

*Integrated Community Education
&
Development Association (ICEDA)*



Annual Report 2005

January 2006

Addis Ababa

Acknowledgement

ICEDA is very much grateful to partner organizations such as Womankind Worldwide, Japan Embassy, Basic Education Association of Ethiopia, and Institute for International Education (IIE) who financed the programs for the year 2005. ICEDA is also very much pleased to thank the Rift Valley Children and Women Development Association who availed its compound, its staff and its facilities to be freely used by ICEDA. Also ICEDA would like to thank all organizations that allowed their experts to train the communities.

Lastly, ICEDA thanks the Akaki district Administration, Akaki District Education Office, the Oromia Education Bureau and the target communities who were actively involved and participants in the success of the programs.

Acronyms

ABE	Alternative Basic Education
AIDS:	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ART:	Aids Reminder Tree
AVAW	AIDS And Violence Against Women
BEA-E	Basic Education Association of Ethiopia
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CBT:	Capacity Building Training
CRDA	Christian Relief and Development Association
DF:	Development forum
DHE:	Down of hope Ethiopia
EFMA	Early forced marriage and abduction
FGM:	Female genital mutilation
FP	Family Planning
GO-NGO	Governmental organization and Non governmental organization
HIV:	Human immune deficiency virus
ICEDA:	Integrated community and educational development association
IEC:	Information education communication
NCTPE:	National Committee on Traditional Practices of formal basic education
ODPPB:	Oromia Disaster Prevention and preparedness bureau
OEB:	Oromia Education bureau
PTA	Parent teachers Association
RH	Reproductive health
RCWDA:	Rift Valley Children and Women Development Association
STI:	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TMPC:	Teaching materials preparation committee
VAW:	Violence against women

I. Executive Summary

The advancement of the status of women and their equal access to social, economic and political powers constitute a valuable contribution to a nation's development.

Alike the other women in Ethiopia, the women in **Oromia** State of Ethiopia, have been marginalized from participating and benefiting from any socio-economic programmes the country has been running during the past regimes. They have been affected by different traditional practices and values as well as gender roles assigned to them by the society. Though they comprise more than 50% of the total population, they were allowed only to spend their time and energy on domestic and laborious works. No time is left for them to attend schools. Studies indicate that our women spend about 16 hours of a day on preparing food, fetching water and fuel, taking care of children and other social obligations. More over, about 87% of the agricultural labour force comes from women. Yet illiteracy, lack of basic social and health services, lack of basic skills trainings and appropriate technologies and lack of access to credits has contributed to their least status in decision-making and access to and control of the resources. Above all else, the high maternal and child mortality rates as well as the high fertility rate (7 children per woman) have been the characteristics of the **Oromia region** due to the high prevalence of early and forced marriages. Also lack of women's empowerment against prejudicial cultural and traditional practices in sexual and reproductive matters and relationships have been identified as a main factor that make women vulnerable to HIV infection and other STIs.

The target area, Akaki district of Oromia state, which is situated only 25 Kilo Meters out of the Capital City, Addis Ababa, has many pressing social problems. For instance, FGM 100%; early child marriage 90%; abduction 60%; rate of divorce 80%; net primary education enrollment rate 15%; HIV/AIDS awareness 10%; participation rate of women in leadership and decision making position 0%. However, due to its proximity to the capital, the problems are less recognized and least addressed. Though the government has drawn up a women's policy and efforts are being made to address the needs and problems of women of Ethiopia, due to the deep-rooted ness of the problems, the efforts are insignificant. Hence, it needs a collective effort of NGOs, professionals and all concerned citizens who believe in gender equality and good governance.

As an organization that is established to address the social problems of disadvantaged communities, ICEDA has been implementing an alternative education project that prevents gender inequality and HIV/AIDS. The following is the report of the activities accomplished in the year 2004.

II. Planned activities for the year 2005

Ser. No.	Activities	Unit Measure	Total Quantity	Quarter Target				Remark
				Annual	I	II	III	
1	Capacity building Training of key influencers	Person	300	50	100	150	-	
2	Advocacy, awareness raising & Social mobilization	Person	20,000	2,000	-	8,000	10,000	
3	Adult and child education	Person	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	
4	IT & IEC materials production	No	2,000	500	500	500	500	
5	Local exchange visits, networking and representation	Person	12	-	12	-	-	
6	Annual planning and evaluation workshop with the target community	Person	60	60	-	-	-	
7	AIDS reminder tree plantation	No	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	
8	Small grants for community initiated development projects	No	2	-	2	-	-	
9	Ongoing Monitoring & coordination	Month	12	3	3	3	3	
10	Research and Studies	No	1	-	-	-	1	
11	Final Evaluation	No	-	-	-	%	-	
12	Bicycles for village project facilitators	No	10	-	-	10	-	
13	Quarterly Review meeting	No	4	1	1	1	1	
14	Staff Development Training	No	1	-	1	-	-	

III. ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED IN 2005

3.1 Capacity building Training of key influencers

3.1.1 Leadership training for female club leaders

A total of 100 youth club leaders were trained for 3 days on community mobilization against harmful traditional practices including girls' education, female circumcision, early marriage, abduction and rape.

The trainers were experts from Akaki district health office, Women Affairs office, Education Office and ICEDA. At the end of the training, the youth has drawn up their plan of action to conduct house-to-house educational campaign to reach people in 1 urban and 6 rural villages.

3.1.2 Training of circumcisers

27 circumcisers of which one is a male were trained for two days on the negative effects of FGM, massaging the abdomen of pregnant women and early forced marriages. In addition, they were trained on how to actively be involved in the upcoming election as contesters and as voters. A female member of Ethiopian Parliament has discussed with women on the revised penal code and its prosecution. After open dialogue on the negative effects of FGC and watching different video films, all the women were convinced that traditional practices such as FGC, early marriage and abduction have been tolerated only because nobody dared to be the first to stand against them. And again, nobody encouraged them to openly discuss on the issues those affect their health and human rights. They promised to facilitate an open dialogue at their respective villages. Some of the women have witnessed that their immediate relatives are admitted to the Addis Ababa fistula hospital.

At the end, as a symbol of ending the practice, the women broke down razor blades they were using for female circumcision and promised to sensitize their neighborhood. In addition, they also promised to bring to the social court established at each village those women w`o continue doing female circumcision. In the district female circumcision is done in-group of 3-4 before early adolescence. The Ethiopian TV and Walta Information Center have disseminated the news.

3.1.3 Training of village community leaders

In order to advance the education of rural girls, ICEDA believes it is vital to consult with local leaders on the benefits and rights of girls' education.

In this regard in collaboration with the district education office ICEDA has organized one day long training and discussed with 208 village influential groups on the rights of children to get basic education.

At the end of the program, the community influencers established girls' education forums and promised to give 10,000 square meters of land to ICEDA for construction of learning centers.

3.2. Advocacy, awareness raising and social mobilization

3.2.1 the 16 days of activism

During the 16 days of activism (November 25-December 10, 2005), ICEDA has collaborated with the Oromia Region Women Affairs Bureau to raise the awareness and participation of the whole population of the region through the following activities.

a) Familiarizing the revised penal code of Ethiopia on FGM and other harmful traditions

Panel discussions were conducted in all the 12 districts of Fiche zone, to raise the knowledge of the communities that FGM, domestic violence and other forms of harmful traditional practices are now unlawful and will be conducted among religious leaders representing Orthodox, catholic, Protestant and Muslim religions will discuss on the religious, legal and medical aspects of Female Genital Cutting for one day. Legal and health experts as well as victims of FGM will present the revised penal code on FGM and other evidences of the participants.

b) Anti FGM day celebration

This year for the 4th time the Oromia anti-FGM day was colorfully celebrated in Gabra Guracha town, North Showa zone about 140 Kms to the north of Addis Ababa in the presence of H.E. Mrs. Hirut Dilebo, Women Affairs Minister and H.E. Mr. Muktar Kedir, Vice President of Oromia State and other federal and regional government officials. The officials stressed that the event should continue in a concerted manner and called upon all citizens to collaborate in combating harmful traditional practices.

1. Girls' club members have demonstrated condemning the practice of FGM and appealed to the representatives of the Federal and Regional Governments to put the revised penal code on FGM into effect.
2. Sports, dramas and literature competitions will be conducted in front of the government officials and community leaders.
3. The newly appointed Women Affairs Minister Mrs. Aster Dilebo and the Vice president of the Oromia region, Mr. Muktar Kedir, have awarded the 3rd chilalo award to Mrs. Bizunesh Benti and Mr. Meseretu Lemma are selected by the Oromia region as outstanding community leaders on the campaign against FGM.

4. Spouses who married without undergoing circumcision and Parents who assisted their children to grow and marry without circumcision were also awarded traditional clothes.
5. The regional women affairs office has set up a regional network of NGOs working on FGM.

3.2.2 Celebration of the Global Action week on education

This year, for the 3rd time, on April 28, 2005, during the Global Campaign for Education was celebrated in Nazareth town at Oromia region level. The theme of the year was *‘Educate to End Poverty, Please send my friend to school’*. On the event, 100 children from Akaki district from 8 schools have come with poem on appeal on education for girls. Student Bizuayehu Chaka has appeal to the State to build more schools in their village that provides education upto grade 8 so that Ethiopia can meet the millennium development goals. The officials stressed that the event should continue in a concerted manner and called upon all citizens in. Dr. Meshesha Shewa Rega has attended the participants where over 200 children have come from 7 zones of the Oromia State. Then Aberash Nigussie represented children in Oromia to meet the Ethiopian president Girma Wolde Giorgis to appeal for politicians to call upon parents to send their children to school. The event was covered through a wide range of media, including the Ethiopian News Agency, Ethiopian TV, Ethiopia Radio, Radio Fana and Oromia. On June 16, 2005, during the Day of African Child, ICEDA has collaborated with Radio Fana to organize panel discussion with concerned bodies to discuss on the causes, effects and social responsibility to support Orphan children. At the end, it was agreed to promote community conversations at each village and to establish a task force for implementation of the Convention on the rights of the child.

3.2.3 Celebration of the Day of African Child

On June 16, 2005, the Day of African Child, ICEDA has organized a panel discussion on the causes for and roles of the community to support orphan children.

40 persons composed of politicians, Religious and community leaders, Orphaned children Women living with HIV/AIDS as well as victim girls of early forced marriage and abduction representing government offices such as social affairs office, health office, women affairs office, school club members from Oda Nabe School, Dukem School and Gale Koticha School, Bili Silto School, Chaffe Tuma School, Boreta Guji School have taken part in the panel discussion.

The children from Dukem Primary School presented 2 songs in English and local language on needs and problems of children in the district.

Experts from National Committee on Traditional Practices in Ethiopia has presented why African Children Day, June 16, is celebrated every year to commemorate the Sweto Children massacre in South Africa. It was

discussed that children have the right to education, to be free from child exploitation to ask questions, to know everything and to fight against harmful traditional practices affecting children.

3.2.4 The 1st Home-to-Home Campaign on harmful traditional practices affecting girls.

After for 3 days training on how to communicate with the rural community, 100 volunteer female club leaders has conducted the first home-to-home educational campaign for one week reaching 3,000 households with information on harmful traditional practices affecting the health of women and children in July, 2005. They reached 1 village in urban and 6 villages in the rural communities. They focused on female genital cutting, early marriage, abduction, rape, girls' education and HIV/AIDS.

T-shirts, badges and educational leaflets and posters were produced and distributed to the campaigners. The district political leaders including the chief administrator has attended the launching event and advised the girls on how to facilitate the conversation with household members with diversified background.

3.2.5 Celebration of the International Literacy Day in Oromia

On September 8, the International Literacy Day was celebrated in Oromia region in Adama town for the first time with the theme "focus on adult education". 8 representatives of Akaki district has participated the event and one of them represented Oromia and addressed the donors on education at the national meeting in Addis Ababa to appeal for more focus on the education of rural adults.

3.2.6 Celebration of March 08, 2005

On March 08, 2005, ICEDA organized a panel discussion in **Dimtu village** where about 200 residents have attended. The main topic raised on the panel discussion was the relationship of gender-based violence and HIV/AIDS. Two women living with HIV/AIDS spoke to the community how gender-based violence was the cause for their infection by the pandemic. Similarly, the ex-circumciser who was trained by ICEDA in 2004 addressed the dwellers that circumcisers what she was trained and stopped the practice. On the occasion, ICEDA donated 42 corrugated iron sheets and 13 kilos of nails so that they can construct a learning center in their village.

3.3. Alternative Basic Education

This year, the Akaki district Education Bureau has requested ICEDA to open Alternative Basic Education centers in 8 rural villages namely, **Billi, Yerer Abayi, Galan Arabsa, Chaffe Tuma, Dimtu, Boreta and Guji, Oda Nabe, and Yerer Nacho**. The almost all the girls and boys of these villages are illiterate and had no access to basic education due to the following reasons.

- The long distance of the schools from the homes of the children.
- The lack of awareness of the society on the importance and benefits of education
- The high need of the labour of children by their families
- The low living standard of the society and the high family size (10 per household)
- The high prevalence of early marriage and abduction
- Lack of drinking water in the district

ICEDA in collaboration with the district education office has employed 8 teachers (of whom 4 are female) who have completed a one-year training from teachers training institutions.

The community has allocated a land of 10,000 sq. meters for the construction of centers. The children learn three hours a day and three days a week at time and place convenient to the community. A total of 731 people (502 males and 229 females) are enrolled in the alternative basic education programmes. Out of these 303(169male and 134 female are children while 428 (333 male and 95 female are adults. Through this non-formal education in the local language, we access information health, human rights, environmental protection and cultural issues.

157 combined students desks were purchased for the 8 non-formal schools.

3.4 IT AND IEC MATERIALS PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION

3.4.1.IEC Materials Production

As one of its strategies to achieve its objectives, ICEDA develops different IEC materials appropriate to the activities and collaborates with media to disseminate the information.

In this regard, different leaflets and educational materials were produced in local language and are being distributed to the village schools.

This year, 4 types of leaflet and 2 greeting cards were produced and distributed to concerned organizations. Also 41 pages of facilitators' guide for conducting community conversations was translated in the local language and is being used by our facilitators of community dialogues at each village.

3.4.2.Art exhibition on the life of rural women

When the Global action week for education, in April 2005, during the international literacy day, during Oromia anti-FGM day and during the Oromia girls' education week, ICEDA has organized arts exhibition on the lives of rural women.

Different officials and segment of the society have visited the exhibition. In the year 2005 only, more than 30,000 people have visited the exhibition.

3.5. Local Exchange visit and Experience Sharing

ICEDA has enabled 9 persons from different target villages to attend the International Literacy Day and Global week of action for education. The participants of the exchange visit have learnt from the experience of people who came from other regions. They went back to the community they represented and reported back on what they gained from the program.

3.6 CBOs Small grant for community initiated development projects

This year ICEDA has awarded 84 corrugated iron sheets and 31 kilos of nails to a village called Dimtu to construct 2 classes of learning centers at their village so that girls can get access to education within their communities. The village was a model because they were actively discussing on the issue, has incorporated harmful traditions into the idir (social support institution) as an act against the community that will make the perpetrators to be cancelled from the social institution.

Also, a girls club in Dukem primary school was awarded 24 corrugated iron sheet and 6 kilos of nails to construct a shop to support needy and orphan girls to continue their education. This school club is a model in establishing an emergency fund from monthly membership contributions of the teachers to support the most needy and survivors of early marriage and abduction to continue their education.

3.7 Ongoing Monitoring

As systems for follow up of the progress of the program, ICEDA has been conducting monthly ongoing monitoring meetings with school directors and ABE facilitators to discuss on the achievements and problems encountered so that they can share experiences among themselves and build the capacity to sustain the program. The schools bring monthly progress report. ICEDA conducted frequent field visits and discussed with the beneficiaries on progress and challenges of the education program, supervised the teaching learning process.

At the end of every quarter, ICEDA and the directors with district administration offices conducted review meetings against the annual plan of action and make timely corrective measures.

a) Networking

ICEDA has been collaborating with Oromia Women Affairs Office during training, advocacy and awareness raising programs at different levels for political leaders and religious leaders. The film on abduction in Akaki district has been screened to the community.

ICEDA also is closely working with IAC, Inter Africa Committee, Basic Education Association of Ethiopia, Institute for International Education and National Committee on Traditional Practices of Ethiopia (ICEDA) in training and sensitizing the community on traditional practices. ICEDA is active member of

these networks and participates the youth, adults and circumcisers in different events the networks are preparing.

In this regard, this year, ICEDA has collaborated with IAC, Institution for International Education and NCTPE by presenting the experience of ICEDA in accessing information and education at grassroots community on the benefits girls' education. Also ICEDA has brought 6 beneficiaries to share their experiences to participants of different national and international meetings.

Aberash Nigussie, one of the beneficiaries and victim of early marriage has met *the Ethiopian President H.E.Girma W/Giorgis* at his palace and presented her case so that the president delivers messages to parents not to force their daughter to marry very early During the Global Campaign for Education.

b) Regional/International Representation

The Executive Director of ICEDA has attended the Khartoum conference on FGM and the annual planning and evaluation meeting of the East Africa network of Woman Kind partners, in April 2005. He also presented the experience of Ethiopia and ICEDA as a local NGO in working with the community influential groups to end gender-based violence.

Also during the AWID (Association for Women Rights and Development) 10th meeting in October 2005, the director has attended the meeting, in Thailand, Bangkok, where more than 2000 participants have attended. He presented the activities of ICEDA on the community level and lobbied the participants to take part in campaign against harmful traditional practices.

3.9. Research and studies

ICEDA has conducted a study on harmful traditional practices highly prevalent in the district. The ICEDA also has compiled the study conducted on the reasons given to FGM and early forced marriages. The experts of the Akaki district education office and school directors have participated in the data collection.

3.10. Media Campaign

As usual ICEDA is closely working with different local and international media, like Ethiopian Television, Ethiopia Radio, Radio Fana, FM Addis radio and Voice of America Radio as well as newspapers. Press release has been conducted during the anti-FGM day and the Global Campaign for Education.

Also, ICEDA participates on weekly teleconferences on HIV/AIDS and harmful traditions organized by the Radio Fana every Wednesday.

Two film producers for IRIN, a UN humanitarian news and information service have visited the project activities and discussed with the beneficiaries. They have produced an article entitled 'ETHIOPIA: Fighting

female circumcision at local level''. Also, ICEDA has participated on a film on FGM produced by the UNIRIN and being distributed widely in the member countries of the United Nations.

IV. ICEDA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

1. In order to reduce the high drop out rate of girls in primary schools due to early marriage (90%), ICEDA has identified mothers and fathers who are currently sending their daughters to school to be used as *pressure groups* to bring all girls to school and to retain them at the schools. ICEDA has established **mothers' forums** and **fathers' forums** amongst parents who send their children. The village mother's and fathers' forums composed of 50-80 mothers and fathers are meeting each other every two weeks alternatively to discuss on the growth and development as well as needs and problems of
2. The community has passed social sanctions on those who practice HTPs through incorporating into customary laws.
3. The communities are actively involved in resource mobilization for construction of mud-blocked schools and hiring of teachers.
4. Household dialogue about the rights of girls and women.

V. Problems encountered

1. Lack of curriculum for Alternative Basic Education and for training of Alternative Basic Education facilitators.
2. Lack of awareness and low attention of the decision makers on the contribution of ABE to millennium development goals.
3. Community resistance to girls' education. Convincing families in rural areas who do not have exposure to modern lifestyles has been our greatest challenges to teach them to be open, honest and not shy to discuss about gender equality with their children who are members of our gender clubs.
4. Shortage of drinking water.
5. Lack of skills training program for mothers on fuel and time saving stoves.
6. Some of the trainees who are selected by the district are not relevant to the issues.
7. Due to the shortage of human power in ICEDA, it was difficult to make a close follow up of the women who are victims of abduction and rape and to give them timely counseling and guidance services.
8. The high turn over of officials has been difficult to continue the program as a new officer comes, things begin from the initial stage.

9. Lack of vehicles/motorbikes to reach at the target villages for monitoring purposes (as some of the areas are more than 20 km away from the project sites)

10. Lack of sufficient fund.

VI. Future plans

Action Plan format for the year 2006

Ser. No.	Activities	Unit Measurement	Total Quantity	Quarter Target				Remarks
				Annual	I	II	III	
1.1	Capacity Building Training of key influencers	Person	200	20	30	150	-	
1.2	Advocacy, awareness raising and social mobilization	Person	20,000	2,000	8,000	-	10,000	
1.3	Adult and child education	Person	800	800	800	800	800	
1.4	IT & IEC materials production	No	800	200	200	200	200	
1.5	Local Exchange visits	Person	24	12	8	-	4	
1.6	Small grants for community initiated development project	Person	2	-	1	-	1	
1.7	Ongoing Monitoring	No	12	3	3	3	3	
1.8	Research and Studies (PRA)	No	1	1	-	-	-	
1.9	The 16-days of activism	Person	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	
1.10	Construction of centers	No	8	-	4	-	4	
1.11	Regional/International meetings	No	2	1	-	-	1	
1.12	Networking and representation	Person	10	-	-	10	-	
1.13	Quarterly review meeting	No	4	1	1	1	1	
1.14	Staff Development Training	No	4	-	4	-	-	

Statement of Income and Expenditure

For the year ended 31st December 2005

	Income	Womanki nd	Japan Embassy	IIE - Ethiopia	BEA- Ethiopia	Netherla nds Embassy	US Embass y	Total
	Donation	181,562.53	775,322.88	3,017.00	5,655.00	-	-	965,557.41
	Total Income	181,562.53	775,322.88	3,017.00	5,655.00	-	-	965,557.41
I	Activity based budget					-	-	
1.1	Capacity Building Training of key influencers	19,919.25	-	-	-	-	-	19,919.25
1.2	Advocacy, awareness raising and social mobilization	16,576.37	-	-	5,655.00	-	-	22,231.35
1.3	Adult and child education	14,415.63	-	-	-	-	-	14,415.63
1.4	IT & IEC materials	8,825.37	-	-	-	-	-	8,825.37
1.5	Local Exchange visits	12,716.67	-	-	-	-	-	12,716.87
1.6	Small grants for community initiated development project	2,304.00	-	-	-	-	-	2,304.00
1.7	Ongoing Monitoring	9,322.51	3,000.00	-	-	-	-	12,322.51
1.8	Research and Studies	7,500.00	-	-	-	-	-	7,500.00
1.9	The 16-days of activism	8,654.40	-	-	-	-	-	8,654.40
1.10	Regional/International meetings	18,726.51	-	-	-	-	-	18,726.51
1.11	Networking & representation	3,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	3,000.00
1.12	Quarterly review meeting	-	-	200.00	-	-	-	200.00
	Subtotal	121,960.69	3,000.00	200.00	5,655.00	-	-	130,815.69
II	Capital-Based					-	-	
2.1	Student Combined desks	-	56,000.00	-	-	-	-	56,000.00
	Subtotal	-	56,000.00	-	-	-	-	56,000.00
III	Recurrent					-	-	
3.1	Salary and benefits	35,355.00	2,790.00	2,790.00	-	-	-	40,935.00
3.2	Perdiem and Travel	3,500.00	-	3,225.00	-	-	-	6,725.00
3.3	Income Tax	6,345.00	210.00	210.00	-	-	-	6,765.00
3.4	Maintenance and repairs	865.00	-	-	-	-	-	865.00
3.5	Communication and utilities	9,069.38	-	675.00	-	-	-	9,744.38
3.6	Stationary and printing	2,773.80	-	-	-	-	-	2,773.80
3.7	Office rent	1,200.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,200.00
3.8	Bank service charge	233.35	1,938.31	-	-	-	-	2,171.66
	Sub total	59,341.53	4,938.31	6,900.00	-	-	-	71,179.84
	Total Expenditure	181,302.22	63,938.31	7,100.00	5,655.00	-	-	259,995.53
	Excess of income over expenditure	260.31	711,384.57	(4,083.00)	-	-	-	707,561.88
	Opening fund balance of January, 01, 2005	12,040.31	-	4,099.25	-	0.22	0.64	16,140.64
	Ending fund Balance	12,300.62	711,384.57	16.25	-	0.22	0.64	723,701.44

