



# Koka Children Project



~ Social and Environmental Development Organization ~

Dear reader,

We hope this newsletter finds you well and in good health. We are pleased to share the latest news on the Koka project in Ethiopia.

### Foundation

In The Netherlands we are working on setting up a foundation to support the Koka Children project. We already made a lot of progress. Our aim is to send the next newsletter on behalf of the newly established foundation including details on the structure and program.

### More children supported

Since the last update in December, a number of additional sponsors were found. We are very happy with this! It was possible to increase the number of children that receive support with ten children to a total number of 144. A committee with members from the community and local administration (Kebele and Woreda) selected the extra children. They carefully checked the background of the children and used the selection criteria set out in the project plan to ground their decision.

All children received breakfast and lunch, medical support, health insurance, tutorial lessons and soap.



Next to the group of 144 children there is a group of 40 children, aged 12 years and older that receives educational support. We are

working on adding meals to this support and looking forward to find funding for this group as well.

### Maintenance family homes

A few severely damaged homes of children were maintained or even rebuild.



### Meet: Nahum Briso

I am 11 years old, and in grade 6. In school I like the mathematics subject. I want to be a prime minister of Ethiopia because I want to help the poor people and helping old people by giving home, food and cloth. I like to maintain damaged things.



### Medical aid

Children who need to see a doctor or dentist are sent to the specialised medical center.





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## Injera bakery

The injera bakery is running well. The women are saving money on their group bank account and on their individual accounts. Attention needs to be paid to technical matters: the chimneys are not functioning well enough and need maintenance. This will be addressed in the near future.

## School materials and shoes

All children received new shoes and school materials.



## Easter

Early May Ethiopian Easter (Fasika) was celebrated. It is the most important Ethiopian religious holiday. The children and their families received 5 kg of flower.



## Handicraft

Thanks to a donation from The Netherlands, we could start a handicraft project for the children. They are developing new handicraft skills, like working with wool, weaving and embroidery. They enjoy it very much!



## Meet: Aster worku

I live in Adama; Ethiopia. I am working at Koka OVC project since 2018. My task is assistance finance for the OVC project.

We are looking after children who are not getting enough food. I get satisfaction when I manage the resources coming from donors and sharing this with the beneficiaries according to the plan.



## Coffee house Jogo Forest

The coffee house in Jogo Forest was officially opened and it is already visited well by people





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passing by on the road between Modjo and Adama.



Two months ago, a solar power system was installed. After some start up issues, the system is running well; telephones can be charged and there is music from the radio. The solar system also allows for operating a fridge. In the hot climate of the Jogo Forest, people appreciate the possibility to buy a cold soft drink or beer.

Next to coffee and cold drinks, also injera is served and small handicraft articles are sold. The women working in the coffee house are working hard and enjoying their business which is running well.

### Meet: Kiya Kibaba

I am 8 years old and I am in Grade 2. I Like Afan Oromo subject at school because it makes me happy. I want to be a police in the future because I can protect my country and help people. I like cleaning the home.



### Future plans

In the OVC we would like to start a bread bakery. The idea is that children aged 18, that leave the project, can be employed in the bakery. Not all children are successful in higher education and in this way, they can provide in their income.

We are also looking into setting up a small chicken project in the Centre. The eggs will be a good and healthy supplement to the menu, especially for children living with HIV.

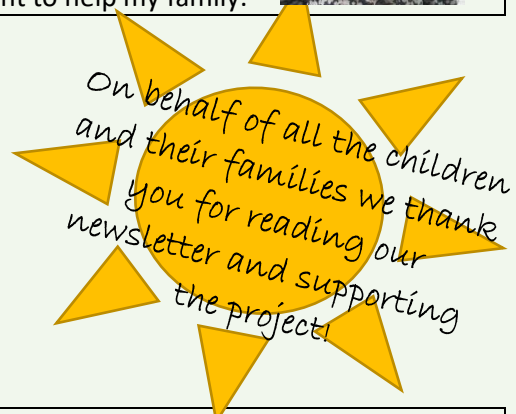
There are preliminary plans to set up a sewing group, similar to the group of women baking injera.

For the OVC in Koka we are looking at possibilities to have a solar power system.

We are always looking for new sponsors to welcome new children and families in the project.

### Meet: Hawelet Ibrahim

I'm 7 years old. When I am home I am happy to help my family's by cleaning home. I am grade 0. I want to be a doctor because I want to help my family.



### Project coordinator SAEDO and contact for Ethiopian sponsors:

Abinet Alemayehu:

### Contact for international sponsors:

Hilde Duns:

Marijke Westerman:

**Donations** can be made to the following bank account:

Please mention Koka project in the description field.