

2014 Annual Narrative Report

INTRODUCTION

Integrated Family Service Organization (IFSO) is a secular indigenous Non Governmental Organization (NGO), established in January 1995 with a vision “to see a society where children are free from the effect of poverty in Ethiopia” and a mission “working for the survival, protection and development of children to bring them up in a stable family environment, and within their socio-cultural context in Addis Ababa City Administration as well as in other regions of the country”.

In the reporting year, IFSO has been undertaking 5 projects, 4 of which are in Addis Ababa Administration and 1 in Amabasel Woreda, Amhara Region. These projects are:

1. Child Sponsorship Project (Addis Ababa-all the 10 sub cities)
2. Counseling Project for Sexually Abused Children(A.A-all the 10 sub cities)
3. Oasis and Children’s Safety Net Consolidation Project (A.A/Shiro Meda and Ferensay areas)
4. Improving Girls Education and Welbeing Project (Amhara region-Ambassel Woreda of S. Wollo Zone)
5. Supporting Children on the Edge Project (A.A/Nefas silk Lafto Sub city- Woredas 1 & 11 and Akaki Kaliti Sub city-Woredas 9,10 &11&)

The 2014 budget year performance reports of the aforementioned projects are stated here under.

1. The Child Sponsorship Project

1.1. Background

The child sponsorship project is one of the child focused projects IFSO has been implementing for about 20 years since the foundation of the organization. In its 20 years venture a total of 2176 (1022 male and 1154 female) children have received financial, psycho-social, medical, school material and counseling support to enable them pursue their study. Out of these children, 51 beneficiaries (18 female and 33 male) graduated with a BA and BSC degree in different fields of studies, like Engineering, Management, Accounting, etc. 43 (18 female and 25 male) graduated with a Diploma, and 244 (148 female and 96 male) graduated with a certificate from different private vocational skill training institutions in marketable fields and above 77% of them secured employment or job of their own.

As of December 2014 the total number of the sponsored children is 511 (239 male and 272 female). These children are attending their formal school at different level (from nursery up to university). The number is significantly decreased due to one of our donors (GMA) withdrawal which resulted in the termination of 110 children's support.

1.2. Major Highlights, Special Events and Notable Achievements

IFSO/ILSOLE's ex-sponsored girl called Yirgalem Hadush), who won the title of "Miss World Ethiopia" in an online beauty contest has invited 3 actors (two females and one male), a traditional dancer and trainer as well as a film director to the occasion. IFSO and its works were briefly introduced to the artists. Then, the artists introduced themselves and explained their professional career development as well the ups and downs they had passed through. Their message was clear and precise. They emphasized that no matter what serious challenges, such as loss of parents and poverty, children may have faced, they can realize their dream if they have a vision and strong commitment towards its fulfillment. Each of them underscored this bold fact indicating their own cases as example. The children raised different questions to the artists regarding how and when their professional career started, what challenges they faced and how they overcame them. The artists were very open and genuine to share their personal life with impressive and inspiring responses to the questions. They also expressed their appreciation for IFSO and the donor organization for the support they are providing for the needy and most vulnerable children. The children were also very happy to meet the artists and share their experiences which they found educative and inspiring. Finally, the artists and the children have refreshment programs and photo programs together.

1.3. Accomplishment Based on Plan of Action

1.3.1. Provide a monthly sponsorship allowance

In spite of the serious budget deficiency which affected the project, IFSO has covered the monthly sponsorship allowance of 511 children (239 male and 272 female) up to the end of December 2014. The economic crisis in the donors' country is still prevalent and our partners keep informing us that they are not able to collect the fund needed from individual sponsors as they are severely affected by the crisis. IFSO and the partner organizations (ILSOLE and CIFA) are trying to keep the existing sponsors through providing updated and full reports about their sponsored children and facilitating correspondences of the sponsors and their children.

On the other hand, one of our donors called GMA (who used to support 120 children) interrupted its support in July 2014. IFSO had made the beneficiaries aware about GMA's withdrawal well ahead of time (Since January 2014). We have given the beneficiaries individual and group counseling on how to use the money they have saved in the names of the children. Accordingly, 25 parents/guardians have decided to strengthen their small business activities using the money. We hope that other beneficiaries do follow the same line

1.3.2. Provide medical assistance for the sponsored children

Throughout the year, there were 53 (23 male and 30 female) children who have visited private and government health centers for different sickness. All of them have got the refund for their medical expense.

1.3.3. Provide skill (vocational) training support

Being cognizant with the shortage of fund, we encouraged our beneficiaries to be enrolled in government vocational collages and training centers than expecting IFSO to cover fees for private collages and training centers. Accordingly there are 19 children (7 male and 12 females) who completed 10th grade and scored a qualifying grade for vocational collages and assigned in government collages at different fields of study.

1.3.4. Provide financial support for children who lost their sponsors

The number of children supported directly by ILSOLE reduced from 15 to 10 (5 female and 5 male) as 5 children have already left the program after graduating from colleges, universities and training centers at the end of the reporting year. These children have already lost their individual sponsors. But ILSOLE decided to continue supporting them directly till they complete their study.

1.3.5 Conduct biannual workshop for parents/guardians

The parents/guardians workshop was conducted on November 8-2014 in which 300 beneficiaries were participated. The workshop helped to provide group counseling on topics such as good parental style, child care and family planning as well as the importance of having their own means of income generation to minimize their dependency on the sponsorship support. Model parents/guardians, who have a success story in creating their own means of income and guiding and supporting their children to achieve high results at schools, have shared their experiences to the participants. The parents/guardians expressed their view that such a forum would help them a lot to share experiences and get inspiration to follow the steps of model parents.



Workshop participants

1.3.6 Conduct biannual workshop for the sponsored children

Similar to the parents'/guardians' workshop, we were able to conduct only one of the two children's biannual workshops just for the same reason related to the budget. 150 sponsored children above the age 12 participated in the workshop. They were provided with group counseling on topics related to their school activities, studying habits, time management and improving academic performances. Some children who have a record of great achievement at their respective classes also shared their experiences which lead to their success. The participants explained that they have drawn a good lesson on matters related to the importance of regular school attendance, different studying approaches and time management.

In addition to the workshop, educational and experience sharing program which involved some popular artists was also took place in IFSO compound. 90 children, most of whom were females, were selected from

different grade levels and invited to participate in this special program. The program was organized by IFSO to inspire and motivate the sponsored children to study hard, be self confident and harness their talents.



Sponsored children with invited Yirgalem and other artists

1.3.7 Identify and counsel parents/guardians who maltreat the children

Throughout the year (2014), a total of 137 parents/guardians (93 female and 44 male) were provided with individual counseling on a range of topics such as child care and support, how to follow up and encourage their children's school performance and solve misunderstandings with their children as well as the negative effect of physical punishment and neglect on the children's personality development.

The individual counseling is believed to improve the child parent/guardian relation and enhance the culture of dialog and open discussion among them so as they can understand each other better. Parents/guardians also become aware of not only the physical and academic needs of their children but also their emotional needs

1.3.8 Identify the children who have behavioral and academic problems and provide counseling

Throughout the year (2014), individual counseling was provided for 93 children (51 female and 42 male) who performed poorly at school and have behavioral problems. The community workers discussed with each child about the causes of their poor performance and misbehaving. Most of the children admitted that they lack concentration on their study and their peers' influence is strong. We have tried to give them a guide on time management, studying approaches, as well as self assertiveness.

Lack of resources, tutors and conducive environment (as most of the beneficiaries live in a dilapidated small government houses) to study are some of the major causes many children mentioned as reasons for

their academic failure and poor performance. We have underlined to the children to discover their opportunities and exploit them to the maximum rather than complaining about what they lack.

Accordingly, we reminded them that time is their invaluable recourse which they can use it effectively to change their status. Regarding recourses, we have told them to use public libraries in their neighborhoods.

1.3.9 Provision of New Year gift.

ILSOLE and CIFA (our main partners) make yearly campaign to raise fund to buy a New Year gift for the sponsored children. Accordingly, IFSO purchases and distributes some items for all the sponsored children as a gift. In the reporting year, 10 KG of wheat flour, 9 exercise book and 3 pens have been distributed for each child sponsored through ILSOLE. Children sponsored through CIFA have also received school materials.



Some of the sponsored children and their parents with their gifts

1.4 Planned but not Accomplished

Due to fund release problem from the donors' part, it was not possible to accomplish the following planned activities.

- **Provision seed money for selected beneficiaries to engage in IGA.**
- **Provide cost sharing support for college and preparatory school students**
- **Provision of award for high achievers (students ranking 1st-3rd) at school**
- **Establishing network with schools (key stack-holders such as teachers, school councilors, unit leaders and directors**

1.5 Changes observed

Through the sponsorship support, 511 orphan and vulnerable children (239 male and 272 female) are rescued from being dropped out and joining street life. Using the financial, psycho-social and counseling support, the children attend their class regularly and their school performance is improved. Some of them even graduated with great distinction from universities and become instructors. Every year more than 30 children successfully complete their study from universities, colleges and training centers and join the skilled labor force. These children become not only self-reliant but also a productive member of the community. In January 2015, a total of 29 children (15 male and 14 female) left the program for they are graduated from universities, colleges and training centers.

Some of the supported girls, beyond becoming self supporting, they have become exemplary and a role model for others by engaging themselves in beauty contest. One of these girls is

Yirgalem Haduish (IFSO654), an orphan girl who had been supported through the sponsorship program. Yirgalem was an elementary student when she started getting the support along her two younger brothers. After completing 10th grade, she joined private vocational collage with IFSO's additional financial support. She graduated with certificate in food preparation. Soon after her graduation, she started working as a cook in restaurants. Side by side, she has been practicing modeling. With her strong determination and hard working, she won the title of "Miss World Ethiopia" for the year 2014 and she represented Ethiopia in the 2014 World Beautify Contest held in London.

Yirgalem has given recognition for IFSO and the donor organization for the support she and her brothers had received. In the experience sharing meeting organized to sponsored children, she underlined that orphan and vulnerable children can realize their dream if they get proper psycho-social support and work hard at school.



Yirgalem while sharing her experience for the children

1.6 Challenges Encountered and measures taken

- Delay of budget release, due to the economic crisis, by the donors hinders the implementation of the different components of the project on time as planned.
- GMA's withdrawal from funding the sponsorship project (113 children left without support).

1.7 Measure taken

- Taking in to account the problems our partners encountered to raise funds; IFSO is convinced to find other solutions. One possible way could be strengthening the parents'/guardians' economic status through helping them to engage in some sorts of income generating activities. To this end, we have gathered full information about the beneficiaries. The information includes their address, age, health status and occupation. Based on this information, we have identified those beneficiaries who have the potential and the will to engage in some sort of income generating activities.

On the other hand, we have identified those households whose living status are improved and already became self-reliant. Accordingly, 20 children whose parents'/guardians' living status is improved have been informed the situation and discharged from the program.

- Regarding the children supported through GMA, we had informed the beneficiaries well ahead of time that the donors decided to stop the support as of July 2014. Accordingly, we gave them their saving account books when they were taking their last allowance for May and June 2014. Some of them informed us that they have already started petty trading using the money in their saving accounts.

2 The Counseling (Rehabilitation for Child Sexual Abuse) Project:

2.1 Background:

The Counseling Project has been established in 2002 with the objective of rehabilitating sexually abused and vulnerable children. In the project life, a total of more than 600 sexually abused children have been provided with medical and counseling services, 89 families were provided with one time grant and engaged in income generating activities, 54 school drops out youths were supported to enroll in different marketable vocational skill trainings and 114 sexually and physically abused children (75 female 39 male) have got foster home services.

This project had phased out at the end of 2012. Following the evaluation made by the concerned government bureaus, it has been modified and replicated in a new form since the beginning of 2013. Currently, 210 children (184 female 26 male) are getting the rehabilitation service. Of these, 28 sexually and physically abused children (20 female and 8 male) are fostered in three foster homes.

2.2 Major Highlights, Special Events and Notable Achievements:

- One of the special events which happened in the year was the establishment of a library in one of the foster homes. The Library has been established with donation of books from Social Work students and their professor who came from America. The establishment the Library is playing a significant contribution for the improvement of the services provided at the foster homes;
- The 2nd special events which occurred in the fiscal year is the celebration of different holidays in the foster homes like Christmas, Ester, “Buhe” (the Feast of Bread, which is unique for Ethiopia) and the Ethiopian

New Year (September 11). Accordingly, all the staff of the project together with the management staff of IFSO, have celebrated the holidays with the children of the three foster homes.

- The other special event of the year was the visit of the donors to the project, its activities and beneficiaries. Accordingly, 2 visits were made by the representatives of Il Sole; the 1st visit which was conducted from March 3-7, 2014 was done by the General Manager of Il Sole and the Public Relation Officer together with 2 trainers (a Psychologist and a Social Worker). The other visit was conducted from November 7-12, 2014 by 2 trainers (a Psychologist and a Social Worker) who provided capacity building training for the local staff, mainly to the Counselors, Community Workers and Social Workers.
- Last but not least is the preparation of Therapy Room. This happened following the evaluation of the project by the trainers who provided capacity building training for the staff. According to the trainers (a Psychologist from Milan University and a Social Worker from Il sole), the former counseling rooms were not child friendly and suitable for counseling. Consequently, one common Therapy Room has been prepared; well furnished with appropriate materials and has become functional.

2.3 Accomplishment Based on Plan of Action:

2.3.1 Financial and Medical Support:

2.3.1.1 Provide Regular Sponsorship Support:

The provision of monthly sponsorship support is the pivotal service which plays a significant role in the improvement of the psycho-social and economic conditions of the targeted children and their respective families. Thus, there was a plan to provide a monthly financial support of Birr 300.00 for 182 impoverished families of sexually abused children. But, due to higher demand of the service a total of 190 families have been provided with the support in the reporting year. As a result of the regular financial support, the selected destitute families of the targeted children have become capable of letting their children attend school regularly. Besides this, it has been possible to reduce the economy related burden of these families who are mainly single headed and with very low income.. As usual, 25 % of the monthly allowance, which is 75.00 ETB is being saved in the individual bank account opened in the name of each beneficiary child. The following table depicts the summary of these beneficiaries of the project who received financial support in the reporting year.

Table 1: Number of Children included in the Monthly Sponsorship Support

Age	Number of Children		
	Female	Male	Total
≤ 8	6	2	8
9-12	28	4	32

13-17	87	19	106
≥ 18	42	2	44
	163	27	190

2.3.1.2 Provide Medical Support

The 2nd essential service rendered by the project is medical support. The medical support is executed by refunding the medical cost of the targeted children who faced health problems. Accordingly, 52 children (48 female and 4 male) faced different kinds of health problems and attended medical treatment at different health centers and hospitals in the reporting year. Therefore, their medical costs have been refunded by the project. The major health problems of these clients were Skin Allergy, Physical Injury, Epilepsy, Sight problem, Food Poison, Tonsillitis, Gynecology, Gastric, Minor-operation, Influenza, Skin Burning, Intestinal Infection, Auditory Problem, Tooth Ache, Goiter, Pneumonia, Anal Crack and Mental Health problem. Following medical treatment, all of them have been found in a relatively better health condition.

2.3.1.3 Provide Special Financial Support:

The project also includes a component called “Special Financial Support” which is meant for addressing episodic negative phenomena which occur on beneficiary families. The plan was to provide this special financial support for 5 families in the year. However, due to the occurrence of more acute problems in the year, the budget has been distributed for 11 targeted beneficiaries and/ or their families who faced severe disaster or were at a high demand of the assistance. The list of families who were given the special financial support together with the types of their problems is shown here under:-

Table 2: Summary of Special Financial Support

No.	Type of Problem	Reason for cost	Amount of Money
1	A boy who is terminated from foster homes as he attended TVET in Hotel Management and got employment; and started to lead an independent life;	To purchase essential household materials and house rent for 3 months	3,000.00
2	A girl who attended skill training and got a job is terminated from foster home;	To purchase essential household materials and house rent for 3 months	3,000.00
3	A boy who is terminated from foster	To fulfill essential basic facilities	3,000.00

	homes and reunified to an extended family;	considering the low income of his aunt and shortage of basic facilities in the family;	
4	A man, who is a father of one of the beneficiary children, was seriously sick and admitted to hospital (Note: The case was mental illness.)	To cover the medical cost of this man who is the only source of income for the family	1,000.00
5	A woman, who is a mother of one of the beneficiary children, was seriously sick (Note: This woman is the head and the only source of income for the family. She lives with HIV virus.)	To purchase additional food items for the family during the time the mother was ill.	1,000.00
6	A woman, who is a mother of one of the beneficiary children, was seriously sick and admitted to hospital (Note: The case was Severe Gynaecological problem.)	To cover the medical cost of this woman who is the only source of income for the family	2,000.00
7	A woman, who is a mother of one of the beneficiary children, was seriously sick and admitted to hospital (Note: This woman had been admitted to holy water treatment for the last four years. The case was mental illness.)	To cover the medical cost of this woman who is the only source of income for the family	1,000.00
8	A girl who is sexually abused was seriously sick and admitted to hospital. The case was TB. Thus, her father left his job for the sake of taking care of his daughter.	To purchase different food items which were recommended by physicians as having great positive impact on the health of the girl (E.g. Milk, meat etc.).	1,000.00
9	A girl gave birth for a child due to rape. She was abused by the husband of her aunt. (N:B She lives with a woman who is helping her on voluntary basis.)	To purchase milk for the newly born baby.	1,000.00
10	A family faced a serious financial problem to cover the expense of electric light installation which was obliged by the	To purchase digital electric counter and electric wire	1,500.00

	local government as a precondition to get legal map for their house		
11	A child has been seriously sick together with her twin sister and attended holy water treatment for more than three months.	To cover the temporary shelter rent for the twins and their mother during the time they were in the holy water treatment area.	2,000.00
		Total	19,500.00

2.3.1.4 Provide One- Time Grant (OTG):

This activity is meant for facilitating the termination of beneficiaries who are well rehabilitated from the service. However, as the budget allocated for OTG is not sufficient enough to fully address the demand, it was decided by the project staff and the donor organization (Il Sole) to allocate it for the reunification process of the children who are fostered. Thus, a total of 8,000.00 Birr has been provided for the families of 10 fostered children during reunification. The amount of money given for each family was 800.00. It is mainly used for transporting the children and their families who came to take them to their respective destination.

2.3.1.5 Provide Food Allowance for Children Living with HIV/ AIDS:

Considering the importance for maintaining physical fitness and building immunity to withstand the effect of the medical treatment they attend (ART), there is a program component of providing Nutritional Food for children living with HIV/ AIDS. Thus, different kinds of nutritional food items were purchased and have been provided for 4 children in the year. In line with this, Milk Powder, Wheat Floor, Jam, Peanut Butter, Macaroni, Pasta, Rice, Edible Oil, Iodized Salt, Mixed Oats and barley Floor have been purchased and distributed to the 4 families whose children live with HIV/ AIDS.

2.3.1.6 Provide Skill Training:

In order to improve the income of the beneficiary families and prepare them for an economically independent life, the provision of Skill Training is included in the project as an effective strategy. In line with this, there was a plan to provide the opportunity for 10 needy trainees (the targeted children or their families). However, the increment of training fee limited the number of trainees to 8. These trainees are attending different kinds of marketable trainings at different institutes as stated here under:-

Table 3: Type of Skill Training provided and amount of payment

	Relation of the	Training Fee	Transport
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No.	Recipient with the Targeted Children	Type of Training	for the entire Course	Allowance	Total Cost
1	Self	Hair Dressing	4,350.00	1,500.00	5,850.00
2	Self	Hair Dressing	4,350.00	1,500.00	5,850.00
3	Self	Hair Dressing	4,350.00	1,500.00	5,850.00
4	Sister	Hair Dressing	4,350.00	1,500.00	5,850.00
5	Self	Food Preparation	4,250.00	1,500.00	5,750.00
6	Self	Food Preparation	4,250.00	1,500.00	5,750.00
7	Sister	Food Preparation	4,250.00	1,500.00	5,750.00
8	Brother	Driving License	4,716.52	1,500.00	6,216.52
		Total	34,866.52	12,000.00	46,866.52

2.3.1.7 Provide Entrepreneurship Training:

For the sake of creating some sort of awareness on basic business skills, there was a plan to provide entrepreneurship training for 10 parents of the targeted children who are selected for the provision of seed capital for IGA. Even if the plan was to conduct the training two times in the year (in the 2nd and 4th quarter), both plan have been executed in the 4th quarter due to late release of budget. Thus, a total of 10 parents were provided with basic business skill training so that they can be effective in their small business which they would run after they are given seed capital. The major issues raised during in the training were the following:-

- The impact of economic independence on the lives of the beneficiaries;
- Selection of profitable business area;
- How to become effective in small business;
- The importance of saving;
- Experience exchange among the selected parents

2.3.1.8 Provide Seed Capital for IGA:

Following the provision of Business Training, the selected 10 families have been provided with a seed capital of Birr 30,000.00 (3,000.00 Birr each). The selection criteria include: single headed families with low income, families without permanent income, parents who already engaged in some kind of IGA and need additional seed capital etc. Consequently, all the 10 parents who are provided with the seed capital have started (some of them strengthened) their own small business. The selected and trained parents were oriented to open a saving account in order to save their profits. Here under found a table which shows the summary of the beneficiaries of this activity:-

Table 4: Seed capital given for IGA beneficiaries

No.	Relation of the Recipient with the Targeted Children	Amount of Money Given	Type of Business	Former source of Income
1	Mother	3,000.00	Weaving	Daily Labor (Washing clothes)
2	Mother	3,000.00	Strengthening Fast Food (Chips) preparation	Fast Food (Chips)
3	Mother	3,000.00	Baking “Enjera”	Daily Labor (Washing clothes)
4	Mother	3,000.00	Strengthening small shop (Kiosk)	Small shop (Kiosk)
5	Father	3,000.00	Shop (Kiosk) parallel with the tailoring	Tailor
6	Aunt	3,000.00	Strengthening Baking “Enjera”	Baking “Enjera”
7	Aunt	3,000.00	Strengthening selling used clothes on the street	Selling used clothes along the street
8	Aunt	3,000.00	Strengthening Shop (Kiosk)	Small Shop (Kiosk)
9	Mother	3,000.00	Strengthening Baking “Enjera”	Baking “Enjera”
10	Mother	3,000.00	Baking “Enjera”	Daily Labor (Washing clothes)
	Total	30,000.00		

2.3.2 Psychosocial Support:

2.3.2.1 Provide Individual Counseling Service:

The primary service of the project is provision of counseling service in different forms (individual child, group and parental) by professional Counselors. Accordingly, among planned 728 counseling sessions, 605 have been conducted in the year. Compared to the higher number of the beneficiaries, the nature of the problem (child sexual abuse) and the presence of many other activities in the project, the 3 counselors have executed a significant number of counseling sessions in the year. This number is also by far very high as compared to the previous year. The counseling service has helped to find the children in a relatively better psycho-social status.

2.3.2.2 Provide Group Counseling:

In addition to the individual counseling programs, there was a plan to conduct 4 group counseling sessions (1 per quarter) for selected 40 needy children. However, due to late release of budget, the counselors were forced to organize and conduct all the 4 group counseling sessions in the 4th quarter of the fiscal year. Accordingly, the selected 40 children (30 girls and 10 boys) attended 4 group counseling sessions which focused mainly on child sexual abuse, its consequences, and related issues. Many of the participants were recently admitted children who are considered to have more psychological disturbances than the rest of the beneficiaries; while few of them were those who are considered to have a relatively stable psychological status. Hence, they were selected and included in the group counseling sessions to share their experience for the newly admitted ones as they are believed to successfully resist the consequences of child sexual abuse. Both the Counselors and the participants of the children themselves reported that the group counseling sessions enabled them to share experience and understand that sexual abuse could happen to anyone.

2.3.2.3 Conduct Home Visits:

In the reporting year, 36 home visits have been conducted. Accordingly, through discussion with parents and guardians of the targeted children, possible solutions were forwarded to improve the living conditions and other concerns of the targeted families of these families.

2.3.2.4 Conduct School Visits:

School visit is one of the means of following up the academic status and related problems of the beneficiary children. However, this activity is planned to be performed only as per need (whenever there exists a problem in the academic life of the targeted children). Hence, as per the existing need, 9 school visits have been conducted. Following this, the counselors made appropriate discussion with school principals of the children who had faced difficult circumstances in their academic life and social interaction in their school. Accordingly, the issues which required visit have been discussed and addressed by the co-effort of the counselors and the concerned bodies of the respective schools.

2.3.2.5 Provide Therapeutic Trainings:

The other activity which is mainly designed to facilitate the rehabilitation of clients is the provision of Therapeutic Training. This activity is part and parcel of the counseling of the targeted children. There was a plan to conduct 52 Therapeutic Training sessions in the reporting year. However, the accomplishment becomes less than the plan as 6 of the planned days coincide with different holidays. In spite of the fact that the plan is not fully achieved, 145 survivors (74 Female and 71 Male) who attended 4 types of training

(Music, Drama, Photo & Video) showed a significant improvement in their psycho-social statuses. Number of children and types of training is stated here under.

Table 5: Number of Children who attended Therapeutic Trainings

No.	Group	No. of Children		
		Female	Male	Total
1	Drama	17	32	49
2	Music	49	25	74
3	Photo	6	7	13
4	Video	2	7	9
		74	71	145



Children Performing Drama on a stage

2.3.2.6 Provide Secondary Traumatic Counseling for the Staff:

There was a plan to provide Secondary Traumatic Counselling service to upgrade the knowledge and skill of the staff of the project mainly the Counsellors and reduce the burnout effect resulting from the very nature of Child Sexual Abuse and the transferable nature of Trauma. Even though the plan was to provide the training once per year, 2 trainings were conducted in the reporting year in order to compensate the un-accomplished plan of 2013. The 1st training was, which was conducted in March 2014, was provided by 2 professionals (a Psychologist and a Social Worker) who came from Italy. Thus, a three day training was provided for the project staff and other Social Workers of IFSO. During the training time, appropriate discussions were made

concerning the serious cases that the counsellors faced in their day-to-day task. Moreover, experience sharing program was also part of the training.

The 2nd round training, which was conducted in November 2014, was also provided for the Psychologists and the Social Workers of IFSO (both the Counselling and other projects of IFSO). The training was conducted and delivered by a Psychologist from Milan University and a Social Worker from Il Sole. The training comprised issues like Play Therapy and how to successfully implement 1st contacts with children who are sexually abused. According to the report of the staff members who attended the training, they have gained lots of new insights in to modern theories of the concern area. During the training, trainees had raised different kinds of challenging cases. Accordingly, intensive discussions were made among the trainers and the training participants.

2.3.2.7 Organize Reproductive Health Training:

Reproductive Health training has been included in the project as it is believed to have a significant contribution for the future sexual life of the beneficiary children. It is also helpful to solve the psychoanalysis problems of the adolescents. In line with this, it was planned to conduct 4 trainings in the reporting year (1 per quarter). However, due to late release of budget, it was not possible to conduct any of the trainings in the previous 3 quarters. Nevertheless, as the required budget has been released from the funding organization lately, all the 4 trainings have been accomplished in the 4th quarter of the year. The trainings were provided by the Health Officer who works at the Children on the Edge Project of IFSO. Thus, a total of 100 selected children (78 Female and 22 Male) who are in their adolescent stage of development were selected, grouped in to 4 and attended the training. The major issues of the trainings were Adolescent Behavior and Challenges Encountered during the period. Moreover, HIV/ AIDS and the use of contraceptive devices were also additional issues addressed in the training. The adolescents who attended the trainings reported that they have benefited a lot from the training. They further reported that the training helped them improve their confidence on reproductive and health related issues.

2.3.2.8 Organize Educational and Entertainment Program:

The annual Educational Entertainment Program was conducted in August 27, 2014. The program had the following components:-

- Music and dance presentation by “Fire Music Band”;
- Music and dance competition among the beneficiary children;
- Drama show by volunteer art students of Abyssinia Fine Arts and Modeling Institution;
- Reward of rank students and talent winners;

- Reward of successful parents and;
- Refreshment program.

In the program, elite artists who act in the famous series drama “Betoch” which has been broadcasted through the Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation were invited to entertain the children and share their professional experiences. During the occasion, both the children and their parents were found to be very excited and relaxed with the presence of the invited actors.

On the other hand, the rewarded students who achieved great results in their academic performance shared their experience to the rest beneficiary children. Among these 17 students who were rewarded books, school bags, exercise books and pens, two girls have been rewarded ETB 1,000.00 each as they are going to join universities since they have passed the ESLCE with a good result.

Moreover, the program was unique as compared to the previously conducted programs as all the parents of the beneficiary children were also invited to attend. Hence, parents got the opportunity to relax and entertain with their children. Beside this, four beneficiary women who were found to be successful in their small business were awarded electric stoves in recognition of their success in their business and parenting their children in a good way. (Note: These women were selected from the beneficiary parents who were given seed capital for IGA). After receiving her reward, one of the women expressed her feelings to the audience, washing her face by tears, as follows:-

I’ am a woman who was expected to die earlier as I live with the HIV virus. Besides my health problem, the abuse incidence happened to my daughter had forced me to totally lose hope. However, after my daughter was admitted to IFSO, the life of my daughter and mine started seeing a bright future. In addition to the counseling and financial support I receive from IFSO, I was given an initial capital of Birr 3,000.00. Then, I have been engaged in petty trade. Together with the moral support I get from IFSO, this money enabled me revive both economically and morally. Now, I have my own house though not yet secured the official plan from the concerned government office. I have passed through a lot of obstacles and life threatening episodes. Despite all those dim times, I’ m now leading a peaceful and stable life with my daughter in my own house. I have no words to express my gratefulness to IFSO and its staff.

2.3.2.9 Conduct Therapeutic Entertainment Program:

Among the activities which are meant for facilitating the rehabilitation of survivors, conducting Therapeutic Entertainment Program is one and noteworthy. In line with this, this program has been conducted in Debre Zeit (a city 47 KM away from Addis Ababa), at a place called “Etalem Resort”. The resort was selected as it is an ideal place where by children can entertain to a higher extent as it has an attractive sight. A total of 161 children have participated in the program which had the following major components:-

- Boat Trip;
- Local game play;
- Dance and Music competition;
- Rewarding winners of competition.



Boat Trip



Children in front of Lake Babogaya



Children dancing on a stage

2.3.2.10 Provide Good parenting Style Training:

The reason behind the provision of this training is in order to create appropriate awareness among the parents of the targeted children on relevant issues. Nevertheless, the project key staff discussed and decided to modify the content of the training to some other relevant issue as the present issue has been provided every year in the past. In line with this, it was decided by the project staff that the training has to be divided

in to two phases. The 1st phase was “Child Sexual Abuse: Its Effects and Treatment Mechanisms”; while the 2nd phase was “Adolescent Behavior: Meaning, Changes during the period and consequences”. Accordingly, the parents were divided in to three groups, each group consisted 60 members. Accordingly, the 1st groups of parents/ guardians, who have been admitted to the project service, were provided training with the 1st issue; while the 2nd and 3rd groups attended the 2nd type of training as they have already attended the 1st issue many times. The parents/ guardians reported that both trainings were really helpful and sensitizing. They further remarked that such kinds of trainings are paramount importance and should be continual.



The Executive Director of IFSO making Opening Remarks



The Senior Counselor Giving Training

2.3.3 IEC Material Production:

2.3.3.1 Brochure Production and Distribution:

The production and distribution of brochures has been included as a component to create awareness at least among the beneficiaries of the project. Hence, 3,000 brochures which contain different issues related to Child Sexual Abuse were produced and distributed to the direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project. The content of the message conveyed through the brochures include the following:-

- What is Child Sexual Abuse?
- Causes of Child Sexual Abuse;
- Signs/ Symptoms of Child Sexual Abuse;
- Effects of Child Sexual Abuse;
- Consequences of Child Sexual Abuse;
- Actions to be done when Child Sexual Abuse occurs.

2.3.3.2 Audio Cassette Production and Distribution:

The production and distribution of Audio Cassette is also a means or strategy to disseminate information in to the wider community. With this intention, there was a plan to produce and distribute audio cassettes which contain issues relevant to Child Sexual Abuse. However, as it is not possible to reach the community through intervention strategies due to the restriction set by the government, the staff of the project and the management of IFSO discussed and agreed to divert the budget in to production of flier for the 20th Anniversary of IFSO. Consequently, the flier has been produced containing the summarized changes IFSO has brought about in its 20 years journey. Moreover, the major components of the existing five projects of IFSO are included in the fliers. Accordingly, 2,000 fliers have been produced and become ready for the 20th Anniversary of IFSO.

2.3.4 Meetings:

2.3.4.1 Annual General Parents' Meeting:

The Annual Parents General Meeting is a forum where by all the parents and/ or guardians gather to make evaluation of the services delivered by the project. For such a reason, it was planned to conduct this meeting in the 2nd quarter of the fiscal year. However, it was conducted in the 3rd due to late release of budget. Despite its late accomplishment, 178 parents and/or guardians of the targeted beneficiary children attended the annual meeting conducted on August 27, 2014. On the meeting, relevant issues were raised, discussed and addressed. In addition to this, the parents elected committee members who can represent them in the parents' committee meetings.

2.3.4.2 Conduct Quarterly Meetings of the Parents and Steering Committee:

The late accomplishment of the parents' general meeting became an obstacle for conducting the 1st quarter's committee meeting as the expected committee members were not elected. However, after the 7 parents' committee members were elected during the General Meeting of parents/ guardians which was held in the 2nd quarter of the fiscal year, the committee held its quarterly meetings three times. The aim of the meeting is to evaluate the progress of the implementation of the project, how far it is achieving its intended objectives and how much its beneficiaries are satisfied. In line with this, the committee held its quarterly meeting with the project staff and discussed relevant issues which are said to be the concerns of the beneficiaries. With regard to the progress of the project implementation, the committee members expressed their reflections on the late release of budget for some of the activities of the project. Besides this, they commented positively that the services rendered by the project are effective enough in bringing about improvement on the psycho-social status of the sexually abused children in particular and the lives of their families in general. The committee

members further suggested for the slight improvement of the services of the project. For instance, provision of seed capital and skill training should be better delivered at the beginning of the fiscal year than doing it at later in the year so that it would be possible to make appropriate follow up.

2.3.5 Foster Homes:

2.3.5.1 Selecting and Fostering Children:

One of the most crucial services of the project is the fostering of highly affected children. The targeted beneficiaries for the foster home service are children who are sexually abused by primary families or guardians. Sometimes, children who are abused and have court or medical appointments are also fostered till the completion of their legal or medical cases as their families or guardians live away from Addis Ababa. *(NOTE: IFSO is the only NGO in Addis Ababa having foster home for sexually abused male children/ boys.)*

The plan was to select and foster 24 seriously affected, sexually abused and OVC children. However, due to higher demand of the service and the presence of strong different referral networks, a total of 80 needy children have been fostered in the 3 foster homes. These children have been referred from different government bodies like Federal 1st Instance and Supreme Court, Police offices of the 10 sub cities and Gandhi Hospital's One Stop Center for sexually abused children. The children have been given temporary shelter and provided with basic needs and facilities in the three foster homes.

2.3.5.2 Reintegration of Fostered Children:

The final step of fostering needy children in the foster homes is reunification or reintegration with their respective families or community. Thus, there was a plan to reintegrate 15 of the fostered children who would finish their legal or medical cases. It was possible to reunify 57 children whose legal or medical cases have been finalized. The number of children who were reunified exceeds the planned quantity by far as a lot of children were admitted to the foster home and completed legal or medical appointments. Consequently, considering the improvement of their psycho-social status and availability of parents or guardians, they are reintegrated back to their respective families. Among these children, 10 of them were given a onetime grant of Birr 800.00 for transportation.



Children and their parents during reunification

2.4 Not Planed but Accomplished:

2.4.1 Establishment of Library in Foster Home:

One of the special events which happened in the year was the establishment of a library in one of the foster homes. The library has been established through book donation of Social Workers who came from America. The Library has a significant contribution for the improvement of the services provided at the foster homes;



American Social Workers Donating Books



Foster Home Children with Social Workers who came from American

2.4.2 Preparation of Therapy Room:

Besides the effectively implemented training, the trainers suggested for the improvement of the counseling rooms in a way that would be conducive for the children. Consequently, discussions were made with the staff of the project and the management of IFSO on the way to prepare a separate Therapy room furnished with kids chair and toys. As a result, the intended room has been prepared in accordance with the suggestions of the trainers and as to the professional standard.



The newly prepared Therapy Room (inside and outside views)

2.4.3 Following Court/ Police Process of Fostered Clients:

Previously this activity was left for the police; nevertheless, due to the request of A.A Police Commission, the project has been providing vehicle service for those fostered children who had appointments to Courts. Moreover, the counselors and community workers of the project have taken children to courts and police stations 73 times. As a result, the reunifications of 57 children have been accomplished.

2.4.4 Facilitating Age/ Medical Examination of Fostered Clients:

Previously this activity was left for the police; nevertheless, due to the request of A.A police Commission, the project vehicle has given service for fostered children who had appointments at different hospitals 55 times. Moreover, the counselors and community worker of the project have been accompanying the children to hospitals.

In spite of the fact that facilitating the medical examination consumes fuel and time of counselors, it helped to improve the health conditions of fostered children and facilitated their legal cases.

2.4.5 Holiday Celebration with Foster Home Children:

Even if this activity has been conducted only sometimes, it becomes part of the regular activities of the project in the reporting year. The 1st holiday which was celebrated in the year was the Ethiopia Christmas which appeared at the 7th of January and the 2nd one was Easter. The 3rd one is “Buhe” which is celebrated at the mid of August - a traditional Ethiopian holiday which is mainly celebrated by boys and locally known as “the Feast of Bread”. Accordingly, all the foster home children and the project staff gathered in the boys’ foster home and celebrated the holiday in accordance with the Ethiopian culture.



Foster Home Children During Christmas Celebration

The other holiday which was highly celebrated in the foster home was the Ethiopian New Year. Accordingly, the staff of the project and the management of IFSO contributed their own money to purchase cake, candy and soft drinks for the children. The celebration of the holidays comprises different program components like Lunch, Refreshment, Drama, Music and Dance competition among the children etc. The celebration has created a home-feeling and sense of belongingness on the minds of the children.



Cake-cutting ceremony by the Executive Director & representative of the Children



Traditional Dance by the Children & the Staff

2.4.6 HIV Test:

Though facilitating HIV test for the beneficiary children was not included in the annual action plan, it has been done following the request of the families and the children themselves. Moreover, the counselors had also requested for the implementation of this kind of service as it would have a great impact on the psychological stability of their clients. Hence, a letter was written to African Services Committee (an NGO

working mainly on HIV/ AIDS) to refer the selected children for HIV test. Accordingly, 12 newly admitted children who did not know their sero status were referred to the clinic of this particular NGO for HIV test. Fortunately enough, all of them were diagnosed to be HIV Negative. Following this, both the children and their parents reported that they have gained a high level of relief or satisfaction.

2.5 Changes Observed

As a result of the services rendered by the project, the following changes have been observed in the lives of the beneficiaries:-

- By the help of the monthly financial support, it has been possible to improve the income of 190 families of targeted sexually abused children. Moreover, 10 of these families have engaged in to different kinds of business which can increase their income. Besides this, other 8 family members of the targeted children have been attending skill training in different marketable fields.
- The medical support which has been provided through cost refunding helped to improve the health condition of 52 targeted children. This in turn played a significant role in the rehabilitation of highly traumatized children who were highly affected by medical problems resulting from sexual abuse.
- The counseling service which has been given in different forms and facilitated by different kinds of therapeutic and educative components was effective enough in bringing considerable improvement up on the psycho-social conditions of the targeted children and their families.
- The trainings provided both for the children and their parents/ guardians created an acceptable level of awareness on applicable issues. In addition to this, ICE materials produced and distributed facilitated the awareness creation process there by reaching the recipients in their own residence.
- The temporary shelter service which has been rendered in 3 foster homes became the highly contributing component of the project saving the lives of 80 sexually and physically abused and vulnerable children. This in turn advocated IFSO among different concerned governmental and non-governmental bodies working in the area.

2.6 Challenges Encountered and Measures taken:

2.6.1 Challenges Encountered:

- The major challenge the staff of the project encountered in the reporting year was late release of budgets for many of the activities of the project from the donor organization (II Sole). As a result, the coincidence of unplanned activities and activities which were not accomplished in the 1st three quarters created a high burden on the project staff.

- On the other hand, lack of conducive and private counseling rooms became another big challenge for the effective implementation of the project activities mainly the rehabilitation of highly traumatized children.

2.6.2 Measures Taken:

- Since the late release of budget for some of the activities of the project is beyond the capacity of the project staff, the issue has been reported to the management of IFSO. Following this, the management tried to discuss the issue with the donor organization representatives through e-mail and in person during the visit of the management of Il Sole. Consequently, a considerable amount of budget has been released. Hence, in order to accomplish all the planned activities of the year, the staff of the project worked as a unified force even during the weekends and the evenings. Consequently, all the intended activities were intensively implemented before the onset of the New Year.
- Taking in to account the absence of appropriate counseling room, the trainers who came from Italy recommended to prepare a child friendly Therapy Room. Following this, two rooms have been renovated and given for the two Counselors of the project. Moreover, a Therapy Room which can serve for all the counselors has been prepared and well furnished with appropriate Play Therapy materials.

3. Extension of Oasis and Children’s Safety Net Projects

3.1 Background

The Extension of Oasis and Children’s Safety Net Projects was designed to address the recommendation outlined by the consultants of the previous two projects (Oasis and Children Safety Net) to be considered in the extension phase and started operation as of June 2013. The operational areas are Gulele Sub City, Woreda 1 and 6 and Yeka Sub city, Woreda 1, 2, 4 & 10.

The objective of this project is to sustain all the implemented activities accomplished during the previous projects by filling the identified gaps.

3.2 Major Highlights, Special Events and Notable Achievement

As per the project operational agreement entered between IFSO and line government offices, this project has been phased out in February 15, 2015. Accordingly, the project completion evaluation has been conducted by external consultant commissioned by the donor organization (AC International Child Support). The government terminal evaluation is scheduled to be conducted soon. The review made by the Consultant has shown that the performed activities have brought about positive outlook and development initiatives ideas on the part of the targeted beneficiaries

3.3 Accomplishment Based on Plan of Action

3.3.1 Conduct Workshop with CBRHAs, Idir leaders and Health Extension workers

A workshop attended by 35 participants (18 m & 17f) drawn from Community Based Reproductive Health Agents(CBRHAs), Idir leaders and Health Extension workers was conducted on February 21, 2014 in Kokebe Tsibah Primary School. The purpose of the workshop was to remind the roles of the participants in ensuring child wellbeing in their areas. The issues addressed during the workshop include:

- the roles of the Idir leaders in the follow up of various development activities,
- Child development stages with the necessary care and support,
- the CBRHA's detailed activities and how to use the guide/manual.

In general, a lively discussion was conducted in which the participants contributed ideas that would help strengthening their active participation in the implementation of the project activities.



Idir leaders, CBRHA members and Health Extension workers while discussing about child development and health.

3.3.2 Conduct discussion with parents /guardians:

A discussion session was organized for parents /a guardian on the well being of child rearing which was held on March 3, 2014 at Gulele Woreda 1 Youth Centre. In the discussion, 23 mothers drawn from Wolayta sefer(Yeka Woreda 1) and Le'ele (Gulele woreda one) have participated. The discussion was focused on experience sharing among participants to enhance the parents'/guardians capacity by creating opportunities to get lesson and best practices from each other.



Parents and guardians while discussing their experience.

3.3.3 Conduct Children Participation Workshop:

The child participation workshop was conducted on February 12, 2014 at Tigil Lenetsanet Primary School, which was attended by 46 students (22f & 24m). During the workshop, discussion was conducted in the

meaning and importance of child participation at home, in neighborhood, at school, in the class room and also in different clubs. The students were very active and eager to ask different questions and to be informed. At the end of the session, participants made a vow to share what they learned from the workshop to other fellow students.



The 3rd round child participation workshop

3.3.4 Establish Child to Child counseling forum school support:

The introduction and forming of child to Child clubs was conducted on February 15, 2014 in Gulele Woreda 1 Youth Center in which 52 students (34 male and 18 female) drawn from four schools have participated. The objective of establishing such club is to enable children support themselves and become solution seekers whenever they encountered with problems. The program included presentation of role play on theme of child to child club importance and sharing experience of other countries in this regard.



Children participating in the club formation

3.3.5 Equip health centers in Gulele and Yeka sub cities:

One of the project activities is creating awareness on reproductive health and family planning among the target community with poor access to health services. The awareness raising effort is done by Community Based Reproductive Health Agents (CBRHAs) who disseminate the information and also provide non-clinical contraceptive devices by going house to house. The CBRHAs have been introduced with the government's Health Extension Workers to complement each other for such and other similar services.

Most health centers in the targeted areas are not well equipped with the required medical tools to provide a higher and complicated health service which was identified as a major challenge that affects the quality of the service.

In responding to such challenge and purposefully to introduce the CBRHAs, the project supported 5 health centers with medical materials purchased with Birr 100,600 and attempted to alleviate the problem. The health centers were selected by the remoteness of the area they are located and by the number of people they are serving. The medical tools purchased include: Iv stand, Eye goggle, Fetal Doppler, BP Apparatus aneroid, Room heater, Kerosene stove, Baby Scale, 3 fold Ward screen and Bed side cabinet.

The materials have been handed over to 6 Health Centers in the beginning of October 2014. During the handover ceremony conducted at IFSO office, the health centers representatives expressed that the material support they received will enhance their capacity and the service they are provide to their respective communities.

3.3.6 Provide support for schools

5 schools were selected after a visit made in each school to check whether they have gardening places or not. Thus, the selected ones have identified and prioritized the materials they need to improve the school gardening. Accordingly, Sickles, shovels, plastic pipes & water jerry cans and seeds like lettuce, spinach & cabbage were purchased and distributed for five government primary schools (Tigil Lenetsanet, Miazia 23, Wondirad & Karaalo, Salaysh).



Miazia 23 school



Dil Betigil School

3.3.7 Conduct Visit to Holeta Agriculture Research Institute:-

Discussion was held in Gulele sub city Urban Agriculture office on November 17, 2014. In accordance with the agreement, a one day visit to Holeta Bee keeping Research Institute was arranged. In the visiting program, 39 (18 female & 21 male) beneficiaries engaged in honey production and one professional representatives of the two sub cities (Key ber & Ankorcha) were included. As planned, two experts of the Research Institution Center started the experience exchange discussion by asking beneficiaries general questions to assess the status of each beneficiary in handling honey production. On the basis of the

information they got, they explained how to treat and handle the beehive to make it productive. The field discussion was mainly focused on hive preparation, cleaning, Bee feeding and harvesting. In the discussion, it was explained that the Gulele woreda expert already started working with the beneficiaries and also include his opinion on the levels and challenges of the beneficiaries in the area. From the experience exchange session, some beneficiaries were found to be model exemplary for the others. At the end of the experience session, it was agreed by all presented to work closely together with the experts in the field and to visit each other for better understanding of honey production.



Experience sharing discussion at Holota Agricultural Research Center

3.3.8 Provide support for environmental clubs of the school:-

Different seeds (Lettuce, Monarch, Semences, Semillas, and Semena seeds) were purchased and provided for 5 selected school's Environmental clubs, by taking in to consideration their commendable performance of previous support. In addition to the provision of seeds, agricultural tools were also given to the clubs in order to help them preparer the field.



Provision of agricultural tools to one of the supported schools.

3.3.9 Conduct experience exchange workshop between Gulele Woreda One & Yeka Woreda One Idir counsels: -

The workshop was held on December 25 at Ferency Idir Counsel Hall. The reason why the project staff preferred to hold the workshop at Ferensay Idir Council was due to the exemplary activities particularly the documentation handling of the Counsel which is considered as a model for others.

Among the major voluntary activities performed by the Ferensay Idir Council, the following can be mentioned as examples

- Organized 600 elderly people and established an association.
- Collected monthly membership fee contribution of the association amounted to birr 17,000 and deposited in the bank.
- Obtained 4,000 square meter of land for urban agriculture development to be handled by the elderly association members so that they would become self supportive.
- Ensured that the 49 IGA beneficiaries are actively involved in income earning business.
- Disbursed Birr 58,181.00 for 28 IGA beneficiaries. The maximum amount of loan the Idir Council disburses reached Birr 7000.00.
- Established strong networking with different organization like ACCORD, Addis Ababa University (AAU), and Help Age International. For example, working with Addis Ababa University has benefited the community in getting a free legal advising service for the poor.



One of the group discussions during the experience exchange workshop.

3.3.10 Conduct Meeting with ABE facilitators:-

A half day discussion was held in Kokebe Tsibah Primary School on December 27, 2014 with the School Management Committee (SMC), and the facilitators of the four sites. Representatives from each site presented briefly about the observable facts in their respective center. During the meeting, it was observed that the SMCs of the Wolayta Sefer ABE Center has done commendable activities which can be taken as a good model for others. The following are among the Committee's achievement:

- Obtained the center's land ownership license,
- Facilitated the setting up of flag stage in the Center.

- Got a pledge from another NGO working in the area to fence the ABE Center's compound.



Partial view of the participants.

3.3.11 Conduct meeting with CBRHAs:-

A half day meeting was held on December 27, 2014 at Kokobe Tsibah Primary School hall. The meeting was attended by 50 female participants from Ankorch, Danse, Wollo Sefer, Liele, and Key Ber. According to the report of representatives from each site, good progress has been observed as a result of their voluntary contribution. It was reported that at this moment in time, there is no a woman delivering at home. Furthermore, health related knowledge sharing has become customary during coffee ceremony and other communal gatherings and referral system is practiced well. Besides, the CBRHAs have created good relationship with the government's Health Extension Workers.

One of the most important lessons learned from this community representatives experience in the given topics(reproductive health education and family planning) is the strong commitment of each participant to continue working independently when the project moves out of the area. The following statement given by one of the CBRHAs is inconformity with the above assessment.

IFSO has taught us what we should do for our community; how to plan and execute what we have planned. Thus, whether IFSO stays with us or not, we are now capable of performing our responsibilities independently. What matters more is the knowledge IFSO inculcated in mind.

At the end of the meeting, each of the participants received a certificate in recognition to their seven years free service to their rwspective communities.



Discussion Participants.



Certificate award

3.3.12 Conduct supportive meeting with the Child To Child participants: -

This meeting was conducted on November 2, 2014 at Kokebe Tsibah Primary School Hall. A total of 38 children (25 female & 13 male) and two female teacher representatives showed up for the meeting. The objective of the meeting was to review the current status of the child to Child Club members support and enhancing their activities by initiating and sharing of ideas with each other. The discussion was focused on the ongoing activities where the representative teachers and students pledged to work together with other clubs to support many students and expand the support to reach large number of needy students.



Partial view of Child to Child meeting participants

3.3.13 Provide emergency fund: -

The emergency support is targeting children and or their families who are in difficult circumstances and are in need of urgent support. Accordingly, two vulnerable women were identified and have been provided with financial support.

- One of the women who got the support was a young single parent with two female children (1 ½ & 5 years old) and HIV positive. She came to our office to look for organization or individual willing to adopt at least one of her two children. The woman is obliged to live on the street due to serious economic problems and lack of a house to live in.

One can easily understand that the mother had not lost her motivation to settle in one place and support her children. What deterred her from leading a settled life was lack of financial capacity. With this understanding, therefore, the project facilitated for her to rent a house by paying the rent for one year time and also provided her with food items and counseling as well. The total financial support that the beneficiary received was Birr 3, 600.00



A single mother while receiving the support

- The other woman was also in more or less similar condition. Therefore, the project has helped her to pay 6 months house rent and provided her with food items and counseling. The total financial support that the beneficiary received is Birr 1,400.00

3.3.14 Provide support for Idirs:-

The Idir leaders were demanding for different office materials. Considering their needs, materials like File box, flat file, ball point pens, registration books, markers, duplication papers and correction fluid were purchase and provided for 4 selected Idirs in the target areas, amounting Birr 2,613.82.



Representatives while receiving the support

3.3.15 Conduct project completion evaluation workshop:-

A half day workshop was organized on project completion and conducted at Arat Kilo Youth Sport Center on December 31, 2014. The workshop participants were those stakeholders who attended the orientation workshop during the launching of the project one and half years ago. The main purpose of the workshop was to reflect back on the accomplished project activities and assess then readiness of the stakeholders to take

over the ownership responsibility in sustaining the implemented activities. The discussion which was attended by 20 participants was facilitated by Ato Getachew Negash, Deputy Director of IFSO. The participants confirmed that several of the project's planned activities have been implemented and have brought about a positive change in the lives of many residents in the areas. Since all activities have been performed with active participation of the beneficiaries, there will be no problem of sustaining the already implemented development activities in the absence of IFSO.

At the end of the evaluation workshop, certificate of recognition was awarded for 15 individuals who actively participated in the project implementation.



The review discussion and awarding of the certificate for active participants of the project success.

3.3.16 Conduct environmental protection and sanitation campaign:

The year plan was to conduct a public gathering of schools and Woreda administration employees to discuss on how to make the environment sanitation campaign a habit in a permanent way. In accordance with the plan, the gathering was held on November 21, 2014 which was attended by 200 participants. The occasion was celebrated by cleaning the schools and the Woreda administration office compounds. The participants were drawn from Tigillenetsanet, Miazia 23 and Salaysh schools and Yeka Woreda one administration. On the day, T-shirts depicting the importance of environmental sanitation were distributed by the project to participants.

3.3.17 Construct toilets in primary schools

The Bid Committee of IFSO completed the pre-qualification process of contracting agencies for the construction of the three toilets in three primary schools. The specification and design of the toilets were prepared by the Design and Building Office of Yeka Sub City, Woreda 10. Therefore, the winner of the bid signed agreement with IFSO and constructed the toilets together with a hand wash water taps. As reported by the respective school representatives, the construction of the toilets has helped at a great extent in addressing the high demand of toilets and thereby contributing for environmental sanitation.



One of the toilets constructed in Tigilnetsanet primary school.

3.3.18 Hand over the ABE center to the concerned body

The ABE Center built by IFSO in Qusquam Primary School compound has been handed over to Gulele Woreda One Education Office through the agreement made on November 17, 2014, between IFSO's Director, Wro Mekdes Zelelew and, Head of Gulele Woreda One Education Office, Ato Dereje Kinfe: -

The main objectives of the agreement were:

- To ensure the ABE center provide long lasting service for the needy children
- To ensure the protection of the building and all educational support materials with in the Center
- To ensure that the teacher assigned for the center gets her salary from the Education Office after the phase out of the project



The signing of the agreement

3.3.19 Social Support program

This social support program is included in the project for empowering and protecting children and families mainly focusing on socially and economically disadvantaged vulnerable children in the two woredas of Gulele one and Yeka one. The target groups of the social support program are children and youth in particular and the community in general living in vulnerable and marginalized situation. To address the psychosocial wellbeing of these target groups, the project has trained 42 Para-Social Workers drawn from different sectors. The following are the major achievements made in relation to the social support program through the voluntary service of para-social workers.

Type of activities	Activities performed by the Para Social Workers
Helping children who are in need of food	64 students (36F and 28M) were getting one meal on weekends. The Para social workers play a vital role by creating income generating activities. Some of the strategies include organizing food bank at school, organize children to wash cloths and buy shoe shine materials. Earn money and writing proposal to aid organizations to help children. But many children are from the poorest families that are not food secure, it is difficult to address the needs of all children who need assistance.
Help children to get school materials	54 students (30F, 24M) were provided the educational materials. Para social workers try to help children to equip with school stationeries including pen, pencil, uniform, exercise books and other materials. Idir representatives lobby their Idirs members to buy school materials for needy children and school representatives work with other NGOS to help the children. But it is difficult to reach all the needy children.
Helping labor abused children to go to school with objective of minimizing school absentee rates.	The most vulnerable children to labor abuse are migrant children who came to Addis Ababa from rural Ethiopia by telling their parents they are attending school. But the reality is that they are employed in private houses and exposed for severe labour exploitation. Accordingly, the para-social workers have approached the employers of 37 students (14F, 23 M) and convinced them to ease their pressure and send them to school too.
Mediating conflicts in school and village level.	The Para social workers helped 39 (21M, 18F) individuals who were in conflict caused by different reasons. The conflicts usually occur between among children, and also between children and parents/guardians.
Assisting underserved children to get medical service.	139 (82F, 57M) children have been supported to get medical treatment. The Para social workers referred the needy children to the other NGOs and health inistitutions.
Reintegrate and reunify children by cooperating with other partners.	10 children (F3 & 7 M) who left their parents and started to live on streets were approached by the Para-social workers and returned back to their home after receiving counseling services.
Assist sexually abused children	Para social workers helped 12 (9F, 3M) sexually abused children by working with the police, by collecting information on the issue, by ensuring confidentiality and counseling the children to be strong psychologically. The Para social workers work with school directors to help the children.
Counseling & guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 15 (4F & 11M) youth accused of different illegal activities and misbehavior were counseled by concerned Para and all were successfully reintegrated with the community with corrected behavior. ❖ 2 boys, who were going to drop out from school due to conflict with their parents were also advised and continued their education.

3.4 Planned but not accomplished with Reasons

3.4.1 Documentation

There was a plan to prepare a document depicting the whole process of the project to be done by a consultant. However, due to fund reduction by the donor organization, it was not possible to accomplish the plan.

3.5 Change observed

As it was possible to understand from the final review and internal evaluation result which was conducted with stakeholders, the project has helped to develop confidence within the targeted beneficiaries that enable them peruse the development venture by strengthening the already implemented activities and introducing new ones. As explained by the evaluation participants, IFSO has shown them the way of addressing their problems by tapping the available resources of their surroundings. Furthermore, 38 poor women of the target area have taken revolving fund with facilitation of Idir Council and have shown commendable improvement in their life for they are able to get sustained income from their business.

3.6 Challenges Encountered and measures taken

3.6.1 Challenges:

One ABE Center mini media materials, which were taken by an individual, are not still given back to the center. The project and the management staff have appealed their complain at all levels of local administration but to no avail so far

3.6.2 Measure Taken:

The case has been taken to the AA Administration Education Bureau and brought to the attention of the Deputy Bureau Head.

4. Improving Girls' Education and Wellbeing:

4.1 Background

This project has been implemented since 2012 in Amhara Region, Ambassel Woreda of South Wollo zone. The project is entitled “Improving the Livelihood and Education of Girls”. The objective of the project is to promote education for girls and enhance the economic capacity of poor women in the Woreda. The major performances of the project for the reporting year are the following.

4.2 Major Highlights Special Events and Notable Achievement

- The construction of additional classrooms and other facilities has been continued in Wuchale Primary School with the Japan Embassy fund. Accordingly the 5 classrooms and the library have been completed 90%. In addition, the constructions of the water reservoir stand and the water taps have been completed. Furthermore, the constructions of latrine, guard house and fence are undergoing. On the other hand, the production and transportation of 224 combined desks, 10 library shelves, 120 library chairs, 20 library tables, 14 teachers' tables and 14 teachers' chairs have been completed.



The newly constructed classrooms



The Library under construction

- A new project agreement has been signed on October 1, 2014 with Union of Ethiopian Charitable Association(UEWCA) to implement a project entitled “ Information Technology for Girls’ Education and Women’s Entrepreneurship”, which amounting Birr 1,468,297.54. The project is going to be implemented in Ambasel Woreda targeting 200 women organized in Saving and Credit Cooperatives and also 1000 girls at Wuchale 17 Secondary and Preparatory school.

4.3 Accomplishment Based on Plan of Action

4.3.1 Follow-up the construction process of Wuchale Primary School

Day to day follow-up has been made to check the construction of the 5 classrooms, 2 library rooms, toilet, water reservoir, guard house and fencing are going on properly with the stipulated planned time with IFSO’s Branch Office staff. Accordingly, the construction was going on in good pace and has reached to its completion stage with active participation of Amabsel Woreda Administration in particular and the community in general. On the other hand, the production of 224 combined desks, 10 library desks, 120 library tables, 20 library tables, 14 teachers tables and 14 teachers chairs have been completed

4.3.2 Management of Hostel for 30 girls from rural areas

- Follow-up activities were done to check school attendance of students from the Girls Hostel
- Effort was made to ensure the daily provision of basic services for the students. The Girls have established a committee comprising of 5 members who receive and or purchase food materials and also oversee its proper utilization. Effort is also made to fulfill their needs in terms of clothing and cleaning materials. All of the girls are attending grade 11 and studying well.

- Individual and group counseling service was given periodically once in a week and as need arise.
- Additional tutorial class was arranged and delivered on English language and other subjects by IFSO staffs once in a week and other teachers with a view of strengthening their academic performance.
- The girls have continued conducting their weekly meeting and discuss on social and educational issues.
- Out of the 30 Hostel girls who sit for the 10th grade National Exam, 26 of them scored a result that enabled them to join preparatory level education (11-12), which is 87% achievement. One of these students, Mulu Eshetu, has scored 4 points and awarded an encouragement prize at the Zone level, by the Education Office South Wollo Zone. Furthermore, 17 of them have scored 3 and above points, which witnessed the effort made by the students and the project as well.
- The Woreda Administration has arranged a job placement for the failed 4 girls in the administration's different sections so that they will study by their own to take re-examination of the National Exam in the 2014/15 academic year.
- In the place of those 4 girls who could not make it, four new girls have been identified and selected in collaboration with the Woreda Administration and IFSO Ambasel Branch Office based on the criteria, which include: good academic performance, matriculation results, family poverty, and being from the rural part of the Woreda
- In general, the girls are very much happy with the service they are receiving and always express their deepest fillings with tears brimming in their eyes.



Girls' Hostel beneficiaries

4.2.3 Distribution of educational material for 130 girls from primary and secondary school

- The educational materials were purchased and distributed to the 130 students (100 primary level and 30 high school girls) in the beginning of October 2014 in the presence of the Executive Director, Wro Mekdes Zelelw, the Deputy Director Ato Getachew Negash and IFSO's Ambasel Branch Office staffs.

- Furthermore, all of the 130 sponsored children (100 primary level and 30 high school girls) have got school uniforms
- The primary school students received the educational materials in the school compound in the presence of the school directors and their parents as well. During the occasion, the parents expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the support their children are getting through IFSO and CIFA which enabled them attend school regularly. In this connection, the mother of one sponsored child says the following:

Life has become difficult to me and I was not in a position to even feed my child let alone covering her educational materials cost including purchase of uniforms and sending her to school. Thanks to IFSO and the donor organization, she is now getting the necessary things and attending school regularly as her equals



The sponsored children while receiving the education materials

- On the same day, 6 children who are included in the direct sponsorship scheme and whose sponsors sent them gifts have received school bags and supporting educational books from the executive director.

4.2.4 Life skill training for 30 girls living in the hostel

- Life skill and peer pressure training was conducted from October 20-24, 2014 for the Hostel girls by IFSO staff. After the training, the girls expressed their satisfaction for all of the topics raised and discussed in a participatory manner which have paramount importance in shaping their daily life.

4.2.5 Women education and children psychology training for 50 teachers

- The training was conducted on December 22 to 23 by Mr. Maurizio, which was facilitated by IFSO staff and attended by 50 teachers drawn from secondary and elementary schools. The training was mainly dealing with how to approach, teach and motivate students. The training participants were given the training with a new social theatre approach by engaging them from a simple to a higher physical movement with deep and concentrated mental activity.

4.2.6 Training on gender issue for elementary school girls club

- A two days training was conducted for 25 primary school girls' club members on December 14 and 15, 2014. The training was conducted by Mr Maurizio, a Master of Social Theatre who came from Turin University (Italy) through the facilitation of CIFA. The training was planned to be given for 100 primary school girls' club members but for convenience purpose, the trainer reduced the number to 25. The content of the training which was given by Mr Maurizio focused on self awareness using social theatre as a methodology.

4.2.7 Training on gender issue for high school and Preparatory school student's girls' club members

- The training was conducted by M.R Maurizio for 25 girls out of the planned 100 girls in December 16-17, 2014.
- The content of the training was self awareness using social theatre as a methodology. The method of the training was participatory, raising questions and letting the trainees for free participation and body movement. The theatrical approach of the training includes facilitation, warm up, check in, feedback, and brainstorming. Although, in the beginning, the participants were reluctant to concentrate in the training, they gradually get involved and find it to be interesting and educative as well.
- A problem related to the training was having small budget which caused lack of material for drama, note books, plaster, paper, marker and the likes.

4.2.8 Training for 25 women of the community on leadership and gender

- The above mentioned training was conducted from December 26-29, 2014 by Mr. Maurizio in which 25 women drawn from various sectors participated. The training was focused on showing participants how to live with community/neighborhood and how to care for the children. The training has followed similar procedure as that of previously mentioned types of trainings, which is engaging participants from simple to higher physical movements with deep mental activity. The participants reported that the training was important to understand self and others as well.
- The problem related to this training program is that due to high demand of the participants for per dime, the training dates had to be shortened from 8 to 4 days.



Some of the training participants in action

4.2.9 Community workshops on importance of girls' education and women role in society

- The community training was planned to be conducted for 100 community members in one day. However, for conveniences purpose, the trainer, Mr Maurizio, reduced the number to 25 and extended the time from 1 day to 5 days, which was held from December 8-12, 2014. The contents of the training and the approaches employed were similar to the other trainings given by the same trainer.

4.2.10 TOT training

- A 5 days TOT training was organized and given by Ms Christina who came from Turin University (Italy) to provide the training. The training was held from December 15-19, 2014 and attended by 10 participants drawn from different sectors. The focus of the training include, to mention a few:
 - Introduction to one another and creation of trusting environment
 - Using acting to communicate people easily
 - Understanding behaviour of others for better communication and guidance
 - Respecting one another
 - The importance of concentration while communicating messages to others
- It was reported that in the beginning of the training, the interests of the trainees seemed to be low. But, gradually, they came to like it and engaged in active participation. At the end of the training program, the participants promised to practice what they have learned within their respective institutions
- The problem related to this training was that assuming the trainees will participate voluntarily without per dime; there was no specific budget assigned for the purpose. When it was realized the impossibility of

conducting the training, however, it was decided to expend peridium and other expenses using budgets allotted for community training

4.2.11 Micro entrepreneurship training for IGA beneficiaries

- The 10 days entrepreneurship training has been conducted as scheduled starting from August 2014 up to October 2014. Accordingly, 123 women have attended the training program conducted by the IGA Officers of IFSO.
- It was reported that the training has enlightened the participants to have good understanding on the concept of business, business plan and profit making.
- As per the new strategy, CIFA and IFSO put in place, following the completion of the entrepreneurship training, the beneficiaries have been helped to join the Credit and Saving Associations in their respective kebeles by providing them Birr 1,500.00 through their respective Association.

4.2.12 Follow up IGA beneficiaries

- Home visits were conducted to IGA participants and technical support was given in the usage of book keeping which helped them to register their capital, debit and credit. Furthermore, the progress assessment sheet has been utilized to assess the performance of loan beneficiaries.
- From the total 75 women who benefited from the first round disbursement of revolving fund, over 99% are actively participating in income generating activities and fully paid back their loan. Each individual beneficiary has saved Birr 3000.00 - 8000.00 in their personal account.
- 70 new beneficiaries were identified and each of them received a loan amounting Birr 3000.00 using the paid back money from the first batch beneficiaries.



One of the IGA beneficiaries with her domestic animals

4.2.13 Conduct Monitoring visit

In the reporting year, a team comprising of the Board Chairman Ato Kebede Woldegiorgis, the Executive Director Wro Mekdes Zelelew and a project Coordinator Ato Getachew Yilma has conducted monitoring visit in the first quarter of the year. Furthermore, a team comprised of the donor representative, the Executive Director and the Deputy Director has made a monitoring visits for two times in the reporting year. The monitoring program include visiting of activities accomplished by the project and discussion with the beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders with the view of strengthening the achievements made and seeking solution for gaps/problems identified.

4.3 Planned but not implemented

None

4.4. Changes observed

- The project has helped at a great extent to benefit 100 primary school children, 30 high school girls and 123 IGA beneficiary poor women. Accordingly, the 100 poor children of primary have got chance to attend their school permanently. Out of the 30 hostel girls who took the 10th grade national examination, 26 of them promoted to grade 11 with commendable results. As witnessed by Wuchale Secondary and Preparatory School Director, the 30 girls besides registering good academic performance, they have brought about positive impact on the rest of girls and boys of the school by inspiring them to work hard and achieve good academic result.
- Most of the IGA beneficiaries who have benefited from the revolving interest free loan have shown a commendable improvement in their life style, which can be witnessed by building their own houses, purchasing new household materials, purchasing domestic animals, sending their children to regular and higher educational institutions and the like.

4.5 Challenges Encountered

4.5.1 Challenge

- The main challenges the project encountered in the reporting year was related to the issue of per dime requested by training and or meetings participants. Especially, those participants who are working the government institutions had requested for high amount of per dime, which was beyond the allotted budget. This, at some extent, caused slowing down of some activities because of the time needed to convince participants.

4.5.2 Measures taken

- Attempt has been made to inform the targets of the of the trainings the benefit that they are getting from the training programs on the one hand and the budget limitation to fulfill the higher demand for perdium on the other.

5.Supporting Children on the Edge

5.1 Background

Supporting Children on the Edge Project has been implemented as of August 2012 in Nifassilk Lafto Sub City (Woreda 1 & 11) and Akaki Kality Sub City (Woreda 9, 10 & 11). The general objective of the project is “to see children and youth in the project sites live with and cared in a family and community where men, women and youths can develop their potential to become active members of the society”.

In order to achieve its desired objective, the project is undertaking different activities targeting children, youth and community in the project sites. The detail annual performance report of the project is narrated as follows.

5.2 Major Highlights, Special Events and Notable Achievements

In the reporting year, a midterm review of the project was conducted by a Consultant who was commissioned by the donor organization. The objective of the review was to assess the achievements made, problems encountered, solution sought and ways forward. The results of the assessment has shown that despite the recent fund realizing problem from the donor side, it was possible to accomplish most of the planned activities. However due to inability to secure land from the government only two ABE centers were constructed out the planned four. The Consultant has also forwarded valuable recommendations that are helpful to accomplish the remaining activities within the remaining project period.

5.3 Accomplishment Based on the plan of action

5.3.1 Conduct educational tour for students

One of the areas where children can get lesson is educational tour. The benefit of educational tour for students is two folds: gaining knowledge outside their surroundings and creating fun or enjoyment which is important for their cognitive development. With this understanding, educational tour was organized and conducted on June 27 and 30/2014 for 162 students (93 male and 69 female) drawn from Gelan Gura, Klinto and Hidassie Primary Schools. The educational tour was conducted in Bishoftu town, located 42 km away from Addis Ababa, where the students visited Lemma Guya Art Center. In the gallery, they learned about the Ethiopian history beginning form King Tewodros, the surrounding environment and also about some nations and nationalities of Ethiopia. After the visit, the Painter, Ato Lema Guya, has explained them about the meaning of his paintings. Besides, he informed them how one can be successful in life by studying hard and he finally advised them to be visionary like Nelson Mandela (Madiba) and love their country. In his advice, he stressed that students should develop sense of responsibility, integrity and hatred against corruption. Right after visiting of the Art Gallery, students went to Babogaya small resort center to make funs around the lake, which they enjoyed very much.



At Lema Guya Art Gallery

5.3.2 Conduct Cross visits among school clubs

Co-curricular activities are playing significant role in improving the academic performance of students. Besides, it enhances social interaction among students and thereby develops their self esteems. School clubs are the route for implementing co-curricular activities. In the reporting quarter, cross visits have been conducted among school clubs on the 8th of March, 2014 in which 26 teachers and 125 students (85 Female and 40 Male) attended the event. The objective of the cross visits was to create the opportunity for school clubs to share their experiences. The cross visit was carried out in the premises of Kotari primary school. The participants were students and club leaders from five government primary schools. On the day, each school presented the major achievements that they have gained so far in their respective clubs.

As observed, many of the clubs have shown commendable progress in achieving the objective they established for. For instance, the social welfare club of Kotari Primary school has been involved in collecting used clothes from staffs and community members to distribute for needy ones. Similarly, the school club has created strong connection with different stakeholders (school staff, students, Idirs , concerned government offices, IFSO) to raise fund in order to help orphan and vulnerable children in the area.

The other club with good achievement is mini media club of Hanna Primary School. The Club members have organized and staged theatre at Sub city level. According to the leader of the Club, preparation has been finalized to release an educative song with CD.

5.3.3 Conduct experience exchange and refreshment training for Para counselors

Experience exchange and refresher training was conducted on March 4, 2014, which was attended by 18 Para Social Workers (9 male and 9 female). Accordingly, the participants who came from schools, community and government offices have exchanged their experiences in offering various supports for their respective clients. The aim of the experience exchange and refresher training was to discuss what they have done so far since they started to serve as pra social worker in October /2013 and to identify gaps in skills which hinder them from helping vulnerable people.

5.3.4 Provision of Educational support

School uniforms have been distributed for 225 needy children (108 boys and 117 girls) attending in 5 formal schools of the target areas. The selection and prioritization of the deserved children have been carried out in collaboration with the respective School Administration. Accordingly, all targeted five schools have been provided with the materials as listed below:

Exercise books have also been provided for 100 disadvantaged children who attend education in Klinto Primary school.

5.3.5 Emergency Support

Similar to the other quarters, there are some parents who have encountered with financial problems to cover the needed home expenditures which are related to the needs of children. Woreda Women, Children and Youth Affairs Office has been involved in the selection process and accordingly the project has offered one time financial support of Birr 500.00 for each 15 Family heads (14 Females and 1 Male) residing in Nifas Silk Lafto Sub city Woreda 11, and Woreda 10 of Akakil Kality Sub city

5.3.6 Conduct awareness workshop for parents about Child Rearing

Awareness workshop has been organized and conducted on the 27th of August 2014 for 21 parents family heads on how to look after their children. The objective of the workshop was to build and or create the different stages of child development. The Social worker has briefly discussed the three major stages of child development which are:

1st stage From birth to 7 years of age (School age)

2nd stage From 7 to 11

3rd stageFrom 11 to 18 (Teen agers)

It was described that children exhibit different behaviors as well as physical change as they move from one stage to another. Consequently, parents have to aware of those behaviors and body change, and treat their children accordingly. The facilitator has informed participants that parents need to develop a habit of discussing with their children. The parents do understand when the children turns into puberty age but rarely inform to the offspring about the challenges and ways to overcome the challenge. Participants finally promised to commence good relationship and open discussion with their children.

5.3.7 Child Initiated Activity

With the notion of enhancing participation of children into project activities, during summer time, children of the target areas were involved in child initiated activity. Accordingly, 26 children (20 Females and 6 Males) from Nifas Silk Lafto Sub city Woreda 01 and 11 have attended training on basic theatre and literature particularly focusing on Acting and writing. The training was delivered by Nathan Multimedia and Communication Center and stayed for one month (from 13/12/2006 to 11/01/2007 E.C). At the end of the training, certificate was awarded for trainees (students). On the graduation day, the trainees have staged an educative forum drama by which they have shown their skills of acting to the audience. On the occasion, the Deputy Director of IFSO has made a closing remark emphasizing that the trained children should have an opportunity to show the educative drama to their respective schools and he has also thanked all relevant bodies who have contributed for the successful completion of training program.

5.3.8 Provision of awareness workshops on personal hygiene and environmental sanitation

The objective of the workshop was to build the knowledge of community members towards personal hygiene and environmental sanitation. The workshops were organized and conducted in Akaki Kality Sub city

Woreda 9, 10 and 11 and Nifas Silk lafto Sub City Woreda 01 and 11. As a whole, 264 (243 Females, 21 Males) community members have attended the workshops. The facilitator has used participatory approach while conducting the workshops.



Some of the workshop participants

5.3.9 Inauguration of water points

The “Sefera” community members, located in Nifas Silk Lafto Sub city Woreda 01, have got access to clean and safe water. The area is situated far away from the center where significant number of people denied of water service. On the inauguration event, the Executive Director of IFSO has remarked that constructing of water points will help in preventing community members from exposing to water borne diseases. She has also said since fetching of water has become nearer to their locality, mother and girls will have time doing their own activities. On the day, official hand over of the constructed water points to the representatives of community members was carried out and thus, they have taken the roles and responsibilities of managing the water service.



The newly constructed water point

5.3.10 Conduct awareness workshop for parents about the importance of education

Workshops on the importance of education have been organized and conducted to 287 parents (85 male and 202 female). The workshop participants were parents who are residing in the three ABE Center areas namely; Airtomojo, Hanamariam and Kersa Kebeles.

The objective of the workshops was to raise the awareness level of parents towards the importance of education particularly the importance of sending children either to ABE or formal schools. During the workshop, participants reported the presence of reluctant parents/ guardians in sending their children due to lack of awareness and giving low value to education. The facilitator of the workshops, the Education Officer, has conveyed that apart from government, the community members and most importantly the parents have the responsibility to ensure that school age children of their own and their neighbors are attending school. Furthermore, it was underlined that parents' strict follow up of their children education could have a positive impact on academic performance and self esteem development of the children.

No	Site	Date	No of participants		Total
			Male	Female	
1	Eritomojo (W1,NL)	23/11/2014	35	112	147
2	Kersa (W11,AK)	10/12/2014	44	47	91
3	Hanna Mariam (W11, NL)	25/12/2014	6	43	49
Total			85	202	287

5.3.11 Provide educational support and School uniforms for OVCs

School uniforms were distributed for 211 orphan and vulnerable children. Of these, 191 of them (72 Male, 119 Female) are first level students of the three ABE centers while the remaining 20 are from different targeted schools selected based on the severity of their problem. Besides, stationery materials such as exercise books, pens and pencils have also been distributed for all students found in the three ABE centers.

5.3.12 Provide emergency support

In the reporting quarter, financial support was provided for 245 poor parents who are found to be in a very critical economic problem and who have been selected in collaboration with the Woreda Women, Children, and Youth Office and the community representatives. Each of the identified beneficiaries' has received Birr 500.00, which helped them to purchase food staff for their respective families.

5.3.13 Conduct awareness Workshops for parents about how to look after their children

Workshops organized on how to look after children and given to 506 community members (63 male and 443 female) who were invited from different project sites at different times (on November 23, 2014 at Hanna ABE Center, on December 12, 2014 at Eritomojo ABE Center, on December 12, 2014 at Akaki Kality sub city Woreda 09 and on December 31, 2014 at Akaki Kality Sub City, Woreda 09). The main points raised and discussed during the workshops include: care and support needed during pregnancy, from birth until joining school, how to look after a child during school years and until the child reaches 18 years of age and about harmful traditional practices that affect the wellbeing of children. Besides, issue about child punishment raised and a debate took place. The Social worker has informed participants should apply positive punishment which involves non violent kind of punishing when they find their children in a wrong doing. Furthermore, the parents should tell the reasons why the children are penalized. According to the

feedback obtained from participants, such workshops are helpful for healthy rearing of children. The methods used during the workshops were discussion, questions and answers and also debating among participants.

5.3.14 Conduct training for Para Social Workers

A 2 day training organized and conducted on from November 27-28,2014 at the CCRDA Training Center, which was attended by 19 participants (8 male and 11female) drawn from targeted schools and community representatives.

The objective of the training was to provide basic social work skills for the volunteer para social workers so that they would help their community members who have social problems.

One of the major skills that a social worker or Para social worker should equipped with is skill for resource mapping. Accordingly, participants have explored in groups about the existing resources in their community which are useful in supporting their clients. The Para Social workers have also been informed about referring cases if they don't get necessary resources within their surroundings.

At the end of the training, the participants promised that they will do their level best in addressing the problems of their clients using the knowledge they gained from the training.



Training participants at group discussion

5.3.15 Conduct training for School Management Committee (SMC) Members

A training program was arranged and conducted on December 14, 2014 in Kotari Primary school which was attended by 11 participants (7 males, 4 females) came from the three ABE centers.

The objective of the training was to enhance the capacity of the School Management Committee members in the areas of:

- Mobilizing and leading community in ABE program
- Strategy on creating awareness among teachers, students and parents
- Monitoring and evaluating quarterly teaching and learning process

The training session helped to remind participants their role in strengthening the teaching learning process at the ABE centers and the responsibility they have in safeguarding the school materials and assets.

5.3.16 Conduct workshop on participation of children

A workshop on participation of children at home, at school and in the community has been conducted in two rounds on November 15, 2014 and on November 15 & 29, 2014 at Kotari Primary School. In the first round of the training, 53 students (30 male and 23 female) participated where as 25 students (10 male and 15 female) participated in the second round. In total, 78 students (40 male and 38 female) participated in the workshop.

The training methods utilized during the workshop include; presentation, group discussion, question and answers. The workshop helped the children to have active participation and to air out their views and ideas freely.

5.3.17 Select and award model parents and arrange experience between the models and community

A total of 12 model parents (4 men and 8 women) from four Woredas (Akaki Kality Woreda 09 &10, Nifas Silk Lafto Woreda 01 &11) were selected and awarded Birr 625 each at a ceremony conducted on December 19, 2014 in the presence of 55 invited guests (21 men and 34 women) from five Woredas (project sites). The selection of the model parents was made by the community representatives using the following criteria:

- A parent who is leading his/her family in proper manner
- A parent who has good relationship with his /her spouse.
- A Parent who is respected by the community members
- A parent who follows up his/her children education

During the award ceremony, experience exchange discussion was conducted between the model parents and the representatives of the community that participated in the ceremony.



One of the model parents receiving the award

5.3.18 Provide skill training for unemployed youth

A total of 19 youths (8 male and 11 female) are supported to attend skill training at different skill training institutions based on their own choice. The areas of the training in which the trainees are attending include; food preparation, pastry, sewing, hairdressing and electronics.

5.3.19 Celebrate white ribbon day in schools

In the reporting quarter, White Ribbon Day was celebrated in two schools on November 27, 2014 and December 10, 2014 at Kotari primary school and Gelan Gura Primary school respectively. During the events, awareness messages on how to prevent women abuse at home, in schools and in the community were given to 160 people (58 men and 102 female) who attended the event. It has been learnt that such events can help to disseminate information about the role of men particularly in preventing the incidence of abuses in different settings.

5.3.20 Strengthening Social welfare club at school

These days, school social welfare clubs are significantly addressing the problems of needy children found particularly in government schools. Most of welfare clubs raise funds from school community mainly from teachers. The funds are, however, small to provide the needed services such as provision of one meal a day and stationery materials. Consequently, they face financial constraints. To mitigate such problem the project has granted 40,000.00 birr for two government primary schools(20,000.00 birr for each), namely Hidassie and Hanna Primary schools to help the welfare clubs start up income generating activities so as to sustain the service they are rendering and also increase the number of needy beneficiaries.

5.3.21 Construction of toilets and water points

In improving the surrounding environment in terms of sanitation, toilets are being constructed in the target community as well as in school. Accordingly, the toilets have been built for Feche community, Woreda 09 of Akaki Kality and Hana Mariam primary school. As far as access to clean water is concerned, the construction of spring water tap in Woreda 11 of Akaki Kality Sub city has been completed and ready for use.



One of the completed water points at Kersa, Akaki Kality sub city Woreda 11.

5.3.22 Furnish ABE centers

With the objective of creating conducive teaching and learning environment equipments such as combined student chairs, lockers, teachers chair with tables and notice boards have been purchased and distributed for the three centers as indicated in the table here below:-

S.N	Material	Quantity			Total
		Eritomojo	Hana Mariam	Kersa	
1	Combined student desk	20	20	0	40
2	Locker	3	3	1	7
3	Teachers' chair and table	3	3	2	8
4	Notice board	1	1	1	3
5	Reference books	180	149	52	381

5.3.23 Conduct refreshment training for teachers

A day long refresher training was provided on December 8, 2014 in Kotari Primary School for seven ABE Center teachers (2 male and 3 female). The training included the following main points:-

- ✓ General method of teaching of students
- ✓ Tutorial support for low and medium students
- ✓ Time management in teaching and learning process
- ✓ Motivational support for students
- ✓ Assessment and monitoring

At the end of the training, the training participants explained that the training helped them to refresh their mind and also acquire important skills to strengthen their teaching capacity.

5.3.24 Formation of Linkage between health extension workers and CBRHA

A one day workshop was organized and conducted on December 26, 2014 for CBRHA and Health Extension Workers (HEWs) which was attended by 13 CBRHAs and 7 HEWs.

The objective of the workshop was to create relationships and linkages between the two groups of family planning service providers. The facilitator of the workshop has informed the participants about the benefit of working together towards improving the lives of mothers that are found in the out skirt of the city. Generally, participants have agreed to work together in the areas of promoting health education such as sanitation, family planning, sexual transmitted diseases; house visits to encourage mothers to deliver in health centers; and distribute informational and educational materials for service recipients.

5.3.25. Conduct awareness workshop on hygiene & environmental sanitation

With the purpose of improving the practice of keeping personal hygiene and environmental sanitation awareness workshops were given in all target areas of the project. Accordingly, a total of 257 community members (223 female and 34 male) have participated the workshop as shown in the table bellow:-

S.N	Site	Date	No of participants		Total
			Male	Female	
1	Klinto	5/12/2014	14	44	58
2	Ertio Mojo	7/12/2014	3	47	50
3	Kersa	18/12/2014	8	42	50
4	Gelan Gura	22/12/2014	6	44	50
5	Hana Mariam	25/12/2014	3	46	49
Total			34	223	257



The Health officer while facilitating the workshops

5.3.26 Conduct sanitation campaign

More than 282 community members together with government offices have conducted sanitation campaign. The campaigns have been carried out on of November 21, 2014 in Nifas Silk Lafto Sub City Woreda 11 and on of November 28, 2014 in Akaki Kality Sub City Woreda 09.

The project has provided sanitation materials such as sweeps, shovels, gloves, safety clothes, and big knives used in the time of cleaning the surroundings.

A large number of community members have participated in the sanitation campaign compared to the previous year.



Community members at sanitation day

5.3.27. Purchase & distribute family planning tools to be distributed by CBRHA

With the help of CBRHAs women found in the reproductive ages have been getting the access to family planning service such as condoms and pills. Accordingly for this quarter 66 women have used pills for prevention of pregnancy while 4 women and 69 men have protected themselves from STD and unwanted pregnancy through using of condoms. The CBRHAs have provided the service in all the three Woredas of Akaki Kality sub city and Woreda 11 of Nifas Silk Lafto sub city.

5.3.28 Conduct workshop on Good Parental Style (GPS) for influential individuals in the target community

A workshop on Good Parental Style (GPS) was organized and conducted on November 8, 2014, which was attended by 77 individuals (4 men and 73 women) selected from the communities of the project sites. Some of the issues raised at the workshop included different types of parenting styles, the advantages and disadvantages of exercising each type of parenting style, how to enhance the educational performance of a child, how to keep a child healthy, child punishment, etc. The participants were very active during the workshop and raised different issues based on their childhood e and child rearing experience.

5.3.29 Conduct training for children on how to express themselves, how to develop stories and catching of pictures and recording of videos.

A 2 day training was conducted from December 27-28, 2014 at the CCRDA Training Center for 25 children (13 male and 12 female) selected from the different areas of the project. The objective of the training was to enable children express themselves without any fear and develop stories. Besides, the training is intended to provide some basic skills of taking pictures and recording of movies. On the first day of the training the children were argued on different issues. The facilitator has selected three debatable issues:

- *Men or boys exceed in knowledge to women or girls*
- *Students should not have engaged in boyfriend or girlfriend kind of relationships until they complete their education*

➤ *School girls should not wear trouser*

In the room, words such as ‘Agree’, ‘Disagree’, ‘Don’t know’ have been posted and participants divided in three groups and conducted hot debates on the raised issues. The facilitator was impressed by the reasons that the students raised and used to convince their peers. On the same day, skill for developing of short story was also discussed. Participants were informed about how they could develop story. Before writing the story, children should tell to their colleagues so that they can get supportive feedback. Therefore, participants were made to share any situation they remember to their friends and after that they have written it and each participant was made to present it to the crowd.

On the second day of the training, participants were enlightened about the basic camera shooting skill of an object: full body, half body, closes up and extremely closes. Participants have been given cameras and have taken pictures of each other. They have also been shown how to make film. Movies and pictures which the participants have done copied to the laptop computer so that they can see them and evaluate their work. As far as the reflection of the facilitator is concerned, the children were active in grasping the lecture and practice of issues mentioned above.



The training participants

5.4 Planned but not accomplished

5.4.1. Conduct experience exchange workshop between the role models

The role models are supposed to be selected from the skill trainees (unemployed youth) and these skill trainees have joined the training program recently.

5.5 Change observed

5.5.1. Educational support

With the educational support, 331 school age children (142 male and 189 female) have got chance to attend their education at the ABE three ABE centers. The ABE centers have become an inspiring factor for parents to send their children to the centers. Moreover, the provisions such as stationery materials and school

uniforms have created a positive and conducive teaching and learning environments, which contribute towards improvement of academic performance. As reported by their teachers, 50 % of the 474 children (201 male and 273 female) who are member of the Homework club have shown improvement in their academic performance.

5.5.2. Toilet and water services

With relentless efforts of the community representative and financial and technical support of IFSO, 1,586 community members able to drink pure water. In past times, community members were forced to travel a long journey to fetch water and sometimes they were not successful. The community members are delighted with the water service because they said it prevents them from being exposed to water born disease and also to save their time by getting the water with in their community instead of wasting long time in search of water from far away sources.

5.5.3. Sanitation campaign

It was possible to organize sanitation campaign which involved the community members and government representatives. The sanitation campaign has been conducted in the one hand, to clear the surrounding and create clean environment and to inculcate the idea in the minds of the participants so that they will make it habitual practice. With the campaign it has been proved that mass intervention can bring change and community members can also carry out the activity by their own periodically without expecting external support. Similarly, 400 households are using the constructed toilets which are believed to contribute positively for the environmental sanitation.

5.6. Challenges encountered and measures taken

5.6.1. Challenges encountered

- It was not possible to carry out planned activities in the whole quarter due to fund release problem from AC International. It was only at the final date of June that a green light obtained from the donor to resume activities. Some activities such as child initiated activities, which are supposed to be performed during the school vacation time (third quarter), be definitely being affected because preparation was expected to be accomplished during the second quarter. Besides, the poor accomplishments of the previous quarters will have cumulative effects on the rest of the quarters as well as the entire project outputs.
- The other challenge was the staff work load especially at the 4th quarter. This was because there were some activities which were supposed to be accomplished in the previous quarters, which were suspended due to delay of budget release from the donor side.

5.6.2. Measures taken

- Repeated contacts were made with the donor organization by IFSO management and its Board to seek solution for the problem. In the mean time, the project staff was allowed to take their annual leave.
- To solve the problem of work load, the staff members have to work consecutive weekends without any extra pay. Besides, to use the time and the vehicle wisely, the activities of different sections (health, education and social) were planned and accomplished simultaneously.