



Kefeta Youth SACCO

Empowering Youth. Enabling Change

Introduction



Kefeta Youth Saving and Credit Cooperative (Kefeta Youth SACCO) is Ethiopia's first and only nationally licensed youth-led, youth-owned, and youth-managed financial institution. It was established through the visionary support and technical leadership of Amref Health Africa under the USAID Kefeta project, which aimed to unlock the economic potential of Ethiopian youth through innovative and sustainable pathways.

Amref Health Africa played a foundational role—from conceptualization to institutionalization—by mobilizing partners, building youth capacity in cooperative governance and financial literacy, and navigating regulatory frameworks to achieve national licensing. The SACCO stands as a landmark achievement in youth economic empowerment, showcasing the power of youth-led systems when anchored in strong institutional support.

Launched initially in 13 cities, the city-level SACCOs were unified into a national entity on February 14, 2024, transforming into Kefeta Youth SACCO, headquartered in Addis Ababa. The SACCO now operates in 18 cities, providing tailored financial services that meet the evolving needs of its young members.

Vision, Mission & Core

Values

To become a premier cooperative society that ensures the long-term social and economic well-being of its members by 2030.

Mission

To enhance youth access to finance through inclusive, innovative financial products and transformative capacity-building programs.

Core Values

- **Youth leadership** – Empowered by the passion and potential of young people.
- **Inclusion** – Committed to diversity, equity, and accessibility.
- **Adaptability** – Agile in responding to evolving needs and opportunities.
- **Self-reliance** – Promoting sustainable independence through financial empowerment.

 **14,000** Youth members mobilized

 **200** Million birr mobilized in member savings

 **222** Million birr disbursed in loans

 **1,350+** Youth directly supported to launch businesses, pursue education, and improve their livelihoods



Organizational Structure

- **Management committee** = seven members elected by general assembly (has other three members on waiting list for replacement).
- **Monitoring committee** = three members (has other three members on waiting list for replacement).

Membership Requirement

- **Registration fee** = 500 ETB.
- Purchase six shares at 250 ETB (total 1600 ETB).
- **Minimum monthly regular saving** = 500 ETB.

Loan Products

- Business startup and expansion.
- Education and skill development.

- Health and personal development.
- Vehicle.
- Fast loans (with higher interest rate for less than 12 months).

Key Features

- Eligible for loan after six months of consistent saving.
- Borrow up to 30% of total saving balance.
- Competitive interest rate 12 to 15 % depending on loan types.
- Fast track loans for non-members with higher interest rate.
- Credit life insurance for added protection.
- Sheria compliant saving and loan options.