



Annual Review 2017



Challenges and Changes 2017

Reverend Dr John Binns, Chairperson

Partners for Change is set up to support communities across the Horn of Africa in caring for children. Our approach is different from many agencies because we are totally committed to the local communities to work their own solutions and carry them out to make places where children can grow up in a safe, healthy and creative environment. We provide support, training, resources – but they do it.

JeCCDO is our long term partner, and this year, as in previous years, work with growing numbers of communities, orphans and vulnerable children and their carers. They continue with their successful strategy and to develop new ideas. We keep closely in touch with them through visits and messages, greatly facilitated by Skype calls.

In the UK our major funder continues to be Comic Relief. The present grant aims to set up social enterprise to help us to become financially sustainable. We appointed a consultant to help us do this, and then arranged a replacement when this was not working as well as we hoped. There have been some great projects. The Opportunity for Change Training Centre in Debre Zeit has excellent facilities. We use it for training and also rent it to a mixture of users. We are also working on pre-school education in Debre Birhan, eco-tourism and research in Bahir Dar, but these are still in the planning stage. We arranged visits by academics from Cambridge University and have enabled a link between Cambridge and Bahir Dar universities.

We also have a good relationship with the Barwaaqo Voluntary Organisation in Hargeisa in Somaliland but have not remitted funds to them this year.

Within the UK we have built links through our Ambassadors programme with Gende Tesfa village on the edge of Dire Dawa. This was focussed on Holy Trinity School Cookham who fundraised for a sports field and breakfast club for Gende Tesfa school. We also set up a Woman 2 Woman scheme to support guardians of orphans to set up small businesses. This successfully supported 100 women in starting new businesses. Our fundraising activities included a Pennies for Change collection organised by our Junior Ambassadors and an Art Auction.

We have continued to share an office at the Centre for Global Equality, Cambridge. This has opened up opportunities for working together and we have valued the networking opportunities. Peter Jones has continued as our one salaried staff member. He has, as always, done an amazing job. Roy Warden has become Treasurer and Trustee. There have also been wonderful contributions by Sarah Parfitt, who has set up the link between Cookham and Bahir Dar, and Gary Battell who has helped us develop social enterprise projects. Thanks to these and many others that Partners for Change has continued its work for the people of Ethiopia.



Social Enterprises

During 2017 PfC worked closely with our Ethiopian partner JeCCDO to develop and run social enterprises. Securing funding for JeCCDO's much needed services has become increasingly difficult, as a result PfC and JeCCDO have been planning and developing several sustainable income streams in order to reduce reliance on overseas funding.

An exciting partnership which has progressed well during the year is with the Centre for Global Equality in Cambridge. Our plan is for University of Cambridge researchers to collaborate with poor farmers in devising technological solutions to help overcome the challenges that prevent farmers from growing sufficient food or generating enough income for their families.

A social enterprise is being developed which will turn JeCCDO's beautiful 34 hectare compound into accommodation for researchers and eco tourists. The income generated from this will contribute to JeCCDO's work with the poorest communities. Several successful exploratory visits were made to Bahir Dar during the year.

Another venture is the planned development of JeCCDO's compound in Debre Berhan into a fee-paying school. This once sleepy farmer's town is changing rapidly, many large companies are locating to newly created industrial parks. More school places are needed for the children of the emerging middle class. PfC has linked JeCCDO with Jill Adams Associates and Abbey Grange Multi Academy in Leeds who will lend their experience to the new school. Scholarships will be created for disadvantaged children. Profits will be used to fund work to help the neediest children have a better future.

Meanwhile JeCCDO's first social enterprise, the JeCCDO Opportunity for Change Centre in Bishoftu is going from strength to strength and turning over a good profit. The centre provides training to community organisations and leases out its conference and accommodation facilities to government, NGOs and businesses. Here there is scope to expand and thus increase profits as demand for accommodation outstrips availability. Business plans are being developed for all three enterprises and start-up funding is being sought.



A Change for Good

Tesfaye lives in the southern Ethiopian city of Hawassa. After his father died when he was two years old his mother had no means to support the family. By the time he was in the 8th grade (the final year of primary education) conditions at home had become so appalling that Tesfaye moved out to live on the streets. Instead of continuing with his education he joined a gang of children who were in a similar desperate predicament. In order to survive the gang mugged and robbed people causing many problems in the neighbourhood.

Tesfaye explained, 'Because of all the problems we were causing, the Enebra Women's Community Association took us to their office: we were laughing at them wondering what they were going to do with us. Our circumstances, thinking, and behaviour were so completely different. But we came to the office, not seriously, just to make a joke about it! They talked with us patiently, asked us to identify our problems and understand why we are behaving like this. They explained that there is a better way to live if you are really prepared to reform your behaviour. They said, "we will

provide you with working materials and work space to allow you to get out of this poor situation. You will be able to support yourself and your family." So, we agreed, and after some training we were given a photocopying and a binding machine to lease out to people. Now we have changed.

After this we went back to school, now I am a second-year student at Hawassa University studying accounting. I am supporting myself, my family and my community. We have established a youth association called "For us, With Us", which has 200 members. This group has two objectives, the first is to support the elderly who have nobody to support them, like taking them to hospital or caring for them at home, anything they need help with. The other objective is to influence children who live on the street who are engaged in anti-social activities or crime, we want to get them back.

I want to thank the Enebra Women's Community Association, JeCCDO & Pfc because they have the capacity and commitment to change lives and make us productive. Changing people's attitude and perception is not easy but they have done it and now I have an obligation to do good for my community.'

Weldaregaye Mekonene

A solution for a healthy life

Weldaregaye Mekonene aged 70 lives in Bishoftu Town. He is a grandfather looking after his four grandchildren. The entire family used to live on his small monthly pension income of Birr 500 (£13.80) Weldaregaye was selected by his local community organisation for help because they were worried about the wellbeing of his family. They noticed he had a small plot of land next to his house and asked him if he wanted to learn how to grow vegetables. Weldaregaye attended the training and received seeds and tools for vegetable production.

He explained his feelings, "Before this project we used to live on the margins of survival, the money I had was barely enough to help us survive from hand to mouth. I was selected by the community organisation at a time when, due to increase in the market price of food items, we were buying less and consuming less than ever before. I believe that this project and my selection were God's solutions



to our problems. Old as I am I was not able to engage in daily labour work to generate additional income. We improved our diets as we are consuming vegetables every day which is a new phenomenon in his household."

He also said that he sells vegetables and earns a monthly income ranging from 450 (£12.50) to 600 Birr (£16.60) depending on the variation of prices of vegetables. He has even bought a ewe with his vegetable income as, he said, he wished to engage in sheep rearing. He also believes that his work in the garden is good exercise that contributes to his good health.

Tanchiwodia Teka

Counting Sheep

Tanchiwodia Teka has made real progress since she received training in sheep rearing, 4 sheep and enough feed for them from her local community organisation. In the last two years, Tanchiwodia has fattened a total of 24 sheep in four rounds which generated a gross income of £656. Currently she is rearing 6 sheep: four of these are pregnant females expected to give birth to a total of 10 to 12 lambs. Tanchiwodia manages her sheep very carefully with proper feeding and cleaning. She keeps in close contact with the local Agriculture Office where she can access veterinary services and other professional advice on how to manage her business effectively.

Tanchiwodia supplements her income from sheep rearing by weaving and selling papyrus baskets, with these two sources of income she is now managing to save £20 a month.



Her children, four girls and a boy are all attending school.

Tanchiwodia expressed her feelings, "I always used to aspire to change and improve myself. I am happy with my achievements so far, but not fully satisfied yet. I want to work harder and become more successful. My short-term plan is to start a small dairy farm, but I need to find sufficient space for that to happen. I want other women to learn from my experiences and change their situations... and I am ready to share my knowledge."

What our partnership achieved in 2017

Education

20,181 children, 59% of whom were female accessed education and related support through early childhood education, inclusive education, alternative basic education and tutorial support.

14 schools, early childhood centres and alternative basic education centres were provided stationery, libraries, laboratories, teacher training and educational materials. Over, 5,976 students benefited from this support.

46 school clubs, 879 students, 85% of whom were female were provided with training and material support.

500 adolescent girls empowered through training, provision of sanitary pads and cost of living support.

Functional Adult Literacy classes were delivered to 120 people;

110,125 people accessed library and information services.

Overall, 137,781 people benefited from our education program.

Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

974 people - 77% females benefitted from HIV/ AIDs education, anti-HIV AIDs clubs and networks, economic, medical and nutrition support.

1,334 people - 81% females were made aware about reproductive health, family planning and harmful traditional practices.

12,522 - 64% females received training, working materials and community education on hygiene and sanitation,

construction of public/ school toilets, water facilities, and renovation of dilapidated houses.

14,830 people benefited from our Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene program.

Orphan and vulnerable children care and support

The psychosocial, medical, and educational needs of 3,798 Orphan and Vulnerable Children were ensured, while economic strengthening support provided for 1,884 guardians / carers of which 88% female.

23 orphan and vulnerable youth were reintegrated or reunified with their families.

7,606 people were educated on the issue of children and community-based support.

Livelihood

263 vulnerable women and youth 94 females become self-reliant through the provision of training and start-up capital.

5,576 community and (Self Help Group) SHG members -92% female, made aware about and trained on the Self-Help Group approach including social mapping and wealth ranking.

52 new and existing SHGs and CLAs were given technical and capacity development support

Food Security and Nutrition

360 people (67% females) trained in the techniques of vegetable food preparation and modern coffee production

350 households received farm tools and trained on bio- intensive vegetable production.

2 community grain banks constructed

Overall 10,173 people benefited from food security and nutrition support



Promotion of Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives

1,072 people participated in workshops on urban environmental protection and disaster risk reduction

30 fishermen trained on sustainable fishing and conservation of the Lake Hawassa and its bio-diversity

Capacity Development of Community Based Organisations (CBOs)

45 CBOs benefited from governance and leadership training and revision of their strategic plans

158 CBOs leaders and volunteers trained on resources mobilisation and market-based income generation management

40 CBOs provided with support for management systems, procedures and office materials

390 CBO members and regional networking forums received training and undertook experience sharing visits in relationships, partnerships and networking creation

55 CBOs received technical, financial and material support

600 community representatives participated in CBOs best practice day

500 community members trained and shared experience in social accountability

Ambassadors

Through the Pfc Ambassadors scheme some wonderful groups and individuals have raised more than £20,000 in the last couple of years to benefit families in a particular poor community in Gende Tesfa, eastern Ethiopia.

The Woman2Woman initiative which was launched on 8th March 2017 (International Women's Day) had, by the end of the year, reached its goal to support 100 women in Gende Tesfa. The programme provided these women with business training and help to start and develop their own small enterprises. The women chosen for training had children at the school Breakfast Club, also funded by Woman2Woman in 2017. Contributions were made towards the building of a school sports ground, especially important for the football obsessed children in Gende Tesfa.

The money in 2017 was raised in a variety of ways including:

- the Cookham Running Club Relay Run from Twickenham to Cardiff
- one Ambassador ran an Ultra Marathon

- another made a Ramadan collection at her Mosque
- The Junior Ambassadors at Holy Trinity School, Cookham organised 'Pennies for Change' Friends were asked to contribute their pennies during Lent. 'Pennies for Change' raised £405.68
- Holy Trinity School also held 'Spring Clean for Change'. Pupils brought secondhand clothes to school. 'Bags2School' raised £112.40
- an 'Art for Change' event in Cambridge raised over £8,000. There were 80 art works for sale and more than 80 people enjoyed a wonderful evening.

At the end of 2017 we had 28 Adult and Junior Ambassadors based in Cookham, Cambridge, Ipswich and Sheffield. A new group made the first steps in linking William Hogarth School in Chiswick with Biruh Tesfa School in Debre Birhan.

The Ambassadors programme has been built on solid foundations. We will continue to work together to enable the poorest families secure a better future.

Thank you to all our supporters in 2017

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 2017.

Financial summary 2017

| Income | Total funds £ | Expenditure | £ |
|---|----------------|--|----------------|
| Donations from individuals and Churches | 50,194 | Payments to Ethiopia | 229,248 |
| Grants from Trusts | 214, 518 | Fundraising & project related costs | 1,042 |
| Activities | 6,501 | Administration | 48,416 |
| Investment income | 67 | Total expenditure | 278,706 |
| Total income | 271,281 | <i>Balance b/fwd 01.01.2017 – £ 39,771</i> | |
| | | <i>Balance c/fwd 31.12.2017 – £ 32,346</i> | |
| | | <i>Net movement of funds – £ -7,425</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

Roy Warden

(from July 2017)

Trustees

Fr Colin Battell OSB
Sir Robin Christopher
Robert Stallard
Margaret Ingram
Catherine Salway
Will Eckersley
Ruth Salmon

Staff

Peter Jones, Director

Coming together in partnership

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 50 CBOs to date.



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Formerly known as
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