

At the beginning of 2025, humanitarian needs remain significant, driven by a confluence of factors including ongoing conflicts particularly in Amhara and western Oromia regions, back-to-back climate shocks such as droughts, floods, and landslides, and recurrent health emergencies. Protection concerns persist in conflict-affected areas, compounding the vulnerabilities of those in need.

This includes gender based violence, violence against civilians, child separation, continuous forced eviction and destruction of properties, presence of mines and other unexploded ordnance. The La Niña-impacted October-December 2024 rains, which underperformed, in predominantly pastoralist areas in southern and southeastern parts of the country, are causing drought-like conditions, leading to water shortages, food insecurity and acute malnutrition in communities that are still recovering from the impact of the 2020-2023 drought¹.

CHILDREN IN ETHIOPIA



With about 126.5 million people (2023), Ethiopia is the second most populous nation in Africa after Nigeria, and one of the fastest-growing economies in the region, with an estimated 8.1% growth in FY2023/24. However, it also remains one of the poorest, with a per capita gross national income of \$1,020. Ethiopia aims to reach lower-middle-income status by 2025².

Ethiopia is home to approximately 13 million children under 5 years of age - approximately 16 percent of the total population of 126.5 million. By 2050, Ethiopia will have 58 million children under 18 years (6% of Africa)³.

Children remain at a high risk of living in poverty with limited access to essential services.



DEMOGRAPHICS



Population
Approx 126.5 million



**Children
(up to 18 years)**
Approx. 31.5 million



**Urban - rural
ratio**
26% - 74%

Social-economic data



\$1,020⁴

Per capita income (GNI per capita)



49%⁵

Literacy rate



8.1%

Annual growth (GDP growth)



27%

Living below the poverty line (of \$1.90 per day)

Net enrolment rate primary (Grade 1-6)

95.7%

Net enrolment rate middle school (Grades 7-8)

46.9%

Net enrolment rate high school (Grades 9-12)

27.3%

OUR WORK IN ETHIOPIA

- Our work in Ethiopia is focused on supporting children on the move and related, interlinked issues of child exploitation, mainly child trafficking, unsafe migration, child sexual exploitation, child labour, child marriage and female genital mutilation. Additionally, we provide vital humanitarian assistance.
- The current programmes in the country are centred around providing support to children who are suffering from man-made and natural crises, as well as empowering girls and young women by enhancing their decision-making power in all matters that affect their lives.
- Terre des Hommes Netherlands collaborates with local organisations and networks to implement both development and humanitarian projects. The projects aim to prevent child exploitation, provide assistance to exploited children and children experiencing conflict, and influence relevant policies and practices at the local and national levels.

OUR APPROACH

♦ Children at the centre

Children are at the centre of everything we do. We support them to get access to education and other skills development so they can eventually find jobs to earn better incomes. We build their resilience and facilitate their empowerment. And we help them amplify their voice, opening opportunities to speak up to those with the power to realise systemic change.

♦ Strengthening child protection

We educate parents and communities. We build the capacity of local structures to effectively prevent, detect, report and respond to child exploitation. We collaborate with other actors to influence the strengthening of the legal and policy environment for better promotion and protection of children's rights.

2025 Budget

€ 1,760,470

OUR PROJECTS

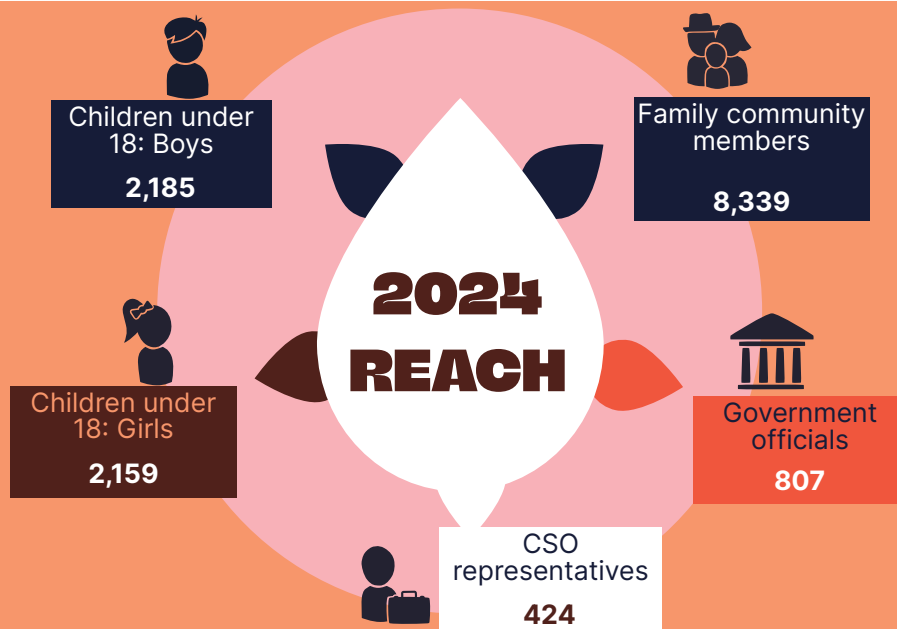
Project locations

- National Level
- Amhara Region (North Wollo zone, Gidan district, Wag Himra zone, Ziquala district and Bahir Dar city)
- Oromia Region (Borena zone, Dubuluk district)

Number of Current projects

- 2 projects- Sexual Exploitation of children
- 4 projects- Humanitarian Action





ACHIEVEMENTS

- 3 CSOs supported to undertake lobby and advocacy works on the rights and empowerment of girls and young women in Ethiopia.
- A panel discussion with 40 Women Parliamentarians (Cocus), government ministries and GYW was held to address barriers to leadership and call for increased support from ministries, parliament and policymakers and establish room for meaningful engagement and raise awareness in the community that young women take on leadership responsibilities.
- Seven Girls and Young Women representatives participated in the 40th GIMAC Network Pre-Summit CSOs Consultation which primarily focused on gender-responsive education, highlighting the importance of addressing gender disparities and promoting equality in educational systems
- One member of the Ethiopian Young Women Voice participated in the 68th Commissions on the Status Women (CSW68) in New York.
- A research to examine the ANRS family laws and its implementation with a view to identify

gaps and challenges that impact the rights of vulnerable family members, primarily women and children has been conducted. Based on the research findings a total of 112 law re-enforcement bodies, community volunteers and other relevant stakeholders at regional level participated in the training to build their capacity on the implementation process of the Law.

- Girls' federation in Bahir Dar City took initiative to facilitate networking of Girls and Young Women champions, and protection of girls' rights with other stakeholders and CSOs as the project arranged an advocacy workshop on GBV/HTPs prevention with 35 decision makers, law enforcement organs, influential people and other stakeholders who have the capacity to influence the community.
- Girl's Advocacy campaign with 550 participants and a workshop with 44 participants organized on the 16 days of activism against GBV. These events enhanced the awareness of the community, strengthened partnership and collaboration among stakeholders and targeted communities for joint actions towards the prevention of GBV. The 16 days of activism consultation workshop served as a platform for girls and young women, especially survivors, to ask questions and express their concerns about prevalence and increment of gender-based violence in their community.

"Now that I have joined the She Leads programme, I feel that I can do big things in the future."



Banchamlak
She Leads Advocate, Ethiopia

References

¹<https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-priority-humanitarian-response-and-critical-funding-gaps-february-april-2025>

²<https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/ethiopia/overview>

³<https://www.unicef.org/ethiopia/children-ethiopia>

⁴<https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/ethiopia/overview>

⁵<https://www.ethiopiareads.org/>



“ At first, I was scared about what would happen to me. I felt helpless in a situation I could not control, and I thought my dreams were out of reach. But now, after discussing things with my family, I see a brighter future ahead. I am committed to working hard in school and focusing on my education because I now believe I can achieve the goals I’ve always dreamed of. My future is in my hands, and I’m ready to make it happen.”

Zebenay
Project participant, Ethiopia.

“ As part of our global commitment to stop child exploitation, in Ethiopia, we are partnering with government, CSOs, community and children at national and grassroots level to implement programs and projects aimed at supporting children who need our intervention. Our interventions are informed by research and co-created with children. We make sure that children are seen, heard and meaningfully engaged in our work.”

Girma Amentie Gari,
Country Director, Ethiopia
Terre des Hommes Netherlands

PARTNERSHIPS

Terre des Hommes Netherlands is a member of the:

- Joining Forces - an alliance of six child-focused international NGOs.
- She Leads, a five-year strategic partnership between the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and four consortium organisations - Terre des Hommes Netherlands, Plan Netherlands, DCI-ECPAT Netherlands and the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET).
- Ethiopia HINGO Forum - a forum of International organisations working within the humanitarian setting.
- Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council

Within the local context we work alongside our local partners:

- African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) - Ethiopia
- Mahibere Hiwot for Social Development (MSD)
- Network of Ethiopian Women Associations (NEWA)
- Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA)
- Strategies for Northern Development (SND)

FUNDING PARTNERS

Our work in Ethiopia is made possible through the financial support of:

- Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)
- Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA)

About Terre des Hommes Netherlands

Terre des Hommes Netherlands (TdH NL) is an international child rights organisation committed to stopping child exploitation. Our mission is to protect children by preventing and stopping child exploitation and by empowering children to make their voices count. Our vision is that 'children can flourish in a world free of all forms of exploitation.

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