

**ETHIOPIAID**

# Impact Report 2024











## From the CEO

2024 marked the 40th anniversary of the historic BandAid concert, which permanently changed the landscape of international humanitarian aid. As we reflect on this anniversary, it is impossible not to ask: what progress has been made in these forty years, when poverty, malnutrition, and disease persist?

While there have certainly been significant gains in Ethiopia —such as a marked reduction in Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in most regions and a decrease in the rate of obstetric fistula—there are times when it feels disheartening to hear of new challenges, such as the devastating impact of severe weather events, climate change, conflict, and inflation.

In the face of these challenges, it's important to remember the profound impact of your contributions. Take, for example, our rapid cholera response, which delivered immediate, life-saving support to communities in crisis. While we will never know the exact number of lives saved, what is clear is that your quick action and unflinching generosity helped ensure that urgent aid reached those in desperate need at a critical time, effectively containing the spread of the disease. I am so grateful to all who were there with us at that critical time. It really is a reminder of the life-changing difference we can make when we act swiftly and decisively.

This report is here to show you, our incredible donors, the very real and lasting impact you're having—both in the short and long term—on the lives of people in Ethiopia. Your continued commitment is making a tangible difference, and we are beyond grateful for your ongoing support.



**Sharon Elliott**  
*CEO EthiopiAid Australia and Canada*





## From the Board of Directors

**The cost of living continues to be high, and as a not-for-profit organisation, we remain extremely mindful of managing our expenses carefully. Our primary objective is to financially support our partners in Ethiopia, but we can only achieve this if we are financially viable and sustainable ourselves.**

To ensure this, we are working towards a comprehensive 5-year plan focused on recruiting donors and increasing our financial stability.

This requires investment in donor acquisition which is reflected in our fundraising costs. We closely monitor all fundraising campaigns to ensure that every dollar invested works as hard as possible and, over the long term, raises more money for our project partners in Ethiopia.

We are committed to communicating with transparency and accountability, so that our donors know how their money is being used and the impact of our activities in Ethiopia.

We are also committed to building on the strong collaboration between Ethiopiaaid Australia and Ethiopiaaid Canada, by sharing resources and increasing efficiency for both of our operations. This collaboration has allowed us to reflect the combined impact of both our Australian and Canadian efforts in this report.

We are forever grateful for the generosity of our Australian and Canadian supporters who enable every activity and achievement contained in this report. It could not be done without you.



**Robert Macdonald**  
*Chair, Board of Directors,  
Ethiopiaaid Australia*



**Stewart Kerr**  
*Chair, Board of Directors,  
Ethiopiaaid Canada*





# Global but local

**We firmly believe that sustainable change is driven by people. That's why we've partnered with grassroots organisations in Ethiopia to ensure your support directly reaches those who need it most.**

We act as the link between you and the people making change happen on the ground, connecting you to local communities and the projects you care about.

Through close collaboration between our Ethiopiaid teams in Australia, Canada, the UK and Ireland, we boost our impact, increase efficiency, and foster long-term sustainability in the communities we serve. This partnership guarantees that your donations are directly supporting local programs, empowering individuals with the skills and resources they need to break free from poverty—not just today, but for generations to come.

In this spirit of connection and collaboration, the CEOs from Ethiopiaid UK and Ethiopiaid Australia recently led the first-ever partner workshop in Ethiopia. This event brought together local and national Ethiopian NGOs, who are often operating in isolation. The workshop was a tremendous success, fostering stronger connections between our Ethiopian partners and creating a more unified network between Ethiopiaid, project partners, and our supporters.

## Our vision

For an Ethiopia free from poverty in which every person has access to quality education, healthcare and a life of dignity.

## Our mission

To break the cycle of poverty in Ethiopia by enabling the poorest, the most vulnerable and their communities to live with dignity, build resilience and achieve true and lasting solutions to the challenges they face.





# 2024 at a glance

127,251  
activities

to educate about the **dangers of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriage** were carried out by 50 Women Extension Workers in Afar.

1,153  
pregnant women

**delivered their babies safely** thanks to pre- and post-natal care.

182  
women

**suffering from obstetric fistula** received holistic repair surgery and rehabilitation.

5000+  
disaster-stricken

families in Afar received **emergency aid**.

325  
terminally ill

patients **received palliative care**.

747  
rural children

offered the chance to **learn literacy and numeracy** (*more than half were girls!*).



# The team

## In Australia

- 9560 supporters in Australia
- 8 project partners working in Ethiopia
- 2 full-time staff and 4 part-time staff
- 7 board members volunteering



## In Canada

- 1251 supporters in in Canada
- 3 project partners working in Ethiopia
- 4 part-time staff
- 5 board members volunteering









---

# Your impact

---

## 2024





# Forced mutilation & marriage

In Ethiopia, approximately 25 million girls and women have undergone Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), with nearly 50% of these procedures occurring before the age of five. In some regions, such as Afar, this figure rises dramatically to 84%. Strong cultural and societal beliefs persist, with one in four women and one in six men wrongly believing FGM is a religious requirement. Girls who are subjected to FGM suffer lifelong physical and psychological consequences.

Child marriage is also prevalent, with four in ten girls married before their 18th birthday. Many of these marriages result in adolescent girls giving birth, which can cause significant physical and psychological problems and increases the risk of birth injuries including obstetric fistula. Girls from rural areas and those with less education are particularly vulnerable to both FGM and early marriage, facing greater risks due to their social and economic circumstances and a severe lack of education in these regions.

## The work you support

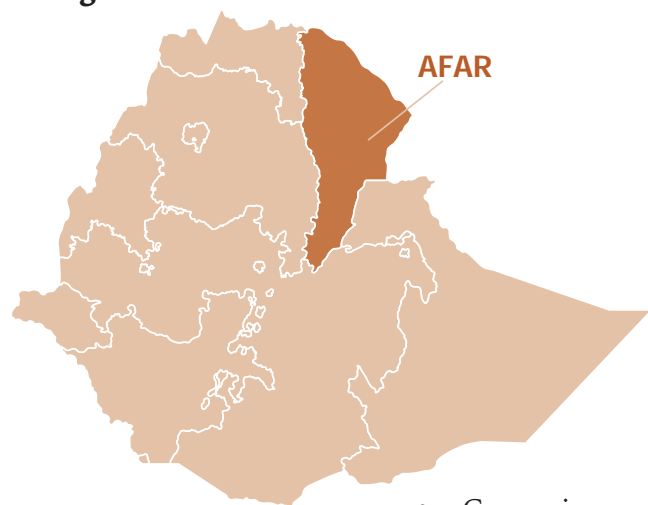
### Project partners:

- Afar Pastoralist Development Association - Funded by  

### Activities:

- Training Women Extension Workers
- Young Leader Workshops
- Training Traditional Birth Attendants
- Clan Leader Conferences
- Community education and awareness campaigns
- Literacy classes in rural areas
- Educating rural teachers
- Emergency aid and disaster relief

### Region:



- Gawaani
- Kori
- Dagaba
- Magaale
- Erebt





**“You have helped and facilitated us in our work towards the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation.**

**“It’s a real tough fight. We use Women Extension Workers in the fight daily and we are very focused on literacy, because illiteracy is the thing that makes you stuck with the beliefs of your great-great-great-great grandmother.**

**“We need to keep the momentum going to stop FGM altogether. When it happens, this will be a huge breakthrough for women and girls.”**

- Valerie Browning, APDA

## Your impact

- 50 Women Extension Workers operate throughout the Afar region, raising awareness about women’s rights and the dangers of FGM, and educating families and communities away from the practice.
- 160 Traditional Birth Attendants received training about eliminating FGM, decreasing risk of newborn deaths, and proper nutrition for mothers and babies.
- 94 youths (50% boys and 50% girls) trained in understanding and exercising their rights, and detecting harmful practices.
- 83 clan and religious leaders gathered and agreed to supporting positive change and a move away from FGM and early marriage.
- Recognising that education is the key to eliminating harmful practices, 747 students are learning literacy and numeracy in remote Afar communities, of which 53.81% are females.



# Fistula & maternal health

In Ethiopia, becoming a mother can be one of the most dangerous things a woman will do in her lifetime. Most women do not receive adequate care during pregnancy, and less than half of all births are attended by a skilled health professional.

Approximately 67% of childbirth deliveries occur at home, which significantly increases the risk of complications, as well as infant and maternal mortality. Each year, thousands of girls and women develop obstetric fistula, and over 140,000 women are currently living with untreated fistula throughout the country. The maternal mortality rate in Ethiopia stands at 401 deaths per 100,000 women, making it one of the most dangerous countries on earth to give birth.




**“I often hear women who have had successful fistula surgery describe sleeping on a dry bed and becoming an active member of society as being reborn.**

**“For this rebirth and renewal, for this joy and hope, I thank you from the deepest part of my heart.”**

- Dr Ambaye, Fistula Surgeon and Founder, Hope of Light.

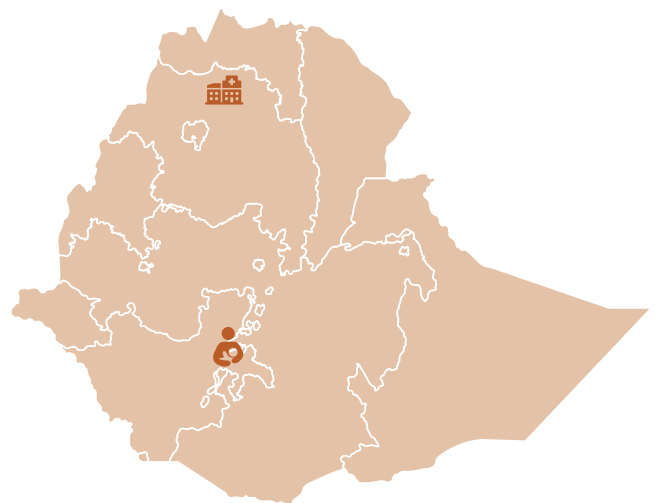
## The work you support

### Project partners:

- Healing Hands of Joy - Funded by 
- Hope of Light - Funded by  

### Activities:

- Identifying, transporting fistula patients
- Fistula repair surgery
- Training Safe Motherhood Ambassadors to educate communities about preventing and identifying fistula
- Rural outreach for safe pregnancy awareness, including educating male family members about fistula
- Training medical professionals in pre- and post-operational care of fistula patients
- Training medical professionals in antenatal care so they can identify risk and ensure women receive urgent care in time to prevent fistula



Fistula hospital in Gondar



Safe Motherhood Ambassador training centre in Hawassa





## Your impact

- 182 women underwent successful surgery for fistula and pelvic floor disorders, including counselling and post-operative rehabilitation.
- 27 fistula survivors trained as Safe Motherhood Ambassadors to work within their communities to prevent and identify fistula.
- 2 Maternity Waiting Homes operating to provide safe accommodation and medical care to pregnant women in remote areas.
- 27 husbands and male family members trained in fistula awareness and prevention, and other maternal health matters.
- 3 urogynecology fellows and 42 senior obstetrics and gynecology residents at Gondar University Hospital trained in fistula surgical techniques and perioperative care.





# Child exploitation & homelessness

Ethiopia is home to over 4.5 million orphans, and has the highest percentage of AIDS orphans in sub-Saharan Africa, affecting around 886,820 children who have lost their families due to the disease. Approximately 50 million children in the country are at high risk of living in poverty.

Many children, particularly those living on the streets or unable to continue their education, face exploitation and mistreatment. Ethiopia also faces one of the highest rates of child slavery in the world, with thousands of children, some as young as 10, being sold by their parents each year. Additionally, 40% of young women are married before the age of 18, and the country is home to 15 million child brides, including 6 million who are under 15. Only 3% of children under 5 have their births registered, which sharply increases the risk of mistreatment, exploitation, and child slavery.

## The work you support

### Project partners:

- Yenege Tesfa (Hope for Tomorrow) - Funded by 
- Jerusalem Children & Community Development Organisation (JeCCDO) - Funded by 

### Activities:

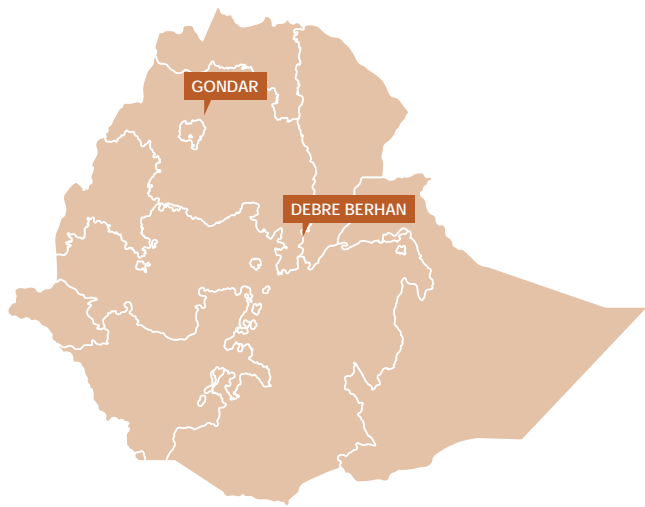
- Providing education to disadvantaged children
- Supporting single mothers in business literacy, income generation, and business startups so they can provide for their families
- Providing safe spaces and food support for children living on the street
- Supporting girls to continue their education into high school
- Reunification of trafficked children

**“Many of these children have had very difficult lives. Some of them suffered abuse. All of them suffered from poverty. But now they are protected and supported with many things they need in life. All their lives are completely changed. We see in them self-confidence, and they see themselves as equals with other children. They have developed social skills. They now can have a future.”**

– Yenege Tesfa, on the Homes for Tomorrow project







## Your impact

- 40 children of working single parents attended a Day Care Centre providing early education, nutritious meals and a safe environment.
- 84 children provided with essential items including food, drink, hygiene items, sleeping materials, clothes and education supplies.
- 3399 children provided with educational materials such as exercise books, writing materials and uniforms in the Gondar and Debarke areas.
- 80 girls from remote rural areas supported to attend school, including safe accommodation, living expenses and sanitary items.
- 582 disadvantaged pre-school children provided with breakfast and lunch.
- 60 children living on the streets enrolled into summer school.
- 132 street children provided with educational opportunities through a mobile school program to prepare them for entering into regular schools the following year.
- 10,336 children benefited from a mobile library program to help children with literacy and inspire them to continue studying.
- 2 victims of child trafficking provided with medical care, food, and family reunification.



## Women & girls' empowerment

---

**From the moment they are born, girls in Ethiopia face enormous challenges. Girls are far less likely to receive an education than boys in Ethiopia. Only half of all girls complete primary school, and three-quarters do not finish their secondary education. These numbers are much higher in remote and rural areas.**

For those who do attend, two out of every five girls miss school simply because they lack the resources to manage their menstrual hygiene. And as they enter womanhood, it does not get easier. Violence against women is alarmingly widespread—more than half have experienced physical or sexual abuse. Heartbreakingly, 17% of girls say their first sexual experience was forced. During pregnancy, 77% of women report being physically assaulted by their partners. In the past year alone, one in three women were coerced into sex by a partner—yet fewer than 2% felt able to report the abuse to police. Perhaps most disturbingly, 68% of women surveyed believe wife beating can be justified, reflecting the deep societal norms that normalise this violence.



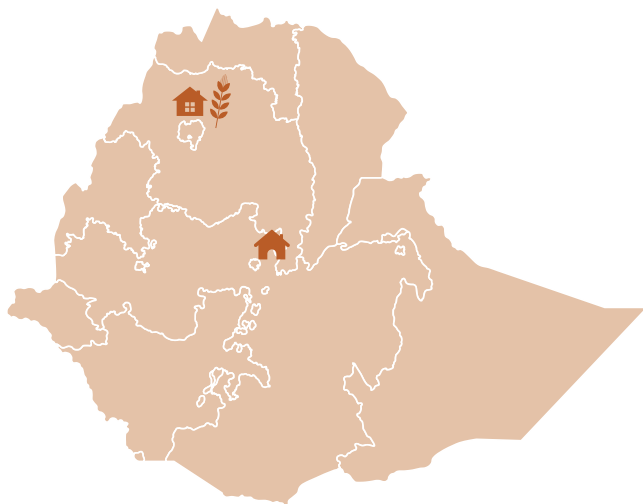
# The work you support

## Project partners:

- Yenege Tesfa  
(Hope for Tomorrow) - Funded by 
- Jerusalem Children & Community Development Organisation (JeCCDO) - Funded by 
- For-Ethiopia - Funded by 

## Activities:

- Supporting disadvantaged girls with opportunities to escape violence and poverty through education
- Providing housing for girls so they can continue their education
- Training girls and women with skills for income generation and financial literacy
- Educating girls about menstrual hygiene and providing reusable sanitary pads



For-ethiopia Prudence House  
(Ejere district, Oromia Region)



Tewabech House, Yenege Tesfa  
(Gondar)



Gondar agricultural program for  
single mothers, Yenege Tesfa (Gondar)

# Your impact

- 493 school girls received menstrual hygiene management training and sanitary pads.
- 50 vulnerable women trained in business literacy and economic empowerment.
- 60 single mothers trained in crop production and provided with seeds and cultivation tools.
- 386 vulnerable women attended demonstrations on vegetable production and were provided with seedlings for cultivation.
- 52 vulnerable women supported in income-generation activities including livestock care, honey production, and milk production.
- 30 adolescent girls educated in family planning matters, reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS awareness to allow them to make informed decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health.

**“Educating girls guarantees sustainable social change and is the best investment for human beings.”**

- Dr Tigist Grieve and Workinesh Daba, founders of For-ethiopia.

# Hospice & palliative care

In Ethiopia, awareness of the importance of hospice and palliative care is extremely low, and access is severely limited, especially outside the major cities. Those suffering from an incurable illness are usually provided with no support or care whatsoever, and often face the end of their days in suffering, fear, and isolation.

## The work you support

### Project partners:

- Hospice Ethiopia - Funded by 

### Activities:

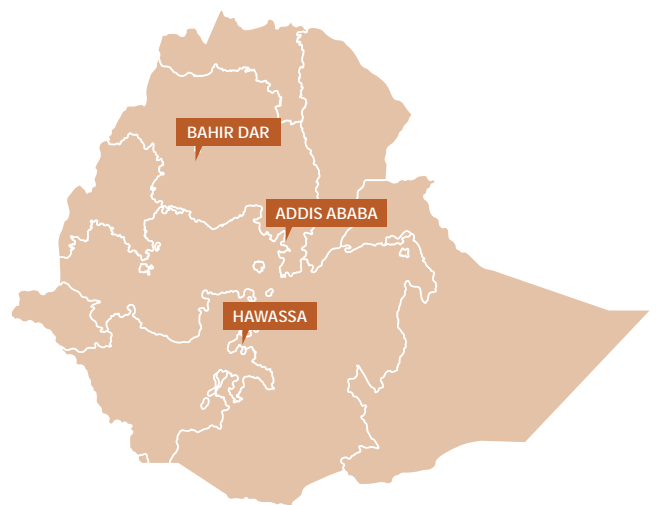
- Enhancing the quality of life for patients by addressing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs, with a focus on pain management and symptom relief.
- At home palliative & hospice care, including the provision of medication, checkups, and counselling
- Training for family members on how to care for their loved one.
- Providing food & financial relief to those who have no income due to illness.
- Training medical professionals in palliative care
- Working with Ethiopian federal government to increase accessibility of palliative care.

**“Our patients appreciate the caregiving, psychological support and access to pain medications. We help them have quality of life until the end. It means so much to their families as well.”**

- Getahun Sintayenu, Hospice Ethiopia

## Your impact

- 325 patients suffering a terminal illness received palliative care services in their homes, with support also offered to grieving family members.
- Financial support provided to 24 patients who could not afford basic necessities to live.
- Food support provided to 50 patients who were unable to buy food for themselves.
- Day-care services provided to 9 patients.
- 50 health care professionals trained in basic palliative care skills.





# Living with disability

People living with disabilities in Ethiopia are often side-lined in society due to widespread social stigma, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to education, healthcare, and employment.

People with disabilities often face discrimination and exclusion, particularly in rural areas where services are scarce. Access to assistive devices, rehabilitation services, and accessible transportation is often extremely limited, preventing many people with disabilities from fully participating in their communities and reaching their full potential as valued and contributing members of society.



## The work you support

### Project partners:

- Cheshire Ethiopia - Funded by 

### Activities:

- Production, fitting, and maintenance of mobility and assistive devices for those living with disability
- Accommodation for those needing surgery or rehabilitation.
- Support for families of children with disabilities.
- Educating families and communities about disability and inclusion.

**“Together for an inclusive society.”**

– Cheshire Ethiopia

## Your impact

- Pre- and post-operative boarding care given to 121 individuals who are amputees or have other disabilities.
- 5,878 individuals assisted with mobility aids and devices.
- 583 families assisted with holistic rehabilitation of children with disabilities.
- 26 school disability clubs supported with training and educational materials.

# Emergency & recovery

Ethiopia is a country that is prone to crisis, including natural disasters and conflict.

These challenges leave already vulnerable people in desperate need of support, both in the immediate and longer term. In 2024 Ethiopia faced drought, floods, locusts, and multiple disease outbreaks, all of which required rapid response and recovery efforts needing ongoing financial support.

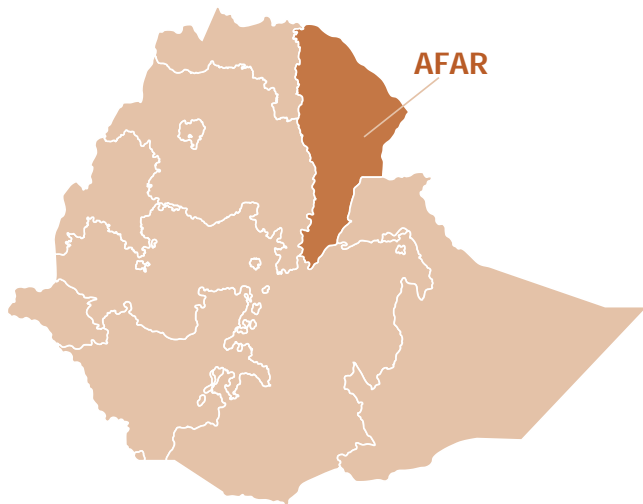
## The work you support

### Project partners:

- APDA - Funded by 

### Activities

- Triage and needs assessment in times of emergency
- Providing emergency goods, including food, clean water, emergency shelter, and medical supplies
- Educating communities about disease prevention and hygiene
- Evacuating people from danger zones and providing emergency accommodation in safe areas



“The funding (received from Ethiopiaaid) was utterly life-saving”

- Valerie Browning, reporting on cholera response in Afar, 2024.

## Your impact

- 786 people treated for cholera.
- 46,350 people given education about cholera prevention and hygiene to reduce spread of disease.
- 5,000+ families provided with soap and water purification.
- 210,000 litres of safe drinking water delivered to cholera-affected communities.
- 232 displaced families provided with emergency shelter, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, cooking supplies, and water containers.











# Financial snapshot

## Total income

Because of the generosity of 6036 supporters across Australia and 1251 supporters in Canada, we raised a total of \$2,368,140 this year.

Single donations	\$1,538,323
Monthly/regular gifts	\$337,667
Grants	\$210,250
Gifts left in Wills	\$280,830
Merchandise	\$1070
Total income	\$2,368,140

## Payments to Project Partners - Ethiopiaaid Australia\*

JeCCDO	267,000
APDA	306,537
Healing Hands of Joy	110,000
Yenege Tesfa	367,500
Hospice Ethiopia	22,500*
For-ethiopia	23,000*
Hope of Light	35,000

## Payments to Project Partners - Ethiopiaaid Canada

Hope of Light	20,000 CAD
Cheshire Ethiopia	82,880 CAD
APDA	50,000 CAD

\*Australian payments are listed in AUD

\*\*funds delivered in previous financial year to support ongoing projects in 2024



To see our audited accounts in full, visit our website:  
[ethiopiaid.org.au/how-your-donation-is-used](https://ethiopiaid.org.au/how-your-donation-is-used)

**ETHIOPIAID**

