



# Our Shared Journey in Ethiopia

Celebrating the stories of change and lasting impact made possible through our partnership.





## Our Roots in Africa, Our Commitment to Ethiopia

**Amref Health Africa** is the largest African-based and led international health development organization, serving over 30 million people annually across 35 countries.



**Our Vision:** To bring lasting health change in Africa.



**Our Mission:** To catalyze community-led and people-centered health systems.



**In Ethiopia:** Active since the 1960s and fully operational since 2002, partnering with government and communities.



**Our Reach in 2025:** Our work spans 205 districts and 700 health facilities across every region of the country.



## A Note on Our Partnership

We wanted to take a moment to share a collection of stories that reflect the heart of our work together in Ethiopia. Since 2016, the partnership between Amref Health Africa and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation has been more than just a series of projects; it has been a catalyst for real, human change.

This collection is a celebration of that shared commitment—a look at the lives touched and the communities strengthened through your invaluable support.

Let's look at what we've accomplished, together.

# A Global Network for Local Impact

Our work in Ethiopia is powered by a globally networked structure. The Amref Health Africa in Italy office is a vital part of this ecosystem.

- ✓ **Raising Funds:** Securing the critical resources that make these projects possible.
- ✓ **Building Awareness:** Engaging the Italian government and private sector.
- ✓ **Advocacy:** Championing the cause for improved health in Africa.
- ✓ **Technical Support:** Providing expertise to support our interventions on the ground.

Your team is a crucial link between Italian generosity and lasting change in Ethiopian communities.



# A Partnership Forged Over a Decade

Our collaboration has grown consistently delivering on its objectives and touching lives.



# The Blueprint for Impact: Our Active Projects Together

The stories you've seen are born from a strategic, multi-faceted portfolio of projects designed to address the interconnected challenges communities face. Here is a snapshot of our active initiatives, each one a pillar of our shared commitment.



## IMPACT

Improving health and social conditions for vulnerable groups in South Ethiopia.



## Equal Access

Creating economic opportunities for migrants, IDPs, and host communities.



## RELIEF

Delivering lifesaving interventions for IDPs in conflict-affected South Wollo.



## GBV & Mental Health

Eradicating violence against women and supporting survivors.



## Read

Empowering children's wellbeing and education in the Gamo highlands.



# Empowering People, Building Resilience



## Equal Access to Social and Economic Opportunities

**Goal:** Improve living conditions and create employment for migrants, IDPs, refugees, and host communities in Addis Ababa & Debre Birhan.

**Approach:** Addresses root causes of irregular migration through social and economic integration and promoting safer migration practices.

**Timeline:** March 2025 - Feb 2028

## RELIEF: Resilience, Emergency, Lifesaving Interventions

**Context:** Responding to a multifaceted humanitarian crisis for IDPs in South Wollo due to conflict and drought.

**Approach:** A multi-sectoral initiative strengthening community health, nutrition, WASH, and protection for vulnerable families in 5 IDP camps and host communities.

**Timeline:** May 2025 - Aug 2026

# Protecting the Vulnerable, Investing in the Future

## Gender-Based Violence, Mental Health & Psychosocial Support

**Goal:** Eradicate violence against women and support survivors' reintegration.

**Approach:** Enhances prevention of SGBV and improves accessibility/quality of mental health services using a survivor-centered approach in Amhara, Afar, Tigray, and Oromia.

**Timeline:** April 2025 - Feb 2027

## Read - Community Empowerment for Children's Wellbeing

**Context:** Addressing lack of basic services and quality schools in the remote Gamo highlands.

**Approach:** Implemented in eight schools, focusing on empowering vulnerable students and improving access to quality basic services through multisectoral collaboration.

**Timeline:** June 2022 - Dec 2025



# From Being Left Behind to Leading the Way

## The Story of Otie Ayika

Otie Ayika, a mother and a person living with a disability, once faced social exclusion and deep poverty. As the sole provider for her family of five, her future seemed locked. Through our joint IMPACT project, Otie was connected with an income-generating group. She received training, invested her first earnings in goats, and began saving. Today, she runs a growing livestock business, has saved ETB 5,000, and is a role model in her community.

*“I had never received such an amount of money in my life. The IMPACT project has transformed my circumstances, and my life will never be the same. Now, I can stand on my own and care for my children.”*





# The Engine of Change: The IMPACT Project

Otie's transformation was made possible by the **IMPACT** project (Multisectoral Intervention to Increase Access to Health), funded by AICS. Implemented in the remote Hammer woreda of South Ethiopia from 2024-2026, IMPACT is designed to bridge critical gaps in community well-being. It's a holistic initiative that integrates:



## Health & Nutrition

Improving conditions for women, children, and persons with disabilities.



## Economic Empowerment

Creating income-generating opportunities and financial inclusion.



## Education, WASH & Protection

Building a comprehensive support system for vulnerable households.

# Cultivating Hope Across an Entire Community

The Hamer people are traditionally pastoralists, vulnerable to food insecurity from erratic rainfall. The IMPACT project introduced home gardening as a practical solution. We worked with the agricultural office to support 46 model households with tools, seeds, and training. Today, these families have more diverse meals, better nutrition for their children, and can sell surplus produce for extra income.



## Asi Muga's Story

After losing all her assets to drought, Asi Muga used the home gardening initiative to earn over ETB 12,000 in one season, which she used to purchase new goats and restart her livelihood.

*"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Amref Health Africa, the IMPACT project team, and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) for their invaluable support in transforming the lives of the Hamer community."*

— Community Members, Ariya Kayasa kebele.



# A Journey Home to a New Beginning

## Yerom's Story of Resilience

Poverty pushed Yerom, a new mother, to migrate to the Middle East. After four years of abuse and desperation, she returned to Ethiopia with meager savings. She joined a Solid Waste Collectors Cooperative, but initial earnings were just 600 ETB/month. She was about to give up.

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### The Turning Point

That's when Amref, with your support, stepped in. We provided ETB 200,000 in seed money, skills training in entrepreneurship and financial management, and helped the cooperative buy their own truck, saving them ETB 65,000 a month in rental fees.

*“Our monthly income started to soar. I now earn 3,500 ETB per month... I am raising my children in my country. My dream is to be an entrepreneur because now I have hope.”*



## Choosing Opportunity Over a Perilous Journey

### Asfaw's Story of Entrepreneurship

Asfaw Ashinafe, a university graduate, was unemployed for four years. He was planning to migrate to Europe when he was selected for a plumbing training program organized by Amref. He received 30 days of practical training, entrepreneurship skills, and a set of working tools.

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*I felt lucky that I am now a skilled plumber... I am currently earning an average income of ETB 500 - 700 per day. Not only did my life change, but I started to create jobs for others. I have a vision to become a licensed contractor.*

# The Journey Continues, Together


As we reflect on our progress, we are encouraged, but we also know important gaps remain. Health systems still need to work better, and communities must be empowered to ask for and receive affordable, high-quality care.

Your steadfast support is the key to strengthening community-led health systems and creating real impact on the ground. Together, we can continue to build a healthier Ethiopia where every community has the chance to thrive.





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