

IFA GRANT REPORT

Date Submitted: August 2021

Organization Legal Name: International Fund for Africa (IFA)

Current Mailing Address: Kirkos Sub-city, Woreda 01, House No. 076, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Director's Name/Title: Seble Nebiyeloul, Co-founder and Country director

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GRANT WAS FOR:

Project Name: School Health and Nutrition

Grant Amount: 6,700.00 USD **Grant Period:** from October 2020 to August 2021

NARRATIVE REPORT:

For any country the essential component of human capital development and economic growth is primary school education, therefore meeting the basic needs of children, especially in the health and education sector becomes imperative. Thus, Ethiopia has joined global conventions and initiatives that focus on child health and school health initiatives.

School Health and Nutrition (SHN) is first and foremost a school-based program with an emphasis on a healthy and well-balanced nutrition with the goal of promoting good health and learning capacity among students. IFA's SHN program has several components: School Feeding and Nutrition, School Eye Health and School WASH.

IFA's main reason for investing in school health is because it is a cost-effective way of reaching school age children who are one of the most underserved population group; this group can be well served through simple health interventions using existing infrastructure of

schools. Furthermore, it is also well documented that improvement in health result in improvements in educational outcomes.

The object of IFA's School Health Program are:

1. Nutrition & Health Related

- contribute to reducing not only hunger but also nutritional deficiencies for school-aged children
- Increase diversity in the children's diets
- Increasing the use of fresh fruits, vegetables, and proteins
- Incorporating essential health and nutrition interventions, such as deworming combined with sensitization on hygiene, education, and prevention

2. Education Related

- Improve school attendance
- Improve educational achievements of selected students
- Provide social protection for vulnerable households by providing school meals and incentivizing parents to send their children to school
- Improve the eyesight of school children and improve their learning ability
- Improve school sanitation, hygiene, and access to water

3. Sustainability related

- Raise the awareness of teachers and parents concerning eyesight-related problems
- Capacity building trainings for parents and SHN committee
- Operationalizing income generating activities

1.ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

School feeding programs use two main ways to distribute: on-site meals and take-home rations. IFA uses the take-home rations (THR) method at Jihur Primary school which serves both Jihur town dwellers and the nearby rural community.

Each month, IFA prepares a 10kg multigrain mix for each child which contains: Barely, Maize, Teff, Chick peas, Wheat and Sorghum. The monthly take-home ration (THR) has several benefits:

- It is shared with the whole family - Targeted take-home rations increase the nutrition of the family, and not just family members that are of primary-school age
- It is in line with what is called "home-grown school feeding," where the food provided is produced and purchased within the country, thus allowing smallholder farmers to benefit from access to a market with stable, structured, and predictable demand
- It links agriculture, nutrition, and education - Linking school feeding with smallholder agriculture has a three-pronged effect (Masset, Edoardo and Aulo Gelli. (2013):
- Food security: supporting incomes of recipient households (those consuming food) and farmer households (those providing the food)
- Education: increasing school enrolment, attendance and reducing drop-out, and improving cognition and learning achievement
- Health: improving nutritional status of school age children. The above listed mixed cereals contain carbohydrates/starch (energy), protein, fiber and a wide range of vitamins and minerals including the B vitamins folate, thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, iron, vitamin E, zinc, magnesium and phosphorus. It helps for health growth and developments of the children.

In countries like Ethiopia, where the prevalence of undernutrition and stunting is high, helping families feed all its members is important, regardless of whether they are in school or not.

Names and locations of the schools

- Jihur Primary schools (JPS); located at Moretina and Jiru Woreda on Northern Shoa of Amhara Region in Ethiopia

Number of beneficiaries

- Direct beneficiaries – 124 primary school children
- Indirect beneficiaries:

- 2 women from the community were provided with gainful employment as cooks for the SHNP
- All the families whose children are enrolled in the SHNP

Activities

1. Prepared multigrain take home rations for distribution
2. Distributed 10kg multigrain package per child

2.COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

IFA works in close collaboration with Jihur Primary School SHN Committee, the Finance & Economic Cooperation Bureau, the District Health Bureau, Education Bureau and Women's and Children Affairs Bureau. These are government bodies who assist IFA in coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the program.

3.CHALLENGES AND CHANGES MADE

The challenges faced during the 2020/21 school year are:

- The COVID pandemic which necessitated most of our work to be done remotely as all of IFA's staff live in Addis Ababa. IFA heavily relied on our partners in Jihur and the two cooks
- Inflation on food items was higher than anticipated, therefore IFA functioned on a very tight budget

4.FEEDBACK COLLECTED FROM PARTICIPANTS AND BENEFICIARIES

IFA has received encouraging feedback and recognition from the beneficiary families, the school, and the supervising bodies for continuing the distribution of the take-home ration despite the various challenges faced. Specifically, beneficiaries were very grateful that the program continued to support the families during school break periods and school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

5.ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE GRANT

In the past, funds donated by The Vegan Compassion Group were used to support the school SHN program at Hana Primary School in Addis Ababa, but since all school feeding programs in Addis Ababa were taken over by Addis Ababa Administration, IFA upon gaining

the approval of the Vegan Compassion Group used all the funds donated to support our ongoing work at Jihur PS.

6.IFA’S FEEDBACK ON OUR EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH THE DONOR

IFA is now in its 5th year of partnering with The Vegan Compassion Group and our organization has built good rapport with our donor, with great ease in communication and it is with deep appreciation that we welcomed the flexibility in the use of funds for our work in another school as explained above. This is a unique quality of The Vegan Compassion Group. Additionally, sharing the vegan ethos has strengthened our relationship.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The financial report below shows how the funds were expended.

Description/Items for	UOM	Total Transferred in US Dollar	Total Transferred in ETB*
Food Ingredients	Lump sum	6,700.00	246,278.60
Grand Total for Operation Cost(ETB)			245,011.36
Funds remaining in account			167.24

*Exchange Rate on October 1st, 2020 – 1 USD= 36.758

The breakdown is as follows:

Name of Funder: The Vegan Compassion Group			
Name of School : Jihur Primary School (2020/21)			
Quarter	Purpose of Expenditure	Expenditure	Remark
October 2020 to December 2020	Cereals	63,396.00	
	Cereals grinding and labor cost	2,976.00	
	Salary of two cooks	10,442.34	
Subtotal from October 2020 to December 2020		76,814.34	
January 2021 to March 2021	October 2021 Cereals	63,396.00	
	Cereals grinding and labor cost	2,976.00	
	Salary of two cooks	10,442.34	
Subtotal from January 2021 to March 2021		76,814.34	
April 2021 to July 2021	October 2021 Cereals	63,396.00	
	Cereals grinding and labor cost	2,976.00	
	Transportation of chickpea from Addis Ababa to Jihur	1,150.00	
	Salary of two cooks	10,442.34	
	Cereals grinding and labor cost	2,976.00	
	Salary of two cooks	10,442.34	
Subtotal from April 2021 to July 2021		91,382.68	
Grand Total		245,011.36	
Prepared by:		Approved by:	
Name <u>Nardos Alemayehu</u>		<u>Dr. Tsedaye Bezabeh</u>	

Conclusion

IFA continues to work towards achieving its mission in Ethiopia. IFA appreciates the continued support of The Vegan Compassion Group and all signatories and stakeholders from Bureau down to District and the school level . We look forward to working together fruitfully as we resiliently overcome the challenges facing the nation of Ethiopia.