

Partners in the Horn of Africa Project Progress Reporting Format for Partner Organizations

Cover page

- **Title of the Project:**
MICDA Jimma Scholarship House (419-11)
- **Period covered by the report:**
September 01, 2011, to December 31, 2011
- **Progress Report due:**
January 15, 2012
- **Date Progress Report Provided:**
January 15, 2012
- **Location of the Project:**
*Region: Oromia
Zone/Woreda: Jimma*
- **Project Start and End Dates (as originally proposed)**
September 01, 2011 to 31 August 2015
- **Name of Reporting Organization.**
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January 15, 2102*

I. Narrative Report Format

Planned Activities	Output Indicators/Targets	Description/Explanation
Objective : Improving the lives of disadvantaged girls from rural and remote communities by providing support for a high school education		
Rent one good house with a good compound for the girls	A house with a nice compound rented	We rented a very nice house that can accommodate all the girls which is located not far from the center of the town and at a reasonable distance from their school. It has a big living room enough for dining and studying, two big enough bedrooms, a modern bathroom and kitchen. The house has also a nice compound with trees and flowers. The girls enjoy taking care of the plants in their compound during their spare time. They also study sitting under the shade of the trees.
Furnish the house and make it conducive for the girls to live in	The house is fully furnished	We bought all basic furniture needed for the house. A dining/study table with ten chairs (so that it is enough for the girls), cooking stove, cupboard, plates, stools, all kitchen ware, etc. were purchased. Five double decker beds, mattresses, and beddings enough for all the girls are also purchased. The house is well furnished and is very conducive for the girls to live in.
Recruit ten girls who completed grade eight and who are academically strong from families residing in rural settings who are economically very poor	Ten girls who are academically strong and completed grade eight from families residing in rural settings and who are economically very poor recruited and started living in the house	With the participation of school directors, parent committees, Wereda Education Office, Wereda Women and Children Affairs Office and PiHA, a total of ten girls from four weredas (Fate, from Sekoru wereda; Mahlet, Zumara, Derartu and Fozia from Omo Nada wereda; Jemila, Hindi, Atiya and Muradi from Seka Chekorsa wereda and Shibire from Shebe Sombo wereda) are recruited. However, from the above ten girls recruited, one girl (Fozia) did not join the project because her father changed his mind last minute for no obvious reasons. Therefore, there are nine girls in the project during this reporting period a new girl will be recruited during the semester break (February 2012) and the number of girls will be 10 as indicated in the contract.

Hire a house mother and a guard for the project	A house mother and a guard hired	A house mother who has experience in working with children was hired and has been working with the children. All the children like her very much. She is very good at taking care of the girls. She also pays a visit to the girls' school and communicates with their teachers about how they are doing in school. Moreover, a guard who retired from a position of guard in the Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation was also hired for the project. She is so motherly and sociable that the girls treat her like their mother.
Provide school materials and uniforms and register the girls in a government high school	Nine girls provided with school materials and uniforms and registered in a government high school	School materials like notebooks, pens and pencils were purchased and distributed to the girls. The girls are also provided with uniforms. With help of the Jimma Zonal Education Office, all the girls have been enrolled in one nearby government high school and they are all attending grade nine now.
Provide clothing and foot wear	Nine girls provided with clothing and foot wear	With the budget allocated, each girl bought clothing and foot wear enough for a year according her choice. They are so happy with their new clothes and shoes and there is huge change in their physical appearance between now and the time they first joined the project. Their parents come and visit them once in a while and they are so impressed with the change they see in the girls and express how grate full they are to this project.
Provide food and sanitary materials	Nine girls provided with food and sanitary materials	The girls in the house are provided with three balanced meals a day. The house mother involves each girl in the purchase and preparation of food. The girls take turns in purchasing food stuff, preparing food, serving meals and cleaning cooking utensils and their house under the guidance and supervision of the house mother. Each girl is also provided with forty birr a month so that they can buy sanitary and basic cosmetic materials.
Provide reference books	Reference books are provided	Two copies of reference books that help the girls in each subject areas they study at school and atlases and dictionaries (English and Oromiffa) are purchased and put in the house so that they can use them in common.

Assessment of progress towards attaining the objectives set:

The project is going very well. A total of nine girls who are academically strong but whose parents could not afford to send them to high school in the nearest town are attending high school residing in the project's house. Both the girls and their parents are so happy and grateful to the project.

- The girls have been provided with food, clothing and school materials and they are peacefully attending school. They are also provided with reference books and dictionaries that would help them while they study at home. They have enough study time since they don't do anything except preparing food and cleaning their house after school. They are now preparing for the first semester final exams. Their test results are good so far and we hope that they will score good results in the final exams as well (marks of each girl will be provided in the next report).
- The girls treat each other like sisters and there is no any behavioral problem so far. Their sister hood was exhibited, for instance, when they celebrated the Muslim holiday (Arafa) and the Christian holiday (Christmas) during this reporting period. Seven of the nine girls are Muslims while only two are Christians. On the day of the Muslim holiday, the two Christian girls and the house mother prepared food and served the Muslim girls while on Christmas day, the seven Muslim girls prepared food and served the two Christian girls and the house mother. This is a clear evidence of how the girls respect each other. They celebrated these two holidays very happily.
- Seven girls used to speak Oromifa (the regional language) only. Now they also started speaking Amharic because they learned it from the house mother and the two girls who could speak both languages. This helps them to be multilingual as they also learn English at school.
- All the girls are healthy except some minor health problems. For any medical treatment, the house mother takes them to the nearby government health center. There was no any serious health problem with any of the girls during this reporting period.

Problems encountered

- The Executive Director of MICDA was quite ill and hospitalized for a long time. As a result, he could not do the logistics for this new project and the follow up after. He was also not able to hire the staff for the project. Moreover, he could not replace Fozia, the girl whose father declined her joining the project. Hence, there are only nine girls in the project though we have budget for ten girls.

Measures taken

- Thanks to PiHA, Addis Ababa Office, all the logistics, the hiring and follow up after were done by them. The project is now in the right track and attaining its objective. The Executive Director's health has also improved now and he is following on the project. He will travel to Jimma and recruit a girl to replace Fozia during the first semester school break because it is easier for schools to accept new students at the beginning of the next semester than in the middle of a semester.

Recommendations

The girls in the project do not have much in the house that could entertain them except playing in the compound with each other. We recommend that PiHA help us with providing them with a TV set so that they can be entertained during their spare time. This will also help them to watch some educational programs broadcasted and update themselves watching news.