



TENA LESELAM PROJECT - 2026

OUR STORIES OF CHANGE

| Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia

LASTING HEALTH CHANGE IN AFRICA

About Amref Health Africa

Amref Health Africa is the largest African-based and led international health development organization serving over 30 million people annually across 35 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Strategically engaging with communities, governments, and local partners for the past 65 years, we work through our European and North American network of sister organizations on program implementation, advocacy, fundraising and partnership. Our subsidiaries include Amref Flying Doctors, Amref Enterprises Limited, and the Amref International University. Our organization is driven by its vision to bring lasting health change in Africa and its mission to catalyze and drive community-led and people-centered health systems while addressing social determinants of health.

Amref has been active in Ethiopia since the 1960s and became fully operational as of 2002. We have been partnering with the Ethiopian government and local communities to co-create solutions and implement diverse health and development project portfolios throughout the country for over twenty-two years, serving women and children, reaching the most disadvantaged, inaccessible communities including pastoralist communities and placing an emphasis on youth development.

Our programs are designed to support community level interventions while strengthening health systems at the regional and national levels.

Tena Leselam Project

Tena Le-Selam — meaning Health Care for Peace Project is a three-year initiative dedicated to improving the health and nutrition of women, children and adolescent girls in conflict-affected districts of Ethiopia's Amhara region.

With financial support from the National Postcode Lottery of the Netherlands, the project places strong focus on women, children and youth, not only because they are among the most vulnerable during crises, but also because they are powerful agents of change in building healthier and more peaceful communities. Through targeted interventions, Tena Le-Selam aims to:

- Reduce the adverse effects of conflict on health and nutrition
- Create safe and supportive environments for recovery and resilience
- Strengthen and complement ongoing development efforts across the region

By investing in people, health and peace, Tena Le-Selam contributes to a safer and healthier environment for communities affected by conflict. The project is also expected to create a catalytic effect, reinforcing existing development initiatives in the region and beyond.

Our Stories of Change

A Place Where Survivors Can Breathe Again – Kombolcha One-Stop-Center

For Rahmet Yibka, coordinating the newly constructed one-stop center is more than a professional responsibility. It is deeply emotional work. Every survivor who walks through the door carries pain, fear and courage. For Fatuma and her team, the center has become a place where silence begins to break and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence receive care, protection and support to begin healing.

Rahmet has served as coordinator of the one-stop center for about three years. Before the new building was constructed, the team provided services under very difficult conditions. They worked from small rooms within the hospital, often sharing space with other departments. When SGBV cases came, they supported survivors; when there were no cases, they returned to their regular duties.

There was no proper waiting area and no separate resting space for children and adults. Survivors sometimes had to sit on chairs for long hours while waiting for services. As more cases came, the shortage of space became even more difficult. At one point, one room was used as a resting area for both adults and children, which was uncomfortable and sometimes unsafe.

“The hardest part was knowing that survivors needed comfort, privacy and safety, but we did not always have the space to give them that,” Fatuma recalled. “We did our best with what we had, but the need was much bigger than the rooms we were using.”

The lack of space also affected protection. Survivors sometimes arrived with family members, police officers or others. Without a structured waiting area, it was difficult to immediately identify everyone accompanying them. Fatuma remembers painful moments when children and adults had to wait in the same space, and when there was a risk that a survivor could unknowingly be placed near the perpetrator or someone connected to the case.

That reality changed when Amref Health Africa, through the Tena Leselam project, supported the construction of a new, spacious and well-equipped one-stop center. Fatuma had also attended GBV training organized by Amref, which strengthened her skills in survivor-centered care. With the new center, the team could finally provide services in a safer and more dignified environment.



The need was so urgent that they began using the building even before its official inauguration.

“Amref did not only give us a building; it gave survivors a place where they can breathe, rest and feel protected,” Fatuma said. “For us as service providers, it gave us the strength and space to serve them with dignity.”

Today, the center has separate rooms for children and adults. Children have a friendly room with play materials, while adult survivors have space to rest. The environment is more confidential, organized and welcoming.

The center now receives an average of 18 cases per month. Most involve sexual violence, physical violence and psychological trauma, and many survivors are children under 18.

For Fatuma, behind every number is a human being—a child, a young girl, a mother, a family and a future that can still be restored. Through Amref’s support, the center has become more than a facility. It has become a place of relief, dignity and hope.



**ONE STOP
CENTER**



A Place Where Survivors Can Speak Without Fear

At Kombolcha one-stop center, Chief Sergeant Jemila Mohammed's work begins with listening. As a police investigator, she supports survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in a space designed to protect their privacy, dignity and safety. Working alongside health, psychosocial and legal professionals, Jemila has seen how coordinated services can help survivors feel heard, supported and less alone as they seek healing and justice.

Before the center was established, survivors often moved from one office to another to access medical care, police support, psychosocial services and legal assistance. The process was exhausting and, at times, exposed them to shame, fear and the risk of their private information being known by others. "Previously, services were provided outside this compound, and that created a risk of information being leaked," Jemila explained. "Now, survivors receive integrated services in one place. Their privacy is protected, and they can speak freely."

The presence of police at the one-stop center is an important part of the coordinated response, but Jemila says it is not policing in the traditional sense. Investigators do not wear uniforms while supporting survivors. Instead, they work in civilian clothes to create a less intimidating and more welcoming environment. She remembers how difficult it was when survivors had to be accompanied to hospitals or other offices by uniformed police officers. People would stare, whisper or make assumptions. For survivors already carrying pain and fear, this could deepen their distress.

“When people saw a girl being escorted by a police officer in uniform, they became suspicious,” Jemila said. “But now, at the one-stop center, we protect confidentiality. We do not wear uniforms, and this helps survivors feel comfortable to express themselves.”

Inside the center, survivors are welcomed into a private and supportive space. They receive medical care, psychosocial support, legal assistance and police services in a coordinated way. No unnecessary person enters the room. Survivors are not forced to repeat their stories in unsafe spaces. Each professional plays a role, and together they keep the survivor at the center.

For Jemila, this teamwork has changed the meaning of service. She describes the relationship among police, health workers, social workers and legal professionals as “like a family.”

“We provide the service in a coordinated way. We understand and support one another so that survivors receive the care they need.” Many survivors who come to the center are children and young girls. Some arrive frightened, silent and hopeless. But with patient listening, care and protection, Jemila has seen their faces slowly change. “What makes me happy is seeing those who lost hope begin to smile again,” she shared. “After two or three days, when their happiness starts to return, it is beyond happiness for me.”

Justice is a key part of healing. When survivors are heard, their cases progress, and perpetrators are held accountable, the one-stop center sends a powerful message to the wider community. Supported by Amref Health Africa, the center has created a safer and more dignified environment for survivors. It is more than a building; it is a promise of confidentiality, a bridge between pain and justice, and a place where survivors can speak without fear.

A Safe Path to Justice for SGBV Survivors

Bethlehem Gobena, a public prosecutor assigned to the newly inaugurated one-stop center in Kombolcha city works alongside medical professionals, psychosocial support providers, police officers, social workers and other legal actors. Her role is to help collect evidence, guide survivors through the legal process and support efforts to hold perpetrators accountable.

Previously survivors would have to undergo fragmented process exposed them to repeated questioning, delays and emotional distress. For many survivors, the journey to justice was long, confusing and painful. The new center has changed that experience.

“This center has changed the way we respond to SGBV cases. Today, services are provided in one-stop-center. Survivors first receive medical treatment and psychosocial support. When they are ready, they are linked to legal services. Because the different professionals work together in one place, cases are handled more quickly, carefully and effectively. Medical findings, witness information, survivor statements and other evidence can be organized from the beginning, strengthening the legal process and reducing unnecessary delays.



For Bethelhem, this coordination is critical. SGBV cases often involve physical, sexual and psychological violence at the same time. Responding to such cases requires more than one professional. It requires a team that listens, protects and acts together.

The center also creates a calm and respectful environment for survivors. Service providers introduce themselves gently and approach survivors with compassion. Police officers do not wear uniforms while engaging with survivors at the center, helping reduce fear and intimidation. Bethelhem also avoids technical or difficult legal language at the beginning. Instead, she uses simple words and gentle questions, allowing survivors to speak when they feel safe.

“We approach survivors as family members, not as case files,” she explained. “From the moment they arrive, our priority is to make them feel safe, respected and free to speak without fear.” Justice services are especially important in helping survivors understand their rights and what the law can do for them. Adult survivors are prepared for what may happen during investigation and court proceedings, including possible questions from lawyers, judges and the accused. This preparation helps reduce fear and builds confidence to continue the process.

For children, the team works carefully with guardians, social workers and psychosocial support providers to gather information without causing further trauma. Medical evidence, age verification, exhibits and witness statements are collected and reviewed with the investigating police officer before cases are taken forward.

“The one-stop center has helped us collect and organize evidence more effectively from the beginning,” Bethelhem noted. “This reduces delays, strengthens the legal process and helps survivors pursue justice with dignity, a proof that justice cannot stand alone.

Through Amref Health Africa’s support, the Kombolcha one-stop center has become more than a service point. It is a coordinated system that helps survivors move from trauma toward dignity, confidence and justice.



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A Safer Start to Motherhood at Kemise Health Centre

At 38 weeks pregnant with her first child, Saida Seid was anxious as labour drew closer. She had been in the maternity unit of Kemise Health Center for 24 hours and was expected to deliver soon. "As it is my first pregnancy, I was stressed," Saida said. "But now I feel at ease because I am under the wonderful care of the health workers. They provide good care and check on my status frequently."

For mothers like Saida, Kemise Health Centre has become more than a place for delivery. It is a safe and welcoming space where expecting mothers receive compassionate care, reassurance and professional support during one of the most important moments of their lives.

Through the Tena Leselam project, the Maternal and Child Health block at the health centre has been rehabilitated and equipped with essential medical supplies and equipment to strengthen maternal, neonatal and child health services. The project has also supported the training of midwives and nurses, helping them build their skills to provide quality care for mothers and newborns.

At the maternity unit, each mother is supported by skilled health professionals, including three midwives and other support staff. Their role goes beyond assisting during delivery. They guide mothers before, during and after childbirth, helping them feel informed, cared for and protected.

Melaku Belay, a midwife at Kemise Health Centre who recently received training through Amref, says the centre receives between five and eight mothers for delivery every day. He believes that quality maternity care must continue beyond the delivery room.



“Our commitment to mothers’ well-being extends beyond the delivery room,” Melaku said. “Kemise Health Centre provides comprehensive postnatal care, including support with breastfeeding right after delivery, to ensure a smooth transition into motherhood. We believe that every mother deserves our unwavering support and guidance during this transition.”

The centre offers a range of services for expecting mothers, from regular prenatal check-ups to diagnostic screenings. Health workers also provide counselling and education to help mothers prepare for safe delivery and healthy motherhood.

The improvements at Kemise Health Centre are helping create a more reliable maternity care environment for the community. For many women, the centre provides the confidence they need to choose skilled delivery care instead of giving birth at home.

For Saida, that support has made an emotional moment easier to face. As she waits to welcome her first child, she does so with the reassurance that skilled and caring health workers are by her side.

Kemise Health Centre’s maternity care is contributing to a safer future for mothers and newborns in Kemise and surrounding locales, with a vision of building a community where every mother can access respectful, quality and lifesaving care.



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Seeing Hope Before Birth: How a Portable Ultrasound Changed Care for Mothers

For Fikradis Alemu, a midwife at Kombolcha Health Center, every pregnant mother who enters the maternity room carries hope, fear and the dream of safely holding her baby. With two years of experience in maternity, family planning and cervical cancer screening services, she understands how important timely and compassionate care is for mothers and families.



When Amref Health Africa provided a portable VScan ultrasound to the health center, it changed how Fikradis and her colleagues support pregnant women. The device allows trained midwives to provide ultrasound screening at the service point, helping mothers receive care closer to home.

“The ultrasound helps mothers economically,” Fikradis explained. “Before, many mothers had to go to hospitals or private clinics for ultrasound services. Now, they can get the service here.”

The VScan has reduced unnecessary referrals, transport costs and the stress mothers face when they are sent from one facility to another. At Kombolcha Health Center, Fikradis and her team now provide ultrasound screening for mothers in the first and third trimesters. Cases that require advanced screening, especially in the second trimester, are still referred to higher facilities.

For many mothers, the ultrasound brings more than a diagnosis. It brings relief. Some women become anxious when they stay longer in the delivery room or feel reduced fetal movement. In those moments, Fikradis uses the ultrasound to reassure them.

“Sometimes we know everything is normal, but the mother is worried,” she said. “When we show her the baby’s movement and heartbeat, she becomes calm. It helps mothers a lot.”

The device has also strengthened timely decision-making. Before, health workers mainly relied on physical examination, palpation and fetoscope assessment to identify abnormal fetal presentation. With the VScan, Fikradis can detect conditions such as breech or transverse presentation more clearly and refer mothers before complications become dangerous.

One case remains unforgettable. Soon after receiving the training and support, a multiparous mother arrived at the health center with a large abdomen. Using the VScan, Fikradis identified that the baby was lying in a transverse position. She immediately contacted the hospital doctor, called an ambulance and accompanied the mother to the hospital.

At the hospital, the doctor confirmed her diagnosis and the mother was scheduled for surgery. Later, she gave birth safely. When the mother returned to the health center, she and her husband thanked Fikradis for acting quickly.

“They always tell me, ‘If you had not been there at that time, everything would have been difficult,’” Fikradis shared.

Now, the portable VScan has given Fikradis greater confidence in her work. For mothers, it brings comfort. For families, it can mean the difference between fear and relief, delay and timely referral.

Through Amref’s support, a small portable device has become a powerful tool for safer motherhood, helping mothers feel seen, protected and hopeful before birth.

A Safe Birth, A Renewed Hope: The Change Brought by Tena Lesela Project

When Fedila arrived at Kombolcha 02 Health Center, she carried both the pain of labor and the hope of welcoming her third child into the world. A resident of Shewaber in Kombolcha city, Fedila was already familiar with the health center. Her two elder daughters had also been delivered there. But this time, as she stepped into the delivery room, she could immediately feel that something had changed.

She had come on her own, without calling an ambulance. Labor had already started, and soon after her arrival, she safely gave birth to a baby girl. The delivery was quick, safe, and filled with relief. For Fedila, the experience was not only about giving birth; it was about feeling cared for, respected, and supported during one of the most important moments of her life.

“The delivery room has improved compared to the previous time,” Fedila shared. “It is now more comfortable for mothers who come to give birth.”

Through the support of Amref Health Africa's Tena Lesela Project, Kombolcha O2 Health Center has been working to improve the quality of maternal health services and create a more welcoming environment for mothers. The improvements in the delivery room have helped women like Fedila experience childbirth with greater comfort and confidence.

What touched Fedila most was not only the improved space, but also the kindness of the health professionals who supported her. During labor and delivery, she felt surrounded by care, compassion, and encouragement.

"The health professionals are good," she said. "They gave us care with love and compassion. I would like to thank them for the quality care and service they provide. I wish them long life and health."

Her words reflect the heart of the change that Tena Leselam Project is helping to bring: a health system where mothers are not only treated medically, but also treated with dignity, warmth, and humanity. For a mother in labor, a kind word, a clean and comfortable room, and the reassuring presence of a skilled health worker can make all the difference.

Fedila's safe delivery is a reminder that every improvement in a health facility has a human face. Behind every renovated room, every trained provider, and every strengthened service, there is a mother who feels safer, a newborn who begins life with care, and a family that celebrates with gratitude. For Fedila, the day ended with joy. She held her newborn baby girl in her arms, grateful for a safe delivery and thankful for the compassion she received.

"I gave birth safely, and I am very happy," she said.

Her story is a story of change— change seen in a delivery room, felt in the care of health workers, and carried in the first cry of a newborn baby girl. Through the Tena Leselam Project, Amref Health Africa is helping ensure that mothers like Fedila can welcome new life with safety, dignity, and hope.



Restoring Dignity Through Clean, Safe and Compassionate Care

Mohammed Ali has worked at Kombolcha 02 Health Center for the past five years and clearly remembers what the center looked like before Amref Health Africa, through the Tena Leselam Project, began its support. Every room tells a story of change, from the emergency room to the maternal and child health unit, from the delivery room to the laboratory.

“This emergency room is one of the most infectious areas,” Mohammed explained. “Before, the floor was not smooth, the walls were not washable, and the risk of cross-contamination was high for both clients and health professionals.”



Today, that same emergency room looks and feels different. The walls are covered with washable ceramic tiles, the floor and veranda have been made smooth and easy to clean, the drainage system has been corrected, and the walls and roof have been renovated. For Mohammed and his colleagues, these changes are not simply about appearance. They are about safety, dignity, and infection prevention.

The transformation is even more visible in the maternal and child health unit, where mothers receive antenatal care, delivery services, and postnatal care. Previously, the facility struggled with poor infrastructure and limited water supply. Through the Tena Lesela Project, Amref renovated the ANC room, delivery room, post-delivery room, and family planning room. Walls, roofs, and floors were improved, ceramic tiles were installed, and water supply was made available in key service areas.

“It is very difficult to imagine a health facility providing quality service without water. Water has a huge contribution to infection prevention,” said Mohammed.

The support extended beyond infrastructure renovation. Amref also supplied essential medical equipment and furnishings, including delivery couches, examination beds, maternal and newborn care equipment, and other critical medical supplies to improve service delivery. Midwives also received training to strengthen the quality of maternal and newborn care. “Mothers are very happy now. They remember how the facility was before, and they give us positive feedback. After delivery, they can now shower before going home, which was not possible before,” Mohammed shared.

The laboratory room has also experienced remarkable improvement. Previously, its walls had cracks, the floor was not washable, and there was no proper water installation. With Amref's support, the laboratory was renovated, ceramic tiles were installed, water supply was made available, and equipment such as a hematocrit machine was provided. This has improved both safety and service efficiency.

Mohammed believes that a clean facility protects everyone. Clients come seeking healing, and they should not return home exposed to additional infections. Health workers also need a safe environment where they can protect themselves while serving others. With water and washable surfaces now available, the chain of infection can be better controlled.

The changes have also strengthened trust between the facility and the community. Fewer clients are being referred for basic services, reducing discomfort and transport costs. At the same time, the facility can retain more services internally, improve its income, and become more self-sufficient.

For Mohammed, the transformation has touched not only clients, but also health workers. "We spend more time in this institution than at home," he reflected. "When the compound is clean and beautiful, we feel happy. We are satisfied with the environment and with the services we provide."

Through integrated support in WASH, medical supplies, renovation, and capacity building, the Tena Leselam Project has helped create a safer, cleaner, and more compassionate place of care. Mohammed hopes the support will continue, especially for the youth reproductive health service room, so that young people can also receive services in a welcoming and dignified space.

For the community, the change is visible. For mothers and children, it is deeply felt. And for health workers like Mohammed, it is a reminder that quality care begins with a safe environment, skilled hands, and partners committed to lasting change.



Story of Compassion and Quality Care at Kombolcha 02 Health Center

Sr. Semira has been serving as the Head of Kombolcha 02 Health Center for the past two years. With more than seven years of professional experience in the health sector, she has witnessed both the challenges health workers face and the meaningful changes that can happen when communities and partners work together.



According to Sr. Semira, through Tena-Leselam Project, Amref Health Africa has made significant contributions to strengthening service delivery at the health center, particularly in maternal health, the delivery room, and the emergency unit. The support has included improving access to water supply, providing capacity-building trainings for health professionals, and addressing key gaps that affected the quality of care.

“Amref has helped us fill important gaps in our facility,” Sr. Semira shared. “Their support has improved the quality of services we provide to mothers, children, and the wider community.”

Amref’s support has also strengthened the capacity of the health center team. Sr. Semira explained that the facility previously had a shortage of health professionals trained in Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses, which affected the quality of care for children. After the health center requested support, Amref provided training for health workers, enabling children to receive better medical care from skilled professionals.

Amref also supported trainings on gender-based violence, community scorecards, and nutrition. Through the community scorecard training, selected community members were able to better understand the services provided by the health center and contribute to improving service quality. Nutrition training also helped health professionals identify and manage children with severe and moderate acute malnutrition, ensuring that malnourished children receive proper treatment and care.

“Amref has filled our skill gaps through many trainings provided to our health professionals,” Sr. Semira said. “Because of this support, we are now able to provide better services with trained staff.”

Sr. Semira also noted that the health center has been selected to start a new initiative by the city administration, partly because of Amref’s continued support to the community. As the facility continues to serve mothers, children, and vulnerable groups, she hopes that additional support will help address remaining needs.

“I would like to request Amref Health Africa to support the construction of a waiting room for pregnant mothers,” she said. “I also want to sincerely thank Amref for all the support we have received.”

For Sr. Semira, the story is not only about improved infrastructure or training. It is also about restoring dignity, strengthening health services, and ensuring that vulnerable people, especially mothers and children affected by crisis—receive care when they need it most.

Rebuilding Lives Through Skills: A Youth-Led Shoe Workshop Restoring Hope

After the conflict in Amhara Region, many young people were left facing a future that felt uncertain. Jobs had disappeared. Families were struggling. Some youth had dropped out of school, while others had returned from displacement with little more than the hope of starting again.

For Yohannes, Anteneh and nine other young people, the hardship was not only economic. It was also emotional. They had lost confidence, direction and a sense of purpose. Like many youth in their community, they wanted to work, support their families and rebuild their lives, but they did not know where to begin.

“After the war, we had nothing. No job, no support, no future,” said Anteneh, 29, one of the youth group members. “This project gave us back our confidence—and a business.”

Their turning point came through Amref Health Africa’s Tena Leselam project, which supported them under its Youth Economic Empowerment initiative. The project helped the group move from uncertainty to opportunity by providing practical training, business support and mentorship.

The young people first received training in entrepreneurship, business planning and cooperative management. They learned how to budget, manage resources, understand customers and market their products. They were also trained in basic leather shoe-making skills, using locally available materials.



The support did not stop at training. The project helped the youth organize themselves into a registered group and provided startup support, including tools, equipment and raw materials. With this foundation, they established a small shoe workshop in their community.

At first, the work was new and challenging. The group had to learn how to divide responsibilities, maintain quality, manage income and work together despite coming from different backgrounds and life experiences. Through continued mentorship from local micro-enterprise trainers and government small enterprise offices, they gradually strengthened both their technical and business skills.

The Tena Leselam project also integrated peacebuilding into the process. Through dialogue sessions and coaching, the group members learned about trust, teamwork, reconciliation and peaceful problem-solving. The workshop became more than a workplace. It became a safe space where young people could rebuild not only their livelihoods, but also their relationships and confidence.

Today, the group produces up to 50 pairs of shoes per week, selling them in local markets and nearby towns. The income they earn is helping members support their families, return to school and save for long-term goals. For young people who once felt hopeless, the workshop has become a source of dignity and independence.

Their success is also inspiring other unemployed youth in the community. Group members have taken part in community peace dialogues and are becoming role models, showing that with the right support, young people affected by conflict can become agents of recovery and hope.

The story of this youth-led shoe workshop shows that rebuilding after conflict is not only about restoring infrastructure. It is also about restoring confidence, skills and opportunity. Through the Tena Leselam project, these young people have found a path from loss to livelihood, from uncertainty to purpose, and from survival to a future they can shape with their own hands.



Creating Pathways for Youth Empowerment and Peace

In Debre Berhan, people are finding new spaces to learn, connect, speak up and build a better future. Through Amref Health Africa's youth-focused projects, opportunities for youth are becoming more practical, inclusive and meaningful.

At the center of this collaboration is Tena Leselam, a project that strengthens young people's role in peacebuilding, civic engagement and economic empowerment. Implemented alongside Kefeta Plus and Power to You(th), Tena Leselam has helped bring projects with shared goals closer together, showing how coordination can expand impact and reach more youth.

Amref Health Africa recognizes that its projects often have interrelated objectives. In Debre Berhan, this has encouraged alignment among Tena Leselam, Kefeta Plus and Power to You(th), allowing the projects to use resources effectively and respond to young people's diverse needs. Together, they are creating a model of collaboration that supports youth not only as beneficiaries, but also as agents of change.

While each project contributes in its own way, Tena Leselam's role is especially important. The project promotes youth participation in civic life and peacebuilding while also supporting economic empowerment. It recognizes that young people need both voice and opportunity: space to participate in decisions that affect them, and practical support to build skills, livelihoods and resilience.

This collaboration is visible at the Debre Berhan Youth Center, which has become a safe and inclusive hub for young people. The center offers sports facilities, health services, vocational training, networking and platforms for dialogue. It also provides a space where youth can meet, share ideas and discuss issues that matter to them.



Power to You(th) and Kefeta Plus contributed financially to the construction of a youth service building at the center. The facility includes a dedicated office for youth with disabilities, giving them a place to meet, discuss concerns and connect with others. This reflects the projects' commitment to inclusion and meaningful participation.

One strong example of synergy is the link between vocational training and economic empowerment. Through its local partner, Youth Network for Community Development, Kefeta Plus supports youth with training in hairdressing and tailoring and links them to business opportunities. Tena Leselam builds on this by providing start-up grants and technical assistance to help trained youth establish businesses.

This contribution highlights Tena Leselam's promise: moving beyond training to help young people turn skills into livelihoods. For youth affected by conflict and limited opportunities, such support can restore hope, strengthen self-reliance and open pathways to a stable future.

By connecting youth empowerment with peacebuilding, Tena Leselam shows that young people are central to recovery and development. When equipped with skills, supported with opportunities and given space to lead, they can help build healthier, more peaceful communities.

The collaboration between Tena Leselam, Kefeta Plus and Power to You(th) demonstrates the power of working together. For young people in Debre Berhan, it means access to skills, services, support and spaces where their voices matter. For Amref Health Africa, it shows how integrated projects create greater and lasting impact.





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