

# PRESS RELEASE

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## EDTF Launches a \$3 million dollar 'Building Forward' Project in Ethiopia

28 January 2022

Dear EDTF Donors and Supporters

We hope this message finds you well during this difficult time in Ethiopian history. As a testimony to our commitment to stand with the people of Ethiopia, we are proud to announce the launch of a \$3 million dollar **EDTF 'Building Forward'** project to build four secondary schools in the most war-affected regions of Ethiopia. Consistent with our goal to promote longer term socio-economic development in Ethiopia, this initiative allows us to make the greatest impact at this time given the number of schools destroyed because of the war. This project will contribute to meeting the critical need to provide education in the rural and war-affected areas.

In partnership with the Ethiopian Ministry of Education (MoE), the four schools will be built in the Amhara and Afar regions, two in each region, to serve a total of 3,840 students. After months of feasibility studies and careful deliberation in concert with the MoE, this initiative will enable the Ethiopian Diaspora to have a meaningful and critical impact in responding to the current crisis while also contributing to our mission.

### **Key Criteria put in place for School Construction Selection:**

The specific location of the four schools in the two regions will be selected based on the following criteria:

- ◆ Children are unable to access secondary education due to the destruction of schools.
- ◆ The demand for secondary schools which can provide educational opportunities for disadvantaged children is high.
- ◆ There is a lack of infrastructure in remote areas making it difficult for many disadvantaged children, particularly girls, to get access to secondary education.
- ◆ The lack of security makes girls highly vulnerable to human trafficking, especially when they are traveling alone separated from their families.



Each school will be constructed to meet the standard design requirements established by the Ministry of Education to provide a safe and secure educational environment for students. The requirements include classrooms with adequate space for students, offices for staff, rooms for a library, laboratory, recreation, store, counseling, first aid, latrine, and storage.

Our commitment to you, our donors, and to the Ethiopian people we serve is stronger than ever and we remain focused on our mission to support people-focused social and economic development projects in Ethiopia.

We stand behind the Ethiopian people and will do what we can to support the rebuilding efforts consistent with EDTF's mission.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your continued support of EDTF.

For additional information or questions, please visit the [EDTF Website](#) or email us at [info@ethiopiaintrustfund.org](mailto:info@ethiopiaintrustfund.org). For questions about donations please email us at [donations@ethiopiaintrustfund.org](mailto:donations@ethiopiaintrustfund.org) or call us at 1-888-829-0027.

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