

LOVE IN ACTION
ETHIOPIA (LIAE)

THIS
QUARTER

•LIAE
Launches
New Initia-
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•Plans are
Underway
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A team of LIAE's staff members visiting a location in Hossana City, where the Center is likely to be established

LIAE Discusses with Government Officials on Ways to Establish Excellence Center in Hossana City

- *Plans are underway on both sides*

Love In Action Ethiopia (LIAE) held a half day meeting with top government officials on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 in Hossana City, Hadiya Zone, SNNPR, on ways to establish Excellence Center in the Region.

“This is what we’ve been thinking about for more than a decade. I’m thrilled that the project is well recognized by top senior officials of the zone. It’s getting done now,” said LIAE’s Executive Director, Ato Aklilu GebreMichael, during his opening speech. He added that LIAE

has already designed a proposal and started taking some practical actions including soliciting funds for the project.

Speaking at the meeting, Hadiya Zone Administration Head, Ato Melaku Temisso, indicated that the establishment of the Excellence Center has a huge significance in terms of addressing the socio-economic challenges that rural children from no-and low-income families are facing in their effort to continue their high school education being far away from their families.

The Center is part of LIAE’s New Initiative (NI) to be implemented over the coming five years in the region. LIAE is currently undertaking a New Initiative, which includes the establishment of Excellence Center, Elders and Children Rehabilitation Center, Mothers and Children Specialized Hospital, and Training Center in Hossana City, Hadiya Zone, SNNPR in the next five years (2016-2020). The Initiative was developed based on baseline surveys, and a series of discussions with all concerned stakeholders.

LIAE Assesses Organizational Achievements

Love In Action Ethiopia (LIAE) convened a general meeting on “Operational Achievements and Challenges of LIAE-The Past Nine Months (February 2015-October 2015)” at its Head Office, Addis Ababa, from October 23 to October 27, 2015.

The Executive Director of the organization, Ato Aklilu GebreMichale, opened the meeting with a keynote address, highlighting the need to evaluate the limitations and strengths of each project activity implemented over the past nine months. He also stressed that LIAE’s success is measured by the impacts its projects have brought about on the ground. He further said, “Designing and implementing project activities in one thing,

and putting them into practice and assessing their impact is another thing. This meeting will help us bring these things together, and assess LIAE’s progress over the past nine months.”

The meeting, attended by eleven staff and management members, provided a forum for program managers to discuss various ways to improve the implementation of project activities, and determine best ways to address challenges confronted. A series of presentations were delivered by program managers of MULU/MARPs, CSSP, Fuga Community Empowerment, and Initiative Africa/ADV. Collectively, the presentations provided detailed information about the current status of the pro-

jects, the operational achievements and challenges, and strategies to scale up and scale out.

Participants fully agreed that project activities need to be adapted to fit the needs of the local situations and changing circumstances. They also agreed that project implementation is a learning process, and changing the strategic plan as learning proceeds is constructive and necessary.

A comprehensive approach to secure the sustainability of the projects was also designed during the five-day meeting.

LIAE Plans to Focus on Environment Development Program

Recognizing the current local and global environmental crisis, LIAE has designed a new strategic action plan, which enables the organization to focus on environment development as a core component of sustainable performance of a community.

LIAE believes that the program promotes decisions and actions that are in the interests of protecting the natural environment, with particular emphasis on preserving the capacity of the environment to support human life.

The program is a cross-cutting one, and takes sustainability as a driving force.



A rural road constructed in Lekole Kebele, SNNPR, as part of LIAE’s Environment Development Program

ACHIEVEMENTS IN PICTURES

HIGHLIGHTS



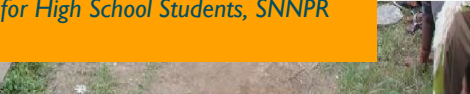
Improving Access to Public Health, Gambella Region



School Wide Support, Hadiya Zone, SNNPR



Provision of Supplementary Materials for High School Students, SNNPR



Community Wide Event, Gambella Town



Promoting Girls Education, Hadiya Zone, SNNPR

ACHIEVEMENTS

LIAE implements participatory mapping, which draws on local people's knowledge to explore social problems, opportunities and questions, as an integral part of its project designing, implementation and evaluation.



LIAE's staff and representative of community members doing Community Mapping

Why Community Mapping?

One of the strengths of community/participatory mapping as a research method is that it allows different features of a particular place, and the interplay between them, to be explored simultaneously. Physical and social geography, changes that have occurred over time, residents' personal and collective experiences, and their

attitudes and perspectives on their environment are just a few of the subjects that can be explored through a mapping exercise. The approach explicitly recognises local people as capable research collaborators, and it fosters empowerment in that it helps participants define and represent places and relationships that are important to them.

**COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

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