

# Ethiopia



**Since 2003, International Medical Corps has operated a multi-faceted program in Ethiopia,**

strengthening local capacities and delivering services in HIV/AIDS and infectious disease, reproductive health, nutrition, psychosocial support, maternal and child health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and livelihood security. All International Medical Corps programs are designed to be sustainable through full community participation and the strengthening of government capacity in health care and disease prevention.



## WHERE WE WORK:

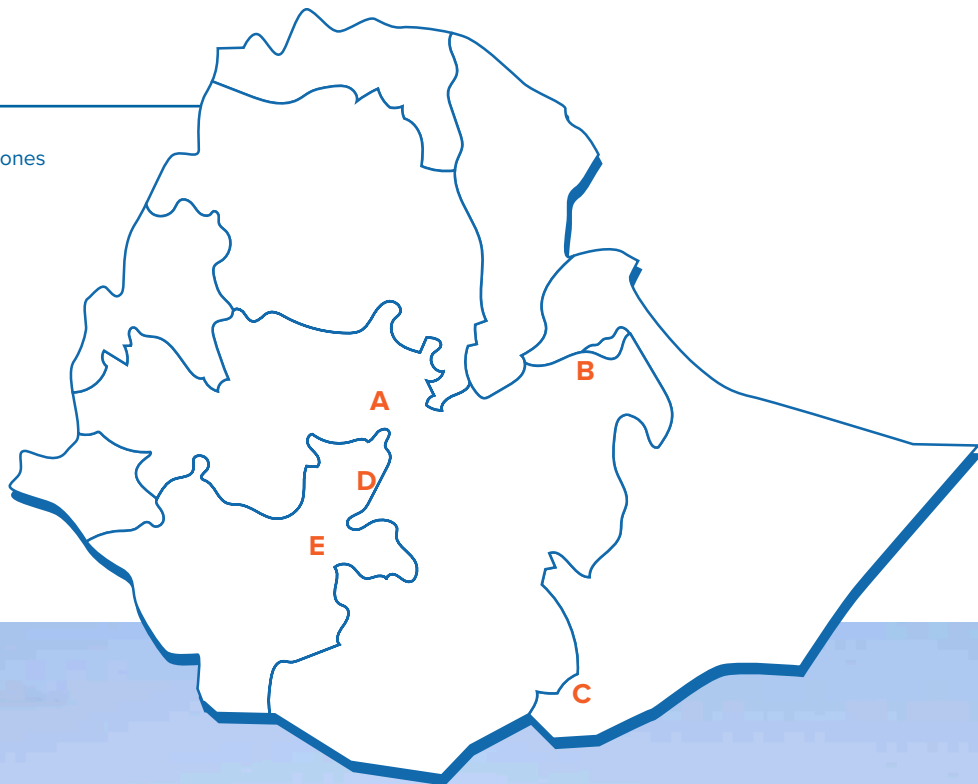
**OROMIA REGION** - East Hararghe and West Arsi Zones

**SNNP REGION** - Wolyata Zone

**SOMALI REGION** - Melkadida, Boqolmayo, Kobe Refugee camps, Liben Zone

### INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS OFFICES

- A** Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- B** Harar, East Hararge Zone
- C** Boqolmayo/Dolo Ado, Liben Zone
- D** Shashemene, West Arsi Zone
- E** Wolyata Sodo, Wolyata Zone



## SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

As refugee populations are particularly vulnerable to sexual violence and exploitation, International Medical Corps works in Somali refugee camps in southeastern Ethiopia to prevent new and manage existing GBV cases. Since September 2009, we have provided psychosocial support to GBV survivors in the camps and strengthened camp service providers through training on basic counseling skills and psychosocial care.

To date, we have trained 98 health professionals from referral hospitals and camp-based clinics on the identification, reporting and clinical case management of GBV, clinical management of STIs, and treatment for female genital mutilation. In addition, we trained a total of 132 health and protection service providers, 85 refugee volunteers and over 900 clan and religious elders on GBV identification; sexual

exploitation and abuse prevention; GBV referral pathways; and the provision of psychosocial care for GBV survivors. To date, 100 percent of GBV cases reported to International Medical Corps have received psychosocial support and over 117 refugee social workers and community volunteers have been trained on survivor-centered case management.

To promote behaviors that prevent GBV, we have held numerous campaigns, tea-talk sessions and home visits, reaching over 18,150 households with messages and informational materials. In addition, International Medical Corps has constructed two women's centers (one in each camp), both fully-equipped with materials needed for recovery activities, including musical instruments, henna design, books and art supplies.

## WATER, SANITATION, & HYGIENE (WASH)

Since 2010, International Medical Corps has integrated WASH into our nutrition programs in drought-affected and food insecure areas of Ethiopia, including East Harerghe and West Harerghe Zones in Oromia Region, and Wolayta Zone in SNNP Region. WASH programs reduce susceptibility to diarrhea-related morbidity and mortality among malnourished children and PLW who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.

To date, International Medical Corps has constructed 44 communal latrines in health centers providing CMAM services; procured and installed 111 hand-washing units; provided 113 water tanks; and constructed 40 roof water collecting tanks. Furthermore, we have procured and donated acute watery diarrhea preparedness materials to 78,000 households, 20-liter water jerry-cans to 1,881 households and water purification tablets to 30 health posts. In 2011, we rehabilitated 10 non-functional water points to provide safe water to more than 15,000 households in West Hararghe. International Medical Corps trained 112 health bureau members and 392 voluntary hygiene promoters on Community-Led Total Sanitation to mobilize fellow community members to construct household pit latrines and dig refuse disposal pits. Through community volunteer hygiene and sanitation promoters, we reached over 186,990 community members. We also helped over 1,803 households construct their own latrines and provided community committees with tools needed for the collection of household trash.

Since September 2011, International Medical Corps has implemented hygiene and sanitation activities in three Somali refugee camps to improve access to sanitation and hygiene facilities for over 103,419 refugees and complement ongoing emergency nutrition responses. We constructed 419 communal latrines, installed 200 hand-washing systems and provided soap to 25,687 refugees. Through mass awareness campaigns and home visits, International Medical Corps reached a total of 5,027 refugees with hygiene and sanitation messages on hand-washing, hygienic latrine usage, safe-water chains and solid waste disposal.

## LIVELIHOOD SECURITY

International Medical Corps supported 5,000 female-headed households in food-insecure areas of West Hararghe zone in Oromia region through training in vegetable gardening and distribution of vegetable seeds and tools. Income earned from gardening allowed women to send their children to school and buy household assets, such as goats and chickens. Our activities also helped to reduce the impact of future food shocks on female-headed households by giving women more diversified and productive agricultural outputs.

## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

In addition to our reproductive health and malnutrition programs, International Medical Corps works with Ethiopia's Ministry of Health to improve the health of mothers and children by training health care workers on the integrated management of childhood illnesses. This program has been implemented in Borena zone of Oromia Region and Liben and Afder zones of Somali Region. International Medical Corps also implemented an Expanded Program on Immunization to vaccinate children and pregnant women in West Hararghe.

## HIV/AIDS

International Medical Corps implements a broad range of HIV/AIDS programs around the world, including direct service delivery, integrated tuberculosis testing and treatment, food security, counseling and testing, training of health staff, and prevention of mother-to-child transmission. In Ethiopia, we integrate community health education, including critical HIV prevention messages, into our overall programming. As a result, we have reached more than 100,000 mothers and caregivers in three Ethiopian regions with HIV prevention education.



## NUTRITION

In collaboration with Ethiopia's Ministry of Health, International Medical Corps' Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) programs have provided essential nutrition services to more than 5 million food-insecure people across Oromia Region, Somali Region, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region (SNNP). To date, we have trained more than 819 medical professionals at health posts, clinics and hospitals on screening, referral and treatment of severe and moderate acute malnutrition. We also educate on nutrition using behavior change methods and community awareness programs.

As an integral part of our CMAM programs, International Medical Corps establishes and supports Outpatient Therapeutic Programs (OTP), Stabilization Centers (SC) and supplementary feeding centers for the treatment of severe and moderate malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). Since 2009, we have successfully treated over 51,600 severely malnourished and 40,584 moderately malnourished children and PLW in Ethiopia. Since 2011, we have established 83 OTPs and 8 SCs, in addition to supporting 146 existing OTPs and 19 existing SCs with medicines and medical supplies.

International Medical Corps prioritizes the training of community volunteers, mostly women, on nutrition education, screening and follow-up for malnourished children, and Essential Nutrition Actions, including exclusive breast feeding, appropriate complementary feeding and other relevant preventive measures. Since 2010, International Medical Corps has trained 515 community volunteer health promoters on community mobilization and prevention of malnutrition, as well as 448 female health extension workers in CMAM methodology. International Medical Corps also trains Mother Care Groups (MCGs) to actively promote nutrition and healthy behavior by visiting households and conducting education sessions. Through these mothers, we have reached over 153,000 households with health and nutrition messages since 2009.

## MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

International Medical Corps supports mental health care for refugees in the Jijiga camps in the Somali Region by training health professionals and establishing effective referral systems with local hospitals, as well as facilitating community-based psychosocial support groups. We designed an innovative program integrating Early Childhood Development into CMAM programs through MCGs. This program aims to improve the emotional and psychological well-being of infants and mothers and enhance their physical and psychological development. In addition, we have started a mental health program at the Dolo Ado camps for Somali refugees.

## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

With an estimated 673 maternal deaths for every 100,000 live births, Ethiopia has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. International Medical Corps is committed to safeguarding the reproductive health of Ethiopian women and girls by improving awareness of maternal health, prevention of HIV/AIDS and traditional harmful practices. We have trained and mentored over 499 Health Extension Workers (HEWs), 465 health care providers (doctors and nurses) and 400 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) on safe delivery practices, antenatal and postnatal care (ANC and PNC), family planning, and the treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), including HIV. International Medical Corps has also provided nutritional supplements, including vitamin A and iron, to 1,500 PLW; over 17,283 delivery kits to TBAs and HEWs; and emergency obstetric equipment and STI treatment kits to health centers. In 2011 alone, we trained over 155 community health workers on sexual reproductive health, gender, HIV, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, adolescent-friendly sexual and reproductive health services, and the identification and referral of malnourished PLW to ANC and PNC services.

## INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

For 30 years, International Medical Corps has demonstrated the ability to deliver major relief and development programs to improve lives and strengthen national capacity through health, education, and social programming. International Medical Corps has responded to complex emergencies and implemented transitional development programs in more than 70 countries worldwide.

## INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS IN AFRICA

For nearly three decades, International Medical Corps has worked in the most difficult and war-torn nations in Africa. International Medical Corps provides life-saving medical interventions in times of war and remains once conflict has ended to support governments and community organizations in the transition from relief to development.



Since its inception 30 years ago, International Medical Corps' mission has been consistent: relieve the suffering of those impacted by war, natural disaster and disease, by delivering vital health care services that focus on training. This approach of helping people help themselves is critical to returning devastated populations to self-reliance.

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