

# TENA LE-SELAM

Project Profile



## 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 believes that the power to transform Africa's health lies within its communities, and therefore strives to ensure that health systems are functioning at an optimal level and communities are empowered to hold these systems accountable for the delivery of high-quality and affordable health care.

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 years. Aligning with the national Health Sector Development Program IV (HSDP IV), we work to ensure health equity by

servicing 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. With an integrated and multi-sectoral approach, Amref strategically addresses cross-cutting issues through these programmatic focus areas.

## Our Program Focus Areas



- Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, Adolescent & Youth Health and Nutrition
- Health Systems Strengthening
- Youth Development
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Disease Prevention and Control

Amref Health Africa works closely with key government ministries and regional offices including the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, Ministry of Water and Energy, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor and Skills, as well as multiple local and international health and development implementing organizations. We implement projects in 12 regional states and two city administrations.

## TENA LE-SELAM PROJECT

With financial support from the National Postcode Lottery of the Netherlands, Tena Le-Selam — meaning Health Care for Peace 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.

The project places a strong focus on women, children, and youth not only because they are among the most vulnerable in times of crisis, but also because they are powerful agents of change in building healthier, more peaceful communities.

**Through a set of targeted activities, Tena Le-Selam aims to:**

- Reduce the adverse effects of conflict on health and nutrition,
- Create safe, supportive environments for recovery and resilience,
- Amplify the positive momentum of ongoing development efforts across the region.

By investing in people and peace, Tena Le-Selam the project will contribute to a healthy and safe environment for people affected by the war and have a fly wheel effect on the existing development projects in the region and beyond.

## Our Interventions

### Preventive community health

- Promote mother & child health care: ante and postnatal care, skilled delivery, family planning, immunization.
- Identify victims of SGBV and facilitate referral for physical, mental and legal care.
- Create awareness on SGBV protection and care.

## Health system strengthening

- Reconstruct and supply basic equipment
- Build health care
- Strengthen/expand One Stop Centers
- Support mobile health care

## Sustainable peacebuilding

- Inter-community facilitation, with a focus on youth-led and women-led organizations
- Income generating activities, with a focus on youth
- Lobby & advocacy
- Operational research

## Key Achievements

**Rehabilitation of Health Facilities:** Eight health facilities were rehabilitated to ensure optimal functionality, particularly those that had been destroyed or looted during the conflict. Special attention was given to the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) blocks. The renovations included:

- Restoration of water supply systems
- Maintenance of drainage systems
- Installation of toilets and hand-washing facilities
- Renovation of floors, roofs, and walls

These upgrades ensure that the health facilities can provide essential services to the communities, particularly for women and children.

**Capacity Building for Health Care Staff:** to enhance the quality of Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health (MNCH) services, the project capacitated 543 health workers through intensive training. This capacity-building initiative focused on evidence-based interventions, enabling health workers to provide better services and ensure the continuum of care for women, newborns, and children. Post-training follow-ups indicated significant improvements in the delivery of quality health services at the targeted facilities.

### **Restoration of Essential Medical Equipment:**

The project equipped health facilities with essential medical tools and devices, helping to restore basic health services in areas impacted by the northern Ethiopia conflict. This effort was critical in rebuilding the capacity of these facilities to serve the local populations effectively.

### **Increased Access to Health Services Through Integrated Outreach Programs:**

In conflict-affected areas, many communities were reluctant to visit health facilities. To address this, Tena Le-Selam initiated integrated outreach services, bringing healthcare directly to the communities. During the outreach period, the project conducted eight outreach programs, focusing on:

- Screening pregnant women for Antenatal Care (ANC) services
- Malnutrition screening for children
- Tracing defaulters of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI).
  - 2,542 children were screened for malnutrition
  - 447 pregnant women were screened for ANC services, and
  - 72 children received vaccinations through these outreach programs



## **Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia**

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