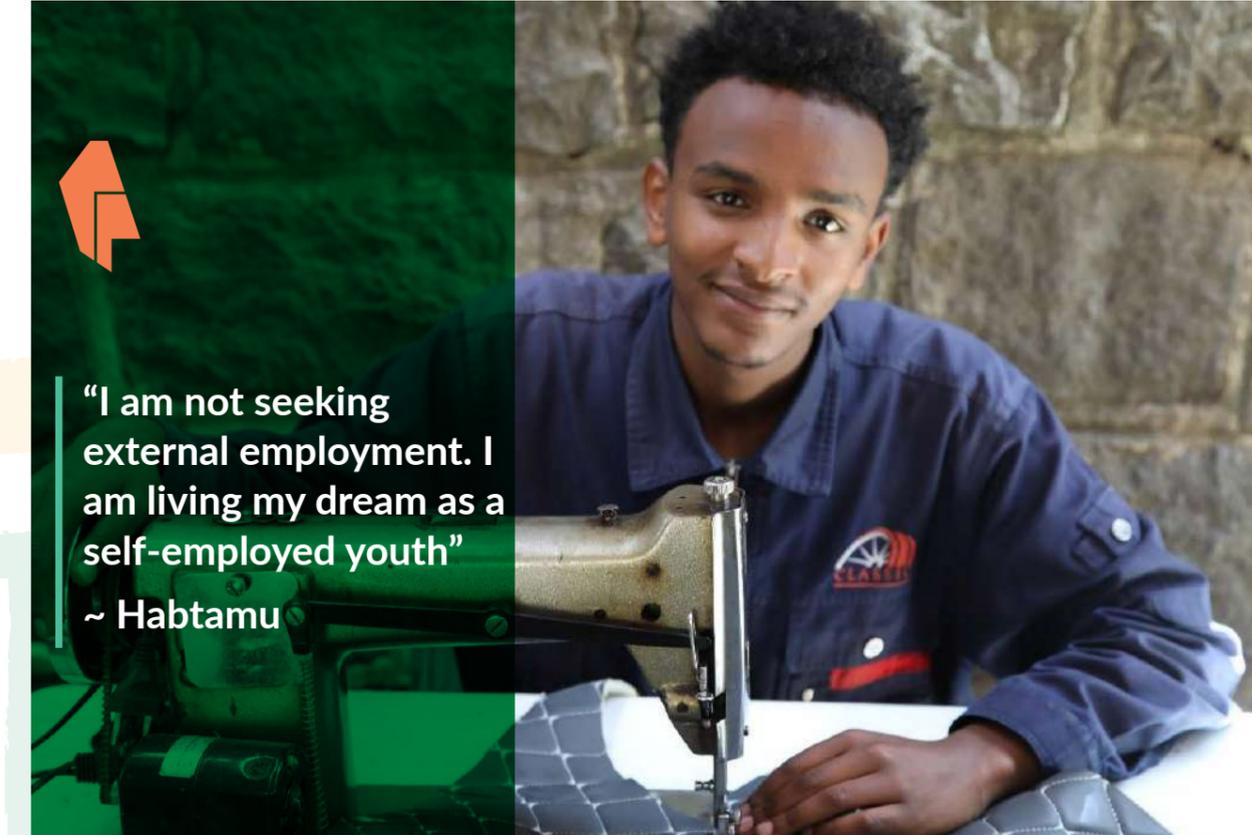
As soon as I completed 10th grade, I joined the Lideta Technical School where I learned skills for processing leather and producing leather items. Afterward, I pursued a course in entrepreneurship at a design school. Upon completing the course, I started working with my brother to produce bags, leather belts and jackets.

On seeing the effort we had, ChildFund gave us financial assistance (\$ 200) to buy a sewing machine. We also participated in a skills and business training program for youth and women. This propelled my small business to the next level. We started producing quality covers for car seats and mats. It was at this moment that the business began attracting many clients and started to grow.

I would make over \$200 every week. Because of the demand and business growth, I employed three more workers at the workshop which I still operate from my home.

My mother is my biggest supporter, always cheering me on. And today I am so proud of myself that I can provide for her financially so that she never lacks essential things.

I am not seeking employment. I am living my dream as a self-employed youth. My plan now is to rent a workshop so that I can move this business to a bigger space and produce more.



"I am not seeking external employment. I am living my dream as a self-employed youth"
~ Habtamu

Without the financial and material support from ChildFund, who knows, I could be in the street, like so many other youths struggling to find a decent livelihood." Says Habtamu, 24, from Addis Ababa.

Habtamu was supported by Future Hope Development Organization, a ChildFund Ethiopia Local partner through the child sponsorship program. Through sponsorship, he was supported to pursue his preschool, primary, high school and tertiary education. He was also equipped with a sewing machine.



Food Security, Climate Action and Resilience Building

Climate change can have a devastating impact on people's food security and livelihoods. Regions that once enjoyed surplus harvests of fruits and vegetables are now increasingly plagued by prolonged droughts and floods. This not only reduces income and food production but also places immense stress on families, leading them to make desperate decisions.

To help communities build resilience, secure their livelihoods and have access to nutritious foods, ChildFund implemented the following:

Financial Empowerment through Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs):

A total of 90 VSLAs with 1,800 members saved ETB 1,158.94 per member, adopted regular cash-saving habits, and strengthened social ties. They accessed ETB 1,582,180 in loans, aiding numerous income-generating activities and business ventures.

Climate Smart Agriculture:

Modern climate-smart farming practices were introduced, including improved cultivation methods, composting, using drought-resistant crops, and advanced pre- and post-harvest technologies. Communities also established tree nurseries to support producing food crops (fruits) and other tree seedlings.

Nutritional and Agricultural Support for Child Health:

Women were trained on the preparation of nutritious infant food. They also engaged in dairy goat farming, beekeeping, including processing, packaging, and marketing to improve child health and household nutrition.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Improvements:

ChildFund enhanced water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) by drilling shallow wells, installing/extending water pipes, harvesting rainwater from roofs, and building community latrines.

Natural Resource Management and Climate Adaptation:

The community actively practiced natural resource protection, reduced deforestation, and engaged in reforestation and erosion control. Women used energy-efficient stoves, and disadvantaged students were provided with solar lamps.

Humanitarian Response

The compounded effects of climatic shocks, conflict, and related displacement continued to generate high levels of humanitarian need across Ethiopia. According to the UN, more than 21 million people require humanitarian aid in 2024.

Since November 2021, the Amhara region has been experiencing a severe humanitarian crisis driven by internal armed conflict, multiple disease outbreaks, and the adverse effects of climate change, including both drought and flooding.

The conflict that erupted in Ethiopia’s Tigray region in November 2020 has led to a massive humanitarian crisis, with the aid community struggling to provide adequate support. An estimated 4.5 million people, roughly two-thirds of Tigray’s population, are currently in need of humanitarian assistance.

Across Ethiopia, the prevalence of malnutrition, underweight, and wasting was 44%, 29%, and 10% respectively. The Amhara region has the highest rates of malnutrition at 52%, 33.4%, and 9.9% for children under five.

In FY24, ChildFund implemented several crucial projects in the conflict-affected regions of Tigray and Amhara, focusing on emergency response, rehabilitation, and long-term recovery to support vulnerable populations. These projects are:

Tigray Education in Emergency Project:

The project has been implemented from July 2023- June 2024, funded by ChildFund International, Children Believe Fund (CBF) , and ChildFund German with \$ 243,510.65 USD. We addressed 8,500 people including 3,400 Children in Kiltawlaelo Woreda of Eastern Zone of Tigray Region.

Protection and Education in Emergency and Recovery Project (PEER):

July 2023 – December 2024, funded by Radiohjälpen through Barnfonden with \$400,000 USD. This project supported over 20,000 people (8,000 boys and girls) in the Amhara Region, North Wello Zone, Raya District.

Joining Forces on Child Protection in Emergency Project (CPIE):

July 2022 – June 2024, funded by the German Foreign Fund Office (GFFO) with USD 600,000. The project covers Amhara Region, North and South Wello Zones, across five Woredas, reaching 146,366 people, including 95,000 children.



The conflict that erupted in Ethiopia’s Tigray region in November 2020 has led to a massive humanitarian crisis, with the aid community struggling to provide adequate support.

Child Sponsorship

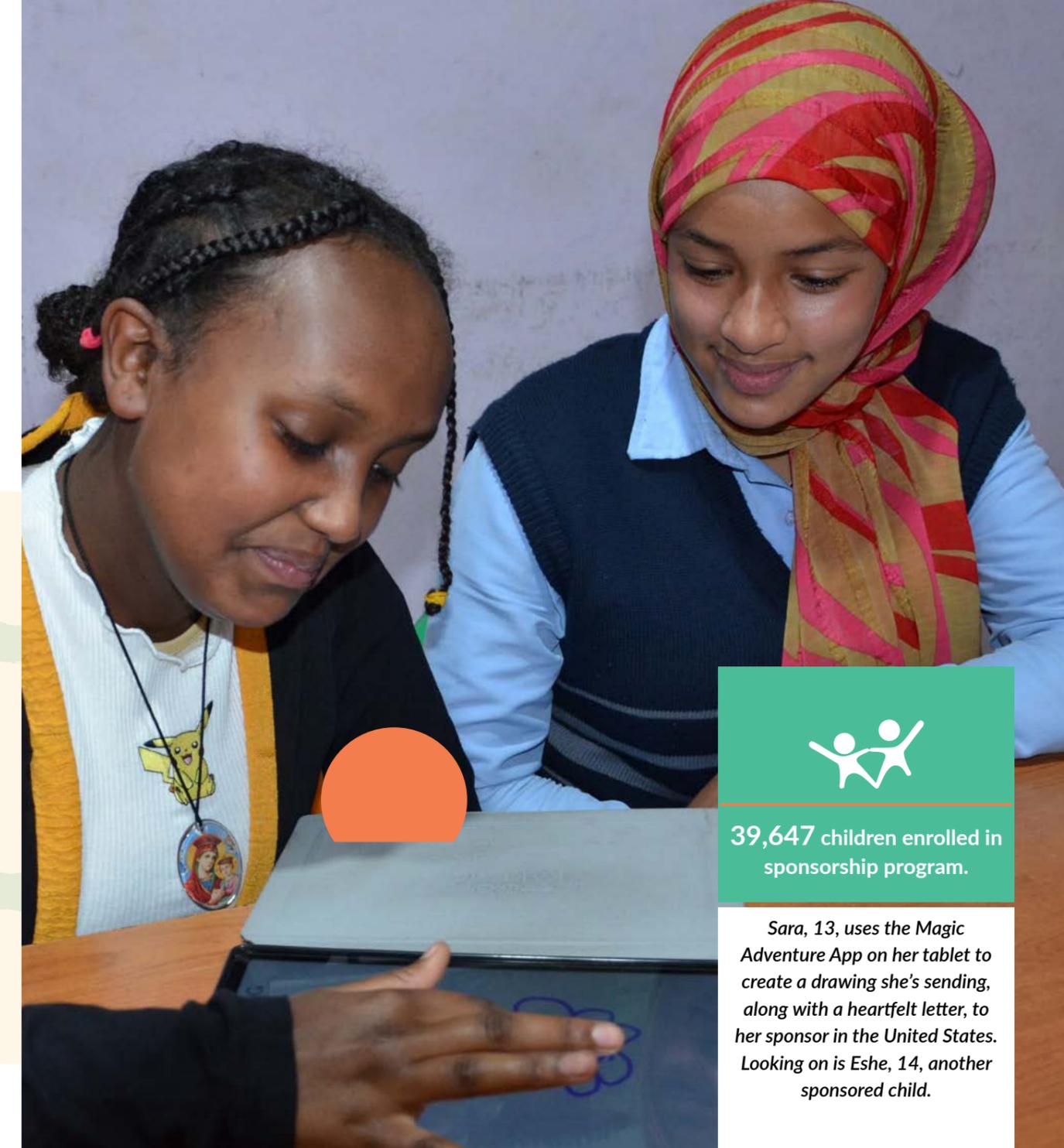
Our child sponsorship program enables sponsors from all over the world to support children, their families and entire communities – helping children to grow up healthy, educated, skilled and safe.

This program creates an opportunity for sponsors to personally connect with a child, their family, and the broader community in need.

By empowering these children and their communities, the program helps them work toward lasting solutions to break free from poverty.

ChildFund Ethiopia is supporting 39,647 children enrolled in its sponsorship program. The children are located in Addis Ababa City Administration, Amhara, Oromia, Central Ethiopia and South Ethiopia regional states. The number of children enrolled from different regional states is depicted in the table below.

ChildFund Ethiopia is supporting 39,647 children enrolled in its sponsorship Program. The children are located in four regions of the country: Addis Ababa, Oromia, and the Southern region.



39,647 children enrolled in sponsorship program.

Sara, 13, uses the Magic Adventure App on her tablet to create a drawing she’s sending, along with a heartfelt letter, to her sponsor in the United States. Looking on is Eshe, 14, another sponsored child.

Child Sponsorship by Region

Regions	Number of enrolled children
Addis Ababa	13,610
Amhara	3,259
Oromia	12,472
Central and South regions	10,306
Total	39,647

Sponsorship by Life Stage

Life Stage	Number of enrolled children
Life Stage 1: 0-5 years old	5,888
Life Stage 2: 6-14 years old	24,628
Life Stage 3: 15-24 years old	9,131

In addition to subsidy fund contributed by sponsors, the fund that has been used to implement program sectors for each life stage (health and nutrition, early childhood development, based education, youth development, household economic strengthening, and child protection), about 30 million ETB was used to directly support sponsored children and their families.

Our sponsorship program is supported by our committed individual donors (sponsors) from USA, Korea, Sweden, Australia, Taiwan, Germany, France, Ireland, and New Zealand.

Sponsorship by Country

Country	Number of Sponsors
USA	11,956
Korea	5,371
Sweden	4,292
Australia	3,318
Taiwan	1,842
Germany	1,451
France	843
Ireland	341
New Zealand	111
Total	29,525

In addition to subsidy fund contributed by sponsors, the fund that has been used to implement program sectors for each life stage (health and nutrition, early childhood development, based education, youth development, household economic strengthening, and child protection), about 30 million ETB was used to directly support sponsored children and their families.

I successfully completed 10th grade thanks to ChildFund Ethiopia’s sponsorship program, which provided financial assistance for my education and medical support for my family. Later, they gave me farming tools that enabled me to do animal husbandry and coffee farming. I now earn an income that helps support both myself and my family.” - Andinet, 22, Dilla.

From Struggles to Success: Andinet’s Journey of Resilience and Growth

I am Andinet, a 22-year-old from near Dilla in Southern Ethiopia. ChildFund Ethiopia has been part of my life since I was six, and their support has helped me build a future I am proud of. Today, I am engaged in animal husbandry and coffee and banana farming, earning an income that helps support both myself and my family.

I am the eldest of five siblings. When I was just 7, we lost our mother, and my father, who works as a guard, earns only about \$6 per month—nowhere near enough to cover all our family’s needs. Thanks to the income from my small business, I can help my father and provide for my two sisters and two brothers.

I successfully completed 10th grade thanks to ChildFund Ethiopia’s sponsorship program, which provided financial assistance for my education and medical support for my family. Later, I received farming tools that enabled me to engage in animal husbandry and coffee farming. Through these activities, I now earn an income that helps support both myself and my family.

With their help, I purchased 1,000 square meters of land, planted 100 coffee trees, and added 50 false banana seedlings. I even managed to renovate our old thatched-roof cottage, replacing it with a sturdy tin roof. With the remaining funds, I bought a cow to support my livestock business. In total, ChildFund’s support has been worth about \$1,931.

In addition to farming, I now transport goods and passengers on my motorcycle, earning around \$4 a day, from which I save \$2. Before, I didn’t own land or a house, and now I have both, along with current savings of \$517. My next goal is to start a cattle trading business, which I believe will help improve my family’s standard of living even further. I currently earn around \$129 a month, and I plan to use the milk from my cow for both family consumption and selling at the market.



While I have been able to change my life, I see many young people in my community facing tough challenges. Too often, they leave their studies to find work in distant towns like Yabello, Moyale, and Bule Hora. These jobs, as day laborers or hotel workers, offer very low wages that don’t really help them build a stable future.

To these young people, I say: stay in school and, if possible, start small businesses. With persistence and support, like the help I received from ChildFund, it’s possible to build a better future.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

In FY24, ChildFund successfully implemented a digital Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) platform called CAMEL-DHIS2 (Comprehensive Approach for Monitoring and Evaluation), which supported the program and project management cycle. The platform combined various applications to facilitate data collection, planning, reporting, analysis, and dissemination across all sectors. It also provided hierarchical and procedural roles for multilevel users to interact with digital forms, automating the organization's manual M&E processes.

In addition, ChildFund applied a well-designed M&E system to measure program results (outcomes and impact) in a timely manner, aiding decision-making, planning, and quality improvement at both the Country Office and Local Partner levels. This system operated annually to measure Theory of Change (TOC) indicators and Child Verification System (CVS) standards, utilizing CommCare on Android devices and software applications. Relevant Local Partners and Country

Office staff received capacity-building training on the application of the MEL platform, including CAMEL-DHIS2.

The MEL team also coordinated supportive supervision across thirteen Local Partners in collaboration with stakeholders. This initiative promoted a learning and feedback system among ChildFund Ethiopia and its partners to enhance the quality of program services delivered to target community members, children, and families. Technical support was provided to Local Partners, engaging them in the development of survey protocols and evaluation tools for baseline studies, rapid assessments, midterm reviews, and end-line evaluations.

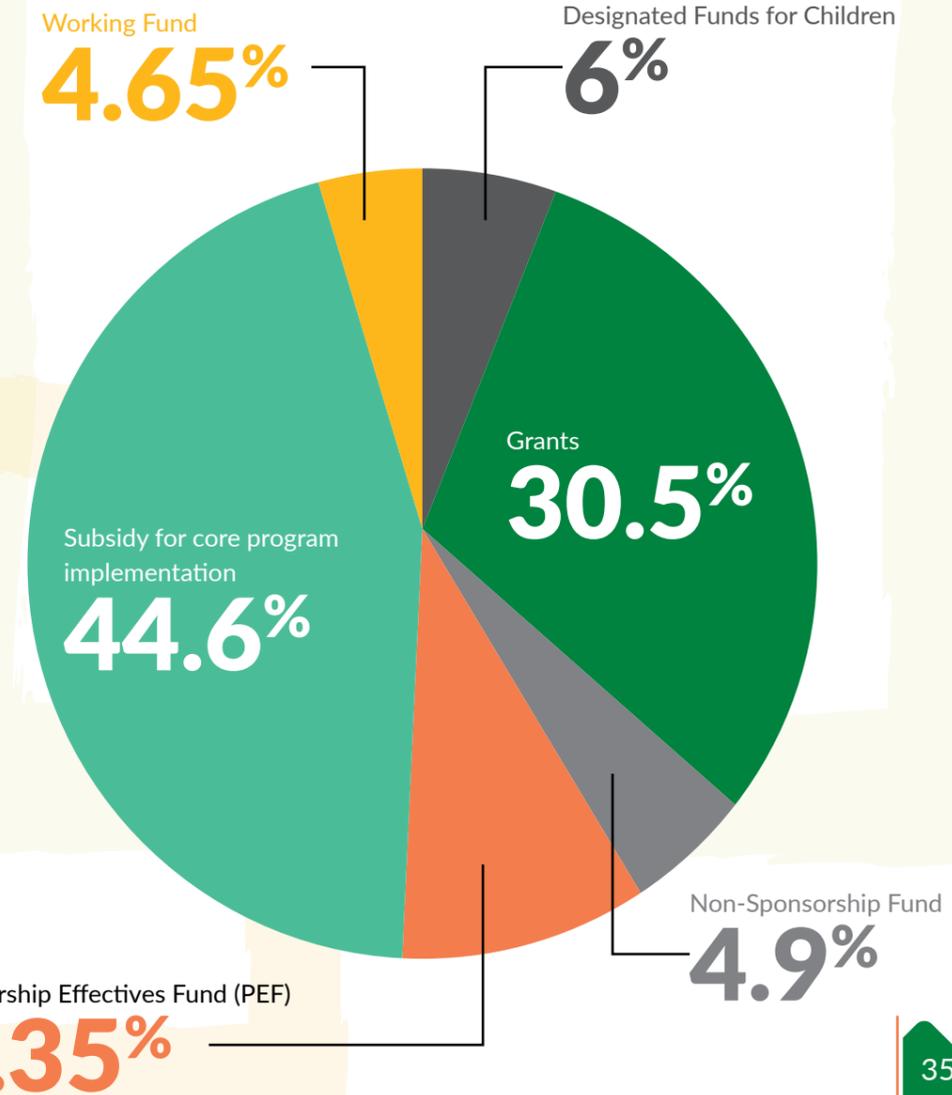
The team also coordinated data collection, analysis, and report writing for grant projects. These reports were documented and shared with donors and other stakeholders to inform program development and support management decision-making processes.



In FY24, ChildFund successfully implemented a digital Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) platform called CAMEL-DHIS2 (Comprehensive Approach for Monitoring and Evaluation), which supported the program and project management cycle. The platform combined various applications to facilitate data collection, planning, reporting, analysis, and dissemination across all sectors.

Financials

Source of Funding	Expenditure (USD)
Designated Funds for Children	525,382
Grants	2,678,144
Non-Sponsorship Fund	430,996
Partnership Effectives Fund (PEF)	819,294
Subsidy for core program implementation	3,916,918
Working Fund	408,233
Total	8,778,968



Grants

Grant Project Name	Funding Source	Back Donor	2024 budget (USD)
SIAGER Sustainable Food Security Project	ChildFund Germany	BMZ	260,421.29
Securing Environmental and Child-friendly Understandings by Strengthening Rights-based Empowerment	Barnfonden; (ChildFund Sweden)	Radiohjälpen	76,316.46
CIRCLEd - Community-Integrated Response to Child Labour in Ethiopia, Dugda- Nagalcha!	Barnfonden (ChildFund Sweden)	Barnfonden (ChildFund Sweden)	194,506.13
Pamoja: Advocacy for Collective Action on Climate Change, Sustainable Agriculture	Barnfonden (ChildFund- Sweden)	ForumSyd	11,667.63
PEER-Eth (Protection and Education in Emergency and Recovery) Leader Follow on Project	Barnfonden (ChildFund Sweden)	Radiohjälpen	362,967.85
GrOW Project	ChildFund Korea	ChildFund Korea	114,715.51
Development Research Centre) Canada	IDRC (International		
Development Research Centre) Canada	IDRC (International		
Livelihood III Project	96,560.78		
Livelihood IV Project	ChildFund Germany	BMZ	194,294.71
Chil Protection in Emergencies	ChildFund Germany	BMZ	154,669.41
Joining Forces CPIE Project	ChildFund Korea	ChildFund Korea	626.23
Fighting Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse	ChildFund Germany	GFFO	679,374.67
Safe Shelter Project	ChildFund Korea	ChildFund Korea	69,835.00
Enhancing Access to Quality ECD & Primary Education Project	ChildFund France	Un Enfant Par la Main	21,306.00
Orthopedic Support Project	ChildFund Korea	ChildFund Korea	76,246.00
Play Matters Emergency Response Mechanisms Project	CAF America	Dow Chemicals	3,045.25
Joint Education in Emergencies Project	International Rescue Committee	Lego Foundation	103,045.77
	Children Believe	Children Believe	73,119.00
Total			2,492,717.69

Investment by Sector

Local Partner	Health & Sanitation	Nutrition	Early Childhood Development	Education	Youth Development & Livelihood Improvement	Emergencies	Direct Support to Children (DFC)	Program Support & Cross-cutting Interventions	Total
Sodo CFDCO	22,215	4,022	28,507	116,212	57,384	2,029	35,904	41,176	307,450
Aynage CFDO	57,217	4,858	86,349	88,747	39,983	-	78,072	98,947	454,172
Reach The Needy	32,855	6,450	146,643	40,722	32,541	5,930	46,238	63,378	374,757
CCFO	25,885	-	78,476	74,842	23,693	10,845	41,918	68,437	324,097
Dugda CFCO	27,757	5,603	69,443	94,085	68,081	1,177	79,185	120,265	465,596
FGO	13,692	3,269	23,949	88,418	42,801	8,419	32,981	86,556	300,085
Tesfa Berhan	9,262	3,562	68,304	76,399	49,900	-	32,644	90,199	330,270
Siraro CFDA	15,765	2,872	23,254	16,831	30,751	15,994	26,214	117,368	249,049
FHIDO	56,400	16,653	81,924	65,508	81,632	7,271	53,578	129,148	492,116
EOC - CFDFCO	16,402	4,178	26,667	66,648	33,633	12,979	17,246	44,218	221,972
Love for Children	21,950	7,161	46,363	62,644	38,139	-	31,918	72,44	280,618
AIDO	22,025	5,509	28,443	85,637	50,565	13,286	25,441	60,770	291,678
Chora CCFD	39,644	40,201	48,603	18,529	72,593	516	23,743	80,535	324,365
Total	361,070	104,337	756,926	895,224	621,695	78,446	525,084	1,073,442	4,416,225



Our Team

ChildFund Ethiopia's Senior Management Team and every staff member are dedicated to the organization's vision of achieving a world in which children realize their rights and achieve their full potential.

Our staff participated in a mass sports and team-building exercise organized by the Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA), which ChildFund is a member, to commemorate the consortium's 50th anniversary. The CCRDA strives to strengthen members' efforts toward effective national and community development through advocacy, networking, partnership, and capacity strengthening. We participated in the event to demonstrate our commitment to the principles of volunteerism and humanitarian work.



No	Name	Position
1	Lilly Omondi	Country Director
2	Lemma Asfaw	Director, Program and Sponsorship
3	Sisay Worku	Manager II, Emergency Program
4	Theodros Fantahun	Manager Sr., Accounting, GSS
5	Dereje Habteselassie	Manager Sr., Safety & Security
6	Natan Tilahun	Manager Sr., Project
7	Sara Negussie	Manager Sr., Human Resources
8	Ruth Tefera	Manager Sr., Administration
9	Habtamu Gebremedhin	Manager Sr., Resource Mobilization
10	Roza Ashenafi	Manager, Sponsorship Quality
11	Assefa Balcha	Specialist Sr., ME & KML
12	Admassu Wondafrash	Specialist Sr., Youth Engagement
13	Ali Siraje	Officer II, Project
14	Alemu Zemene	Specialist, Resource Mobilization and Fundraising
15	Almaz Weldegebriel Medhanye	Officer II, Finance and Administration
16	Fekadu Abiye	Specialist, Communication
17	Belay Getahun	Officer Sr., Grants Finance
18	Muna Gezahegn	Specialist, Program
19	Hailu Yazew	Officer Sr., Finance
20	Shibru Fekadu	Specialist, Program
21	Gebrie Melkamu	Officer II, Finance and Administration
22	Tesfaye Tilahun	Specialist, Women Economic Empowerment
23	Ali Muzeyien	Officer, Grant Finance
24	Amare Feyissa	Specialist, Education
25	Wubshet Matheos	Specialist, Sponsorship
26	Brnesh Atsbeha	Sr. Field Coordinator
27	Mebrahtu Abadi Gebretsion	Coordinator Sr., Program
28	Mesele Hailu	Coordinator Sr., Project
29	Bethelhem Assefa	Officer, Procurement
30	Debitu Gamo	Officer, Sponsorship

No	Name	Position
31	Yishak Zekarias	Accountant, GSS
32	Tesfa Mariye	Coordinator, Project
33	Dinkayehu Arega	Officer, Child Protection
34	Seifemichael Berhanu	Coordinator Sr., Project
35	Elisabeth Ashagrie	Officer, Finance
36	Kalayu Weldu	Coordinator, Project
37	Lidia Dechassa	Officer, Sponsorship
38	Misganaye Amare	Officer, HR
39	Gashaw Aliye	Community Mobilizer II
40	Sintayehu Derseh	Officer, Sponsorship
41	Haregeweyni Gebrehawerya	Sr. Community Mobilizer
42	Yilma Bekele	Analyst II (Lead), IT Support, GSS
43	Tekeste G/Giorgis	Sr. Community Mobilizer
44	Ashenafi Dagne	Assistant II, Procurement
	Meseret Hailu	Officer, Partnership Portfolio
	Tsegzeab Simur	Sr. Community Mobilizer
	Alemayehu Urgi	Senior Driver
	Tekalign Tolera	Officer II, Grant Finance
	Mesfin Getahun	Senior Driver
	Teshome Negash	Accountant II, GSS
	Mikreselassie Bahiru	Senior Driver
	Fikrte Teshome	Senior Receptionist
	Amanuel Tameru	Assistant, Finance
	Lwam Assefa	Assistant, Finance
	Beselfua Woldehanna	Clerk, Store
	Tesfamichael Gebremedhin	Senior Driver
	Yohannes Kassahun	Senior Driver
	Yehuwalashet Shiferaw	Driver
	Gebeyaw Getu	Driver
	Dereje Haile	Driver/Mechanic

Development Partners

barnfonden

ChildFund
Deutschland

ChildFund
Alliance


WORLD BANK GROUP

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Korea


educo
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 Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

CAF
America


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par la Main**
Membre de ChildFund Alliance


DOW


The **LEGO** Foundation

 **IDRC · CRDI**
International Development Research Centre
Centre de recherches pour le développement international

Canada

Ensemble, construisons leur avenir !


**Children
Believe**


**INTERNATIONAL
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Because we need each other.

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