BRIDGE FOR DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

MARCH 2024

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Executive Summary

In this annual report of 2023, we have summarized the major issues we consider worth mentioning about our major performances to stakeholders. As we kept struggling, we are showing progress little by little.

One of our moves is based on the grant received from Global Giving (GG) online fundraising platform which has impacted 300 displaced women from Northern Ethiopia (Tigray) by providing them dignity kits in temporary shelters so that they got access to menstrual hygiene and detergent supplies. The partnership with GG has supported BDO in fundraising education, getting fundraising page and an opportunity to get small donations from individuals.

Strategic planning (SP) for an organization is considered a growth and sustainability tool. Hence, the finalization of BDO's five year SP is underway and will be implemented from the New Year 2024.

In this year, one of the positive insights about BDO is that it was nominated and certified as the Best Startup national nonprofit by renowned award organizer (Abyssinia Award). However, due to lack of resource we declined from ongoing completion to win the award.

It is worth to mention the critical challenges facing BDO to undertake its mission. Lack of funding for project implementation, operating expenses and to undertake fundraising events are among others. Also inadequate number of volunteer involved and lack of capacity building support from stakeholders are critical problems.



Message From the Executive Director:

Whatever the outcome of what we have achieved and adapted to date, BDO's passion is unstoppable because we are devoted and determined for the mission and to contribute for the underserved and unfortunate target population to thrive better.

I have certain and excited belief that the future will be better and resourceful to serve the needy. Some of our supporters ask me "how you are too courageous?" I answer to them, I have learned that this job is tough and need many months and years to sustain and grow. You know that I started and sustained BDO for the past four years in volunteering – without getting paid and without incentives?

Getting acknowledgment as a nominee among charities of the year

In coming years, I hope I will great in resource mobilization and program development for the purpose of the needy beneficiaries with the help existing supporters, more volunteers, donor individuals and companies and BDO's earned incomes.

Please, impact the life of women, children and the youth today and be my hero.

Get involved through volunteering, spreading the word, and sharing our cause to friends and others. Donate using the link and accounts of the organization.

Naji G.Mariam

Executive Director

BDO-E

1. Background

1.1. History of BDO

Ethiopia is one of the countries with the weakest social services, widespread poverty and rapid population growth. Bridge for Development Organization (BDO) was established as a non for profit community service organization believing that ever increasing young population groups (women, children, adolescents and the youth) in general are at risk. Hence, BDO was established understanding that the government needs partners that can complement the welfare services for the underserved.

BDO is a board-led, non-governmental community service organization. It was established in October 2019 and licensed by the Federal Civil Society Agency under Registration No. 4509.

1.2. Mission Statement

Our mission is to enable women, children and young people in need of special support to be supported health, education, employability, job and life skills training for self-reliance.

1.3. BDO's Core Values and Beliefs

The organization's values, principles, and beliefs include: Equal opportunities, universal human rights, transparency, and readiness to accept positive change, gender equality, humanity, loyalty, cooperation, and fairness.

Accountability, Cooperation, Equal Opportunities, Empathy, Innovation, Inclusivity, Nonviolence, Respect, Transparency and **Justice and Equity**

2. Objectives of the Report

- to create awareness on the mission of BDO;
- to demonstrate the impact we made in 2023;
- to show appreciations to our current supporters and donors; and
- to build trust through financial transparency.

3. Socio Economic Profile of Youths and Women in Addis Ababa

According to various reports and studies, the socio-economic situation of Addis Ababa youth is characterized by challenges such as high unemployment rates, limited access to education and skills training, and barriers to entrepreneurship and economic empowerment. Additionally, issues related to poverty, inadequate healthcare, and lack of opportunities for civic engagement are also prevalent among Addis Ababa youth.

Women face various socio-economic challenges, including limited access to education and healthcare, high levels of poverty, and discrimination in the workforce. According to

reports, gender disparities are prevalent, with women often facing barriers to economic empowerment, leadership positions, and property ownership. Additionally, issues such as child marriage, gender-based violence, and unequal access to resources further contribute to the socio-economic challenges faced by Ethiopian women.

4. Accomplishments of 2023

4.1. Resource Mobilization

All organizations need resources to survive and flourish. Often resource mobilization and fundraising are an organization's most pressing concern in terms of their organizational health. Having the capacity to identify resource needs, as well as potential strategies for meeting these needs, is crucial for an organization's long term sustainability. (From web, CRS)

4.1.1. Fundraising

a) Fundraising committee

In 2023, BDO has plan to established fund raising committee for reaching multiple goals including:

- To identify financial goals for the year
- Researching prospective mix of donors
- Develop action plans, including who will approach each donor and by when
- Establish fund raising plan and monitor implementation

However, the output and outcome of the committee are yet to be seen and it should be strengthened to function in a better position.

b) Outcome of the fundraising of the year

4.1.2. Local

A. Companies contacted were six – two banks, one coffee exporter, one insurance company, one hotel/resort and one general business company. However, there was no donation found.
B. Individuals contacted
   B1.Face to face cultivated two individuals and donated –ETB 2000.
   B2.Individuals cultivated via Email and Text are ten; solicited/asked ten; but gained one donation ETB 2000.

4.1.3. Online Donations

a. Wegen Fund - local online platform – Individuals donated (#1); donation amount – ETB 6000

b. Global Giving Foundation – One donation – ETB 259872

4. 2. Website Optimization

Website optimization is critical to educating visitors, create easy donation platform, and help BDO to increase visibility and attract supporters.

However, despite efforts made to get assistance from Addis Ababa University IT College, volunteer individuals and private for support of web optimization due to funding constraint. Hence, BDO's web optimization is still needs more work although small support was provided from AAU IT College.

4.3. Getting Nominee Certification as Best National Charities of 2023

BDO has been surprised by getting recognition from ACSO and pioneer award company, Abyssinia Award for it's strive to manage the charity as a startup and an exemplary. For the award process and competition, we have tried to start the process but because of lack of financial resource we have abandoned to continue.





4. 4. Project Implementation

Women Sanitary Pad and Detergent Kits for 300 Displaced Women Project

Global Giving (GG) connects nonprofits, donors, and companies in nearly every country in the world. It helps thousands of nonprofits access the funding, tools, training, and support nonprofits to serve their communities. Additionally, GG tries to fund -raise money for natural and manmade emergencies around the world.

Accordingly, BDO has secured ETB 259872 to support sanitary pad kits to 300 displaced women because of internal conflict in Tigray/Amhara border.
The challenges of vulnerable women in a shelter life are so numerous. One of key needs for women is the need to get clean sanitary pads and hygiene and sanitation material which are useful for their health and dignity.

Almost all displaced women in reproductive age from Amhara/Tigray region have been in need of these supplies.

Goal
BDO's goal for this project is to empower the vulnerable women through provision of reusable menstrual pads, detergent materials and underwear for improved daily activities, self-esteem and self-confidence of the displaced until reintegration.

Outcomes

- We have successfully provided the planned supplies to 300 women each donated 4 reusable sanitary pads, two panties, two laundry soaps, and two body soaps.
- The money allocated from GG has helped us to start and implement a new project and this opportunity helps to learn and get experience in emergency response management.
- Impact assessment and evaluation of programs couldn't be done because the women who got the donation are able to return to their original homes or changed their residence and are unable trace and assess utilization and satisfaction from the supplies donated.



Pic1: Distribution site signage



Pic2: Orientation how to reusable pads

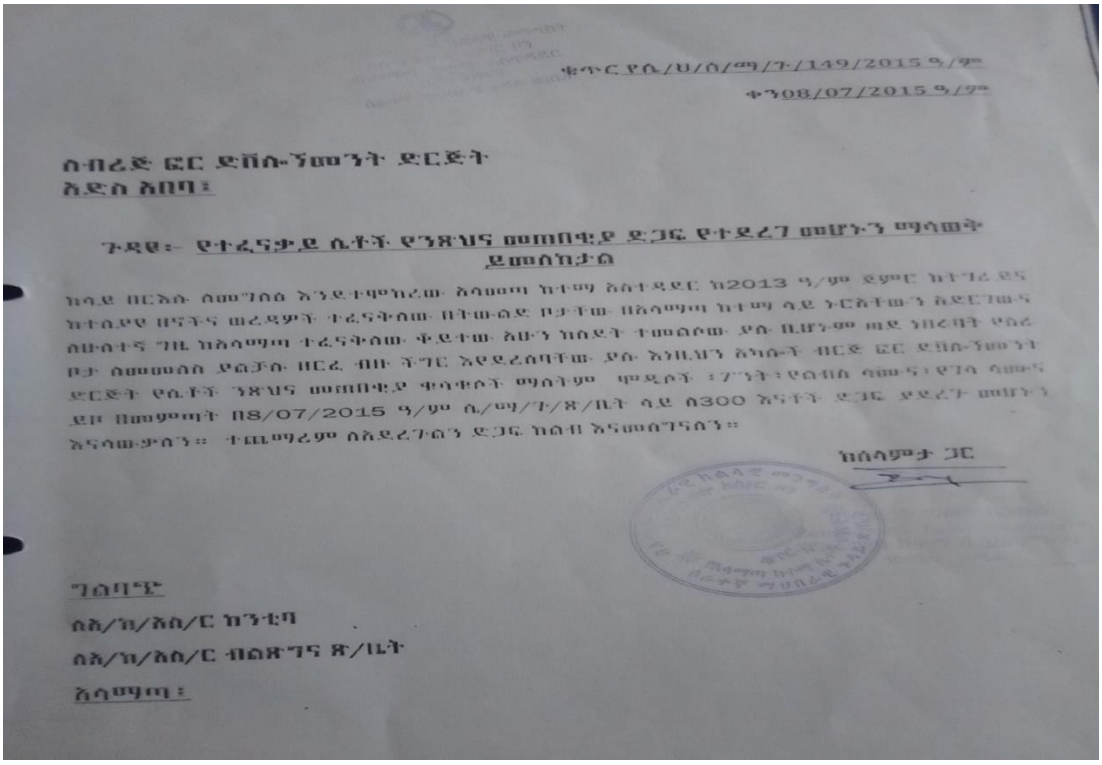




Pic3&4: Supply store and assembly




Pic5&6: Donation distribution

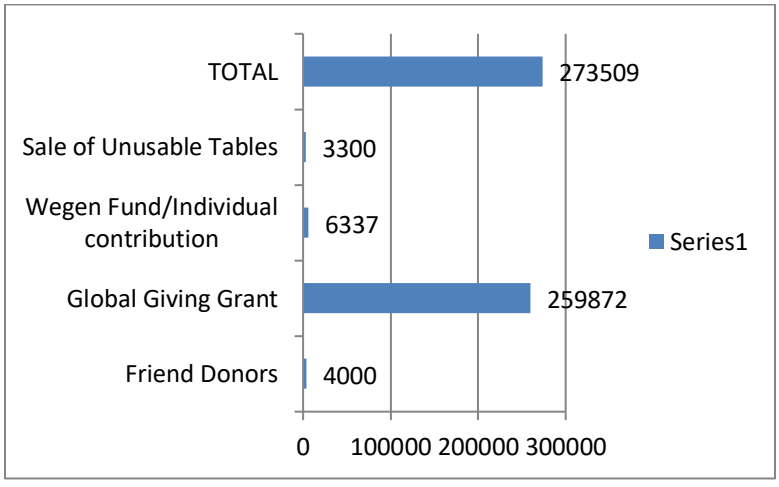


Pic7: Acknowledgment Letter from Local Administration (WSA)

5. Summary of Financial Statement:

a. Revenue: During the reporting period, BDO has raised a total of ETB 2735010.

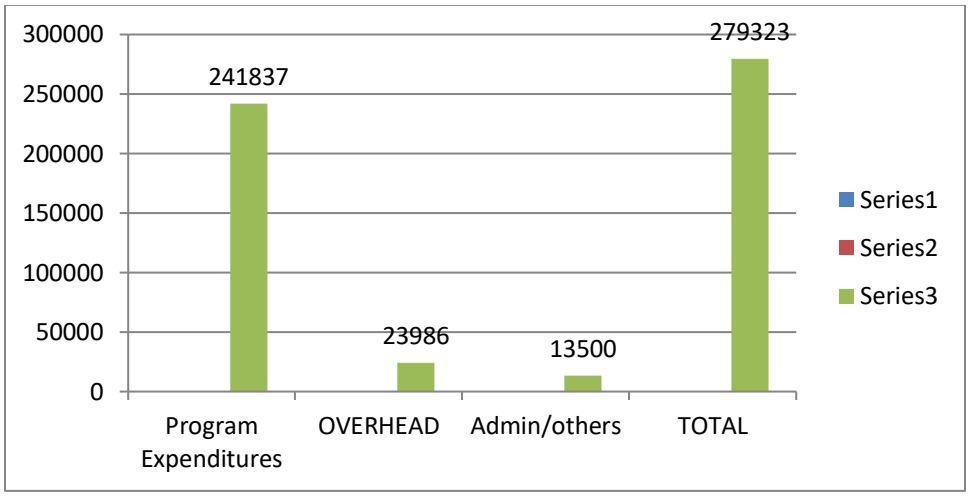
- individual donations (2) – 4000
- grants (2) – 266210 (GG-259872; Wegen-6337)
- sale of unusable tables – 3300



b. Expenditures: Total expenditure – ETB 279323

- direct project expenditure - 241837
- overhead - 23986

- others/admin – 13500



c. The revenues excess expenditures are ETB 42985.
d. The admin expenditure is 13.4% of all expenditures.

6. Challenges and Lessons Learned:

6.1. Challenges:

The project specific challenges include inadequacy of donation, remoteness of the displaced beneficiaries' location and rising expenses of material transportation.

On the other side, BDO has faced critical funding shortage for its general operating expenses and problem to initiate and campaign fundraising events and to engage in earned income strategies and activities. Lack of grants from grant proposal submissions to different grantees has been a challenge and obstacle to carry out our mission.

6.2. Lessons learned:

In general, lack of more volunteers that can work actively with the existing volunteer staffs could help share burden of works such as fundraising, proposal/grant writing, IT and social media works, document/record organization, etc. And lesson learned from specific project implementation is that BDO didn't use 20% of budget for overhead cost that could help to support the administrative expenses and the other understanding is that instead of local travel by public transport it is better to use rental vehicle.

7. Future Goals and Plans

BDO's future plans and beyond are shown in the new strategic plan 2024 - 2028 and its annual plan of 2024.

7.1. Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028

The purpose of strategic or long-range planning is to assist an organization in establishing priorities and to better serve the needs of its constituency. Accordingly, BDO has developed SP and on the verge of finalization. This is a five year long range plan and we believe the finale document will be our guiding document that can help BDO will be the guiding document, help to sustain and accomplish its mission.

7.2. Annual plan 2024

The past year 2023 has been constrained by shortage of operating budget and lack funding for planned projects. It is customary to do annual plan every year. Passionately and looking the future with optimisms, we able to set goals and targets for 2024.

The 2024 annual plan is part of the new strategic plan. However, for readability purpose the general direction of the 2024 plan is as follows:

7.2.1. Goals on organization development and strengthening:

- Developing and adapting policy related to fundraising
- Increasing Volunteer Engagement
- Staff & Board Development
- Enhancing the use Information Technology
- Engagement in Advocacy and Getting more Visibility
- Monitoring Resource Mobilization through Development Audit

7.2.2. The following are program areas that are prioritized for project accomplishments in 2024:

- Emergency response - food, utensil, shelter and water assistance
- Education Sectors – early child development and education and school rehabilitation
- Health Sector – youth sexual and reproductive health
- Youth skills development – livelihoods and health and safety

8. Acknowledgments, Recognition and Thanks:

I would like to express my gratitude, respect, appreciation and special thanks to the following entities:

- There are many friends of our staffs that are lovers of our mission and always appreciative for our success. Although the majority yet not started to donate money, we hope some will start to donate in the coming year (2024)
- Experienced national NGOs like FHIDO, Hiwot Ethiopia, and HIDO for they kept on supporting in terms of experience sharing and advising.

9. List Donors:

Besides local community members' contributions the Global Giving Foundation is the only international donor for a micro project in one time grant.

10. A Call to Action

Dear the existing and potential supporter and donors, the future of BDO is in your hands. Every contribution will help reach our goals. Thank you again for being the power behind our charity and its work.

Donate with money or in kind. For money donation use the following accounts:

- Through a local online fundraiser: https://www.wegenfund.com/NGOs/bdo/
- Through international online fundraiser: Global giving (**Short link:** http://goto.gg/57786)
- https://gogetfunding.com/volunteers-kit-support/ AND https://gogetfunding.com/rescue-100-amhara-families-displaced-because-internal-conflict/
- Bank Accounts: Bridge for Development Org.
  Buna International Bank: account n/o – 2809501001609.
  Commercial Bank of Ethiopia: account n/o – 1000221356989.
- Abyssinia Bank: account n/o -126006233

Get involved:

Get involved through volunteering, spreading the word, and sharing our cause to friends and others. Donate using the link and accounts of the organization.

Impact the life of women, children and the youth today and be the hero.

BRIDGE FOR DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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