

Annual Review 2016



Challenges and Changes in 2016

PfC had ongoing discussions with our major donor Comic Relief, about how we can develop our income generation in Ethiopia to make our work more sustainable. During the year we assessed how to make best use of Ethiopian resources that can be converted into income streams to fund our work to help the poorest children. This is a complicated initiative that requires new skills and ways of thinking; 2016 saw us begin this exciting process of change.

Here in the UK, in the summer of 2016 we decided to move the PfC office from London to Cambridge. We were offered new accommodation in Cambridge by the Centre for Global Equality; although we had been very happy in our shared community office space near London Bridge station costs were high. Not only does this save funds which we can instead send to Ethiopia, it also opens up new possibilities for networking and collaboration.

We were sad when our Treasurer Marlise Scheepers decided to resign because of changes to her work pattern – but were then delighted when Roy Warden, an experienced finance professional, agreed to take on this post. We are looking forward to working with him, and to the new approaches he will bring.

We have been reviewing our legal status and are applying to become a CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation. This will mean we are still a registered charity and also provides us with a more flexible structure. Bob Stallard, has helped us draft a constitution and we expect this change to take place very soon.

You will read in this review how in 2016 we were busy building up our group of Ambassadors. The idea behind Ambassadors is to enable supporters to become more familiar with our Ethiopian beneficiaries and so more effective as PfC local representatives – becoming our advocates in their school, community, church or workplace. Several Ambassadors have visited the projects in Ethiopia and the next visit will take place in January 2018. Holy Trinity School Cookham has formed a link with Genda Tesfa school in Dire Dawa. They've raised funds, created a sports field and funded a breakfast club for poor children. In another initiative the Woman2Woman project has funded 75 women in starting up small businesses. We especially thank Sarah Parfitt and friends in the Cookham area in their work in pioneering this approach.



Social Enterprise is another direction we are exploring. There are many opportunities we have explored – importing coffee direct from local farmers, supporting farmers recovering from the drought in eastern Ethiopia, selling icons and crosses. JeCCDO meanwhile are looking at opportunities in Ethiopia. We think this has great potential and expect results to show themselves in the coming year. Here PfC Ambassador Gary Battell has a stream of fresh and creative ideas.

There have also been disappointments – when some strong grant applications have not been successful. It's a challenging time, with funders moving away from grant funding towards social enterprise. We owe an enormous thanks to Pete Jones, our director, for his determination and unfailing good humour in a difficult environment.

We're still here, still supporting the poorest of the poor, still innovating, and still positive about the future. How could we not be positive with such amazing partners in Ethiopia and at home?

Thank you.

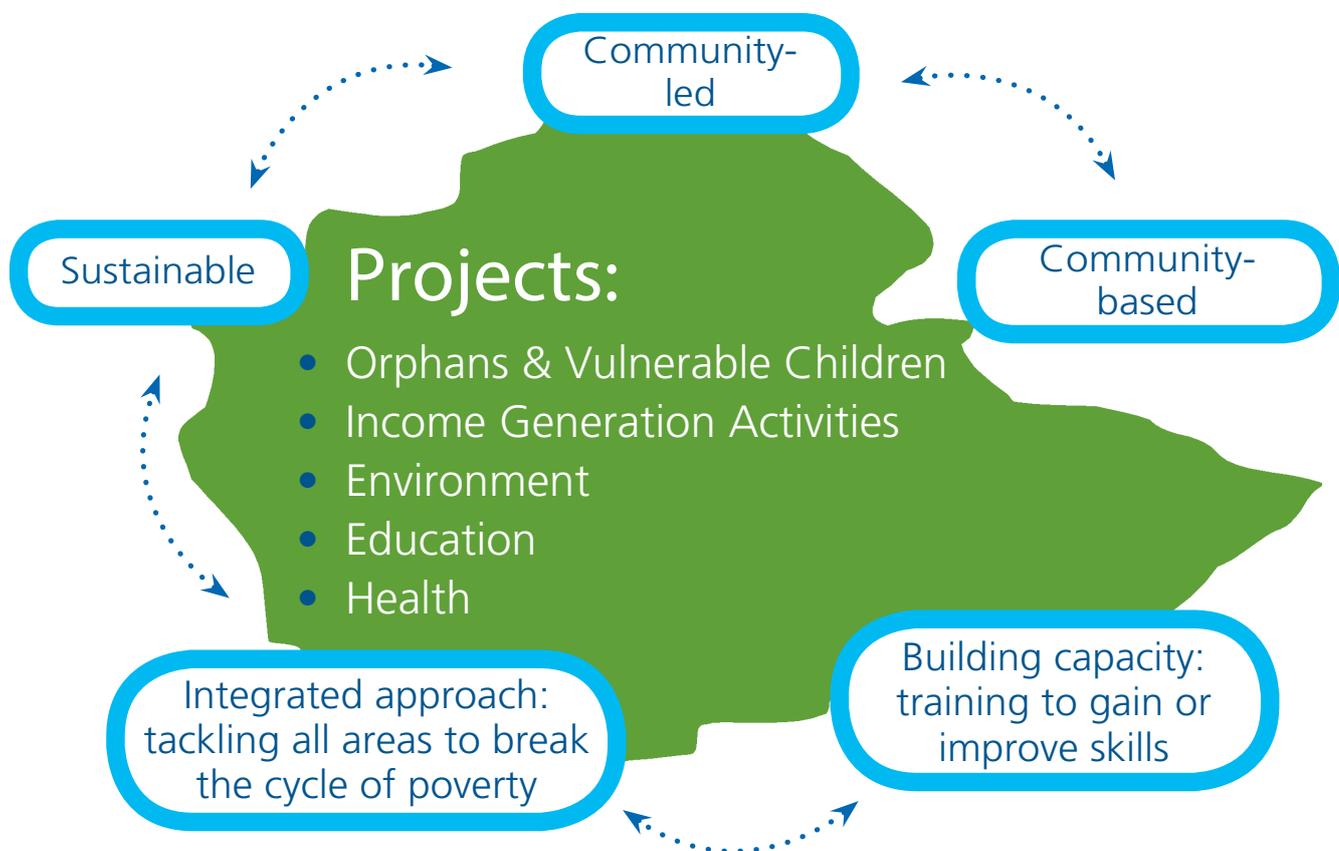
Reverend Dr John Binns
Chairperson

About Partners for Change Ethiopia

Partners for Change Ethiopia was established in 1985 (then known as St Matthew's Children's Fund) to help care for some of the many children orphaned or abandoned following devastating famine and civil war. It continues this work today together with its Ethiopian partner organisation, JeCCDO, (the Jerusalem Children and Community Development Organisation) although the emphasis is no longer on providing institutional care, but on caring for children in their own communities.

To ensure that children in poor urban slum communities are brought up in a healthy and thriving environment, PFC Ethiopia and JeCCDO help to set up and resource community based organisations (CBOs). We encourage these local organisations to decide their priorities and select the beneficiaries from the poorest households. Typical activities include orphan support – providing uniform and equipment for school – tutorial classes, and providing training in income generating skills for carers.

Community members also learn skills such as urban agriculture or animal husbandry; women come together to save money, receive business training and set up small businesses; and the community is mobilised to clean the streets, and build and manage communal toilets and showers. The provision of training and guidance for CBOs is central to the process – this includes training on how to chair meetings, keep accounts and how to fundraise. Importantly for the long term future of the CBOs, committee members receive training and guidance on setting up and managing income-generating projects so that their organisation can become financially independent within 5 years. This has been successfully achieved with over 30 CBOs to date.



All through Partnership

Partnership is key to all our work. In the UK we work with funding partners such as Comic Relief, the Laing Trust and the Baring Foundation and with our many generous supporters. In Ethiopia we work with the poorest people who come together to set up community organisations to develop ways of eliminating child poverty. These community organisations work in association with local government who provide land to build community toilets, showers, water points and tutorial centres for children. Through collaborating in networks community organisations benefit from each other's experience and gain a more powerful voice. At all levels partnership is vital.

In 2016 we developed an additional way by which people in the UK can join our partnership. We have called this Ambassadors. The idea was developed with freelance BBC journalist Sarah Parfitt who had seen firsthand our work in Ethiopia and was so moved by what she saw she wanted to help.

During her visit to the community of Gende Tesfa she saw that many children were going to school without breakfast, resulting in poor concentration and low grades, absenteeism was also common. Sarah's first action in her own community was to initiate a link between her children's school, Holy

Trinity Primary, Cookham and the Gende Tesfa community in Eastern Ethiopia. Holy Trinity School raised enough money to fund Gende Tesfa breakfast club, where 25 children who previously had not been able to eat in the morning were able to have a healthy breakfast. The construction of a school playground and sports ground was also funded. This was achieved through a range of fund raising events- Josh Mustard, Sarah's son, organised a swimming party, a penny collection and a sponsored dressing up as a book character on World Book Day. Fearless Cookham adults and some children participated in 'Leap for Africa', making a sponsored leap from a 13 metre high pole onto a swing. Through these activities children have become junior Ambassadors and many of their parents and friends have become Partners for Change Ambassadors.

By the end of 2016 individuals and groups in Chiswick and Cambridge were becoming Ambassadors, working to engage people where they live to support marginalised communities in Ethiopia. All of the many activities undertaken in 2016 by our Partners for Change Ambassadors have laid a great foundation on which to develop our Ambassadors scheme and bring people together to provide a better future for the poorest children in Ethiopia.



Hands and smiles across the miles

Changing lives through creating opportunity

Engines of Change

Most of our previous annual reviews have focused on individuals whose reports demonstrate the effectiveness of our work. This review concentrates on community based organisations. These are the engines of change; they enable people to change their lives. As 2016 was the twentieth anniversary of our community organisation approach to fighting child poverty we visited some of them to see for ourselves the progress that has been made.

It is undeniable that since we began in 1985, Ethiopia has made real progress. According to the World Bank (2015) there has been 33% reduction

in the proportion of the Ethiopian population living in poverty. The same report however, highlights something we have witnessed – the poorest households have become even poorer. Food and basic commodities have become more expensive, women and girls remain disadvantaged and their prospects compare unfavourably with females in other countries. The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative's Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) rates Ethiopia as among the eight poorest countries in the world. Much poverty has been eradicated, but the poorest are the most difficult to free from crushing poverty.

This is where our partnership is unique. We work with extremely poor communities; this requires patience, determination and a commitment to remain until no longer needed. Above all it means handing the power to the people on the ground, enabling them to set the agenda, make the decisions and learn how to work collaboratively. It also requires training people to identify and make use of local resources and work with government and businesses. This is a demanding process, but our results show that it is the most effective method in the long term.

Thank you to all our supporters in 2016

Comic Relief, The Baring Foundation, The Maurice and Hilda Laing Trust, The Shawdon Trust.

Thank you also to our many individual supporters and church groups for their continued and much valued support during 2016.

Financial summary 2016

Income	Total funds £	Expenditure	£
Donations from individuals and Churches	44,229	Payments to Ethiopia	296,182
Grants from Trusts	246,717	Fundraising & project related costs	25,955
Activities	312	Administration	54,607
Investment income	287	Total expenditure	376,744
Total income	291,545	<i>balance blfwd 01.01.2016 – £124,969</i>	
		<i>balance clfwd 31.12.2016 – £39,772</i>	
		<i>net movement of funds £85,198</i>	

A full copy of the accounts can be obtained from: Partners for Change Ethiopia, The Centre for Global Equality, 72 Trumpington St, Cambridge CB2 1RR or email: info@pfcethiopia.org

Governance

Chairperson

The Revd Dr John Binns

Hon Treasurer

Marlise Scheepers

(to December 2016)

Trustees

Fr Colin Battell OSB

Sir Robin Christopher

Robert Stallard

Margaret Ingram

David Denham (to May 2016)

Catherine Salway

Will Eckersley

Ruth Salmon

Staff

Peter Jones, Director

Coming together in partnership

Developing community businesses for a better future

Fana Community Organisation's development since 2003 has been remarkable. Located in Bahir Dar, a bustling, growing city with large areas of poverty, it has 590 members.

In 2016 Fana helped 300 households, finding carers for orphan and vulnerable children, providing school items enabling children to go to school. Eighty children struggling with their studies were provided with tuition support.

"Children used to be on the streets selling whatever they could find for food rather than attending school. Now their guardians are generating income and children are going to school and catching up on their education in our tutorial classes. There are students, who thanks to our support, have gone to medical school and university"

During the year the organisation has also provided business skills training for young people, given financial support to vulnerable elderly people and commercial sex workers have been helped to find new means of making a living.

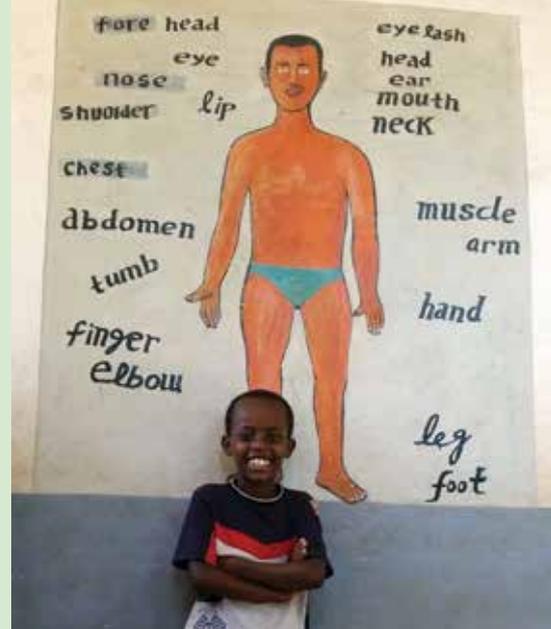
"We reach the most vulnerable, seeing their faces after they have been able to help

themselves makes us very happy."

Fana has achieved all this through running community businesses. It rents shops it constructed to local businesses, including a restaurant, a beauty parlour and a pool hall. From its compound it runs a butcher's shop and a café. In 2016 it raised £20,000 from its businesses and membership fees, with all the profits going to help the poor in the community.

Fana has worked closely with local government which provided 3,000 square metres of land and a licence to work. The local government also gave business skills training facilitated by a government run micro finance institute.

"The government respect and value us because we can reach into the places they are not even aware of – only the community will know about the poorest and most marginalised."



Women in the community have benefited enormously. Previously it was taboo for a woman to leave her house or speak as loudly and confidently as a man. Now this has changed and women are starting businesses and are full citizens.

The Fana chairperson is a woman and of the organisation's 72 general assembly members 38 are women. This remarkable organisation is making its community a fairer and more prosperous place for all to live.

Enebra – a Shining Light in Hawassa

From just 20 members in 1996 Enebra Community Organisation now has 260, with 600 people directly benefiting from their work. Today all Enebra members are economically self-sufficient working in their spare time to help vulnerable community members. Some of them recounted their experiences to Partners for Change Director, Pete Jones.

"Before Partners for Change worked with us we were always stretching out our hands for help. But that mentality has completely changed. Enebra means light and we are a light for our community. We show young people how to get out of anti-social activities, like crime and drugs, and to support themselves. The rate of violence in our area has reduced considerably. Everybody here knows if they commit a crime we will ensure it goes to court. Many husbands used to beat their children and wives – now this has completely stopped. They know the consequences if we hear about it. We provide the local police with feedback. Because of this some

police were demoted because of their bad behaviour. We are represented in the council's Women's Affairs and attend regular meetings with the Justice and Prosecutors Office. We make government accountable to the public."

Enebra has many businesses, running three community taxis, a food co-operative and a community bakery to fund its work. It also invites local businesses to meetings,

"Recently a private school owner came to a meeting and pledged £350. We are also working with the university to assess and improve our care of the elderly. We are creating networks throughout the community."

Enebra has organised young people who engage in anti-social activity into a youth club that helps the most vulnerable in their community. Enebra links it with visiting football clubs when they play matches in the city. Recently one of the biggest clubs in Ethiopia pledged £400 and individual players have pledged to continue funding their work.

"Our latest priority is to find money to rent a house to look after sexually abused children. This is a slum area, many children who are forced to run away come to hide here. Now we have to take them to the police station to stay, but this is not the right place for children, they need support and love

Our situation has changed because Partners for Change has made a long term commitment – through this process we changed our thinking and our behaviour. Unless you build a solid foundation nothing will last."



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2016 our partnership achieved the following:

Education



6,797 children accessed tutorial support, alternative basic education, preschool and inclusive education. 73% of these pupils received a grade average higher than 75%

Over, 18,856 students in 16 schools and 14 early childhood centres benefited from provision of stationery, construction of libraries and laboratories, teacher training and provision of educational material.

38 school clubs, benefiting 1,652 children, were set up and training and materials were provided. Children learnt how to become better citizens and respect each other.

4,231 adolescent girls were empowered through training to improve their confidence, provided with sanitary products and cost of living support, resulting in a significant reduction in school drop-out rates.

Adult literacy classes were delivered to 1,616 people. During the year 43% of these adults have learnt to read, write and do simple computation. This enabled them to improve their job and business prospects and provide educational support to their children.

107,542 people accessed our library and information services.

Community Based Orphan and Vulnerable Children Care and Support



The physical, psychological, social and educational needs of 2,985 orphan and vulnerable children were met.

2,200 guardians of orphan and vulnerable children were provided with business training and start-up funds to generate income.

111 orphan and vulnerable youth were reunited with their immediate and extended family.

7,606 people were educated on the issue of children's rights and child-centered community based support.

Livelihood Promotion



683 vulnerable women, people with disabilities and youth were enabled to become self-reliant through the provision of training and start-up capital to set up their own businesses.

17,273 women self help group members were trained on the self help group approach. Technical and organisational support was given to new and existing self help groups and cluster level associations.

Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



2,225 people benefited from HIV/AIDs education, participated in anti HIV AIDs clubs and networks, and received economic, medical and nutrition support.

10,585 people were made aware about reproductive health, family planning and harmful traditional practices.

9,349 people were provided with training and working materials and community education on hygiene and sanitation.

8,304 people benefited from the construction of public/ school toilets (12), water facilities (11), model houses (18) and renovation of dilapidated houses (42).

In partnership with the Amhara Water Irrigation and Energy Office, drinking water was provided to more than 60,000 residents in Hamusit town and its surrounding rural areas.

Promotion of Urban Agriculture



1,217 people were trained in urban agriculture and learnt how to grow food.

750 households received farm tools and were taught methods of bio-intensive vegetable production.

6,690 people engaged in the production of different fruit and vegetables through the provision of farm tools, seedlings and related support.

37 households were provided with goats, sheep, pullets and beehives, received training and ongoing support.

Capacity development of community organisations



Awareness raising and training on the role of community organisations in local development was conducted for 857 people.

6,039 people from 68 community organisations participated in experience sharing visits to more experienced community organisations.

Technical, financial and material support was given to 78 community organisations.

1,194 representatives from community organisations were trained on a range of issues ranging from finance to stakeholder engagement.

Community Organisation Day was celebrated with more than 68 community organisations and 600 participants including senior government officials, mayors, businesses and donors.

Promotion of Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives



Community education and awareness raising workshops on urban environmental protection and disaster risk reduction was conducted with 2,165 people.

Indigenous trees were planted on 6 waste sites. Soil and water conservation was undertaken on 40 hectares of eroded land.

2 community organisations were supported to successfully undertake environmental conservation initiatives around Lake Hawassa and Lake Tana.

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Formerly known as
St Matthew's
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(SMCF Ethiopia)



Registered
Charity no.
297391