



ETHIOPIAN DIASPORA TRUST FUND

PRESS RELEASE

EDTF IS IN ATLANTA!

Addis Ababa: 29 June 2019

The Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund (EDTF) is proud to participate in the 36th annual Ethiopian Sports and Cultural Events scheduled to be held on June 30-July 6 in Atlanta, Georgia. EDTF Council members, staff, volunteers and supporters will be on hand to discuss the Fund's accomplishments to date and answer questions about future and directions. EDTF will have its own booth at the event site and all are invited to stop by and engage EDTF family members.

The highlights EDTF's global Ethiopian diaspora program in Atlanta include:

- EDTF Public Forum on July 4, 2019 at 11:00 AM at the Marriott Marquis;
- Daily community engagement at Lakewood Stadium throughout the duration of ESFNA events;
- Recognition awards for EDTF donors, volunteers, chapters and sponsors;
- Recruitment of EDTF volunteers;
- Participation in special events and ceremonies;
- Media events; and
- Fund raising and facilitating bank, cheque and cash donation options to ease the process of donating for existing and new donors.

The Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund is the gift of the global Ethiopian diaspora to the Ethiopian people irrespective of their ethnicity religion and political domain. EDTF has more than 20,000 donors who responded to the national call of '1 dollar a day for a better Ethiopia' who generously contributed 4.3 million USD. A Secretariat Office is established in Addis Ababa to initiate, receive, vet and submit priority project proposals for approval of the EDTF Board that will alleviate critical problems of Ethiopians in need.

EDTF appreciates the generous support of Ethiopian Sports Federation in North America (ESFNA) that contributed to the successful organization of the global Ethiopian diaspora program in Atlanta.

For more information and interview requests please contact Hanna Atnafu; EDTF Communication Specialist on +1 410 2710180 (Atlanta) or Fikre Zewdie, EDTF Executive Director +251912 506883.

For further information, please contact:

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About EDTF

The call to donate a dollar-a-day by all Ethiopian Diasporas came from the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed, on July 08, 2019. This was followed by his appointment of the Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund (EDTF) Advisory Council (AC). The purpose of the AC is to function as a structured link between the EDTF and the diaspora community for a united dynamism against poverty.

EDTF is a non-profit organization established with the goal of achieving a resilient solution for Ethiopia's disadvantaged groups and communities and contribute towards the legitimate aspirations of all Ethiopians, irrespective of ethnicity, religion, language, region, gender, political views or any other factors. EDTF neither advances nor promotes any partisan political agenda and is solely focused on its mission of raising awareness and funds to finance and assist poor and disadvantaged people of Ethiopia. The Fund aims to finance projects that meet critical and selected needs based on their potential to make the highest positive impact on groups and communities in Ethiopia in such areas as health, education, water, sanitation facilities and rehabilitation of persons with disability, agricultural development, technology, women empowerment, youth, financial inclusion, small scale entrepreneurship and other income and employment generating projects.

Responding to the PM Dr. Abiy Ahmed's call for action and in support of his message of love, forgiveness, reconciliation, unity and peace, the Ethiopian Diaspora has enthusiastically accepted his challenge and, the EDTF has continued to grow with donations made through the website wire transfers, bank deposits to the EDTF Citibank and Commercial Bank of Ethiopia EDTF Accounts, PayPal and GoFundMe totaling USD 4 million from about 21,000 donors in 77 countries since 22nd October 2018. The Trust Fund highly appreciates not only the contribution of financial resources but also the time and intellectual expertise being provided by the Diaspora.

EDTF presently is establishing different EDTF Chapters globally. As these Chapters are entirely volunteer-based initiative, it is the free will of all Ethiopian Diasporas to join one of the chapters in their locality or open an EDTF Chapter per the guiding principle of the EDTF.

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The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has given EDTF a two-year grant to fund the cost of the EDTF Secretariat in Addis Ababa. The UNDP grant is an affirmation of the long-term success of EDTF.

EDTF is neutral with respect to political views, opinions or orientations. EDTF neither advances nor promotes any political agenda. EDTF is keenly focused on its mission of raising awareness and funds to support and finance critical socio-economic projects in Ethiopia. EDTF fully respects the rights of free expression of its members, donors and Ethiopians at large.

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<https://www.gofundme.com/ethiopiastrustfund>

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