



**EMPOWERING CAREGIVERS TO  
PROVIDE FOR THEIR FAMILIES**

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UPDATE FROM ETHIOPIA FOR INDIGO VALLEY





Here, a caregiver is selling fruit in the local market. Since the last Update, she has obtained a second loan of £76 (equivalent to 5,000 ETB) from the Self-Help Group in June 2022 for her business. She used this to purchase additional fruits. She saves £1.50 (100 ETB) per month from the income she makes and earns a monthly profit of £30.50 (2,000 ETB) from her business. She has exciting plans to expand her business.

## THE DIFFERENCE BEING MADE

Up until the spring of 2020, many caregivers across Ethiopia were unable to meet their basic household needs. Figuring out if they would be able to put food on the table was a daily source of stress for these families. Overall, extreme poverty was preventing opportunities for families to maintain their health and dignity.

To start this intervention off, Compassion staff at 13 child development centres selected the caregivers of 863 Compassion-supported children who are part of the Compassion sponsorship programme. These caregivers were selected as the most in need of income support. These 863 individuals are now receiving resources and training to develop their own businesses. With this, each caregiver has now substantially increased their household income.

Supporting these caregivers to set up businesses could not have come at a better time. Covid-19 lockdown put a stop to caregivers continuing with their livelihoods, with some amongst these unable to begin again when lockdown ended. Meanwhile, your support has been equipping families to develop business skills with exciting new prospects.

Family lives have been transformed as caregivers can now put away savings for emergency needs or future development ideas.

Children are being equipped with supplies for school, and household items. These necessities that were seen as luxuries before are no longer out of reach for these resilient caregivers.

Your support has increased peace and stability for many families across Ethiopia. Thank you.



## PROGRESS MADE

- 13 child development centres in Dire Dawa, Harar, and Jigjiga towns in the eastern region are receiving support from this intervention, created to respond to the household needs of 863 participant families. These families are now being supported through Self-Help Groups, livelihood start-up training, and microfinance. Centre staff share that this intervention has been an encouraging motivation for these communities.
- During the past six months, centre staff report that all 13 child development centres have started their business ventures by working with their Self-Help Groups.

### ALEMU DERBIE, INTERVENTION SPECIALIST, SHARES A TESIMONY OF SUCCESS

“Lina is the mother of Yusura, who is on the sponsorship programme. They are a family of three, and now she is pregnant. She is engaged in a small shop business in front of her residents. In the first phase, she took £49 (3,200 ETB), and she returned the first phase loan within eight months. She took the second phase loan, which was £76.50 (5,000 ETB). Due to the market inflation, she saves £3 a month (200 ETB). So far, her total saving amount is £18.50 (1,200 ETB).

Previously Lina did not have a job; she waited for her husband’s income. Her husband is a Police Officer, and his monthly income is not more than £38 (2,500 ETB). After starting her business in a small shop, she got more than £30.50 (2,000 ETB) in a month. Not only this, but she is also the only person who covers the family’s expenses because her husband was dismissed from the police force. With her new business, Lina is so happy because she works for what she dreamt of and aims to improve her market soon with more materials. In the beginning, she paid for her electricity, but now she has her own electrical line and continues to do her best.”



A caregiver is selling breakfast and coffee on the street. She obtained a £91 (6,000 ETB) loan from the Self-Help Group for her business. She makes £45.50 (3,000 ETB) in profit from her business per month. She has plans to expand her business.



A caregiver is making injera (local bread made from tef) to sell. She obtained a loan of £30.50 (2,000 ETB) from the Self-Help Group. She gets £3 (200 ETB) in profit from her business per month. She has a plan to expand her business in the future.





A caregiver is engaged in shoe-shining and selling socks on the street. He gets a loan of £50.50 (3,312 ETB) from the Self-Help Group. He is able to earn a profit of £45.50 (3,000 ETB) per month.



A caregiver is making injera to sell. She has received a loan of £35 (3,217 ETB) from the Self-Help Group. She earns £38 (2,500 ETB) per month from her business.

## ALEMU DERBIE, INTERVENTION SPECIALIST, SHARES...

“It was noted that the lives of the families are improving. Some of the caregivers’ income has already increased, and they can now purchase clothing, food items, and school supplies.

From the reports, the monthly average income of the caregiver is £30.50 (2,000 ETB). They’ve saved some part of their income. Due to this, it has helped the child development centres create a good image and recognition for the church among the community and government. Moreover, the centre staff conducted a home visit, which the community welcomed gladly. Thus, the support has opened the way for evangelism.”

## CENTRE STAFF SHARE A TESTIMONY

“38-year-old Ekram is the mother to Remedan, a Compassion sponsorship participant. Ekram didn’t complete her primary education. She lives with her husband and three children. The family’s lives depended on the mother being involved in different daily work that was available. Before this intervention, the family struggled not only with economic constraints but also the challenge of the health condition of the husband. Despite this, Ekram had the interest to be engaged in business work, if working capital was provided.

Through this intervention, Ekram received basic business training, followed by the access to a £48 (ETB 3,200) loan to start a business of fruit selling. Now she can earn a monthly amount of £26 (ETB 1,750) and save £3 (ETB 200) on a monthly basis.”

**“She is happy with her work and has seen life improvement and can afford food and school expenses.”**

“The intervention helped Ekram to gain peace and become self-reliant economically. She plans to expand her business.”





This is a caregiver running a small shop. She obtained a loan of £48.50 (3,200 ETB) from the Self-Help group for her small shop business.



This caregiver is doing a fast-food preparation business in her local community. She received a £76 (5,000 ETB) loan from a self-help group for her business in April 2022. She gets £7.50 (500 ETB) in profit from her business per month. She has a plan to expand her business.





A caregiver is engaged in a poultry business that she started with a £45.50 (3,000 ETB) loan from a Self-Help group. Her monthly profit from her business is £68.50 (4,500 ETB). She has a plan to expand.



A caregiver is running a mini shop on his compound. He obtained a loan of £45.50 (3,000 ETB) from the self-help group for his business. He gets £60.50 (4,000 ETB) of profit per month from his business. He has a plan to expand.

## THANK YOU

Thank you Indigo Valley. Before this intervention, these 863 caregivers were bringing in an average income of 43p a day. This limited the possibilities of maintaining health and a good quality of life.

Because of your support, the sustainable income is enabling caregivers to afford essential clothing, food items, and school supplies for their families. This stability has freed them from significant pressures.

Now being able to meet household needs, as well as put away monthly savings, family lives are being transformed for the better.

This provision has protected many lives and futures across 13 communities in Ethiopia. Thank you.

If you have any questions about this intervention, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Preston on 07830 791899 or at [MarkP@compassionuk.org](mailto:MarkP@compassionuk.org).



“Learn to do *right*;  
seek justice.  
*Defend* the oppressed.  
Take up the *cause*  
of the fatherless;  
*plead the case*  
of the widow.”

**ISAIAH 1:17 (NIV)**



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