

Gender-Based Violence, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support



Background

Gender-Based Violence, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support project is dedicated to eradicating violence against women and supporting the social reintegration of survivors, while also addressing the needs of individuals with mental health challenges.

Financially supported by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and implemented in Kemise (Amhara), Asayita (Afar), Shire (Tigray), and the Gefersa Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (Oromia), the project aims to enhance the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), improve mental health services, and strengthen social reintegration support.

By adopting a rights-based and survivor-centered approach, the project works to improve the accessibility and quality of services for survivors of GBV and individuals facing mental health challenges. Through these efforts, the project will strive to create lasting, positive impacts on both individuals lives and communities in the targeted intervention areas.

Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia is implementing the project in partnership with Oxfam Ethiopia, which leads the implementation in Shire, Tigray region.

For over 60 years, Oxfam Ethiopia has supported humanitarian, development, and advocacy efforts, responding to crises like droughts and conflict. Guided by its vision of a just world without poverty, Oxfam adapts to the country's evolving needs. Under its 2021-2030 strategy, it uses a One Programme Approach that combines emergency aid with long-term solutions, aiming to help communities move from crisis to self-reliance while addressing the root causes of poverty and injustice.



Theory of Change

If communities are equipped with knowledge on SGBV and mental health through awareness campaigns, and if local health infrastructures, safe spaces, and social reintegration programs are strengthened, then survivors of GBV and individuals with mental health conditions will have improved access to quality support services. This, in turn, will lead to long-term societal change in reducing GBV prevalence and promoting mental health well-being.

Expected Outcomes

1. Increased Prevention and Response to SGBV

- Improved prevention and response mechanisms to SGBV.
- Strengthened healthcare and psychosocial support services.

2. Strengthened Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS)

- Enhanced community-based mental health care services.
- Reinforced One-Stop Centers and rehabilitation centers.

3. Enhanced Coordination and Community Engagement

- Increased collaboration among key stakeholders.
- Improved awareness and community-driven interventions to address SGBV and mental health issues.