



ETHIOPIAN DIASPORA TRUST FUND

PRESS RELEASE

THE ETHIOPIAN DIASPORA TRUST FUND (EDTF) SIGNED PROJECT AWARD & FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Addis Ababa: 06 May 2020

Award Signing Ceremony Between EDTF and Grantees

The Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund (EDTF) is pleased to announce that it has today signed 5 (five) Project Award & Financing Agreements with implementing partners at a ceremony that was held at the Training Centre of The United Insurance Company HQ Building at Tewodros Square here in Addis Ababa. The approved projects have a total value of ETB 56,011,036 and, will be implemented within 24 months. They are the first of some 21 such tangible projects being financed by Ethiopians in the diaspora who responded and continue to respond to Prime Minister Abiye's clarion call during his US visit for donating *"One Dollar a Day from Machiato"* to help their disadvantaged kith and kin back home.

EDTF has reviewed hundreds of project proposals submitted for funding by local NGOs, civil society groups, academic institutions and government sector offices. EDTF mobilized professional reviewers from all parts of the world to serve as volunteers and review the wide range of social and economic development projects believed to make a difference in the lives of thousands of disadvantaged Ethiopians.

After a rigorous evaluation process of the technical soundness, implementation capacity, and budget compatibility of 22 shortlisted project proposals, the Board approved five projects for immediate financing. The Board had also approved in principle 16 other projects for funding on condition that they take necessary actions and fill the gaps that were identified by the External Consultants during on-site, organizational capacity assessment and budget reviews. Those projects are expected to benefit hundreds of thousands of disadvantaged Ethiopians by way of improved access to water, health, education, and employment opportunities to mention but a few.

For further information, please contact:

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The representatives of the wining projects and media houses had a productive discussion session with the Chair and Vice Chairpersons of the Board of EDTF-Ethiopia, Ato Zafu Eyessuswork Zafu and Dr. Mihret Mandefro on the immediate next steps i.e. advance payments and implementation schedules and the like.

Ato Zafu and Dr. Mihret also reported on EDTF's response to the national COVID-19 Mitigation efforts. It is to be recalled that on 04 May 2020, the Chairperson Professor Alemayehu G. Mariam and Treasurer Dr. Bisrat Aklilu of the Advisory Council/Executive Board had already signed the purchase order for the **Protective Personal Equipment** (PPE) and related medical supplies worth USD1.173 million badly needed to safeguard the well-being of frontline health personnel working to save lives across Ethiopia in the campaign against COVID-19. EDTF COVID-19 subaccount was established as a separate window on the **EDTF website** to mobilize additional funds to combat the spread and impact of the virus.

Currently, EDTF has 26,000 individual contributors spread over 93 countries, 49 Chapters, hundreds of volunteers and relentless members of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Council who are committed to making EDTF the most transparent, accountable and effective development actor in Ethiopia.

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