



# Koka Children Project



~ Social and Environmental Development Organization ~

Dear reader,

First of all; best wishes for 2018! During the last months many activities have been carried out for the Koka project. Hence, it is time for an update!

## Child Centre

The construction of the Child Centre is almost finished. It has become a nice and well constructed building with a kitchen, canteen, library/ICT room, showers and toilets, a storage and various office rooms for the project employees and the nurse.

Until the beginning of November the project had a temporary location at the primary school of Koka. Due to the increased number of students at the school more space was needed for the school. Although the Child Centre was not totally finished yet, the team and children moved to the new building. Meanwhile the activities continue and the entire centre is in use. At the moment the technical team is working on the walls (plastering and painting) and the outdoor space needs to be set up with trees and a playground.



## School uniforms



The New Year in Ethiopia starts in September and this is also the month in which the schools start again. This year we gave all children of the project new school uniforms. They were happy with this neat start of the year!

## Women empowerment

The group has finished all formalities; has a bank account and license and will start with income generating activities on the short term.



## Meskel celebration

On September 27<sup>th</sup> Meskel is being celebrated. This is a religious festival of the Ethiopian Orthodox church in which the discovery of the True Cross is being remembered. During the festival there was a huge fire of joy surrounded by our children dancing. During this festival we have distributed soap, oil, flower and notebooks to the children and their caretakers.

## House renovation



One house was renovated with a kitchen and a toilet attached to the house.



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## Purchase of extra kitchen materials



Because the group of children increased to 135, more plates, glasses, tables, chairs and kitchen material was needed. The children used to eat in shifts which is not needed anymore due to sufficient materials for everyone.



## Ongoing activities

The distribution of breakfast and lunch for 135 children, social, medical and school support.

## Plans for the upcoming months

The coming months we are planning to make budget available for:

- Special celebration with Ethiopian Christmas (January 7th of our calendar)
- The purchase of library books. Now that the Child Centre is finished the library can be supplied with study books, computer books and reading books in various languages (Amharic, Afaan Oromia and English).
- The outdoor area of the Child Centre is still empty, we are saving money for playground materials.
- Renovation of some houses
- Music instruments: Ethiopia is famous for her music and dance. There are complex but beautiful traditional dances. With music and dance classes the children will be able to perform music and it would be great if they can develop their music- and dancing skills. Talented students could even become professional musicians!



If you want to sponsor the Koka project, please contact Hilde or Marijke, then we will discuss together the options, your preferences and we can make practical appointments.

### Contact information for international sponsors:

Hilde Duns: [redacted]

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