

Terminal report
on the Implementation of Child and Community Development Project
(CCDP)



Implemented by Organization for Child Development and Transformation (CHADET)
in Wolisso town and its surroundings, South West Shoa Zone
Oromiya National Regional State

January 2022

Acronyms

CFTC	Canadian feed the children
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CHADET	Organization for Child Development and Transformation
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
HH	House Hold
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IGA	Income generating activities
PCO	Project Coordination office
PLA	Participatory Learning and Action
SACCO	Saving and Credit Cooperative organization
SHG	Self -help group

1. PROJECT PROFILE

Project Title	Child and Community Development Project (CCDP)
Name of implementing organization	Organization for Child Development and Transformation (CHADET)
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Girls and boys in the intervention area have access to quality primary and ECCE education, 2. Improve household food security and address the general nutritional needs of children and families in the target ed areas, 3. Improve the capacities of Community and partners organizations to facilitate planned activities.
Project location	Wolliso town and rural kebeles in its surroundings
Start date of the project	January 2021
End date of the project	December 2021
Type and number of beneficiaries	<p>Total: 17,324</p> <p>Direct: 1,230 (Male - 246 Female - 984)</p> <p>Indirect: 15,094 (Male- 420 Female - 14,674)</p>
Contact Person	<p>Anannia Admassu (PhD)</p> <p>Executive Director</p> <p>Tel: - +251-115-156959,</p> <p>E-mail: info@chadet.org</p> <p>Fax: - +251-115-525077</p> <p>Website: - www.chadet.org</p>
Project Budget	<p>Total Budget: ETB 2,739,078.60</p> <p>Operational cost: ETB 2,476,794.60</p> <p>Administration cost: ETB 262,284.00</p>

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

CHADET is an indigenous non-governmental organization established in 1995 and is involved in protecting the welfare of children found under difficult circumstances. Its organizational mission is to create access to integrated services for vulnerable children. Currently it operates in three regions of Ethiopia namely: Amhara, Oromia and Addis Ababa targeting the disadvantaged members of the community. Its major intervention areas include: (1) Education: creating access to primary and ECCE education for OVCs, alternative basic education and support for marginalized girls and boys in primary, secondary and TVET levels (2) Livelihood improvement (food security, skills and vocational training, saving and credit schemes, etc.) (3) Capacity building (enhancement of capacities of local stakeholders); (4) Undertaking research and ne CHADET established a Project Coordination Office (PCO) in Wolliso town, South-west Shoa Zone of the Oromia regional state almost fourteen years ago in 2007. The office at the beginning started to implement a project entitled “Adolescent Reproductive Health Project” in sixteen Kebeles of the Woreda including Kebeles within Wolliso town with an aim to disseminate reproductive health information through different strategies to address the community in general and adolescents and young people in particular and thereby to establish and strengthen a functional referral linkage with service providers, including government health institutions. Later on, it developed a project entitled “Child and Community Development Program (CCDP)” with a focus on children’s education and support for their parents and care providers. It also included executing programs that benefit communities and strengthening schools through initiating their own income generation schemes such that they could also support vulnerable children in their respective schools. Furthermore, building capacities of local stakeholders and grassroot level voluntary institutions was an integral part of the project activity. Besides its positive effect on children who were enrolled at the ECCE centers, the project was able to initiate youth clubs that are now working independently and has laid down foundations between schools, communities and line government bodies for ensuring the sustainability of the ‘Child and Community Development Program (CCDP)’ project.

The project focused on creating access to education for vulnerable children, building capacities of local stakeholders and food security. In addition, the parents of the target children have been organized into self-help groups (SHG) and SACCOs provided with business skills training during project life. The project has also initiated income generating activities in

government schools to provided support for other vulnerable children to access education through the provision of scholastic materials and improved school infrastructures.

The statements described above highlight the longstanding development partnership that CHADET has developed over the years with government and community structures in Wolisso, the surrounding Woreda and Zonal and Regional sector offices during the implementation of the projects. CHADET has also been implementing a wide scale girls' education project in Arsi of the Oromia National Regional State where it has been supporting over 4,000 girls to improved learning outcome, transition, and sustainability. It also has five pillars of intervention namely safe and conducive environment for learning, meeting transition costs, improving teacher quality, challenging harmful social norms and improving girls' engagement in the TVET programs.

The CCDP project that CHADET has been implementing in Wolliso over the years could be divided into five phases. The first phase covers the period between 2007-2009 while the second phase ranges between the years 2010 and 2012. Between the years 2013 and 2015 and 2016-2018, it implemented the third and fourth phase of the project respectively. Although the final phase of the project was implemented during the years of 2019 and 2020, in order to strengthen the activities that were being implemented over the years and ensure the sustainability of key activities and to compensate some of the that was lost due to the COVID 19 pandemic, a one-year agreement was signed with the government agencies at regional level. This has enabled CHADET to make the necessary preparation for phase out and make proper arrangements with relevant government and other stakeholders to hand over project activities. This project has come to end in December 2021. This report, therefore, gives a detailed account of the last phase of the project that ended in December 2021.

3. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PROJECT

3.1- Education



Children learning literacy skills under a shade in an informal setting and the newly constructed ECCE center at Biftu-Beri (Wolisso)#

The project has continued to support the four ECCE centers and six target primary schools to ensure quality education for boys and girls through assisting students in the provision of scholastic materials (such as exercise books, pens, pencils) and encouraging them to participate in extracurricular activities and strengthening school IGAs that have already been established in the respective schools.

Key activities that were carried out under the education program component are summarized as follows:

- Training and technical support was provided for 25 facilitators (teachers) on topics of child care, teaching and learning processes, pedagogical and facilitation skills as well as sanitation.
- Scholastic materials were provided for 319 sponsored ambassador children.
- One toilet with two rooms was constructed at Gudina Wolliso school for children in zero class.
- Through building the capacity of members of school clubs organized in the schools, the project was able to provide training for the reduction of violence and HTPs that are considered to be barriers for girl's education.
- PTA/SMC were provided training to increase their involvement in the governance of ECCEs.

- Efforts were made to enhance the engagement of communities in the improvement of schools and towards ensuring attendance of students and reduction of drop-outs.
- As per the project plan, one new school IGA was constructed for Biftu Beri ECCE center in the space provided by Wolisso town administration and has started generating a monthly income of ETB 2,510 to support of OVCs in the school.
- Regular meetings were conducted with parents/guardians of ambassador sponsored children in each quarter.
- The ICT Center that has been established in the premises of CHADET in Wolisso has continued to provide reading and ICT related activities for young people coming from the schools and higher educational facilities in the town.
- Along with the provision of ICT services, the project has continued to avail library services for students and young people in the town to develop their reading skills and habit. An average of 100 students and young people were served at the library during the reporting period. The ECCE at Biftu-Beri was provided with school materials that are suitable for the children.

As a result of these activities, the project has been able to:

- Create access to ECCE services for vulnerable and disadvantaged children to quality ECCE education,
- Increase the level of awareness of communities on the importance of ECCE,
- Enhance the level of participation by parents and communities in the governance of ECCE.
- Better attitude observed among boys towards girls,
- Level of awareness and self-esteem increased among girls

3.2 - Food security and livelihood

A) Food security

With a view of reducing food insecurity situation in the target communities and enhance the capability of households to produce excess and maintain a stable supply of food for their dietary needs, the project has been making efforts to create more opportunities for poor households to engage in agricultural and non-agricultural initiatives and to diversify their sources of food.

Major activities that were carried out during the reporting period include the following:

- Two nurseries were established in two rural kebeles in Wolliso Woreda
- The project provided seeds and seedlings of different fruits, vegetables and seedlings of indigenous trees such as Mango, avocado, lemon, papaya, coffee, apple, neem, grevillea, brush trees and others for creating and created opportunity for generating income for young and unemployed young people.
- Technical support was provided to households on the preparation and management of agricultural plots for gardening.
- improved seeds and seedlings of vegetables and fruits were purchased and distributed for selected 80 households to increase agricultural production and secure household level food security living in urban and rural woredas (tomato, kale, carrot, Swiss chard, cabbage, chilly, beetroot, onion, Avocado, Mango, etc.).
- In collaboration with Wolisso Woreda Office of Agriculture, a training was provided for 50 SHG/SACCOs on spice's production.
- Three rounds of practical and theoretical and practical training were provided on nutrition for Parents/guardians of sponsored children and 75 members of SHG/SACCOs.
- Selected seed provided for 50 HHs for food production and/or urban gardening training.
- Arrangements were made for SHGs and SACCO's to formally establish linkages with concerned government offices to obtain and access audit services.
- Short term vocational skill training was given for 20 unemployed youth on the area of skill such as technology maintenance and food preparation and kitchen operations given
- A series of training programs were conducted to demonstrate for members of households regarding the preparation of different varieties of food from home-grown vegetables and in making use of balanced diet and nutrition for their children and family members.
- Short term vocational skill training for given for 20 unemployed youth on the area of skill such as technology maintenance and food preparation and kitchen operations given.

In general, findings of many of the performance indicators under the food security program proved that the project has achieved good results in terms improving skills in the proper development, management and utilization of food items among households who have participated in the program.



Household who benefited from food security program

B) Livelihoods

The strategic approach that has been adopted by CHADET to increase access to finance among families of children who are participating in the project was to organize and strengthen care givers to be organized in SHG/SACCOs such that they could improve their income at household level. In this regard, CHADET has been able to establish SHGS/SACCOs among the target communities. During the reporting year a focus has been made on strengthening the capacity of the different groups.

Key activities include the following:

- Facilitated linkages for the SHGs and SACCOs with concerned government offices such that they will continue to receive technical support such as audit services after the phasing out of the project.
- Facilitated experience sharing among SHGs with other groups of similar standing.
- Provided different training and discussion forum with regards to the sustainability of the SHGs and SACCOs.
- Short term vocational skill training for given for 20 unemployed youth on the area of skill such as technology maintenance and food preparation and kitchen operations.

With a capital of over 2.3 million birr that has been accumulated from members saving, IGA activity and seed money injected by CHADET and with the support that is going to made by

government stakeholders, the SACCOs are believed to grow and sustain their activities over the years to come.

3.3 - Capacity building

The project has been making efforts to improve the capacities of its different stakeholders during the reporting period. These include schools, SHGs and SACCOs, CBOs such as Idirs and parents/guardians. Key activities that were carried out include the following:

- Conducted periodic individual and joint review meetings with government and other stakeholders to monitor and review the progress of the project.
- Organized Field visits for local stakeholders to meet project participants and help them understand the achievements, prospects and challenges of the different components of the project.
- Consultation meetings were held with sponsored children's parents/guardians on future sustainability and ways they support their children.
- Based on their level of vulnerability, arrangements were made for 68 children to continue to obtain support from CBOs and school IGAs.

In general, the capacity development training sessions and the IGA support that was provided for schools, CBOs and parents/guardians have been instrumental for ensuring the sustainability of the various aspects of the project.

4. RESPONSE FOR COVID-19

Since the emergence of the pandemic in Ethiopia, CHADET's project coordination office in Wolliso has been making efforts to undertake awareness creation activities and provide support for families of children under its program. In this regard, it has been able to disseminate useful information about the transmission and prevention of COVID-19 to the target communities. In addition to the support that was provided in the previous year for 100 mothers of sponsored children, during the reporting year, Famix powder that was purchased from Fafa Food Complex was provided for 150 mothers. Hand washing materials with their input were purchased and put at the gate of the field office to serve young people and other members of the community who are visiting the library and the sports field.

5. PROJECT EXIT PLAN AND CLOSURE WORKSHOP

Throughout the reporting period, CHADET has been working closely with all concerned stakeholders to pave the way for final exit of the project. Through using its previous experiences in the preparation of exit plan (i.e., following community led and participatory tools/approaches) a series of consultations were made with constituencies including children, care givers, representatives and leaders of key government offices and CBOs. Separate discussion sessions were conducted with different groups of project participants including children's groups, care givers, leaders of CBOs (Idirs), SHGs and SaCCOs regarding the phase out plan and exit strategies and gather their opinion on ways of sustaining specific activities. In this regard, preparations were made to assess the situation of needy children and determine the ones who might still need support after the phasing out of the project. This was aligned with consultation made with CBOs to assess their capacity to assist a given number of children who are going to be identified as the most needy and vulnerable so as they could continue to receive support after the phasing out of the project. CHADET has also worked closely with school management committees to find ways of coordinating support for some children from their IGA schemes that was set for them by CHADET over the course of the implementation of the project.

Field visits were organized for local stakeholders to meet project participants and help them understand the achievements, prospects and challenges of the different components of the project. This was followed by organizing a discussion forum with government partners for devising ways and creating linkages and further follow-up of key activities carried out by the project. This has helped to encourage local stakeholders to obtain first-hand and up-to-date information on the project and outline and define roles and responsibilities between the different stakeholders to ensure smooth transit and sustainability of key activities. Based on the feedback obtained from the different stakeholders an MoU was drafted and duly signed by the different government stakeholders to oversee the continuation of the different activities introduced by the project.

Accordingly, all ECCE centers have already been handed over to the respective schools. However, the office of education for Wolisso town took the responsibility of taking care of all four ECCE centers constructed by CHADET and for the management of the facilitators. The

teaching and learning process will be followed up by PTAs that have already been established in each ECCE centers, Wolliso town education office and families of the children who are enrolled in the centers. The self-help groups and SACCOs are linked to the office of cooperative agency of the respective areas (copies of MoUs signed by the respective stakeholders is attached as an appendix with this report).

In consultation with Wolliso town administration and Wolliso Woreda and through observing Government COVID-19 guidelines regarding public gatherings, CHADET was able to organise a project exit workshop on December 30,2021 that was held at in Wolliso Hotel. The workshop brought together all key stakeholders drawn from government offices including South West Shoa Zonal, Wolliso Woreda, Wolliso municipal offices of education, Women and Children Affairs, Finance and Economic Cooperation. Other participants include school principals, representatives from CBOs, Saving groups Guardians of sponsored children, sponsored children and elders. During the workshop CHADET presented the overall achievements and impacts of the project on the lives of children and communities in the town of Wolliso and its surrounding rural Kebeles. Time was also allocated for beneficiaries and concerned government representatives to share their opinion regarding the implementation of the project and the impact that it has brought on the lives of project participants.

The mayor of Wolliso town and members of the cabinet presided on the closing event and handed over certificates for representatives of government offices institutions and individuals who have made contributions for the success of the project. During the event, certificates were awarded to government offices and other stakeholders who have contributed for the success of the project over the years.



Highlights of participants of the workshop



Adde Kumele Likasa head of Women and Children's Affairs of Wolisso town and Obbo Argaw Furgassa, head of Wolisso town Education office delivering a speech about the contributions made by CHADET



Adde Birhane Amdisa (Mayor of Wolisso town) and Dr. Anannia Admassu (Executive Director of CHADET) awarding certificates for representatives of government offices

6. MAJOR CHALLENGES AND ACTIONS TAKEN

Development interventions inevitably face challenges originated as a result of the complex situation and multiple factors that are emerging from within or outside of the project or due to both. Likewise, this project has also been confronted with different kinds of risks from within and outside the control of the project. Some of the major challenges faced and attempts made to overcome the challenges within the reporting period are presented as follows:

- The emergence of covid-19 among others has been found to be a huge challenge when compared with other problems. Almost all the activities that were being undertaken by CHADET were affected during the pandemic as education is one of the most affected sectors during this time. Following the reopening of schools, the government has made efforts to make up the lost time through allocation of extra time to cover the missed lessons and encouraging parents to send their children to school.
- One of the ECCE center established by CHADET /04-day care center/ has discontinued to deliver its regular teaching learning process starting from the academic year 2020/2021 due to the reason that Wolliso town education office changed the center to serve as a model secondary school. A series of consultations/discussions were made with line education offices at town and zonal education department level and it was promised that the Center will resume work following the construction of the model secondary school. However, let alone starting operations, the fences, doors and windows of the school have been severely damaged and looted and the classrooms were filled with dirt as there is no guard assigned to protect it. Unless corrective measures are taken immediately, CHADET fears that the donor might stop the support that it is providing for underprivileged and vulnerable children and communities in the area.
- There was a challenge emerging from gaps in the level of awareness by project participants and different stakeholders on expectations from the project. and what the project could deliver. The project has undertaken preparatory activities in a form of consultation meetings with children, care givers, leaders of CBOs and government and came up with sustainability plan to ensure that some of the key activities of the project would continue even after the phasing out of the project.

7. LESSONS LEARNED

- 7.1 The government of Ethiopia has given special emphasis to quality education and to meeting the MDGs. Even though significant success has been achieved in all areas of education, especially in the enrolment of children at primary level education, highly vulnerable children still have limited access to ECCE. Although there are limited number of privately owned ECCEs in the Wolisso area, most families from the lower income bracket are not able to afford the high amount of fees required for enrollment. The establishment and strengthening of ECCE centers by CHADET have, therefore, been instrumental for creating access to children coming from poor households and marginalized communities and for ensuring quality education.
- 7.2 Ensuring the active participation of the community in development projects and working closely with concerned government stakeholders is instrumental for achieving the goals of any project. CHADET has drawn significant lessons about the significance of involving project participants and stakeholders right at the beginning and in the course of implementation of any project for achieving the targets set by the project. This can be seen from the high degree of support and collaboration made by children, care givers, PTA/SMCs, communities, and government agencies to the project.
- 7.3 Making proper arrangements with all stakeholders is of paramount importance for ensuring the sustainability of any project. In this regard, creating linkages with institutions that are permanent and mandated to oversee the different aspects of any project is useful. Hence, CHADET has been able to sign MoUs with relevant stakeholders to ensure the continuity of key activities of the project.

8. FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Having operated in Wolisso town and Wolisso Woreda for over 15 years, a time has now come for CHADET to phase out this project. As outlined in the sections above, in consultation with the concerned stakeholders, sufficient preparations have been made to ensure the sustainability of most of the activities that were launched by the project. At this stage, CHADET is confident that the key activities will continue to be carried out smoothly and in a proper manner.

CHADET is now in the process of developing a new project to be implemented in other Woredas of South West Shoa Zone. The proposal is in the process of preparation and will soon be submitted to the concerned line bureaus of Oromiya National Regional Government for appraisal and approval.

APPENDICIES