Improving the life conditions of the returnees and of the youth in Bale Zone (Ethiopia) to mitigate irregular migration

Bale Zone, Oromia Region – Ethiopia

June 2016 - March 2017

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Ethiopia background

- Over 92 millions inhabitants
- 84% living in rural areas
- 44% under 15 years old
- irregular migrants are mainly young, 65% males, des low-medium education background (primary and secondary)
- Regular migrants: Sept 2008 – aug 2013 > 460.000 legal migrants (94% women in Arab countries)
- Irregular migrants: estimation of 120% than the regular ones
- No data at local level

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Project info

- **10 months** project funded by Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS)
- **Starting date :** June 2016
- **Ending date :** March 2017
- **Partnership with**: Italian NGO COOPI
- **Area of Intervention:** Bale Zone, Oromia Region, where CCM is already operating

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Goals

General objective: improve the life conditions of the population living in areas with high migration probability and of the returnees in South-East of Oromia.

Specific objective: contribute to reduce the main causes of irregular migration in Bale area through basic services improvement and focused awareness campaigns, in particular for the youngest part of the population.

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Strategy

1. Improving the availability and accessibility of health services to young people, by establishing **one Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Service (AYFHS)** in Robe Hospital;

2. Developing actions of **community awareness about migration**, by involving a group of youths into empowerment processes and making them actors of the education of their peers and communities.

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Results

Expected Result 1	Achievements
Improve availability and accessibility to health services for youth at Robe Hospital (“Youth Friendly service”).	a. 3 trainings for 26 health professionals (on Sexually Transmitted Infections; Youth Service management; Psychosocial Support). b. Setup and equipment of one Youth Friendly space. c. 1.808 accesses to the Youth Friendly d. 4 supportive supervision visits. e. Training of 29 youth groups’ leaders. f. 16 awareness meetings with the young people.

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Results

Expected Result 2	Achievements
Develop community awareness activities about the risks of irregular migration.	a. 4 training workhops on artistic skills with Club 20/25 and creation of one artistic performance b. 14 awareness meetings in 7 woreda, with 21.500 total participants c. 7 community leaders' workshops d. One video and photo reportage about the project topics in Bale Zone

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Psychosocial support training

Youth Service training

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Youth Friendly Service

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Peer groups training

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Peer groups training

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Peer groups activities' support

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Artistic trainings with Club 20/25

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Artistic trainings with Club 20/25

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Workshops with community leaders

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Awareness in the schools

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Awareness in the schools

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Awareness in the community

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Conclusions

- The project reached the planned indicators
- The establishment of the AYFHS in Robe Hospital is a major success of the action, as frequently reported by the local authorities and the youth themselves
- The theatre demonstrated to be a powerful tool to create a common discussion floor and stimulate the sharing of personal experiences
- The strategy employed allowed a high level of participation of youth themselves, in both the promotion of AYFHS services and the community education campaigns on issues related to migration
- Irregular migration is so long-dated and rooted in the target area, that multiple and longer actions are needed to effectively have a sustainable impact on the phenomenon

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