



THE  
LUTHERAN  
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World Service

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# ANNUAL REPORT

**LWF**

World Service Ethiopia

2020



Cover photo:

Sofia Ahmed, 35, standing at her corn farm. Sofia received the crop seeds from the Gender Responsive Humanitarian Assistance (GRHA) Project. 2020. ©LWF.

# CONTENT

2020

**4** Representative's message

---

**5** Program

---

**19** Success Stories

---

**23** Financial Overview

---

**24** Donors that supported us

---

**25** Human Resources

---

**26** Profile

---

# REPRESENTATIVE'S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues and partners,

2020 has been an exceptional year for the entire world with the corona virus/COVID-19, started towards the end of 2019 and took the world by storm and declared a pandemic on March the 11th 2020. As this annual report goes to print, the world is still reeling from the unprecedented and devastating impact of the virus and its variants on human lives and economies of every nation around the globe.

For Ethiopia, this means yet another crisis on top of many crises that the country faced in 2020, including devastating floods, the largest desert locust infestation in decades, continued massive displacements in many regions of the country and a burgeoning serious conflict between the Federal Government and the TPLF-led regional state in Tigray in early November, a grave presage and indication of how the year 2021 will unfold.

During the pandemic, LWF as the rest of the world, adapted its work to the pandemic, implementing different public health and infection prevention and control measures to fulfill its duty of care to its staff the community it works with, as well as by adopting different working models to ensure business continuation.

In 2020, LWF Ethiopia received a total of EUR 3,731,960 in 2020. Various humanitarian, development projects were implemented in Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Oromia and Somali regional states. At the close of the year, most of the planned activities were implemented as planned with very few having been carried forward to 2021. We were of course able to achieve this with your generous support and flexibility to redirect and reallocate some of the approved program funding to the -19 response.

We would like to thank the communities who invited us in their midst and partnered with us, our donors and partners, national and international non-governmental organizations, UN agencies, ACT Alliance, HINGO and CANGO and committed staff who make this all possible, as well as the Government for fostering an enabling environment to facilitate our work. We look forward to partnering with you once again in 2021.

As we consign 2020 to history, we do so with the hope that vaccination that is starting to be rolled out will be just, fair and equitable for both the global North and South and bridge the immunization divide as nobody is safe until everyone is safe. On the cusp of 2021, we also hope that the conflict in Tigray is resolved soon.

Sincerely,

Sophia Gebreyes,  
Country Representative



Sophia Gebreyes with children in drought-affected Harshin woreda, Fafan zone, Somali Regional State." Photo credit LWF.

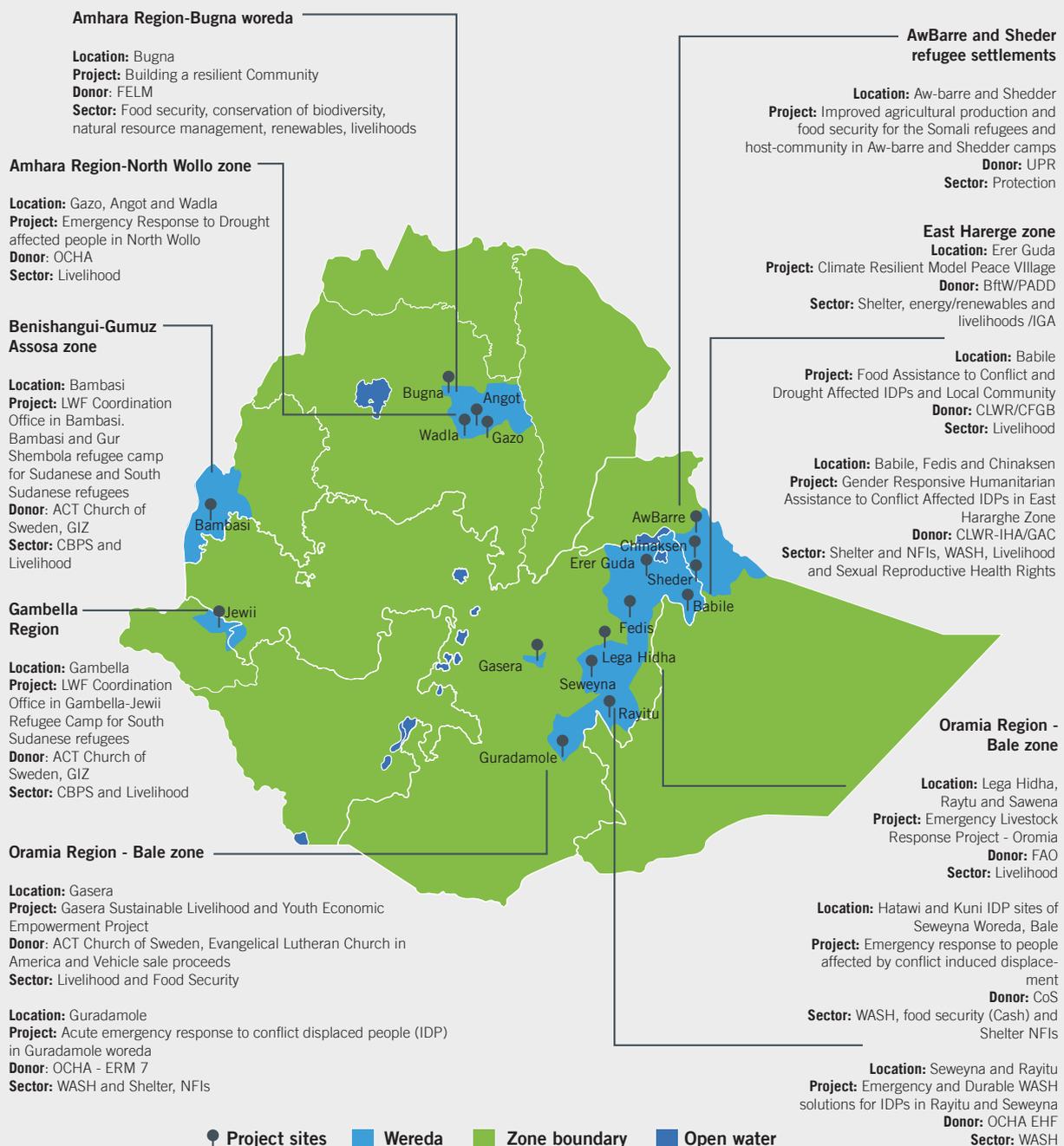
# PROGRAM

LWF Ethiopia has continued implementing its current six-year country strategy in 2020 which runs from 2019 to 2024. LWF's interventions were implemented within the scope of the programmatic areas of Livelihoods, Quality Services and Protection and Social Cohesion.

The livelihoods programmatic area consists of food security, climate resilience and sustainable livelihood projects.

The country program has been operating in five regions of the country. In 2020, LWF continued its operations in Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Oromia, and Somali Regional States.

LWF is exploring means to intervene in Tigray to respond to the unfolding crisis in 2021.

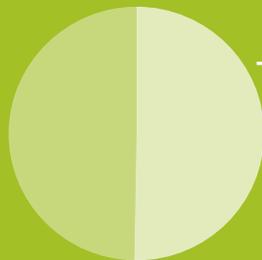


# Livelihoods

LWF Ethiopia implemented ten livelihoods projects in 2020 including food security, climate-change resilience, natural resources conservation, and gender. The four have been under implementation in the Bambasi (2), Jewi and Awbarre refugee camps in the Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella and Somali regional states respectively targeting both refugees and host communities. The other six have benefitted local communities in Lasta-Lalibela and Bugna woredas in North Wollo zone, Amhara Region, Gasera, Rayitu, Dawe Kachen and Gursum woredas in Bale and East Hararghe zones, Oromia Region and Kebribeyah woreda in Fafan zone in Somali Region.

**342,564**

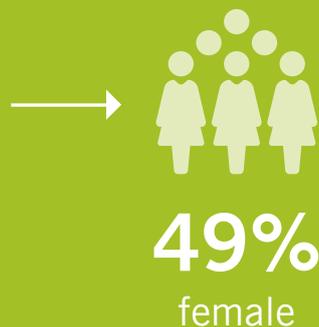
local community members were supported by the livelihood projects.



The projects under implementation in the aforementioned refugee camps benefited:



**30,091**  
refugees and host community members



from Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan.





Mohammed Farah in his onion farm plot.  
© MulatuEndeshaw/LWF. 2020

## “Interventions that changed our lives meaningfully...”

Kebribeyah woreda, located in the Eastern part of the country in the Somali region, is inhabited predominantly by agro-pastoralist communities who depend on agriculture that combines crop farming and animal husbandry. The LWF Eastern Ethiopia Regional Coordination Office (EE RCO), with funding from Icelandic Church Aid, has been implementing a livelihood project since January 2018. The intervention is centered around capacity building to men and women farmers on improved agricultural practices accompanied by support for them to be able access improved crop and vegetable seeds on revolving fund basis. Farming in Kebribeyah, for some, is not always a rewarding occupation due to the erratic and inadequate rainfall that may start late or end early.

This past short rainy season (October-November 2020) in some of the kebeles of Kebribeyah woreda the rainfall was not sufficient for growing maize and sorghum, staple crops in the area. Most farmers faced total or partial loss of the harvest except few who sow vegetables and short maturing crop seeds.

Standing in the scorching sun inside his onion farm, Mohammed Farah, 35 who is one of the agricultural trainee and seed beneficiaries of the project explains. *“I used to grow maize and sorghum on this farm plot. But this year, I received 500 grams of onion seed from Lutheran and decided to sow it on part of my plot and found it a very rewarding decision.”* Mohammed lives in Kebrihanten kebele of Kebribeyah woreda which is located 35 kilometers away from Kebribeyah town towards the Somalia border. He has 5 kids (3 boys and 2 girls) the elder of whom is only 11. He lost his wife 3 years ago who died during delivery.

*“Along with the onion, I sowed maize which is not performing well because of early cessation of the Dyer rain<sup>1</sup>.”* He added *“however, that is compensated well by the onion with promising harvest. I have 2 hectares of land and I sowed the onion on half of a hectare. I expect 100 sacks of harvest which is equivalent to 25 quintals.”* Mohammed has it all planned out how he is going to be using this bounty: *“At current market price, I will sell one sack of onion for 600 ETB and the total will be 60,000 ETB (1,400 EURO) which is going to be a very good income for my family. I have 5 goats, 1 cow and 1 heifer. With the income, I will buy few more goats and the rest will be used for fulfilling my children’s needs such as food and clothing. I will also save some.”* He also explained. *“Lutheran gave us the improved variety of onion which yielded harvest almost double compared to the ordinary variety we used to sow.”*

Mohammed reported that he himself cooks food for the children with support from his elder daughter. *“I plan to remarry but I have to make sure first that the money from the sale of onion is good enough to pay the bride’s dowry. Otherwise, I have to wait for the next harvesting season to be able generate a good sum that is enough to pay for dowry.”* As we were preparing to wrap up the visit and discussion and leave, Mohammed raised his voice and said in Somali *“thank you Lutheran”*, as LWF is popularly known in these parts, *“for your support that has changed my life meaningfully.”* He added *“Alhamdulillah”* in Somali translated as *“Peace be with you.”*

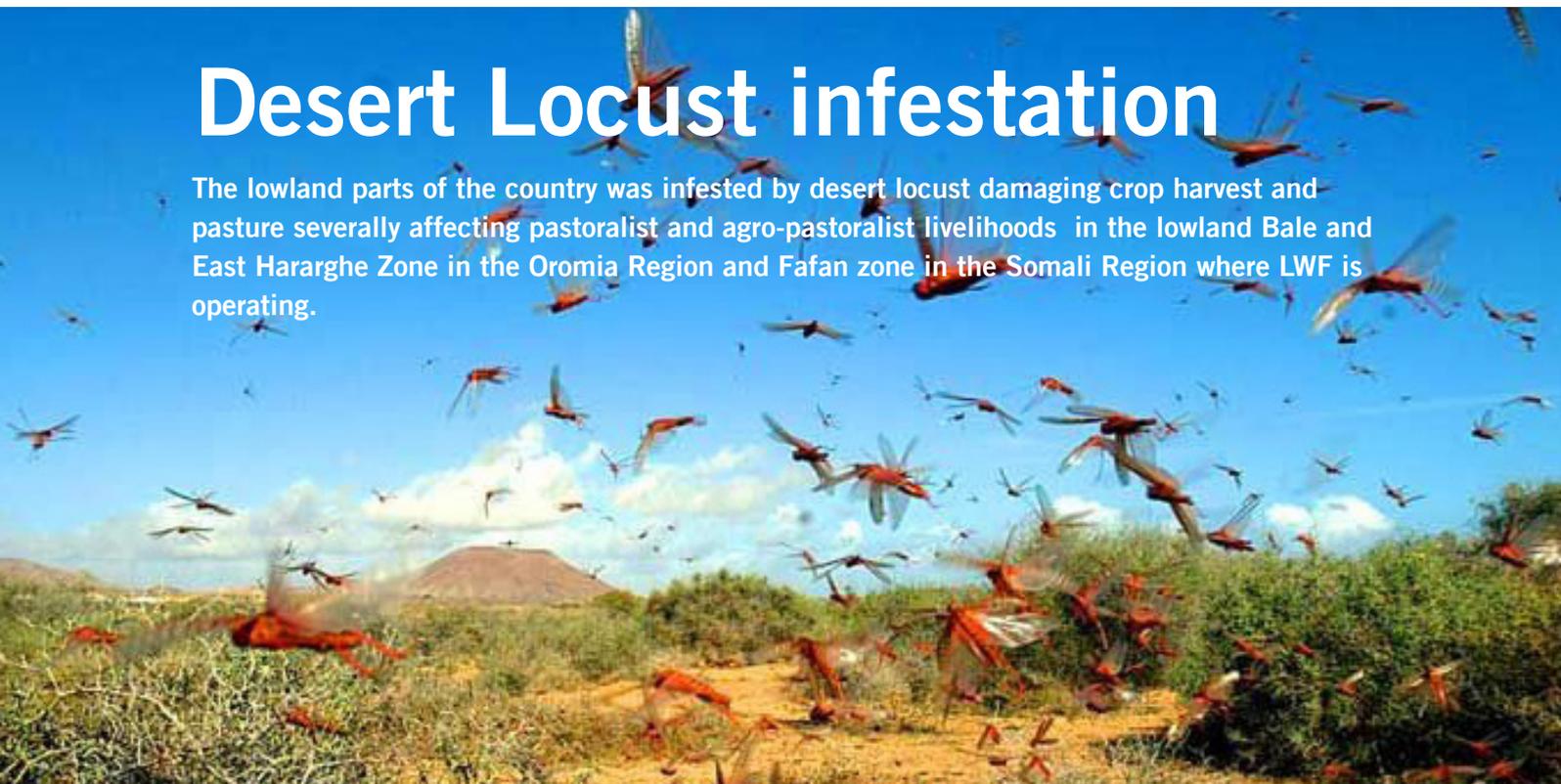
<sup>1</sup> Dyer rain is the short rain season from October to November

# Quality Services

The quality services programmatic area includes lifesaving interventions and assistance to people affected by disaster. In 2020, LWF Ethiopia responded to multiple crises, namely to the massive conflict induced displacements and desert locust infestation in addition to refugee response. The refugee response projects implemented in camps that targeted Sudanese, South Sudanese and Somali refugees who are hosted in the Bambasi, Gambella and Jijiga refugee camps respectively.

## Desert Locust infestation

The lowland parts of the country was infested by desert locust damaging crop harvest and pasture severally affecting pastoralist and agro-pastoralist livelihoods in the lowland Bale and East Hararghe Zone in the Oromia Region and Fafan zone in the Somali Region where LWF is operating.



LWF targeted:



**15,393**  
beneficiaries



**6,834**  
female



**1,008**  
IDPs  
(485 female).

# Conflict-induced displacement

Since August 2019, the country is extremely affected by a series of inter-communal conflicts in Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia, Somali and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) regional states. Around 1 million people have been affected and displaced due to the inter-communal conflict between the Somali and Oromo ethnic groups. LWF responded to all the conflict-induced displacements in its operation areas particularly in Bale and East

Hararghe zones in Oromia region, reaching a total of:



## 53,913

(27,962 female) IDPs and IDP in in WASH and livelihoods response.

***“Our loss is great but if we didn’t receive the support by LWF, we would’ve been beggars on the street or robbers in the woods.”***

LWF Ethiopia in partnership with Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) with financial support from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) responded to the critical and urgent needs of 49,000 IDPs and host community members in 15 Kebeles of Babile, Chinaksen, and Fedis woredas, East Hararghe zone, Ethiopia. Sheik Hussein kebele is one of the project target kebeles. Sheik Hussein is a kebele a few kilometers south of the Babile town in East Oromia, where inhabitants witnessed grave atrocities two years ago during the Somali and Oromo ethnic conflict. “It was on the 11<sup>th</sup> month in 2017,” recalls Sofia Ahmed, a 35 years old mother of nine. Sofia recalls: “I saw Somalis walking towards our house. I remember them being so many. They immediately started shooting and beating people up. They destroyed my house before my eyes. Filled with dread, I took my children and started running. I didn’t get a chance to collect the things we need. I saw five people shot dead in the neighborhood. We walked for eight hours and reached Babile.” Newly displaced, Sofia and her family stayed at a public school, a temporary shelter, for a week



Sofia Ahmed, 35, standing at her corn farm. Sofia received the crop seeds from the Gender Responsive Humanitarian Assistance (GRHA) Project. 2020. ©LWF.

in Babile town where the government was supplying aid. Then they found an abandoned house where they could live. *“We stayed there for 9 months; battling depression not knowing what our next steps were going to be,”* she says.

Abduwuhab Muhammed, Kebele administrator of Sheik Hussein Kebele, explains the repercussions of the attack, *“building a house takes an average of 7 years on a farmer’s income. 750 houses were burned to the ground,”* he explains.

The ethnic conflict between Oromo and Somali resulted in the displacement of 1.1 million individuals including 200,000 in East Hararghe like Sofia and her family. Many of the displaced people fled their villages in search of safety leaving behind their homes. Most of their houses were destroyed and livestock and other assets looted. Sheik Hussien Kebele was home to 1500 households, and a total of 750 households (50%) were displaced due to the conflict.

Many of the IDPs have returned to their areas of origin in June 2019 following the government-led return operation carried out same year.

LWF implemented the Gender Responsive Humanitarian Assistance Project that reached conflict-affected internally displaced people in the Eastern Hararghe zone by increasing access to seed, cash and goats as part of the project’s early recovery component. It also worked towards capacity building and promoting gender and WASH knowledge and practices. Sofia is one of the beneficiaries of the project who received goats, seeds, and farm tools.

According to Abduwuhab, the selection criteria of beneficiaries were gender-responsive. Women-led households were given priority followed by families with disabled members and bigger households. *“We get together with each Kebele representative and set up a screening committee. The committee reports back to the sub-village leader. We focused on the women in the community because we see most men consume khat (mild stimulant common in the region). We didn’t want the support to be blown on khat consumption,”* says Abduwuhab.

As a community leader, Abduwuhab also took part in facilitating the project’s inputs for distribution. He stated that the first round of inputs were distributed from April 2019 - March 2021 benefiting 260 people in Sheik Hussien Kebele. The project provided 3 goats per person to 100 women and 200 women received 4 hens each. 250 beneficiaries also received seeds for groundnuts, corn, and barley. Unfortunately, from



Sofia Ahmed, 35, with one of the goats she received from the GRHA project that enabled her to engage in goat fattening. 2020. ©LWF.

the first round of crop seeds provision, 30% of the harvest was lost due to the locust invasion.

Through the support, Sofia started a goat fattening business and works on her farm to support her family. *“Along with my husband, who helps me at the farm, I am now selling the harvest from the seeds provided to us by LWF. I am also fattening the goats for sale. I rent tractors to farm,”* she says proudly. In the long-term plan, Sofia plans to buy tractors and get into modern farming. *“If it were not for the support, my children wouldn’t be alive by now, I wouldn’t be here also, we are thankful for LWF and the government for helping us in our desperation,”* Sofia says.

*“Our loss is great but if we didn’t receive the help, we would’ve been beggars on the street or robbers in the woods. We are thankful to be back in our Kebele and given the chance to rebuild,”* Abduwuhab says. Abduwuhab puts the changes he witnessed since the first round of distribution as the following: *“Our goats have doubled in number. We also have food security. Because it is drought season in other Kebeles there is food shortage and the government is supplying aid. We still have seeds to spare and our people are eating what we planted last year. Inshallah!”*

# Refugees on the way to self-reliance

Amina Ibrahim is 34 years Sudanese refugee living in Bambasi Refugee camp since 2013. She fled the civil war in the Blue Nile State, Sudan in 2013 together with her family and arrived in Ethiopia seeking safety and protection. Amina and her husband Seid Beshir along with their 7 children (4 boys and 3 girls) live at the refugee camp in Bambasi in Benishangul-Gumuz regional state. Amina and Beshir are illiterate, but had some farming skills while at home in Sudan.

In the first two years of her stay at the refugee camp, Amina participated in some of the agricultural activities by negotiating with the host community to get access to land for farming activity through sharecropping system. However, since the launch of the LWF's livelihood interventions funded by the Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) in 2015-17 she was able to produce some in crop-sharing system. In 2017, she became a member of the IGA group engaged in cafeteria business along with other 11 women. Through her participation in these activities, she was able to earn some income enough to supplement the food ration distributed by WFP in the camp. However, due to many reasons, the businesses couldn't continue to generate income for the group members including Amina. There was food gap that she couldn't fill because she was relying on food rations without having other opportunity as a source of income. Amina was striving to improve her family's living condition through other means. Her two children dropped out of school and started collecting firewood and work as daily labor in the host community to support the family.

Amina's family fortunes looked bleak until the launching of the GIZ funded Qualifications and Employment Perspectives (QEP) project in February 2020 when Amina became one of the beneficiaries in the QEP project aiming to improve her family's livelihood. She participated

in livelihood trainings in different topics including irrigated horticulture agricultural land management and pesticide control. In addition to the skill training, Amina also received watering cans, two finger pick axe, digging hoe and vegetable seeds like okra, kudra, tomato, carrot, cabbage, onion and eggplant.



Amina in her farm land weeding her corn plant at Wenba site in Bamabasi ©HailuBahiru/LWF 2020



**Amina is also harvesting radishes or Figele in the local language in the middle of her maize plot ©HailuBahiru/LWF 2020.**

Pending the completion of the irrigation scheme, Amina used the newly-acquired skills and inputs to grow different vegetables using rain water both of household consumption and sale.

Amina has a good relationship with the host communities and used this advantage to secure additional plot of land on equal crop sharing system. She partnered with 4 host community members and 11 refugee members. In 2020, she produced more than 5.5 quintals of vegetables (3 quintals of onion, 1 quintal of carrot and 1.5 quintal of other type of vegetables) from just over 450 m<sup>2</sup> of land. She said that larger part of the vegetable produce is for consumption and the remaining 1.5 quintals, specifically red onion, was sold in the local market. Amina earned more than 3,800 ETB (76 EUR). *“The income helped me cover expenses for children such as clothing and fill other household needs”* said Amina, adding that she has a strong desire to improve her current income level to improve their living status as her husband is unemployed is she is the only breadwinner.

With the second round of seed support she received, using the rain water, Amina continued to engage in agricultural farming in her own 285 M<sup>2</sup> plot of land along the irrigation canal at Wemba site where she obtained access to land. Amina cultivated maize, okra, kudra, radish (locally known as Figele and mostly consumed by the

refugee community), cabbage and soya bean. She has already started harvesting kudra for her own household consumption. She said that the improved seeds provided by LWF especially the maize and soya bean seeds seem more rewarding. Access to market for her produces is not a problem to Amina because she can sell to refugees in the camp as well as on the market in Bambasi town.

Amina also owns a mini-shop in front of her house to supplement her household income. In her shop, she sells pen, tissue paper, candy and food stuff such as salt, sugar, etc.

Amina is now one of the best role models of livelihood beneficiaries because of her efforts and commitment. She sends her two children to the ARRA<sup>2</sup> – managed primary school fulfilling their needs for stationeries and clothing. She is keen to see the irrigation scheme completed so that she can grow twice or three times in a year and generate more income. She has gotten access to farm land, training and additional inputs to use in the irrigation and rainy season. This additional support changed her life significantly and she added *“I am no more dependent on the WFP food ration and thanks to LWF-GIZ for supporting me improve my living condition”*. She concluded with the word “Shukran” meaning thank you in Arabic to LWF staff acknowledging their roles in her struggle to change her life meaningfully.

<sup>2</sup> ARRA stands for agency for refugees and returnees affairs

# Protection and Social Cohesion

The interventions in protection and social cohesion included community based psychosocial support (CBPS) in Bambasi refugee camp of Benishangul Gumuz Region, Jewi camp of the Gambella Region and the universal period review in the Jijiga camps in the Somali Region.

The CBPS activities resulted in increased community based protection and peaceful co-existence between the refugees and host communities. The key interventions accomplished included running youth recreation center, sport, adult literacy and community dialogue programs. In 2020, the projects focused on revitalizing the active participation of youth and influential community leaders in strengthening social networks. The projects carried out community-based protection of vulnerable groups and provided support to individuals and families in the refugee camps for focused psychosocial support through house-to-house visits. The CBPS activities have greatly contributed for peaceful co-existence between the host communities and the refugees.

The CBPS interventions benefited:



**18,263**  
refugees

(8,715 FEMALE) in  
Bambasi and Jewi  
refugee camps.

## The Universal Periodic Review

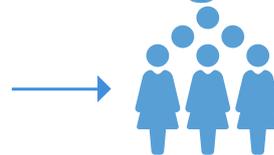
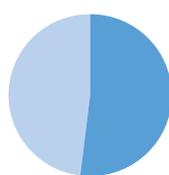
The universal periodic review (UPR) project under implementation in the Jijiga refugee camps of Awbarre, Sheder and Kebribeyah has also been supporting the refugees to be empowered through a number of capacity building interventions on gender, child protection and right issues. 28 of the targeted communities accessed employment opportunities and able to exercise their rights to work outside of the camp.

In addition, the country program was able to collaborate and work with a number of civil society organizations (CSOs). LWF partnered with the consortium of Ethiopian human rights organizations (CEHRO) for running a series of dialogues on right issues with duty bearers and with the association for human rights in Ethiopia (AHRE) to organize consultative meeting on UPR.

In addition, LWF was engaged with other CSOs which took part in various consultations and meetings promoting the rights of refugees in national level forums. The forums have contributed for increased awareness and

engagement with government counterpart offices on UPR and rights of refugees.

**2,626** refugees



**52% or 1,360**  
female

benefited from the interventions in the UPR.



Hamda Ali, 40, with her children by the house she built using the income from the support she received from universal periodic review (UPR) project. ©Genaye/2021

## “I am now able to feed my children three times a day thanks to LWF support”

This has not always been the routine of Hamda. When her husband became paralyzed seven years ago, the burden of providing food for her children fell on her shoulders. To put food on the table, Hamda tried farming, but due to climate change, she lost all her harvest. She also tried business but to no avail. “I was not able to provide for my children, they used to eat only one meal per day,” she says.

In the midst of her struggle, Hamda was contacted by her kebele about support by Universal Periodic Review (UPR) project, implemented by Lutheran World Federation (LWF). “We selected our beneficiaries based on their initiative for work, disability in the family, and large families,” says Ahmed Hige, 43, the Kebele administrator of Shedder town.

Hamda received training organized by the UPR project on business management, saving, and marketing. She then received a 25,000 birr (572\$) seed money to start a small business. . Using the seed money Hamda bought 9 goats and a sheep. “By following the business model I learned at the training, I keep the goats and fatten them, then I

sell them at the market. And with the profit I got, I buy more goats,” she says, explaining how she runs her business. She adds, “If it was not for the training, I wouldn’t know how many goats I can manage to fatten and sell for profit.” Following the training, Hamda also started to grow carrot, potato, cabbage, and beetroot on her mother’s land.

Hamda’s life has now changed. “I am now able to feed my children three times a day and I can build a house thanks to LWF support,” she says.

“We have seen a lot of changes in the lives of women in the community. We have seen women’s lives transformed through the support they got. They have set an example to other members of the community in the kebele,” said Ahmed Hige.

The UPR project, implemented by LWF, targets Somali refugees living in Awbare, Shedder, Kebribayah camps and host communities residing around the three camps to have access to their fundamental human rights and meet their needs. LWF supported rights-holders and duty-bearers’ engagement in UPR process, collaborated in the organization of national level stakeholders’



Hamda Ali, 40, feeds her goats she bought through the start-up capital she received from UPR project. ©Genaye/2021

sensitization workshops for the duty bearers and celebrated international days including the World Refugee day which helped refugees to create awareness about their challenges to government and other stakeholders.

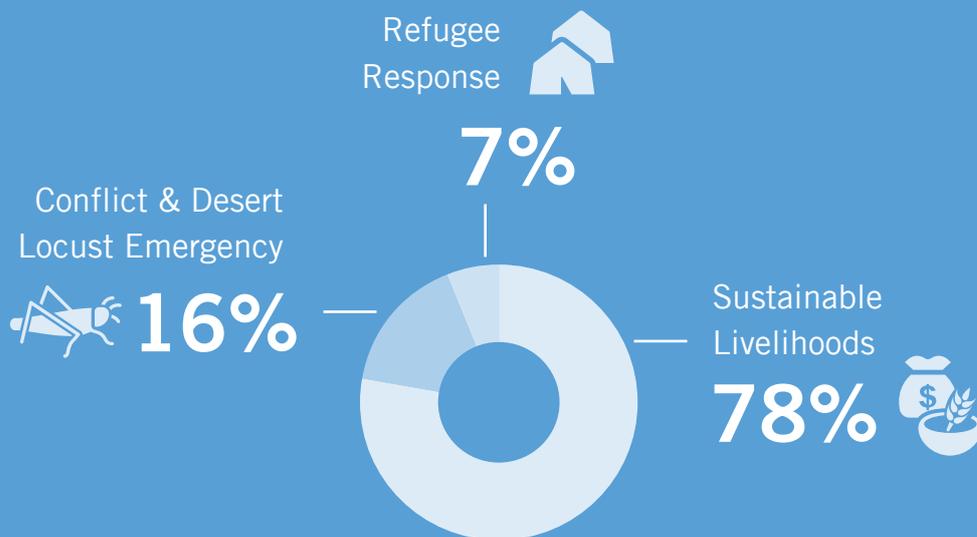
Besides access to fundamental human rights, one of the key activities of the UPR project is to support the rights-holders to access basic services and create opportunities for sustainable livelihoods.

Through this initiative, launched in January 2019 the Government of Ethiopia has reformed its refugee law and policy under the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and shifted towards a new approach of refugee response, combining wider support to host communities, fostering peaceful coexistence and greater inclusion of refugees in national development plans. Hamda is one of the host communities that directly benefited from the project.

# Total Direct Beneficiaries in 2020

LWF assisted a total of 441,962 direct beneficiaries in 2020. Of the total, 49.7% were female; 78% were reached through livelihoods, 16% through IDP and desert locust response, 7% through refugee response (7%).

Total direct beneficiaries by interventions:



Gender composition of the direct beneficiaries:







Awareness raising campaign on COVID-19 at Chifaro market place using loud speakers in Gasera Woreda of Oromia Region ©Berhanu Jaleta/LWF. 2020

With support from its funding and flexibility to redirect funding to COVID response by partners, LWF was able to successfully respond to the needs of staff both in the Country and field offices as well as beneficiaries in its operation areas. Awareness creation activities were the mainstay of the COVID-19 response including public campaigns using megaphones, provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) to staff and training participants. Support of PPE and essential supplies to health institutions were some of the activities carried out. Additionally, critical WASH NFIs were distributed to farmers training centers, farmers cooperatives offices, health centers, schools, kebele offices, churches, mosques, and on-the-road-check-points. Information, education and communication (IEC) materials displaying visual messages on COVID-19 prevention were prepared in local languages and posted in public places. Hand washing facilitated were put up to ensure easy access to water and soap.

Information and updates on COVID-19 were regularly shared with staff members to take maximum care in protecting themselves, their families and the people they work with. Staff organized campaigns using megaphones in public places and gatherings including market places. In the refugee camps, together with other partners such as UNHCR and ARRA, LWF provided information to refugees on COVID-19 through house-to-house visits.

LWF staff were supported with PPE and transport services when coming to office and communication facility while working from home to ensure business continuity.

More than 350,000 target community members are estimated to have been protected from the spread of the pandemic as a result of the work LWF accomplished in all of its operation areas.

# SUCCESS STORIES

The LWF Eastern Ethiopia Regional Coordination Office (EERCO) is managing projects under implementation in East Hararghe zone of the Oromia region. These projects are of emergency response in their focus and target mainly IDPs and IDP returnees displaced due to inter communal conflict between Oromo and Somali since September 2017. One of such projects is funded by the Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund (EHF)/OCHA focusing on WASH. This project is currently benefiting IDP returnees in three woredas namely Babile, Chinaksen and Fedis of East Hararghe zone.

Fatuma Abdo, married and a mother of 8 children (4 male) who lives in Berkele kebele of Babile woreda in the Oromia region, is one of the beneficiaries of the WASH project. Her husband, Ibrahim is a farmer. She and her family fled the Oromo/Somali inter-communal conflict in 2017 and were hosted around Babile town before they came back to their original place at the end of 2018. Her house was burnt due to the conflict and her 5 cattle along with few goats were taken away. When living as an IDP in Babile

“We are able to access safe and potable water with an average of 10 minutes’ walk from our residence areas”



Fatuma at the gate of the developed shallow well at Berkele Kebele.  
Photo: Endeshaw Mulatu



A girl fetches water from the developed shallow well at Berkele Kebele. Photo: Endeshaw Mulatu

area, Fatuma and her family had nothing but depended on government and other organizations' handouts which they considered very short of their needs. Currently, she and her family are getting ever decreasing food support from the government due to shrinking capacity while also striving to stand by their own through farming on the land they used to plough before the conflict.

LWF rehabilitated a shallow well in Berkele Kebele which was non-functional for the past 2 years. "We were suffering from scarcity of potable water in the nearby kebeles. We used to travel 3 hours round trip every day and sometimes twice a day to reach to the nearest water source which is a seasonal river called Bale. Our tradition is such that women and girls are responsible for fetching water. I remember a pregnant woman who suffered from miscarriage while travelling to fetch water from long distance. Moreover, diarrhoea and waterborne abdominal illness have been most common diseases in the community." Fatuma described the water situation before the rehabilitation.

Fatuma reported "after the water supply structure was rehabilitated in October 2020, we are able to access safe and potable water with an average of 10 minutes' walk from our residence areas. The scheme serves around 120 households in this kebele. I am one of the water users' committee members established by Lutheran to manage the

shallow well. I have attended two trainings on the management of the scheme and the committee started collecting fee on monthly basis which is 10 ETB/month/HH. Apart from the WASH issues, we were also trained in COVID-19, mainly about the transmission ways and the necessary precautions. The cattle trough constructed together with the rehabilitated shallow well is benefiting the community who bring their cattle to get access for water to their cattle."

Fatuma also indicated that she received 6 bars of multipurpose soaps, a jerry can and washing basin from the project together with information about personal hygiene or about how to practice safe hygiene. Finally, she thanked Lutheran, the back donor OCHA and the project team members for the good work.

Fatuma looked very happy because of the water supply structure rehabilitated in her village. To be able witness the excitement of the people the project works with, is heart-warming experience.

Tefera Hailu is the EHF/OCHA-supported WASH project team leader who has been coordinating implementation of all the planned interventions in the three woredas of Babile, Chinaksen and Fedis. Fatuma recognized and thanked Tefera and his team for the good work. She reported that the LWF team has been so active, consultative

“I am happy for being able to support overcome the critical problem of access to potable water.”

and supportive in their efforts to overcome the challenge of accessing humanitarian assistance such as the water supply service.

Tefera reflected “I remember how grave the IDP situation was and the critical water scarcity problem before we managed to rehabilitate the shallow well. I witnessed the hardship of fetching water particularly for women and girls. Their joy is my pleasure. I am happy for being able to support them overcome the critical problem of access to potable water.”

Another project under implementation in Babile woreda is called Gender responsive humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected IDPs. The project is funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) through Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) having two years life span till end of March in 2021. This project targets IDPs and IDP returnees with focus on WASH, livelihoods, shelter and sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR).

As part of the livelihood component, LWF distributed improved and short maturing crop seeds before the onset of the June-Sept rainy season. Sorghum and ground nuts were among the crop seeds provided to the target beneficiaries in the three woredas.

Umar Taha, 36 is one of the seeds beneficiaries of the project who lives in Halo village of Derer Arba kebele of Babile woreda together with his wife and his 2 boys. “I received 5 kg of improved sorghum seed called Melkam and another 5 kg of ground nut seed which I sowed on my two hectares of



Tefera Hailu, LWF staff and the EHF-funded WASH project team leader. Photo: Endeshaw Mulatu

farm land. I used only 0.25 hectare of the land for the ground nut.” He looks very excited when he explained the difference between the improved sorghum named Melkam and the traditional variety called Bullo. “You can see the difference just by looking at the crops on the field that the improved variety contains bigger quantity than the traditional one and mine is ready for harvest within 3 months while the traditional one looks wilting because of the early secession of the rain in the area.” He added “Bullo or the traditional variety is red in colour and mine is white which has high value in the market. It is my first time to sow the early maturing variety but it looks very rewarding. The white one is sold for 1000 ETB/quintal in the market whereas the red one is sold only for 500 ETB/quintal half the value of the white sorghum.”

He also explained that with the traditional sorghum variety, he used to be challenged by a unique flower-like weed called Striga but this is not the case with the improved variety of Melkam. He said that the weed has negative impact in the productivity of the crop and Striga attacks traditional sorghum seeds. It seems for him that the weed for some reason cannot grow along

the improved variety and the improved variety of sorghum is also able to resist the potential damage due to the weed.

Umar said *“I am expecting to earn more than 50,000 ETB (1,162 EURO) from sale of the sorghum harvest and some more from the ground nut. This is going to change my life significantly and I will buy a cow or two for dairy to my family and save some for future use.”*



The weed called Striga in another farm land around Umar's farm  
Photo: Endeshaw Mulatu



Umar in his ground nut field. Photo: Endeshaw Mulatu

Umar said that he expects to collect 50 quintals of sorghum harvest from his land close to 2 hectares which he said is double the quantity he could have harvested if he sowed the traditional variety of sorghum.

He also sowed the ground nut seed in small plot of land (1/4th of a ha) but the harvest is almost ready to be collected. He said *“the ground nut harvest also looks higher compared to the normal variety I used to sow.”* He sowed the ground nut on around a quarter of his farm land and expects yield of 5 quintals (20 q/ha) which is higher than the average yield/hectare for the area that is reported to be 14 quintals for good harvest. He plans to sell the whole harvest and expects at least 11,000 ETB (234 EUR) income from the sale.

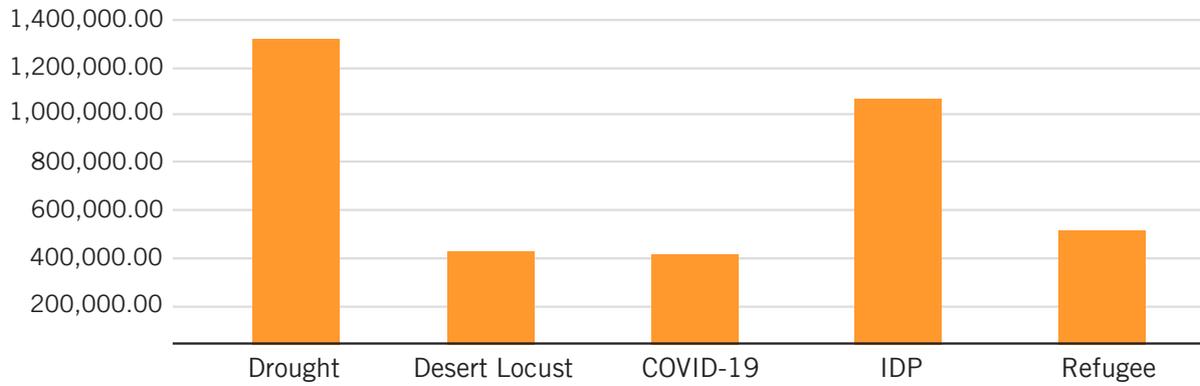
*“Thanks to the LWF and its staff who trained us in improved farming practice and who showed us the way how to enhance productivity and make harvest double. I will now reserve seeds for the next cropping season and even buy myself and use the improved seeds from the source.”* Umar concluded.



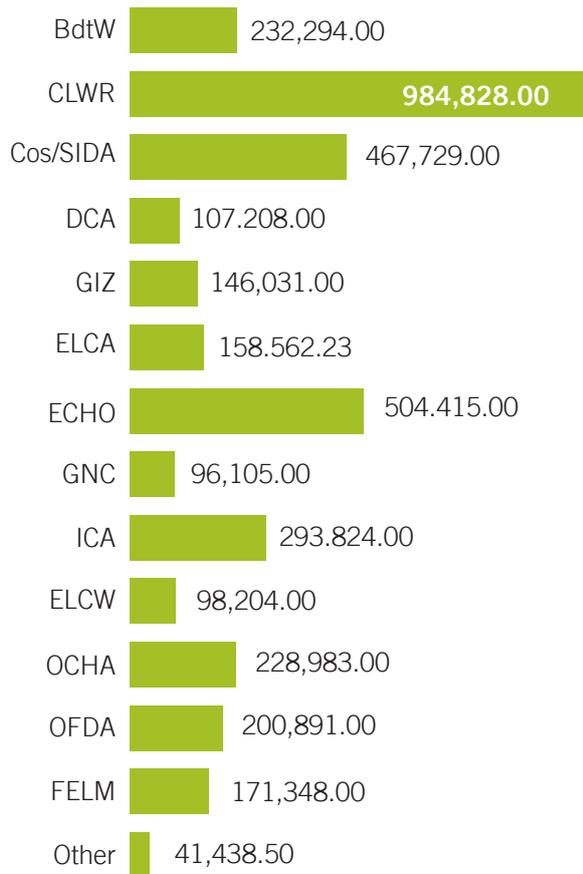
Umar inside his sorghum farm.  
Photo: Endeshaw Mulatu

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

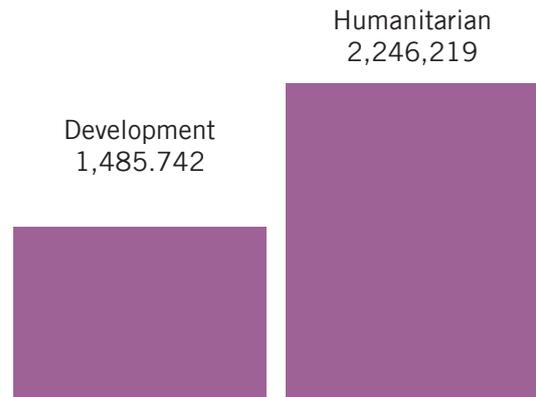
## 2020 EXPENDITURE BROKEN DOWN BY TYPE OF HUMANITARIAN CRISIS



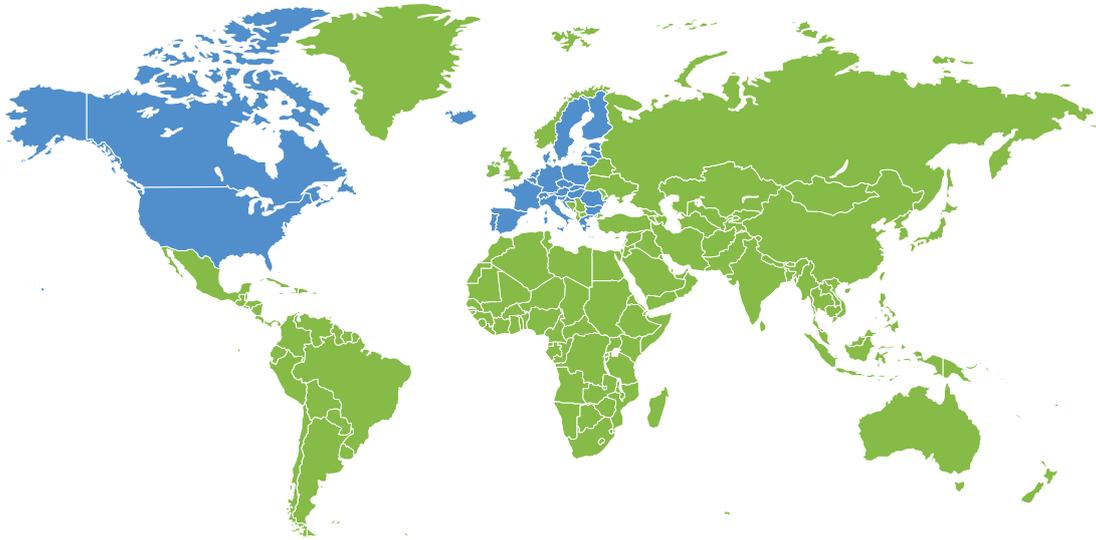
## 2020 INCOME BY DONOR



## 2020 INCOME DEVELOPMENT VS HUMANITARIAN



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# HUMAN RESOURCES

In 2020 LWF Ethiopia employed a total of 199 staff, of whom 46 (23%) were women. The Female-male ration varies greatly between the Country Office in Addis Ababa and the field locations at 59% male and 49% female staff and only 80% male and 20% female staff respectively. In terms of women in senior management positions, the situation is the with the Country Office leading with 42% and field staff 8% despite LWF Ethiopia' s efforts at bridging the gender gap through the Young Female Internship program and affirmative action.

Total number of staff disaggregated by gender



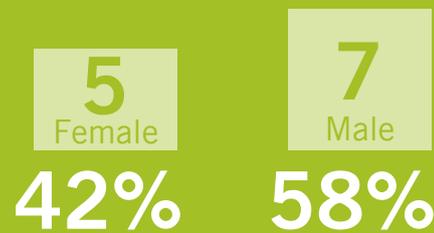
Total number of staff in the country office disaggregated by gender



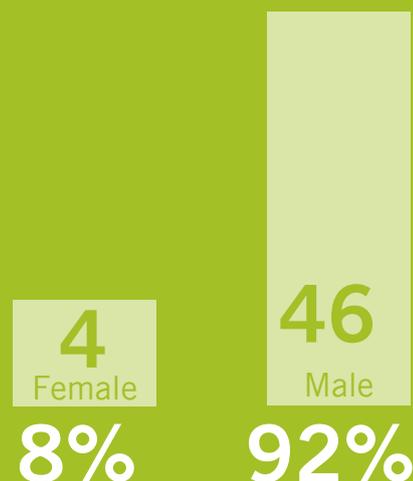
Total number of staff in the field disaggregated by gender



Total number of management staff in the country office disaggregated by gender



Total number of management staff in the field disaggregated by gender



Number of interns in 2020 and in which unit



# PROFILE

## Workaferahu Eshete, LWF Ethiopia ProLog Officer

### Early Years

Workaferahu Eshete, LWF Ethiopia ProLog Officer was born in the capital Addis Ababa, around a neighborhood popularly known as Riché, named after the children's playground and bowling arena near the former army barrack, Arategna Kifletor. Workaferahu is the eldest of five children.

He completed his junior and high school education at Menelik High School and registered at the Arat Kilo Faculty of Science at the Addis Ababa University but had to soon withdraw to get a job and support his family and supplement his father's modest income in the army.

### Family

Workaferahu was married to Yenealem Eshetu in 1987 after two years' service in LWF Ethiopia and became a father of two, a daughter Meseret born on April 21, 1988 and a son, Tsega, born on April the 7<sup>th</sup> 1990. Tsega and Meseret are university educated and currently enjoying successful careers and personal lives. Meseret, his daughter is a medical nurse and his son, Tsega is the Sales and Distribution Manager in a private company. Workaferahu also became a grandfather in November 2008.

### Career

On October 24 1985, at the height of the famine, Workaferahu joined the Lutheran World Federation Ethiopia (LWF Ethiopia) as a driver/expeditor. At the time, LWF Ethiopia was engaged in a massive relief and rehabilitation response. Workaferahu was rapidly promoted to Assistant Logistics Officer's position in the Logistics Department. Workaferahu says that having a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade driving license was key to get started in the department.

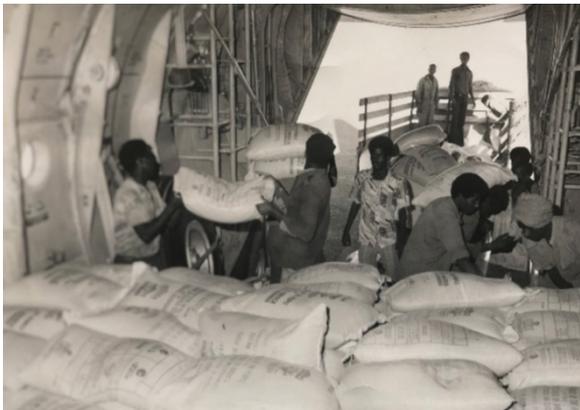


Left to right sitting: Workaferahu Eshete, his wife Yenealem Eshetu, and left to right, standing: Tsega and Meseret

LWF Ethiopia's operational areas were expansive, almost in all the provinces, but the largest operation was in Northern Ethiopia particularly in Wollo and Tigray where the drought was severe and was decimating millions of lives. LWF Ethiopia was one of the largest INGOs involved with the relief food distribution including nutritional food known as CSB to children under 5 and lactating mothers. All the food items, wheat, CSB, Oil and high nutritional biscuits for children were imported through the Port of Assab on the Red Sea and



Food distribution in Turmi, South Omo. © LWF/1985



LWF food aid airlift to Mekelle, Tigray in 1985/©LWF 1985

transported to primary destinations by using 44 of LWF's long haul trucks with trailers then proceed to secondary transport using LWF's 18 short haul trucks to the final destinations in Tigray, Wello, Gondar, Jimma, Illubabor, Hosanna, Wolaita, Konso, South Omo, Bale and Borena.

Workaferahu was promoted to Logistics Officer's

position within a couple of months in 1986. Working in such a large scale logistical operation of food shipment, storage and distribution was a great learning opportunity and a way to quickly gain a wealth of practical experience.

Following the end of food distribution, LWF Ethiopia shifted to rehabilitation and Workaferahu was assigned as an acting Area Coordinator for specific zones of North & South Gondor, North & South Welo, Waghimra, East Hararghe, Bale and Borena for 4-6 months coordinating the distribution of various seeds and farm tools to the affected farmers so that they could kick start their livelihoods. The project also involved restocking of cattle in collaboration with the local church structure of EECMY. Workaferahu's experience in logistics was further developed in the LWF flagship project Soil and Water Conservation Projects (SWCP), the Integrated Community Development Projects (ICDP) and the refugee assistance projects mainly transportation, storages and customs clearing activities.

## Back to school

Despite interrupting his university studies to support his family in 1985, Workaferahu had always held on to his dream of pursuing higher studies as soon as he fulfilled his responsibilities as the eldest son of the family. With a stellar career, stable family life, the stars finally aligned in the early 2000s and Workaferahu fulfilled his dream. He successfully obtained a Diploma from Cambridge International College on January 2002 in Business Management Administration followed



Shipping WASH NFIs as part of the LWF's COVID-19 response. 2020 © Sophie Gebreyes/ LWF Ethiopia



Workaferahu with his grand-daughter Hemen Tsega

by a Bachelor's of Arts A in Business Management from Zegha Business College in 2010 and a Master Degree in Human Resource and Organizational Development in July 2016 from Addis Ababa University.

Workaferahu says that his university studies coupled with his long career led LWF Ethiopia to second him to Euronaid as well as the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) where he served as Logistics Officer in Tigray Region for 8 months and in Humera, Gondar for another 6 months.

## COVID-19 pandemic

Workaferahu's thirty years of service of dedicated service to LWF Ethiopia were characterized by multiple crises and Workaferahu was at the forefront of them all. Nevertheless, Workaferahu singles out the year 2020 as the most challenging: *"After all my 3 decades service in LWF Ethiopia, the year 2020 was the most challenging year due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has impacted the social and economic conditions of people of my country, especially Addis Ababa a big city with high social interaction. In all the crises I have had lived through, says Workaferahu, only this unprecedented crisis stopped us from going to the office, kept us stranded at home and impeded us from visiting our families and friends."*

Since March 2020 when the first positive case was detected in the country, Workaferahu was instrumental in managing all the procurement, dispatching and distribution of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and WASH non-food items (NFIs) to all of LWF's project sites for both staff and communities LWF Ethiopia works with.

Reflecting on his life and career with LWF, Workaferahu concludes: *"Finally, I would say that I am very lucky and blessed as someone who started out as a bachelor, became a father of two and now a grandfather while working with LWF. I am filled with the wonderful memories with LWF. Professionally, I enjoyed my service years, three decades that gave me the opportunity to get to know almost all regions of Ethiopia including the now independent Eritrea as part of my job."*



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