

**Future Generations Graduate School, by Fisseha Getahun, July – September 2017,  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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**Developing Peace between a Leprosy-Affected and Surrounding Communities in Addis Ababa**

**Background and Justification**

In Ethiopia, people affected by leprosy face many social and economic problems. Individuals experiencing disabilities due to leprosy are more vulnerable to endless stigma and discrimination than any other disability cases in society. Even after they have been cured, they are unable to lead ordinary lives due to the consequences of lingering complications. As the result of wide misconceptions about leprosy, many affected individuals have to leave their birth place and are forced to live in segregated groups known as leprosy colonies. In Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, they are deliberately pushed out of the city and made to settle in a solid waste dumping site without infrastructure and poor social services.

Those living in the leprosy colony are often perceived as less than human. Their livelihood depends on begging and collecting food from the waste dumping site, and they are marginalized and banned from entering adjacent non-leprosy-affected communities. Their family members have limited social interaction with other community groups like marriage, social institutions, working and playing together. Due to the high burden of discrimination, there is always group conflict between leprosy-affected and non-affected communities.

Although I came from a non-leprosy-affected family and grew up hearing the negative stereotypes, I have been working as a professional in a leprosy-affected community for the last four years. As the only non-leprosy-affected member of the community, I was initially discriminated against by my friends, family, relatives and neighbors. Gradually, I have changed their attitudes about the community.

**Goal:** To contribute for the development of peace and integration between leprosy affected and surrounding communities in target areas until September 2017.

**Objectives:** To create peace and social integration between the leprosy-affected and surrounding communities and to change local mindset and correct misconceptions.

**Logical framework**

Narrative summary	Objective Verifiable Indicators (OVI)	Means of Verification
<b>Goal/Impact:</b> To contribute for the development of peace and integration between leprosy-affected and surrounding communities in target area until September 2017.		
<b>Outcomes:</b> Community awareness raised, social relations increased, misconceptions about leprosy solved, and existing conflicts resolved	New membership for CBOs increased >10% and +attitude >20% from baseline	CBOs documents, pre & post survey of the participants
<b>Outputs:</b> 20 participants trained & 10 shared experiences, 3 times radio program broadcasted, 1 football match conducted, and 1 panel discussion	# of trained, shared experience, #of days broadcasted, football matches & discussion	Attendance sheet, project narrative and financial report
<b>Activities:</b> Provide training and experience sharing, prepare national radio, prepare panel discussion, and conduct football matches	Work schedule /inputs /financial & human resource	

### **Strategies and Major Activities**

**Training of Trainers and experience sharing for awareness raising:** Training on conflict management and resolution will be conducted for 20 community members including eight leprosy-affected, eight non-leprosy-affected, and four government and media officials. The training will be provided by the student of Future Generations Graduate School and one church leader. The participants will be influential male and female community and religious leaders who will participate in an initial five-day training session. The trainees will cascade to the other community members. In addition, experience sharing from known and model community on social integration for 10 community leaders will be facilitated. They will adopt and scale up the initial successes within their community to broader community contexts. The participants will be selected by the community-based organizations.

**Prepare radio program:** National Ethiopian radio is perhaps the best instrument to disseminate information and awareness among the general public about social integration, leprosy, and the initiation of the university. The success story information will be collected from partners, leprosy-affected and other community members by the student and with the help of media professionals. The organized information will be broadcast through national radio air time at appropriate times for audiences.

**Organizing events:** The children of leprosy and non-leprosy community members will be selected for football matches. The sports clothes will be prepared with a message about peace and social integration, including the logo of the graduate school. The team will be formed with a mix of children from leprosy-affected and non-leprosy families. The maximum local community has to attend the football match. The sports teams will be handled by the community-based institutions in order to be sustainable.

**Panel discussion:** A day panel discussion with 16 community members will be facilitated by the student and a leprosy professional from Alert Hospital to address misconceptions of the community, helping them to understand the truth about leprosy.

### **Sustainability & stakeholders:**

The project will be implemented with the collaboration of CBOs/“Bizuhan Saving and Credit Association” and “Kolfe keranio, district 01, Union of Idirs”/ and German Leprosy/TB Relief Association, and Alert Hospital which have been recently working with the community. Active community participation will be presented throughout the project period and will link with partners, especially the above CBOs who can take over and continue the project activities. The two football teams will be established with the names of CBOs. Volunteers and NGO staffers will work in the communities for social inclusion, integration, peace development and networking using religious and other influential community leaders.

**Monitoring and evaluation:** Timely and periodic supervision of stakeholders and community members will be conducted. Monitoring and evaluation plans are included in the logical framework to measure the result of the activities. At the end, narrative and financial reports will be prepared by the student and submitted to stakeholders, the graduate school, and donor/ Davis Projects for Peace.