Save Your Holy Land Association (SYHLA)



Annual Organizational Report FY 2023

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
December 2023

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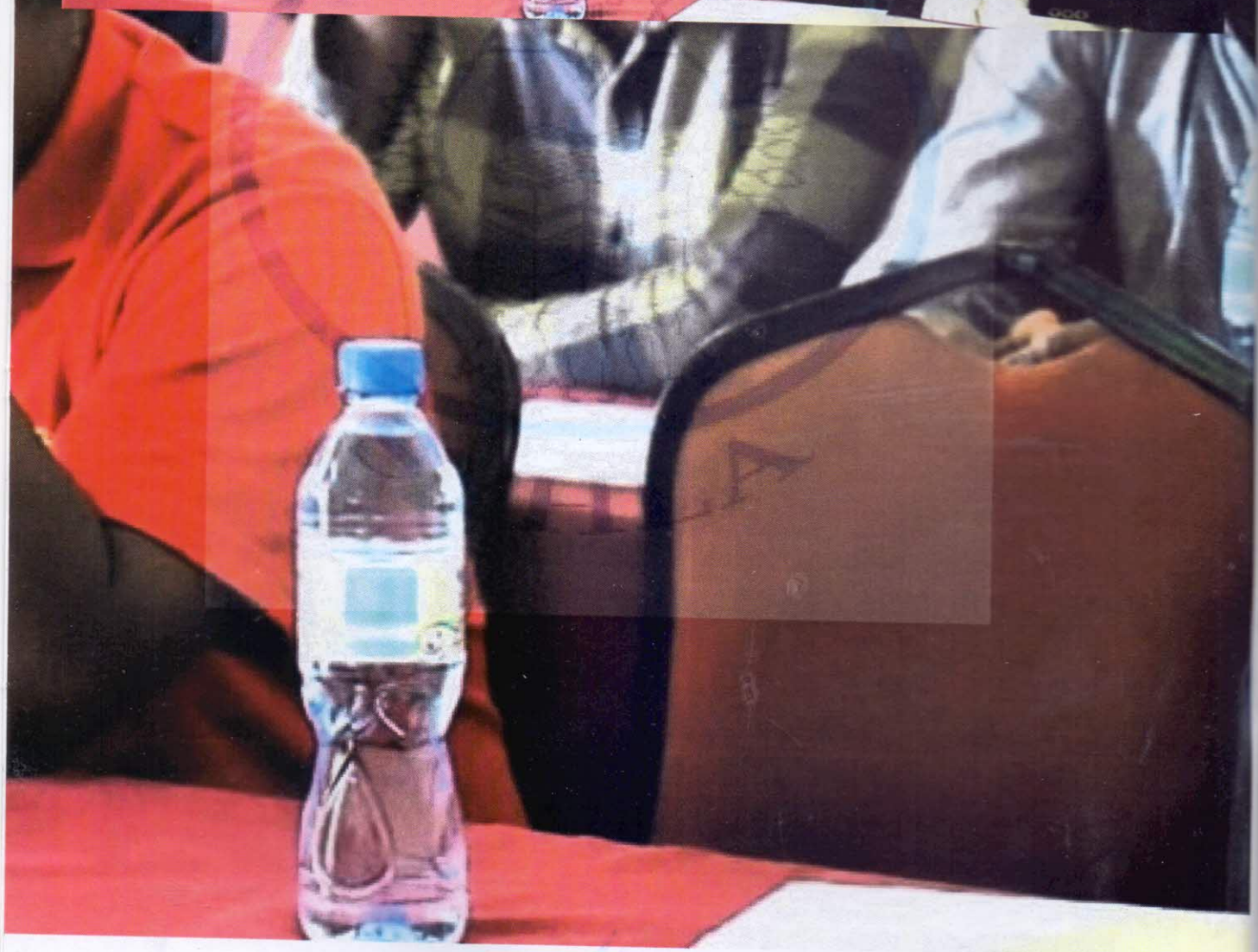
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Our Milestone in 2023

- Over 400 Young people volunteered at SYHLA
- Over 70 Dedicated staff
- 2 Local Partners

- Over 500K Rights Holders were reached, with 48,441 reached directly and 451,559 reached in-directly including through social and mainstream media.



SYHLA at a Glance



Our Vision

SYHLA aspires to see the growth and development of visionary, healthy, and diligent youth who will work for the betterment of life and the environment.



Our Mission

Strives to mobilize the youth in health, education, Climate Change, and eco-tourism to bring about desirable change in life and the environment in collaboration with individuals, communities, and institutions.

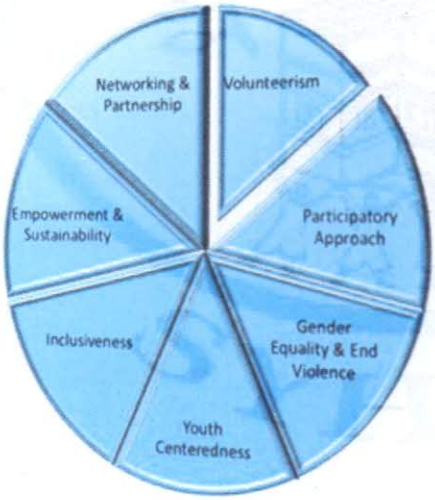


Our Goal

SYHLA's goal is to empower youth to become visionary leaders, driving positive change in health, education, climate change, and eco-tourism for a sustainable future.



OUR VALUES





Our Rights Holders

⇒ Disadvantaged and marginalized youth, children, and women

Our Strategic Priorities

Strategic Priority	Objectives	Context	Activities	Outcomes
Youth Empowerment & Media Literacy	Enhance youth skills & knowledge for effective societal & media engagement	Limited access to media literacy training & critical thinking skills	- Training workshops on media literacy & critical thinking - Establish youth media clubs - Facilitate youth participation in community initiatives	Increased youth participation in decision-making processes & critical consumption of media
Health & Nutrition	Improve access to healthcare & promote nutrition education	Limited access to healthcare services & inadequate nutrition knowledge	Nutrition awareness campaigns - School and community based health education programs. Care and treatment programmes	Improved health outcomes & well-being of community members
Education	Increase access to quality education for all	Unequal access to quality education	Advocacy for educational equity - Construction/ rehabilitation of schools - Distribution of scholastic materials	Increased enrollment & improved learning outcomes
Emergency Response & Recovery	Enhance capacity for prompt & effective emergency response	Lack of preparedness & resources for emergencies	Community disaster risk reduction training - Stockpiling of essential supplies - Emergency evacuation planning	Reduced casualties & faster recovery during emergencies
Climate Change & Justice	Advocate for environmental conservation & promote climate justice	Environmental degradation & unequal impact of climate change	Community tree planting initiatives/CSA application - Sustainable resource management programs - Lobbying for climate-friendly policies	Reduced environmental impact & increased community resilience
Agriculture & Food Security	Promote sustainable agricultural practices & improve food security	Unsustainable agricultural practices & food insecurity	- Training on sustainable farming techniques - Distribution of improved seeds & fertilizers - Creation of farmer cooperatives	Increased food production & improved livelihoods
Job Creation & Decent Work	Create economic opportunities, generate employment, and advocate for decent work	Limited economic opportunities & inadequate work conditions	- Skills development training programs - Business development support for entrepreneurs - Advocacy for fair labor practices	Increased employment & improved livelihoods
Human Rights Advocacy, Social Accountability, Peace-Building, & Conflict Resolution	Advocate for human rights, promote social accountability, and actively engage in peace-building & conflict-resolution	Violations of human rights, lack of social accountability, and ongoing conflicts	- Human rights awareness campaigns - Capacity building for social accountability mechanisms - Support for peace dialogues & mediation efforts	Increased respect for human rights, peaceful conflict resolution, and a more just society
Gender Equality & End Violence against Women & Girls	Achieve gender equality & eradicate violence against women & girls	Gender inequality & persistent violence against women & girls	- Gender sensitization workshops - Support for women's economic empowerment initiatives - Advocacy for laws & policies promoting gender equality	Increased participation of women in decision-making, reduced violence, and a more inclusive society

Our Theory of Change

Strategic Priority	If... (Interventions)	Then... (Outcomes)	Because... (Assumptions)
Youth Empowerment & Media Literacy	Young people receive skill development, mentorship, and media literacy programs	They gain tools and confidence to participate actively and contribute positively	Increased youth engagement and critical thinking will lead to a more informed and engaged society.
Health & Nutrition	Communities have improved access to healthcare services and nutrition education	There will be better health outcomes and overall well-being	Healthier lifestyles and practices will lead to a healthier population.
Education	Educational endeavors are supported and inclusivity is promoted	Individuals have improved access to quality education, leading to enhanced knowledge and skills	Better education equips individuals to contribute more effectively to society.
Emergency Response & Recovery	Timely and effective emergency response and recovery efforts are provided	Communities are better equipped to respond to emergencies and support long-term recovery	Improved community resilience allows for faster recovery and minimizes long-term impacts.
Climate Change & Justice	Environmental conservation is advocated for, climate justice is promoted, and sustainable practices are implemented	Communities are better prepared to mitigate the impact of climate change	Environmental sustainability protects communities and ensures a healthy planet for future generations.
Agriculture & Food Security	Sustainable agricultural practices are promoted	Communities have improved food security, livelihoods, and nutritional outcomes	Increased food production and improved agricultural practices lead to a more secure and sustainable food system.
Job Creation & Decent Work	Economic opportunities are created, employment is generated, and decent work conditions are advocated for	Communities have improved livelihoods and economic empowerment	Increased employment and improved working conditions contribute to a stronger and more equitable economy.
Human Rights Advocacy, Social Accountability, Peace-Building, and Conflict Resolution	Human rights are advocated for, social accountability is promoted, and peace-building and conflict resolution efforts are actively engaged in	Communities have improved human rights protections, social accountability, and peace	Respect for human rights, social accountability, and peaceful conflict resolution are essential for a just and peaceful society.
Gender Equality & End Violence against Women and Girls	Systemic barriers to gender equality are addressed, and efforts are made to end violence against women and girls	Communities have improved gender equality, safety, and inclusivity	A more equitable and inclusive society benefits everyone.

Our Triple Nexus Approach



Humanitarian: Focuses on providing immediate and life-saving assistance to communities affected by crises. This includes responding to emergencies such as natural disasters, conflicts, or public health crises. Humanitarian efforts prioritize the delivery of essential services, food, shelter, healthcare, and protection to meet the urgent needs of affected populations.

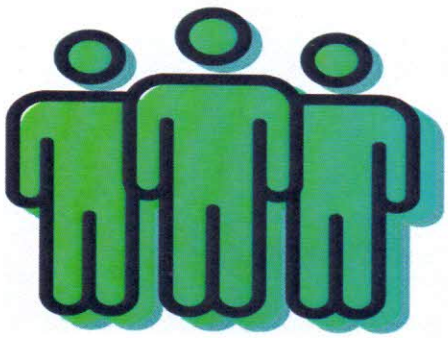
Development: Concentrates on long-term strategies for sustainable growth and resilience-building within communities. This involves initiatives aimed at improving infrastructure, healthcare systems, education, and economic opportunities.

Peace: Emphasizes conflict prevention, peace-building, and fostering social cohesion. This involves engaging in dialogue, mediation, and reconciliation processes to address underlying tensions and contribute to lasting peace.

SYHLA 2023 Major Active Projects

12 Active projects

1. USAID Family-focused HIV prevention, care, and treatment services in the Amhara region.
2. Young People Focused Space Creation, Climate Resilience, and Crisis Protection'.
3. Livelihood Recovery and Resilience Building to Internally Displaced People and IDP Returnees
4. Humanitarian Response Livelihood Recovery and Resilience Building through the provision of fruit seedlings and sweet potato cuttings to women HH and young people.
5. Life Saving and Humanitarian Response.
6. Creating Inclusive Spaces for Effective Youth Engagement.
7. Youth Challenge Initiative (YCI)
8. Multipurpose cash support for conflict affected IDPs
9. Ethiopian Social Accountability Program (ESAP)
10. SELAM: Stakeholder Engagement and Local Community Action Matters
11. Child Sponsorship and School development
12. Engaging Key Actors in the Wake of Violent Conflict



Rights Holders Reached by 2023

# of Rights Holders (Children)

Male	Female	Total
13,735	15,609	29,344

# of Rights Holders (All)

Male	Female	Total
19,552	28,889	48,441

# of Rights Holders (Youth)

Male	Female	Total
3,863	7,853	11,716

# of Rights Holders (Adult)

Male	Female	Total
1,966	5,415	7,381

2023 Key Achievements by thematic area

1. Youth Empowerment and Media Literacy

# of Rights Holders reached under this area:

Male= 336 & Female= 212 Total= 548

⇒ One Emergency Fast Action Support Team (EFAST) with 12 members (8 female and 4 male) has been established and capacitated in Guna District.

⇒ National Dialogue agenda setting capacity building workshop held for 89 youth leaders (24 female) in East and West Amhara.



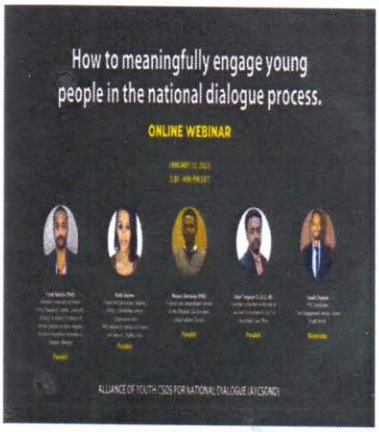


⇒ 96 Youth Representatives (34 Female) from East and West Amhara participated in a National Dialogue Youth Engagement Forum.

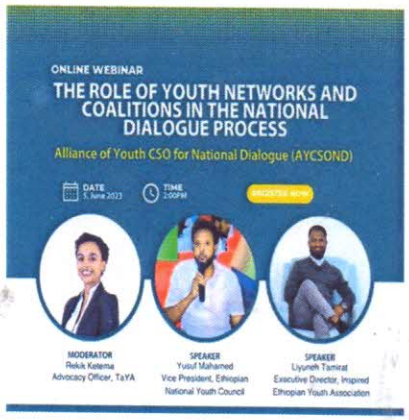
⇒ A workshop titled 'Creating Inclusive Spaces for Effective Youth Engagement' was held for 47 Youth-focused CSO Leaders from the Amhara Region, including 12 females.

⇒ To promote public awareness of the National Dialogue and encourage meaningful youth engagement, a multi-media campaign utilized (mainstream and social media). This included broadcasting 45-second video spots on TV (10 spots) and radio (10 spots).





⇒ Two webinars explored key topics relevant to youth participation: "How to meaningfully engage young people in the National Dialogue" and "The role of Youth Networks and Coalitions in the National Dialogue Process." A total of 130 young people participated, including 61 females.



⇒ A comprehensive resource document was developed to guide meaningful CSO engagement and youth participation in the National Dialogue. This document outlines strategies and provides clear guidelines for both groups.


USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

YOUTH DISCUSSION FORUM ON YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE

A document on the identified and articulated issues of young people

Save Your Holy Land Association in Collaborations with USAID/Ethiopia Support Program

May, 2023

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



⇒ 26 youth council members, including 12 females, honed their skills in youth engagement, leadership, and advocacy.



⇒ A multi-stakeholder event brought together 125 participants (70 female, 55 male, 3 disabled) to discuss solutions for GBV/rape survivors, substance abuse victims, and AYSRH needs in the humanitarian setting through panels and youth advocacy.

⇒ 2 (1 Female and 1 Male) were identified and rewarded "Mogach Wotat" from the youth councils.

⇒ One youth council facilitated an intergenerational dialogue on AYSRH (Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health) with 21 participants (13 women and 8 men) to promote tolerance and peacebuilding.

2. Health and Nutrition



 # Of Rights Holders reached under this area:

⇒ **Male= 11,479 & Female= 14,638. Total= 26,117**

⇒ **Children: Male= 7,947 & Female= 9,157. Total= 17,104**

⇒ **Young People: Male= 2,627 & Female= 2,542. Total= 5,169**

⇒ **Adult: Male= 905 & Female=2,939. Total=3,844**

Known HIV Status improved by new case findings

Category	Male	Female	Total
Clients who received HIV testing and counseling services	1,604	1,337	2,941
New HIV-positive cases identified	35	49	84
Offered HIV self-testing	748	482	1,230
Assisted HIV self-testing	215	285	500
Unassisted HIV self-testing	463	267	730

⇒ 2,941 Clients received HIV testing and counseling services: 840 index cases and 2,101 elicited contacts (1,604 male and 1,337 female).

⇒ 84 (100% of the annual target with 10% yield) Clients were identified with new HIV-positive results, with 49 females and 35 males.

⇒ 77 of the identified new cases were linked to Woldia, Kobo, Mersa, and Lalibela health facilities for care and treatment.

⇒ SYHLA offered HIV self-testing to 1,230 contacts (482 female, 748 male) out of a planned 1,588 (78% achievement). It included both assisted testing (500 clients, 285 female, 215 male) and unassisted self-testing (730 clients, 267 female, 463 male). From these tests, 14 clients showed preliminary positive results and were referred for confirmatory testing.

Increase adherence counseling, disclosure support, and psychosocial services for PLHIV

⇒ Planned to provide counseling, disclosure support, and psychosocial services for 1,423 clients and serviced 1,448 (102%) PLHIV.

Category	Target	Actual	% Achieved
CaC Demand Generation	1,733	2,202	127%
CaC Referrals for Screening	260	282	108%
Condom Distribution	387,320	60,125	15.50%
IIT Client Tracing	182	182	100%

⇒ Planned to distribute 387,320 condoms through mobile and fixed outlets but only managed to distribute 60,125 (15.5%). This shortfall was due to a lack of available condoms.

⇒ Planned to provide Interruption in Treatment (IIT) client tracing for 182 clients and re-engage them in care and treatment services. We received a line list for 191 clients (115 female and 76 male), traced 186 clients, and re-engaged 182 clients in care and treatment at health facilities (100% of the annual target.)

Category	Target	Actual	% Achieved
Enrollment	1,423	1,448	102%
Graduation	378	323	85.00%

⇒ Planned to create demand for cervical cancer screening among 1,733 clients and refer 260 for screening and achieved 2,202 clients (127%) and referring 282 for screening (108%).

⇒ Woldia Hospital, Kobo Health Center, Lalibela Hospital, and Mersa Health Center. Were our referral partners. These facilities screened a total of 282 clients (Woldia: 128, Kobo: 45, Lalibela: 58, Mersa: 51).

⇒ Identified 7 positive cases of cervical cancer. Thankfully, all these cases are now receiving treatment with VIA.

Screen, enroll, and establish urban health extension managed Community ART refill groups/ refill or distribution (UHEP-CAG/ PCAD)

Establishment of CAGs and PCADs and enrollment:

⇒ Target: 121 CAGs and 222 PCADs and enrolling 312 PLHIV clients.

⇒ Actual: 11 CAGs and 43 PCADs and 312 PLHIV successfully enrolled and 259 refilling their first medication.

Provide interventional adherence support counseling:

⇒ Target: 26 PLHIV clients.

⇒ Actual: 2,493 clients (470 % of the target).

Bidirectional referrals:

⇒ Target: 719 PLHIV clients .

⇒ Actual: 281 PLHIV clients.

Viral load testing:

⇒ Target: 193 PLHIVs

⇒ Actual: 80 clients (41.5%) completing and identifying 56 (70%) with suppressed viral loads.

Mental Health Screening and Referral:

Mental Health Screening

⇒ Target: 1, 423 PLHIVs

⇒ Actual:1,400 PLHIVs

Mental Health Referral

⇒ Target: 53 PLHIVs

⇒ Actual: 17 PLHIVs (32%)

TB screening and Referral:

TB Screening

⇒ Target: 1,403 Clients

⇒ Actual: 1,383 Clients

TB Referral:

⇒ Target: 28 Clients

⇒ Actual: 14 Clients

STIs Screening and Referral:

⇒ Target: 1,423 Clients

⇒ Actual: 1,401 Clients and 10 Referred

Identify and support 142 victims of GBV:

⇒ Target: 142 Clients

⇒ Actual: 92 Survivors

Screening of survivors of GBV through our adult case management, ICT, OVC, and other programs:

⇒ Target: 256 clients

⇒ Actual: 364 survivors screened and 29 were referred for further assistance

GEND NORM/Primary Prevention:

⇒ Target: 3,356 clients

⇒ Actual: 3,232 clients

OVC SERV:

⇒ Target: 13,538 OVC

⇒ Actual: 13,872 OVC

OVC Comprehensive services:

Target: 10,396 OVCs

Actual: 10,640 OVCs

OVCs and their caregivers graduation:

⇒ Target: 2,074 OVCs and their caregivers

⇒ Actual: 1,938 (1,214 children and 724 caregivers)

OVC SERV Active (which includes both children over and under 18, as well as their active caregivers):

⇒ Target: 8,322 people.

⇒ Actual: 8,703 individuals (7,085 were active OVC participants, while 1,618 were active caregivers).

OVC_HIVSTAT

OVC_HIVSTAT assessment:

⇒ Target: 8,486 OVCs.

⇒ Actual: 8,186 OVCs (96.5%)

Children for HIV risk assessment:

⇒ Target: 8,105 OVCs.

⇒ Actual: 8,102 OVCs. Of those screened, 7,902 knew their status: 607 were HIV positive, 3,783 were HIV negative, and 200 infants hadn't yet disclosed their status. The remaining 3,512 children were identified as not at risk for HIV and therefore didn't require testing.

⇒ 606 OVCs are on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) and were eligible for viral load testing. However, only 461 children (CALHIV) received their test results, revealing a 97.6% viral load suppression rate (450 children) with only 11 (2.4%) having a high viral load.

⇒ A network of 17 Children and Adolescents Living with HIV (CALHIV) support groups (COTZ) was established across 5 towns, serving a total of 292 members.

OVC SCREENINGS AND REFERRALS

⇒ A total of 7,996 OVC were screened for Gender-Based Violence (GBV), identifying 335 victims. Additionally, 8,569 OVC received Tuberculosis (TB) screening, with 28 referrals to health facilities for further evaluation.

⇒ Mental health screenings were conducted for 630 Children and Adolescents Living with HIV (C/ALHIV), resulting in 7 referrals for further diagnosis and treatment.

⇒ Annual target for GBV screening was 6,143, with an expected number of GBV survivors at 184 (3%). However, it was possible to screen 6,530 (106%) OVC. As a result, 143 (78%) GBV survivors were found, and first-line LIVES services were provided for each. GBV screening was done for all enrolled children, not limited to the given target.

TB Screening and Referral:

⇒ Target: 8,470 OVC s

⇒ Actual: 8,569 OVCs

⇒ TB positive: 28 OVCs

Immunization and growth monitoring:

⇒ Target: 91 children and for growth monitoring, i was 428 children.

⇒ Actual: As a result, 84 children were referred fo immunization, and 397 children were referred fo growth monitoring.

⇒ 211 Pregnant and lactating mother supported with fres cow milk.

⇒ 6 severely sick mother received medical support.

Capacity Building and Meetings

⇒ Training on OVC case management, adult case management, HTS, and integrated service delivery was provided for 407 community volunteers, SSWs, HSLCs, Kebele WCS affair heads, and HF case managers.





⇒ Three advocacy workshop on Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (AYSRH) issues were held with the participation of 115 people (53 females).

⇒ One intergenerational dialogue on AYSRH and build a culture of tolerance and peace building with the leading role of youth council has been conducted with the participation of 64 (31 Female) people.



⇒ A consultative review meeting was conducted with 76 education office representatives, primary school directors and vice directors, HPE/sport teachers trained for coaching boys into men, and town-level WCSA office representatives to review last year's performance with challenges and to discuss this year's plan and implementation modalities

⇒ 780 Reusable sanitary pad distributed to 400 Female students at Woldia University.

⇒ Female university students using zero plan model room discussion conducted with the participation of 256 female university students, including 18 PwD.

⇒ A total of 1,200 university community members (520 females and 680 males) AYSRH wide event .

⇒ Word AIDS Day was celebrated with the participation of 535 individuals (287 females, 248 males), including 32 Persons with Disabilities (PwD).

4. Emergency Response and Recovery

# of Rights Holders reached under this area:

- ⇒ **Male= 484 & Female= 774. Total= 1,258**
- ⇒ **Children: Male= 97 & Female= 98. Total= 195**
- ⇒ **Young People: Male= 99 & Female= 249. Total= 348**
- ⇒ **Adult: Male= 142 & Female= 473. Total= 615**

› A consultative workshop on humanitarian response mechanisms was held, bringing together various stakeholders and the GUNA Youth Empowerment Group. The workshop successfully engaged 34 individuals (2 female), 113 % of the target 30. This event aimed to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing on effective responses to humanitarian situations.

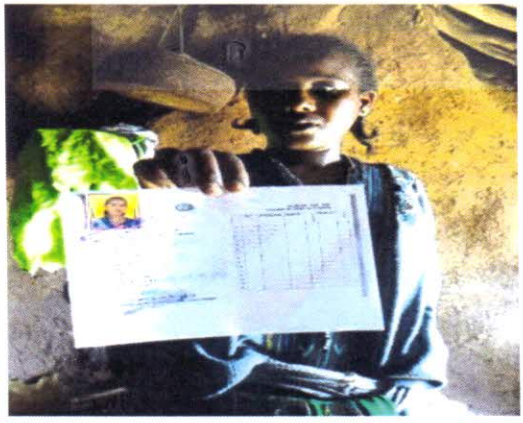


Recovery Interventions Low Economic Status Clients

⇒ To help People Living with HIV (PLHIV) clients facing economic hardship and food insecurity, SYHLA provided cash transfers to 37 clients enrolled in care and treatment programs. Each client received 5,000 Ethiopian Birr (ETB) deposited directly into their personal bank accounts, totaling a disbursement of 185,000 ETB during the reporting period.

Multi-purpose cash transfer for conflicted affected community & IDPs

⇒ A total of 1,357 (462 Male and 895 Female) rights holders, including women, young women, and elders, received multipurpose cash support across Guna Bege-Midir District, Sekota Town, and Sehala District.





5. Climate Change and Justice



# of Rights Holders reached under this area:

⇒ **Male= 235 & Female= 557. Total= 792**

⇒ **Young People: Male= 127 & Female= 115. Total= 242**

Support high school clubs and TVET colleges for urban/ vegetable gardening and green environment

⇒ Two highs cools and one TVET college supported

⇒ 126 young people participated in urban gardening and greening activities this year, with a high level of participation from young women (78 female).



Provide IGA support for youth groups to engage in climate-resilient

⇒ **One youth group with** 16 (9 female) members **has been supported and engaged in climate-resilient livelihood options (**vegetable production and creating natural fertilizer (Vermin compost)). The group actively participated by sowing seeds and preparing the composting space. This initiative not only empowers these young people but also serves as a model for other communities seeking eco-friendly income generation.

⇒ 50 solar torches were provided to 50 drought-affected women-headed households, offering them a clean and sustainable lighting solution.

⇒ A training program on fruit production an plantation equipped 600 participants wit valuable skills, including 392 women-heade households, 108 male-headed household and 100 youths (28 female).

⇒ To strengthen livelihood recovery and comba climate change, 6,000 papaya seedlings wer distributed to all 600 participants (with 42 being women-headed households).



6. Agriculture and Food Security



# of Rights Holders reached under this area:

⇒ Male= 2,466 & Female= 3,224. Total= 5,690

⇒ Children: Male= 2,411 & Female= 2,948. Total= 2,466

⇒ Young People: Male= 35 & Female=125. Total= 3160

⇒ Adult: Male= 20 & Female=151. Total=171

Urban Gardening Training

- 331 Rights Holders trained on urban gardening training.
- The training focused on vegetables best suited for the local environment, including fast-growing and economical options like onions, garlic, carrots, beetroot, potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, kale, lettuce, and Swiss chard and 6 KG seed distributed to clients.

Resource Mobilization for Project Rights Holders

- 1,980 caregivers and their 4,229 OVC received ETB 4 million in-kind and ETB 2.7 Million in cash, totaling over ETB 6.75 million in support for families enrolled in USAID FFHPCT services.

Rights Holders Linked with Urban Safety-net program

1,130 OVC and their 416 caregivers linked to urban safety-net program

7. Job Creation and Decent Work



# of Rights Holders reached under this area:

- ⇒ **Male= 100 & Female= 1,215. Total= 1,315**
- ⇒ **Young People: Male=1 &Female=230. Total= 230**
- ⇒ **Adult: Male= 99 & Female=985. Total=1,084**

VSLA Establishment and Strengthening

- ⇒ 18 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) with 330 clients established.
- ⇒ 371 People Living with HIV (PLHIV) received VSLA modality training.
- ⇒ 18 VSLAs' received a dedicated VSLA toolkit.
- ⇒ ETB 111K mobilized by the established VSLAs.

Financial Services of VSLAs

- ⇒ 52 functional VSLAs across all five towns boast 921 members (822 female)
- ⇒ 52 groups have saved ETB 675,425 (excluding shared amounts)
- ⇒ Disbursed 296,740 Birr in short-term loans to 168 members
- ⇒ Collected 30,879 Birr for their social fund

BDS, ME-SPM, and VSLA Financial Management Training

- ⇒ 188 VSLA leaders (reaching 94% of the target of 200) trained in business development systems, microenterprise selection and management, and VSLA financial services management.
- ⇒ To further strengthen the economic stability of program participants, SYHLA provided ETB 745,000 through direct cash transfers for 112 OVC caregivers and 37 PLHIV clients and 37 adult case management clients.

Basic Business and Financial Management training for IDPs

- ⇒ 393 women and young women trained on Basic Business and Financial Management and engaged in IGAs including shop ownership, sales of tea, coffee, fruits, and vegetables, livestock rearing and fattening, poultry production, clothing and shoe sales, and grain trading.
- ⇒ 1 Young men also engaged in AGA.

8. Human Rights Advocacy, Social Accountability, Peace-Building, and Conflict Resolution



# of Rights Holders reached under this area:

- ⇒ **Male= 4,586 & Female= 4,296. Total= 8,882**
- ⇒ **Children: Male= 3,013 & Female= 3,054. Total= 6,067**
- ⇒ **Young People: Male= 831 & Female=790. Total= 1621**
- ⇒ **Adult: Male= 754 & Female=440 Total=1,194**

Improved the capacity of local institutions and government stakeholders to become resilient institutions and capable advocates of sustainable peaceful co-existence and enhanced citizen-state engagement on conflict response and sustainable peaceful co-existence

- Fifteen local institutions (CBOs, FBOs, WROs, and OPDs) were assessed to identify their strengths and weaknesses in handling conflict situations.
- Capacity-building training on conflict resolution and peacebuilding has been conducted for 20 local institution leaders (2 female and 18 male participants per training).
- Coaching & mentoring of the local institution using through peace & security office & relevant other actors conducted for 7 local institutions.
- 3 Peace clubs were established and strengthened in 2 high schools and preparatory school and 1 primary school with 3,530 (50%) students
- 15 (2 Female) School club leader teachers, principals, and education department professionals trained in trauma management and enhancement skills.
- 20 (2 female) government stakeholders trained in conflict resolution and peacebuilding.
- 39 (9 female) stakeholders attended zonal level CSO Forum/networks to respond to actively engage in peacebuilding and co-existence.
- 50 (25 Females) community members attended a community dialogue on peace-building and security.
- 210 students (116 females) youth peace club members engaged in promoting inclusive dialogue platforms on peacebuilding and social co-existence interventions.
- Woreda-level lesson learning and experience-sharing discussion platform have been conducted with 35 (9 Female) stakeholders on humanitarian response, service provision, relationship building, and local conflict resolution. The experience sharing was focused on ZEWOLD which is a traditional and indigenous conflict resolution mechanism in Raya Kobo.
- 198 (98 Female) community representatives attended the Peace, the Role of Community in Peacebuilding, conflict, and its Consequences, Identifying Consequences of Recent Conflict, and Evaluating Indigenous Conflict Resilience Practices workshop.

CSOs and regional governments work together (under the FTA-SA-GRM partnership) to resolve prioritized systemic woreda-level issues

⇒ Four collaborative sessions were held with 99 participants (34 female) representing the FTA, Social Accountability (SA) structures, and the GRM. These sessions facilitated review, reflection, and joint problem-solving around prioritized systemic issues at the woreda (district) level.

Citizens monitor the implementation of joint action plans

⇒ JAP Dissemination for Accessibility: 5,000 Printed posters were distributed through associations for people with disabilities and community organizations, ensuring JAP accessibility for those with hearing impairments.

⇒ Joint Management Action Plans: Four workshops were held to establish Joint Management Action Plans (JAPs) with stakeholder participation.

⇒ WSAC-Led Monitoring: Woreda Social Accountability Committees (WSACs) conducted four monitoring exercises to track progress in implementing the JAPs.

Strengthening School Governance and Peacebuilding

⇒ SYHLA supported the establishment or restructuring of student parliaments and peace clubs in two high schools.

⇒ 2,374 students (1,175 male and 1,199 female) participated in governance activities within these structures.

⇒ 150 young people (71 female and 79 male) developed valuable informal leadership skills through their involvement.

Promoting Peace Education and Dialogue

⇒ Peace Clubs in two schools have 96 registered members (53 female and 43 male).

⇒ Peace ambassadors provided a day-long orientation session on peacebuilding and conflict management strategies, reaching 70 participants (34 female and 36 male).

⇒ Following the session, peace club members demonstrated their commitment by participating in a school compound cleaning activity (25 male and 36 female members).

Empowering Young Peace-builders: Cascading Training Initiative

⇒ This program aimed to equip young people at the local level with the skills and knowledge to promote peace and build resilience within their communities.

⇒ A cascading peacebuilding and conflict management training session was delivered to 83 young people (56 females and 27 males). Participants came from diverse backgrounds, including Global Platforms (GPs), technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions, and high schools. **The training focused on developing their capacity in key areas: Conflict management, Conflict resolution, Peacekeeping, and Peacemaking.**





Empowering Young Women Peace Ambassadors





⇒ A peace ambassador group, spearheaded by 12 young women, was established. This group is dedicated to fostering a peaceful environment and encouraging active youth participation in peacebuilding and conflict management efforts within their community.

⇒ Peace dialogue was conducted with the participation of 110 participants (72 female and 38 male).



9. Gender Equality and End Violence against Women and Girls

5 GENDER EQUALITY

# of Rights Holders reached under this area:

⇒ Male= 93 & Female= 3,794. Total= 3,887

⇒ Chile: Male= 0 & Female= 10 .Total= 10

⇒ Young People: Male= 30 & Female=3670.Total= 3,700

⇒ Adult: Male= 63 & Female=114. Total=177

Enhancing Resilience through Psychosocial Support Training

⇒ 34 participants received training, including: 20 GBV survivors, 2 WWG members (Women's Watch Groups), and 12 gender change agents. The training focused on equipping participants with the knowledge and tools to: Empower young people, particularly young women, increase resilience to shocks and stressors, and reduce vulnerability.



Provision of economic empowerment for GBV survivors



⇒ 49 GBV survivors underwent a three-day training on business skills and financial management, followed by economic support.

Empowering Youth for Gender-Based Violence Prevention: A 16-Day Activism



⇒ 16-Days of Activism was celebrated with the participation 162 participants (48 young people).

- ⇒ 20 government stakeholders in trauma management & enhancement skills.
- ⇒ GBV service mapping for the referral pathway has been conducted.
- ⇒ 60 GBV survivors received dignity kits.
- ⇒ 20 (11 Females) people trained in GBV Case management.
- ⇒ 12 (5 Females) Volunteers, psycho-social support counselors, and health extension workers trained in psycho-social first aid.
- ⇒ Refrigerator, TV, Matters, Stove, blankets, and other materials supported to one child, women, and girls safe space (30 women and girls).
- ⇒ Three Female University safe spaces established and served 3,500 Female students



10. Cross cutting-M&E and Knowledge management

⇒ SYHLA adopted a unified data recording and reporting system (UDS) to streamline enrollment, monitor service delivery, and conduct quality improvement efforts. This system effectively tracked data for 10,640 Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and their caregivers, 35 clients receiving High Throughput Screening (HTS) services (including 2020 indexes and contacts), and 1,448 individuals served through Case Management and Support services throughout the fiscal year.

⇒ To ensure data accuracy, our progrmmes have been implemented a Monthly Routine Data Quality Assurance (RDQA) process. This involved utilizing monitoring tools during weekly project meetings with key staff at both office and site levels within the intervention area. The RDQA process successfully identified data inconsistencies, incomplete registry utilization, and data visualization issues. To address these findings, written feedback with specific improvement plans (PIPs) was submitted for each Service Delivery Point (SDP). Additionally, meeting minutes were documented to track progress and ensure accountability. This comprehensive approach demonstrates the project's commitment to high-quality data collection and management.

⇒ To guarantee data consistency and reliability, SYHLA implemented a robust system of monthly performance monitoring and data quality verification. This system is overseen by a dedicated performance monitoring and data quality team.

⇒ Monthly Meetings: The team convenes monthly to review progress presentations prepared by key staff at the coordination office. These presentations provide a comprehensive overview of project activities and achievements.

⇒ To ensure the ongoing quality and usability of project data, SYHLA conducts monthly data cleaning and encoding activities. This process is overseen by a team of 11 trained data encoders.

Best practices and lessons learned

Digital AYSRHR platform

⇒ In response to inadequate knowledge and insufficient recognition and violations of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) among Ethiopian university students, the Youth Challenge Initiative (YCI), led by SYHLA in collaboration with BEZA, FATE, and YNSD, launched the MelaNet digital platform in 2022. With a current user base of 1,800 young university students, the platform has become a beacon of success in promoting SRHR awareness and positive behavioral change.

⇒ **Youth as Change-Makers:** Involving young people directly in our projects resulted in a significant impact on achieving our objectives. Their perspectives, energy, and skills proved instrumental in driving positive results.

⇒ **Building Bridges:** Establishing strong connections between our grassroots-level initiatives and regional and national efforts proved crucial. This strategic alignment facilitated knowledge sharing, evidence-based advocacy for youth issues, and greater project visibility.

⇒ **Shaping National Agendas:** Recognizing the necessity to integrate youth voices into national-level initiatives such as National Dialogue, Sustainable Peace efforts, and other youth concerns became a pivotal insight.

⇒ **Adaptability and Sensitivity:** Operating in a conflict zone demanded a high degree of adaptability and sensitivity to the existing context. We learned to tailor our interventions to minimize negative impacts and maximize positive contributions to peacebuilding efforts.

⇒ **Building Trust and Collaboration:** Building trust and collaboration with diverse stakeholders, including local communities and potentially conflicting parties, became crucial for program success. This fostered a more inclusive and sustainable approach.

⇒ **Prioritizing Safety and Security:** Prioritizing the safety and security of our team, rights holders, and partners was paramount. We implemented robust safety protocols and remained vigilant in mitigating risks associated with the conflict environment.

Human Case Stories

Story 1: "Emerging from Shadows: Birtukan Kassaw Tsegaye's Journey to Radiance"

Birtukan Kassaw Tsegaye was born in the remote Guna Bege Midir District of South Gonder Zone, Amahara Regional State. She is a 25-year-old young woman who is married and has been blessed with a daughter. Birtukan Kassaw Tsegaye completed her education at the age of 12, but unfortunately found herself unemployed and destitute.

She has faced hardship from a young age. Pressured by relatives and seeking a way out, she migrated to Shashemene city in the Oromia region to secure a job and sustainable financial security. Despite discomfort in a nursing home, she persevered until security concerns compelled her return to Guna district's Kimer Dingay Town.

Back in her hometown, life took a harsh turn as Birtukan struggled to afford even the most basic necessities, relying on others for food and rental fees. In the midst of this challenging situation, SYHLA initiated recruitment for humanitarian response support, targeting vulnerable women and young women IDPs in Guna district. Birtukan emerged as a right holder, receiving three-day basic business skills and financial management training from SYHLA in collaboration with ActionAid. With additional humanitarian cash support of birr 8, 878.00 tailored for Income Generating Activities (IGA), she ventured into selling shoes in the Gulit market. Currently, she earns an income of 150 birr per day.

Birtukan's resilience and determination have brought about a remarkable change in a short time. Not only has she improved her living conditions, but she has also fostered positive relationships with her neighbors. Leading a joyful life sustained by her income, she independently manages her household.



Birtukan Kassaw Tsegaye expresses profound gratitude to the support organizations that played a pivotal role in transforming her life.

In her own words, she acknowledges, "This support changed everything for me. I transformed my life, became self-reliant, and now I am not just surviving; I am thriving. With the right support, I can extend my business and make an even bigger impact in my community."

Birtukan's heartfelt thanks reflect the immense positive impact that support organizations like SYHLA and ActionAid have had on her journey toward a brighter and more prosperous future.

In the face of adversity, Birtukan Kassaw Tsegaye's journey exemplifies the transformative power of support, offering a glimpse into the emergence of a brighter future from the shadows of hardship.

Story 2: "From Adversity to Empowerment: Desta Alemayehu's Journey of Resilience and Success"

I am Desta Alemayehu, a 25-year-old young woman born in Kimir Dingay Town, Guna Bege Midir District, South Gondar Zone, within the Amhara Regional State. I am married and pregnant. I hold a bachelor's degree. My life journey has been marked by numerous challenges



During my formative years, I encountered financial challenges and a scarcity of job opportunities in my hometown. In response to these difficulties, I pursued employment and financial stability in the Oromia Region around Mizan Tipi in 2011 E.C. Despite facing adversity, enduring some mistreatment, and encountering difficulties in securing employment, I remained steadfast, dedicating three consecutive years to tireless work. Unfortunately, conflict in the area disrupted the course of my life, resulting in my displacement and eventual return to my birthplace.

Back in my hometown, life took a challenging turn, and I found myself dependent on my family. Determined to break free from this dependency and financial strain, I ventured into selling tea and coffee, later transitioning to clothing sales with the support of my husband. Despite the challenge of allocating 90% of my earnings to house rent, I remained resilient and committed to improving my living conditions.

The transformative moment arrived when SYHLA recruits, focusing on vulnerable women and young women IDPs in Guna district, identified me as a right holder. Recognizing my potential, SYHLA, in collaboration with ActionAid, provided me with three-day basic business skills and financial management training. Additionally, I received humanitarian cash support of birr 8, 878.00 tailored for Income Generating Activities (IGA) to meet my economic needs and enhance my livelihood. Empowered by this support, I expanded and improved my cloth-selling business. Currently, I earn a daily gross income of birr 5,000.00.



In a short span, I have undergone a remarkable transformation. My newfound independence not only impacts my life but also that of my husband. Embracing joy and leading a life sustained by my income, I have reached a point where I manage my household independently. Furthermore, I am pregnant, showcasing the positive course of my life.

In my own words, "This support changed everything for me. I transformed my life, becoming self-reliant. Now, I manage my household independently, and I am overjoyed to share what I am expecting. With the right support, I believe I can elevate my business even further."

I express profound gratitude to SYHLA for their transformative support, which empowered me with essential skills, financial resources, and opportunities, enabling me to achieve significant personal and economic growth.

My journey stands as a testament to resilience, determination, and the transformative power of support, highlighting the possibilities that unfold when individuals are empowered to overcome challenges.

Story 3: "Small Seed becomes a tree!"

My name is Mahider Wondmu. I'm a 23-year-old young woman headed to Household. I have a son. I'm live in Sekota Town kebele-01.

I had finished my tenth grade. I was engaged in daily labor and dependent on my family. Due to the recurrent conflict in my area, I lost my daily labor activity and was exposed to hunger. In 2022, thanks to SYHLA and ActionAid Ethiopia, I was one of the targets of the Livelihood Recovery & Resilience Building Project in Sekota. I got business building and management training and received ten thousand birr seed money to start an income-generating activity.



Currently, I'm engaged in making Injera and selling it to my customers. I earned a daily net income of 88.00 birr. Since the start of my business, I have deposited 32,000.00 birr.

I'm recovered from my hunger and shock. Know I'm a resilient young woman who is educating the reset community members on how to create a resilient community.

"The small grant saves my life like a small seed grows into a tree," Mahider remarked."

As a result, I am extremely grateful to SYHLA for providing me with a seed capital of 10,000 Birr, which has enabled me to improve my food security as well as the livelihoods of my family and community.

Story 4: "I am living in good health now"

My name is Wasihun Birhanu Endalamaw. I am 13 years old. I was born in Woldia and I am living now in Woldia town, 05 Kebele. I am a grade 9 student in Jayika Primary School. I am a boy living with HIV. I am taking my medication at Woldia Specialized Referral Hospital.



I didn't take my medication on time and often missed my appointment. I am also frequently challenging my mother to miss my drug appointments. As a result, I was becoming a high viral load client and highly sickened. After all my community volunteer advice my mother and I about the situation, and she told me that, they are children like me and why don't join in community operational triple zero with the guidance of an ART provider.

So, I am so glad to join the COTZ program because I feel like I am the only child who takes ARV drugs for HIV. But after joining the COTZ session I understand all about HIV & ART adherence and I know that there are children like me who live with HIV. Then my behavior changed and taking my medication regularly and timely. The viral load test result became suppressed and feeling healthy now.

I also got scholastic materials from this USAID-funded project. I am attending my school with good spirit and self-confidence. I will complete my education with interesting results."

Story 5: "My Journey of Empowerment: Navigating Social Challenges and Personal Growth"

Hello, I'm Andinet Yechale, a 23-year-old third-year Management student at Woldia University, come from Pawi in the Metekel Zone, Benshangul Gumuz Region. Despite the distance from my family, my journey has been marked by diligence and the unwavering support of friends and acquaintances.

My commitment to addressing societal issues led me to actively participate in initiatives such as SYHLA MelaNet and the Telegram digital platforms. Going beyond mere involvement, I took on the responsibility of guiding discussions back to their intended purpose. In addition, I contributed by capturing meaningful moments, reinforcing ideas, and crafting materials for distribution among the group.

One significant challenge within the Telegram channel involved misguided discussions on ethnicity, religion, and politics. Undeterred, I made it my mission to redirect the focus, ensuring that the platform stayed true to its original objective.



"Recognizing a lack of understanding among the youth, I advocated for the expansion of such initiatives".

My engagement extended beyond the virtual realm into discussions on reproductive health. Drawing from personal experiences when faced with genital pain, I sought guidance from the platform and promptly sought medical attention. This proactive approach led to a diagnosis and subsequent treatment, underscoring the importance of health awareness within the youth community.

Inspired by SYHLA's focus on reproductive health, I felt compelled to share my experiences and knowledge with others. Proposing additional training sessions in diverse locations, I aimed to reach a wider audience, spreading awareness and nurturing a sense of responsibility.

In conclusion, my participation in the SYHLA project, particularly through contributions to the YCI initiative, has brought profound joy and a deep sense of purpose to my life. I extend gratitude to these initiatives for their positive impact on both myself and those around me. I firmly believe that by actively sharing knowledge and promoting awareness, the collective efforts of engaged individuals can significantly contribute to the well-being of communities. My journey serves not only as a personal achievement but also as a rallying call for all youth to actively participate in initiatives fostering positive change and well-being.

SYHLA FY 2023 Financial Statement

SAVE YOUR HOLY LAND ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Currency : ETB

	Notes		2022
Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions			-
General Fund		1,531,064	94,000
Youth Network for Sustainable Development (YNSD)		2,520,683	2,772,294
Amhara Development Association-USAID fund		17,891,476	23,977,814
Mahiber Hiwot for Social Development (MSD)-EU & VNG		2,110,454	1,829,622
AGENCY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AUTHORITY -		1,500,000	-
Civil Society Support Program-2		-	3,072,952
World Families Australia		507,452	291,128
ActionAid Ethiopia Fund		8,077,051	3,120,621
USAID/OTI/Dexis		2,939,324	1,577,766
AHRRA-CSSP2 Fund		780,445	1,226,198
Total Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions		**37,857,947**	**37,962,394**
Finance Revenue - Gain on exchange rate		-	-
Total revenue		**37,857,947**	**37,962,394**
Expenditure			
Young People Focused Space Creation Resilience and Crisis Protection (action Aid)	**13**	8,042,492	2,950,563
Engaging Key Actors in the Wake of Violent Conflict (Dexis)	**11**	1,483,685	672,974
Fostering Social Accountability for Improved Basic Service Delivery-lot 2	**12**	958,641	514,907
Fostering Social Accountability for Improved Basic Service Delivery-lot 5	**15**	1,026,016	441,005
Child Sponsorship, school development	**17**	195,843	356,260
Online platforms: An innovative approach to improve Adolescents and Youth Sexual Reproductive Health (AYSRH)	**16**	1,889,471	2,441,495
Peace Matters: Dialogue for Peaceful Coexistence	**18**	216,103	509,738
USAID Family-Focused HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment Services	**19**	16,743,571	21,657,343
Youth Leadership Engagement and Access for Development (Youth-Lead)	**10**	999,459	2,500,851
Prevention of Youth Substance Abuse	**20**	-	70,200
SELAM: Stakeholder Engagement and Local Community Action Matters - AHRRA/CSSP2	**14**	2,006,643	-
AGENCY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AUTHORITY	**21**	1,500,000	-
General Fund	**22**	1,110,785	1,073,408
Total Expenditure		**36,172,710**	**33,188,743**
Surplus (Deficit) for the Period		**1,685,238**	**4,773,650**

Our Donors and Partners

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BRITISH COUNCIL

actionaid

World Families
AUSTRALIA Inc.

dexis

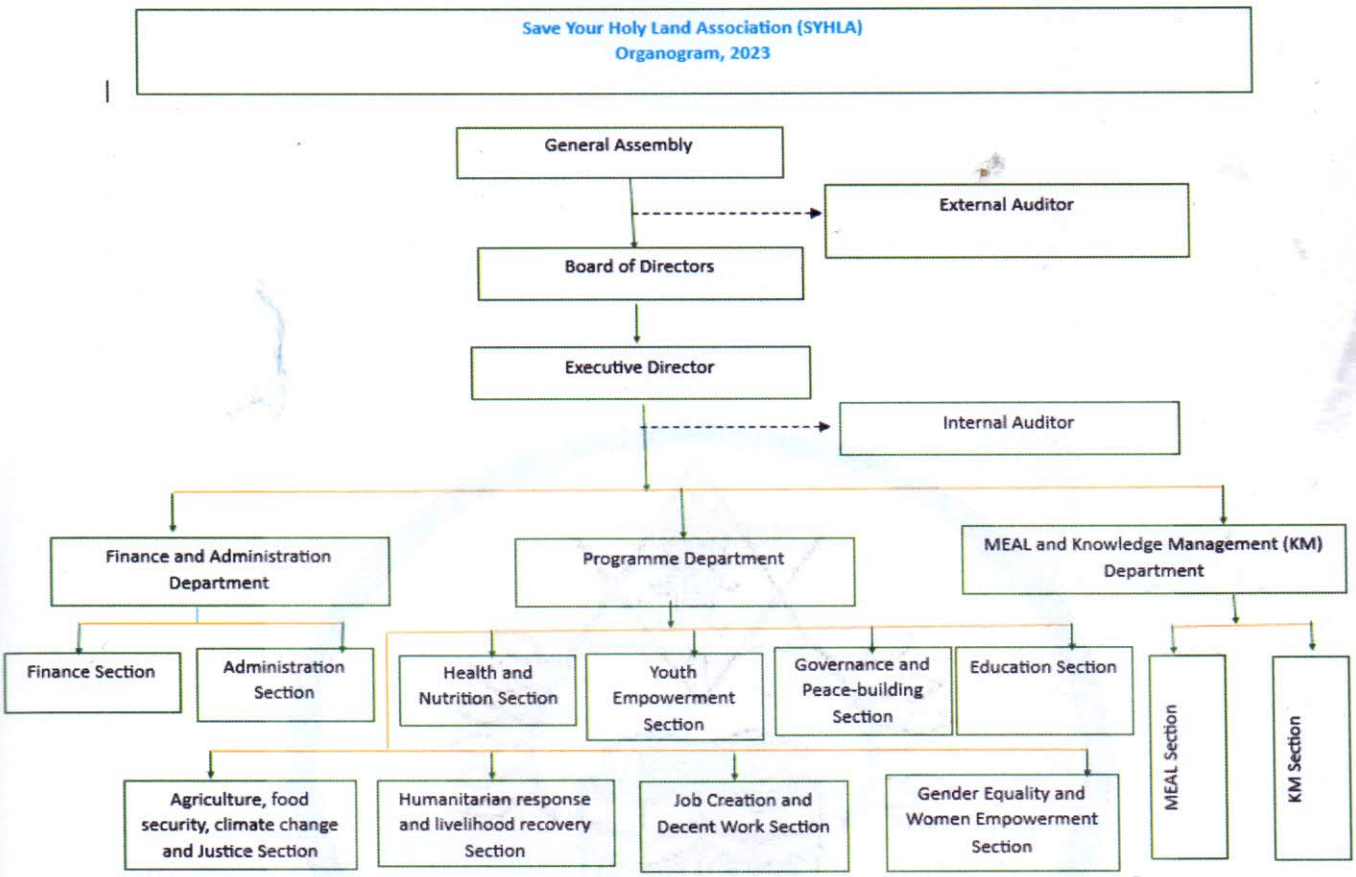
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AMHARA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

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Investing for the future!

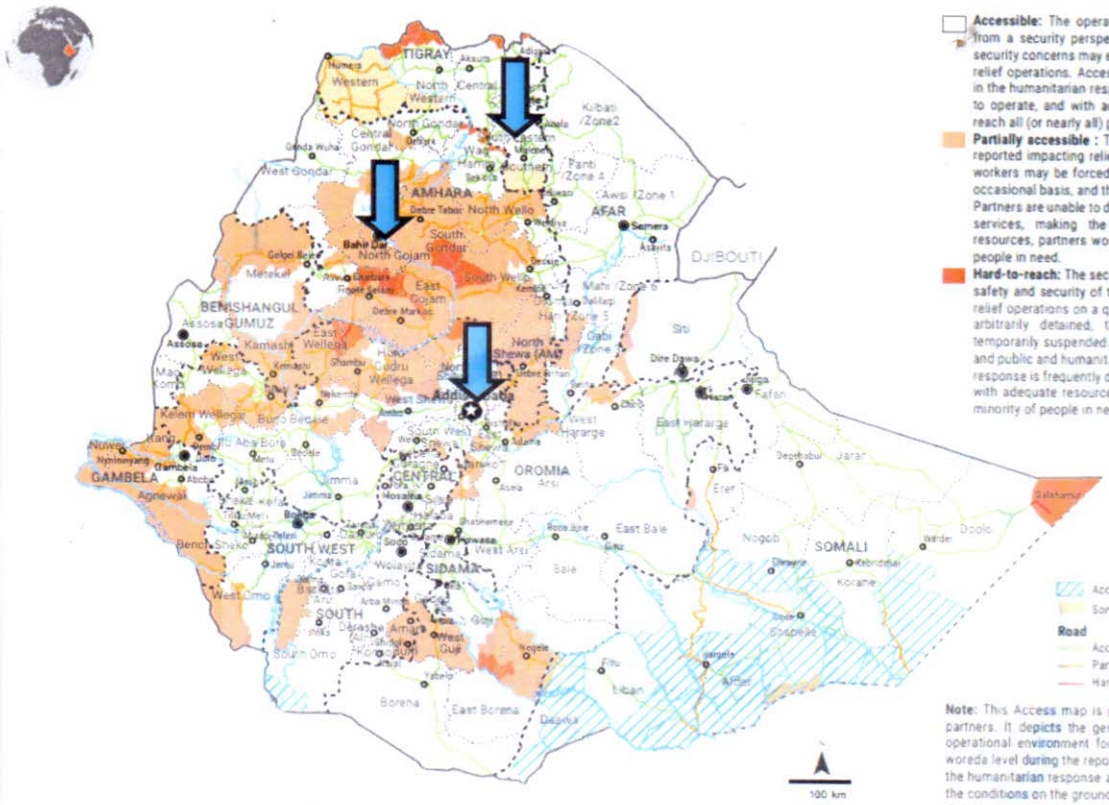
Fana Addis Tiwulid / Ethiopia

YNSD
Youth Network
for Sustainable
Development

SYHLA Organogram



Our Operational Regions



Accessible: The operational environment to relief operations – from a security perspective – is enabling. Criminality and other security concerns may exist, however, these have limited impact on relief operations. Access cannot be considered for any shortages in the humanitarian response. Partners across all sectors are able to operate, and with adequate resources, they would be able to reach all (or nearly all) people in need.

Partially accessible : There are incidents of intermittent violence reported impacting relief operations on an intermittent basis. Aid workers may be forced to cancel movements or hibernate on an occasional basis, and their assets may be temporarily confiscated. Partners are unable to deliver the whole range of aid and protection services, making the response substandard. With adequate resources, partners would be able to reach approximately half of people in need.

Hard-to-reach: The security situation is volatile, compromising the safety and security of the population and aid workers, impending relief operations on a quasi-permanent basis. Aid workers may be arbitrarily detained, threatened, or relocated, and activities temporarily suspended. Relief assets and supplies may be stolen, and public and humanitarian premises damaged. The humanitarian response is frequently disrupted and completely substandard, even with adequate resources partners would only be able to reach a minority of people in need.

Access impeded by state of the roads/bridges/flood
Some restrictions of movement

Road

Accessible
Partially accessible
Hard to reach

Note: This Access map is produced in consultation with humanitarian partners. It depicts the general situation regarding the quality of the operational environment for relief operations in Ethiopia, down to the woreda level during the reporting period. It does not assess the quality of the humanitarian response and ensuing gaps. By the time of publication, the conditions on the ground might have changed and will be reflected in the next iteration.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Creation date: 10 December 2023 **Map Doc.:** 04_ETH_National_Access_Map_12102023 **Sources:** OCHA Field, **Feedback:** ocha-eth@un.org www.unocha.org www.reliefweb.int


YNSD
YCI
Youth Challenge Initiative
Save Your Holy Land Association (SYHLA)
Youth Challenge Initiative (YCI) Consolidation Phase
Implementing Partner's Bi-annual Performance Review Meeting
ANet





Save Your Holy Land Association (SYHLA)

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Potential. Action. Learning. Excellence. Impact. Sustainability - PALEIS Approach

Everyone has a potential!

https://saveyourholyland.org/