

**Assessment of the Street Children
and Orphans Component of the
Pact NGO Sector Enhancement
Initiative in Ethiopia**

March 2000

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The evaluation report was conducted under the auspices of the United States Agency for International Development. The evaluation was conducted by the Displaced Children and Orphans Fund and War Victims Fund Contract (HRN-C-00-98-00037-00). The opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development or Professional Resources Group International, Inc.

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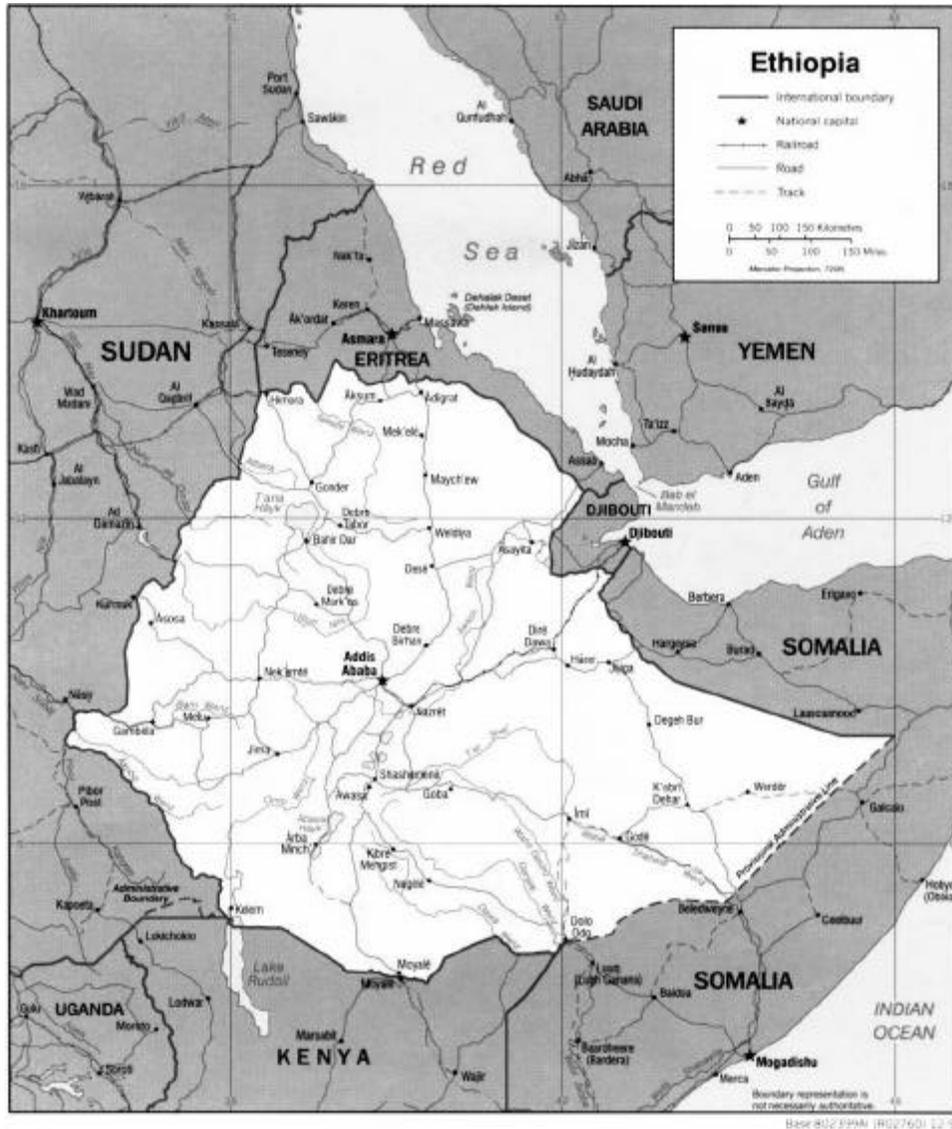
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ACRONYMS

AGOS	Abebech Gobena Orphan and School
DCOF	Displaced Children and Orphans Fund
FSCE	Forum on Street Children in Ethiopia
IFSO	Integrated Family Service Organization
JACH	Jerusalem Association Children's Home
KCADO	Kind Hearts Children Aid Development Organization
MOLSA	Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
OCA	Organizational capacity assessment
OCAT	Organizational capacity tool
Pact	Private Agencies Collaborating Together
RCWDA	Rifit Valley Children and Women Development Association
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS
USAID	United States Agency for International Development



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The situation of children in Ethiopia deserves particular attention from the U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Of its 70 million people, approximately half are children and adolescents. Poverty puts many of Ethiopia's children at high risk. In July 1997, Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (DCOF) funds were added to USAID's funding of Private Agencies Collaborating Together's (Pact) NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative. The purpose of this funding was to include in Pact's capacity building NGOs addressing the needs of orphans and street children. A total of \$1 million of DCOF funds have been committed through March 30, 2002. In January and February 2000, DCOF conducted an assessment of the use of its funding. This work included discussions with relevant contacts in Addis Ababa, Mekele, Adigrat, Dessie, and Bahir Dar.

Although poor and plagued by war, Ethiopia has some significant social assets. A country of ancient civilizations, briefly occupied but never colonized by European powers, it has strong religious institutions dating back to the fifth century and long-established educational traditions and institutions. The country is culturally and ethnically diverse, with more the 80 languages spoken.

Although large sections of the country are densely populated, prone to periodic drought, and plagued with chronic food deficits, Ethiopia also has areas with adequate rainfall, fertile soil, and relatively low population density. The country's population is about 85 percent rural. Less than 35 percent of Ethiopia's elementary-school-age population is enrolled in primary school. About 40 percent of the country's farming population did not produce enough food and income to meet their basic nutritional needs.

HIV/AIDS is one of the significant challenges facing the country. About 9 percent of the country's adult population in the 15–49 age range are thought to be HIV positive, and AIDS is increasing the vulnerability of large numbers of children. HIV prevalence rates are higher in urban than rural areas and are highest along the main highways leading from the ports of Assab, Massawa, and Djibouti to Addis Ababa. In recent months, the government has begun to treat AIDS as a priority issue. An estimated 620,000 children in Ethiopia had lost their mothers to AIDS as of 2000. By 2009, the number is projected to almost triple to 1.8 million, and by 2014 to reach 2.9 million

An estimated 150,000–200,000 Ethiopian children are working full-time or living on the street. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA), through its advocacy and policy work; the Forum on Street Children in Ethiopia (FSCE); and other groups have brought about a positive shift in attitudes and responses toward these children from police and urban residents. FSCE is a local NGO involved in advocacy and the implementation of model programs to prevent children from moving onto the street. Its Child Resource and Development Center has been funded by Pact with DCOF funds.

Attitudes regarding the institutional care of children have shifted dramatically in recent years in Ethiopia. There appears to be general recognition by MOLSA and the NGOs with which Pact is working that such care is, at best, a last resort, and that serious problems arise with the social reintegration of children who grow up in institutions, and deinstitutionalization through family reunification and independent living are being emphasized. For example, in the Jerusalem Association Children's Home (JACH), only 160 children remain of the 785 who were in JACH's three orphanages.

Children throughout the country were affected by the civil war, which ended in 1991, and the current war with Eritrea is putting many at risk again. An estimated 316,000 people, over half of whom are children, have been displaced in Tigray due to the war,.

Families and communities are the country's primary social safety nets, and strengthening their capacities to protect and care for especially vulnerable children must be the fundamental (but not the only) strategy to respond to the needs of these children. Strengthening family and community caring capacities can help reduce the number of children who turn to the street to survive.

Visits were made to Mekele and Adigrat, in Tigray, where war, a chronic food deficit, and AIDS are increasing the vulnerability of children; Dessie, where economic decline and AIDS are pushing children onto the street; and Bahir Dar, where JACH is converting its residential institution into an agricultural training facility and has developed an urban community development program.

Overview of Pact's DCOF-Funded Capacity-Building Activities

Specifically in relation to street children and orphans, Pact developed a June 1998 addendum to its NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative proposal, which identifies the following additional objectives:

- Strengthening the capacity of 25 NGOs operating at the national and at local levels to design, implement, and evaluate programs addressing the needs of street children and orphans;

- Increasing the number of street children and orphans either enrolled in formal schools or participating in non-formal education programs;
- C Increasing the economic status of at-risk families through support for income-generating programs;
- De-institutionalizing children currently in orphanages through support to family reunification programs; and
- Enhancing the life skills of street children and orphans to become economically productive and eventually self-supporting.

DCOF funds were provided to support these activities, which the USAID mission has co-mingled with other USAID funds supporting this program.

Pact's capacity-building activities emphasize organizational development. The first step is an organizational capacity assessment (OCA) facilitated by Pact staff and Pact-trained consultants. This process helps an NGO identify its strengths and weaknesses, and assists Pact in determining where capacity needs to be built. Pact's interventions are made through a training and mentoring process focusing on strategic planning and management, project design, monitoring and evaluation, and financial management. Pact helps each NGO to develop its own strategic plan. Mentoring by a consultant assigned by Pact usually continues for three to four weeks after structured training. After completion of a strategic plan, Pact's partner NGOs are eligible to apply to Pact for funding of staff positions, purchase of basic equipment and furniture, and activity grants. Domestic resource mobilization has recently been emphasized in Pact's capacity building.

At the time of the assessment, 23 of Pact's partner NGOs were engaged with street children and orphans. Appendix E includes a list of these NGOs.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA), Pact has helped facilitate the development of a network to exchange information and experience, access resource material, and carry out exchange visits among 19 organizations engaged in the care of orphans and other especially vulnerable children. These bodies represent three quarters of the orphanages in the country. Most of the network members are still providing institutional care but are working to deinstitutionalize children and develop family and community protection and support for them and other especially vulnerable children. Several of the NGOs in the network have also developed programs to prevent children from moving onto the street.

With Pact's support, the network enables its members to exchange information, access resource material, and carry out exchange visits. The network is also playing an advocacy role on behalf

of orphans and street children. Through support from Pact, the network, has a full-time coordinator at the beginning of 2000, and JACH serves as its secretariat.

Observations and Comments

Pact's Work with Orphans and Street Children NGOs

Pact's capacity building appears to be making a significant impact on its partner NGOs that are working with orphans and street children. Pact's NGO partners in the street children and orphans sector consistently reported the following:

- The Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) had enabled them to identify their strengths and weaknesses;
- The strategic planning exercise led them to clearly define their priorities, focus their activities, and enabled them to chart their own course;
- The provision of computers, printers, and financial management software (Peach Tree) and the related training had enabled them to report responsively to donors, close accounts in a timely way, and, thereby attract additional funding; and
- Staffing and activity grants had enabled them to implement new approaches, increase the number of beneficiaries reached, and improve program quality and effectiveness.

Most of the NGOs with which Pact has worked the longest have substantially increased their funding from donors other than Pact, as well as increasing the number of children benefitting from their programs. Collectively, these NGOs' budgets have grown by \$2.6 million, an increase of 121 percent. This increased funding resulted in substantially expanded coverage of partner's programs for orphans and street children.

Pact does appear to be making progress toward achieving its five key objectives concerning street children and orphans:

Objective I: Strengthen the capacity of 25 NGOs operating at the national and local levels to design, implement, and evaluate programs addressing the needs of street children and orphans.

Initial organizational capacity needs assessments were conducted for all NGOs using Pact's comprehensive tool. The findings of this assessment were able to clearly indicate the implementation capacities of the respective NGOs and their levels of maturity.

Most of the NGOs involved in caring for street children and orphans have received core training and mentoring programs.

Most of the NGOs have improved their implementation capacity in some or all seven areas of organizational excellence.

Objective II: Increase the number of street children and orphans either enrolled in formal schools or participating in non-formal education programs.

As such, a mechanism has not been in place to track the progress made in this regard. However, effort has been made to show the rapid growth made by some NGOs.

Objective III: Increase the economic status of at-risk families through support for income generation programs.

Government policy restricting microfinance activities has limited Pact's ability to provide support in this area, but a few NGOs have received grants to run savings and credit programs. However, no effort had made as of the time of the assessment to assess the impacts on the lives of beneficiaries. Therefore, it is difficult to provide quality data here.

Objective IV: De-institutionalize children in orphanages through support to family reunification programs.

Partners have made significant and continuing progress in this area, and significant attitudinal change has occurred among them favoring family and community-based care for children. The formation of the orphanage network is a significant step.

Objective V: Enhance the life of the street children and orphans to become economically productive and eventually self-supporting.

Pact supported five partner NGOs to enhance the skills of street children and orphans to be economically productive.

It would be beneficial for Pact to facilitate development of a network of organizations working with street children, with FSCE playing a key role. Although anecdotal experience points to the benefits of exposure visits, it was beyond the capacity of this assessment to judge the cost-effectiveness of the visits that have been carried out. Any future visits should be justified on that basis. In its grant-making process, it is important for Pact to encourage NGOs to develop cost-effective approaches that can be replicated or scaled up to achieve significant benefits on a wide scale. One issue to which Pact should give closer attention is the cost per potential beneficiary of

proposed interventions, and by developing programming and proposal review guidelines, encourage NGOs to do the same. Experience in other countries suggests that the proposed development of an orphans registry would be expensive and potentially counterproductive.

Pact has committed almost the full \$ 1 million committed by DCOF to the initiative. Its expenses for training and mentoring, exposure visits, and overhead costs are in addition to this amount.

Broader Issues Concerning Especially Vulnerable Children

A review and assessment of the different approaches being taken to achieve economic strengthening of vulnerable households in Ethiopia could identify those with the best promise of making a difference in household coping capacities, sustainability, and/or ability to be replicated on a wide scale.

The strategic approach Pact has helped NGOs apply in their individual programs should be taken to another level. The magnitude of the problems and the depth of poverty in Ethiopia are too extensive for individual programs to make much difference on the situation as a whole. Collaboration is needed among government agencies, NGOs, international organizations, donors, religious bodies, and the private sector to reach a critical mass of effort and make a difference in the situation of vulnerable children generally. Pact is in a position to help develop mechanisms to develop common goals and strategies and to share more effectively information and experience among key actors and, thereby, piece together a constellation of interventions that, collectively, could make a difference. A strategic initial step would be to conduct a collaborative situation analysis to identify the major factors pushing children onto the street and cost-effective interventions that have the potential for making broad impacts. These steps would be followed by developing a shared strategy, and defining and clarifying roles and responsibilities to carry out the strategy.

An increasing number of children will be orphaned or otherwise made vulnerable by AIDS in Ethiopia. They are not likely, however, to stand out as a distinct group requiring separate, new programs. They will add to the number of children on the street, at risk of moving onto the street, at risk of sexual or physical abuse or exploitation, at risk of labor exploitation, and at risk of HIV infection. Their needs do require attention, but not as a separate area of activity. Programs for especially vulnerable children should give particular attention to the psychosocial impacts of AIDS on parents who are ill, their children, and orphans.

Pact's NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative and its partners should advocate the expansion of voluntary HIV testing and counseling services, work to reduce stigma associated with HIV/AIDS, and use their organizational and community contacts to promote HIV prevention.

There may be opportunities in Tigray to develop approaches that can be implemented at scale to improve the well-being of these especially vulnerable children. In consultation with the mission, Pact should explore these.

Ethiopia has important experience to share with other countries in the region engaged with the issue of street children, such as its lessons regarding deinstitutionalization. Ethiopian NGOs would also benefit from information about the community mobilization approaches DCOF has been supporting in southern Africa. DCOF would like to maintain the exchange of information with key stakeholders in Ethiopia on the issues regarding especially vulnerable children and the ways AIDS is making children more vulnerable.

INTRODUCTION

The situation of children in Ethiopia deserves particular attention from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The country's population may be as high as 70 million,¹ and about half are children and adolescents. Ethiopia is the third largest country in Africa; only Nigeria and Egypt are larger. Poverty puts many of Ethiopia's children at high risk. The country's annual income per capita is only \$100, the lowest in the world.² Major health indicators are declining, and parts of the country face chronic food deficits. The country's development, the situation of its children, and its ability to provide basic services for them has been undermined by a long civil war, between 1974 and 1991, and an ongoing war with Eritrea, that began in May 1998. Ethiopia also has some innovative, well-developed programs for vulnerable children from which organizations in other countries could learn.

USAID's Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (DCOF) began funding activities to benefit especially vulnerable children in Ethiopia in 1988, with a grant to the Christian Relief and Development Association. In July 1997, DCOF funds were added to USAID's funding of the NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative's capacity building program of Private Agencies Collaborating Together (Pact). The purpose of this funding was to include NGOs addressing the needs of orphans and street children. For two weeks in January and February 2000, DCOF carried out an assessment of the component of the initiative its funds had supported. The Scope of Work for this assessment included addressing the following series of issues:

- The situation of street children and other children of concern to DCOF;
- The impact of the Pact capacity-building program on street children;
- The role and activities of the Forum for Street Children;
- The use of DCOF funds by Pact;
- Perspectives and roles of key stakeholders regarding future action to benefit street children, orphans, and other vulnerable children;

- The ways in which programs are addressing HIV/AIDS issues;
- Trends concerning institutional care;
- The significance of DCOF-funded activities; and
- Possible further DCOF-supported activities.

The detailed scope of work for the assessment is included as Appendix A. The assessment was carried out by John Williamson, senior technical advisor for DCOF, January 23-February 5, 2000. This work, in addition to the review of relevant documents, included contacts with Pact, USAID/Ethiopia, relevant government offices, NGO participants in Pact's NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative, child-focused international NGOs, UNICEF, and community groups in Addis Ababa, Mekele, Adigrat, Dessie, and Bahir Dar. Appendix B includes a list of individuals contacted during the assessment. Appendix C includes the assessment itinerary.

The DCOF assessment took place during an external midterm evaluation of Pact's NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative, carried out by Steve Norton, a consultant and former USAID staff member. Findings of that evaluation are presented in the report, "Mid-Term Impact Evaluation of NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative," which provides a more complete description of the activities and procedures of the NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative. Other sectors of Pact's capacity-building program include food security and rural development, education, democracy and governance, and health. This report focuses on activities and issues directly relevant to street children, orphans, and other especially vulnerable children.

USAID/DCOF has provided funding to Pact for capacity building with NGOs responding to the needs of street children and orphans. Phase I of the DCOF funding began July 31, 1997, and has been extended through March 30, 2002. A total of one million U.S. dollars has been obligated for this period.

THE CONTEXT

Although poor and plagued by war, Ethiopia has some significant social assets. It is a country of ancient civilizations, briefly occupied but never colonized by European powers. It has strong religious institutions whose history goes back to the fifth century. Ethiopia has ancient structures that are important parts of the world's cultural heritage. It has long-established educational traditions and institutions. The country is culturally and ethnically diverse, and its people speak more than 80 languages.

Table 1. Statistical Indicators

Annual population growth 1980-1995	2.8%
Human Development Index (United Nations Development Program)	170
Adult literacy:	
Male	46%
Female	25%
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	113
Population with access to safe water	25%
(Figures from UNAIDS Epidemiological Fact Sheet, June 1998)	

Although large sections of the country are densely populated, prone to periodic drought, and experience chronic food deficits, other areas have adequate rainfall, fertile soil, and relatively low population densities. The country's population is about 85 percent rural.

Less than 35 percent of Ethiopia's elementary school age population is enrolled in primary school, with enrollment rates lower for girls and rural children.³ An estimated 26 million Ethiopians, or more than 40 percent of the country's farming population, did not produce enough food and income to meet their basic nutritional needs.⁴

Article 36 of Ethiopia's 1995 Constitution specifically concerns children and recognizes that, so far as possible, they should grow up in their own family and community. The embassies of Great Britain and the Netherlands and the Swedish and Norwegian Save the Children organization have funded a three-year program to revise and strengthen the country's juvenile justice system.

HIV/AIDS is one of the significant challenges facing the country. About 9 percent of the country's adult population in the 15-49 year age range are thought to be HIV positive, and AIDS is increasing the vulnerability of large numbers of children.⁵ Ethiopia has an estimated 3.2 million people who are infected with HIV, about 10 percent of the world's total. India and South Africa are the only countries estimated to have more people with HIV.

HIV prevalence rates are higher in urban than rural areas and are highest in areas along the main highways leading from the ports of Assab, Massawa, and Djibouti to Addis Ababa. The country's national HIV sentinel surveillance system was dismantled in 1991, so only fragmentary information is available about the current state of the country's epidemic. Years of virtual silence on the part of the government with regard to AIDS have reinforced the stigma and lack of openness about HIV/AIDS in the general population. In the last few months, however, the government has begun to treat AIDS as a priority issue. The president chairs a special unit responsible for planning a coordinated government response.

Street Children

Estimates of the number of Ethiopian children working full-time or living on the street vary, but most estimates tend to be in the range of 150,000-200,000, with by far the largest number of children living in Addis Ababa. Organizations and government offices engaged with the problems of street children believe that the number of street children has increased in the last five years. Poverty is the major cause, exacerbated by drought, AIDS, war, and family violence and breakdown. Perhaps three quarters of the children on the street live with or maintain regular contact with their families. Many of the programs concerned with street children have in recent years begun to focus more on preventing children from moving onto the street than on working with children living on the street. Advocacy and policy work by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA), the Forum on Street Children in Ethiopia (FSCE), and other groups has brought about a shift in attitudes and responses on the part of the police and urban residents. Street children were reported to feel less threatened and to be less aggressive.

FSCE is a local NGO involved in advocacy and the implementation of model programs to prevent children from moving onto the street. The Child Resource and Development Center of FSCE has been funded by Pact with DCOF funds. The Resource Center prepares and disseminates resource materials, conducts training, publishes a magazine (*Child Internet*) and a local newsletter ("Sounds of the Street") on street children, conducts and supports research,

organizes public discussions, and advocates for greater attention to street children, their families, and those at risk of moving onto the street. The center has conducted 14 workshops with a total of 346 participants. FSCE coordinated a collaborative NGO effort to develop indicators for projects focusing on disadvantaged children and families. It has carried out or supported nine studies, and another 13 studies are in progress. Appendix D provides an overview of the activities and accomplishments of the Resource Center.

Police children's protection units, staffed by police officers and social workers, operate in Addis Ababa (where 10 of the 28 police stations have children's units), Dire Dawa, Nazareth, and Dessie. Their objectives include improving treatment of child offenders by the police, improving the protection of children, and finding alternative approaches to juvenile offenders. Each of the children's units is staffed by a police officer and a social worker. Salaries of police officers in the units are paid by the government, and the salaries of the social workers are paid by the Forum on Street Children, with funding from Rädä Barnen. Pact is also providing support for the program at the headquarters level and in Dire Dawa. In addition, a section on street children has been added to the training for all police officers.

Several sources reported that attitudes toward street children among the police and the public at large have shifted significantly in the last few years. The training given to police officers regarding street children, the children's units, and the advocacy and training done by FSCE and other NGOs were credited as having helped to bring about this change.

Children in Institutions

Institutional care of children is not traditional in Ethiopia. It was introduced by missionaries and increased significantly as a response to needs of unaccompanied children at emergency feeding centers during the droughts and famines in 1974 and 1984-85. Residential care of children was popular with the previous government, which had strong collectivist tendencies. By 1986, Ethiopia had about 25,000 in children's institutional care, including over 5,000 in the government-run "Children's Amba."

Attitudes regarding institutional care have shifted dramatically in the country. MOLSA and the NGOs with which Pact is working recognize that such care is, at best, a last resort, and that serious problems arise with the social reintegration of children who grow up in institutions. Deinstitutionalization through family reunification and independent living are being emphasized. The Jerusalem Association Children's Home (JACH), which began providing institutional care in Bahir Dar in 1984, is one of the participants in Pact's capacity building program. JACH has deinstitutionalized over 780 of its 1,000 children and young adults who came into the program as children. One of the major factors that has led to the shift away from institutional care has been the long-term experience of orphanages that started after the 1984-85 drought and the former

government's Children's Amba. As the children in their care grew to be young adults, many did not want to leave and did not feel as though they belonged anywhere else. They wanted to continue living in residential care where their basic needs would be provided for. Some young people had lost the ability to speak their original languages. The NGOs operating these facilities began to realize that they could not provide care indefinitely.

Children Affected by AIDS

As of 2000, an estimated 620,000 children in Ethiopia had lost their mothers to AIDS. By 2009, the number is projected almost to triple to 1.8 million, and by 2014 the number is expected to reach 2.9 million.⁶ The problem of AIDS-related orphans is an emerging issue in each of the urban areas visited during the DCOF assessment, but information about it is largely anecdotal. Stigma is pervasive, reinforcing silence and denial and cases in which relatives are unwilling to take in orphans. This is creating some anticipation that institutional care may be needed, despite the recognition by many that it should be last resort. The government has only within the last year begun to speak openly about AIDS as an urgent problem. The Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the largest religious body in the country, has also recently begun to speak out regarding AIDS, as have Muslims, protestant churches, and other religious bodies. An HIV/AIDS expert consulted during the assessment believes that HIV is spreading more slowly in Ethiopia than in southern Africa, where HIV rates continue to rise quickly.

Children Affected by Armed Conflict

Children throughout the country were affected by the civil war, which ended in 1991, and the current war with Eritrea is putting many at risk again. The Relief Society of Tigray estimates that about 316,000 people have been displaced in that region due to the war, over half of whom are children. The World Food Program was reported to be distributing a food ration of 1,500 calories for 272,000 people displaced by the war. Due to inadequate provisions from donor countries, there have been periods when no food was distributed and some distributions have included only part of the full ration. Many of the displaced are living dispersed in the local population. Some are living in tents under cliff shelters north of Adigrat. Many schools have been destroyed during the fighting and others have become inaccessible in occupied territory. It was reported that some areas from which the Eritrean army has withdrawn have been mined. There is also concern about the spread of HIV with the large number of soldiers and an influx of commercial sex workers.

Interrelationships Among Categories of Vulnerable Children

The four groups of children described above are interrelated. War, AIDS, and poverty are pushing children onto the street and, in smaller numbers, into institutional care. Working on the street increases risks of HIV infection. The demobilization of the former government's army spread HIV, as does the current war, causing more orphans in the future. Orphaning and life on the street contribute to a future in Ethiopia that will have large numbers of socially marginal, undereducated, and disaffected young adults—a combination that could easily fuel future civil conflict. Poverty underlies the vulnerability of each group of children. Families and communities are the country's primary social safety nets, and strengthening their capacities to protect and care for especially vulnerable children must be the fundamental (but not the only) strategy to respond to the needs of these children. Strengthening family and community caring capacities can help reduce the number of children who turn to the street to survive. The number of street children in Ethiopia already is beyond the foreseeable capacity of NGO and government social service programs to meet their needs. AIDS and war can be expected to increase their numbers further.

The Operating Environment of NGOs

Ethiopia's past and current governments have, to varying degrees, been oriented toward central control and have often had an uneasy relationship with NGOs. During Ethiopia's famines and armed conflicts, governments have found themselves needing the resources and services NGOs could provide, and have attempted to control as much as possible the activities of those NGOs. The government continues to show significant distrust of NGOs, carefully controlling their registration and authorization to function. NGOs are audited annually, and the government has restricted the activities they can carry out. NGOs, for example, are not allowed to conduct income-generating activities to support their programs, although some appear to do so. Only NGOs registered as financial institutions are allowed to carry out microfinance activities. However, needs generated by the war and consequent population displacement have pushed the government, particularly within the last year, to allow greater leeway to NGOs, since NGOs are in a position to provide needed resources. Competition for funding is strong among NGOs. In recent years, the number and capacity of local and national NGOs has increased, and international NGOs are giving greater emphasis to building the capacities of local NGOs and to providing them with funding. In contrast to many other countries, UNICEF does not seem to play a significant role in relation to child-oriented NGOs. Most UNICEF funding is directed through the government to support 56 district-based development programs.

VISITS OUTSIDE ADDIS ABABA

The assessment's two weeks permitted three visits outside of Addis Ababa to assess the situation of the groups of children of particular concern to DCOF and to observe programs responding to their needs. The first visit was to Mekele and Adigrat, the second to Dessie, and the third to Bahir Dar.

Mekele and Adigrat

Mekele is the capital of the Tigray Administrative Region, which forms Ethiopia's northern border with Eritrea and is the region most directly affected by the war. It is a city of about 120,000 people, which has grown rapidly in recent years. Adigrat has a population of about 43,000 and is about 120 kilometers north of Mekele. It is the administrative center of the eastern zone of Tigray. Both cities are on the truck route from the port of Massawa to Addis Ababa, which has been a corridor of high HIV prevalence in the country.

The eastern zone of Tigray has seven Woredas (administrative sub-divisions), of which five Woredas experience chronic food deficits. The total population of Tigray is about 3.5 million. Street children have emerged in Mekele and other cities and towns in Tigray over the last three or four years as a result of poverty, drought, displacement due to the war, and AIDS. The Bureau of Social Affairs of the region estimated that Tigray had about 2,500 street children in Tigray before the war and that the number may have doubled since. In Adigrat, however, the number of street children may have declined since the start of the war in 1998, since some have gone to the front to earn money shining shoes or doing errands for soldiers. Early in the conflict, about 200 children were sent to Mekele from the war zone to live in an orphanage of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, which itself had been evacuated. Of those children, about 40 remain—the others have been reunited with family members. Those who remain are mostly children who were deported from Eritrea. In 1992-93, the International Committee of the Red Cross operated an orthopedic workshop in Mekele, and then withdrew, turning the workshop over to some of the technicians who had been trained. This human and physical infrastructure remain, but are being used only to a limited extent.

Dessie

Dessie, a city of about 500,000, is a former regional administrative center located near the intersection of the roads leading from the ports of Assab and Massawa to Addis Ababa. Administrative offices were shifted to Barhir Dar, however, after the country's new regional structure was established in 1992. The departure of government offices, recurrent drought, and the war, which has cut off Ethiopia from Assab and Massawa, have worsened economic conditions in Dessie. Also, the city's location on two main routes to the capital has contributed to the spread of HIV in the area. The resettlement program under the Derg was reported to have moved many men from the area, contributing to an increase in female-headed households in the city.

During the assessment, sites were visited where the Forum on Street Children was inaugurating the several infrastructure projects carried out with funding from the British NGO Action Aid. These included classrooms, communal latrines, a drainage project to prevent flooding in one area, and a bridge. These were all carried out in poor kebeles with the involvement of community residents. Another visit was made to the street girls program of Terre des Hommes, Lausanne.

Bahir Dar

Barhir Dar is a city of approximately 130,000 residents on the southern shore of Lake Tana, Ethiopia's largest lake. In 1992, it became the capital of the Amhara Administrative Region. In 1988, JACH established institutional care for 156 children on the outskirts of Barhir Dar. Of those children, 20 remain at the center, the others having been reunited with extended family members or enabled to integrate on their own or in small groups locally or in their home area. All of these children are due to leave the center by the time they reach 20 years of age. On the land local government made available for care of these children, JACH has developed an impressive integrated farm. Recently it began agricultural training for local farmers and intends to develop the farm as a training facility. JACH has also developed a dairy farm on this land and is providing Friesian cross-breed cattle to local families. A family pays 20 percent of the cost of a heifer when it receives one, and it pays the balance within two years.

In one poor kebele of Bahir Dar with about 4,500 residents, JACH has developed an urban program geared toward improving the lives of children and helping prevent their moving onto the street. Components of this program include the following:

- After school tutoring,
- Support for orphans,
- An AIDS awareness club for youth,
- Garbage collection,
- Vocational training,

- Apprenticeships for youth,
- Communal kitchens,
- Upgrading of houses,
- A health clinic,
- Savings groups for women, and
- Training in business skills.

Each activity has its own community committee with its own by-laws to guide its management. The community's orphan committee includes the kebele chairman and representatives of the Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs, the community development program of the city council, and the community at large. The committee has identified 165 children who have lost both parents, but has not begun any activities to benefit them. Neighboring kebeles would like to establish the same services, and local officials have asked JACH to expand its program.

OVERVIEW OF PACT'S DCOF-FUNDED CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Pact began to engage with street children's issues in 1995 when it conducted a needs assessment of NGOs working in this sector. Subsequently, with the commitment of \$500,000 of DCOF funds, USAID's cooperative agreement with Pact for NGO capacity building was modified in June 1995 to include street children and orphans as a sector of the project. However, no specific description of the activities to be added or reporting requirements were included in this or subsequent modifications of the cooperative agreement, and DCOF funds were co-mingled with other USAID funds. During a visit to Ethiopia in January 1998 by Catherine Savino of the DCOF/Leahy War Victims Fund Project, the mission was authorized to use an additional \$500,000 of DCOF funds in the second phase of the Pact NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative, from March 1998-September 2002. The total budget of the initiative (which has not been fully funded) is over \$12 million, of which \$1,000,000 are DCOF funds.

Phase II of Pact's NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative includes addressing the following objectives in 7 of Ethiopia's 11 administrative regions:

- Helping develop an enabling environment for NGOs, in which they can work collaboratively with the government on policy and development,
- Building the capacities of individual NGOs to carry out effective programs, and
- Promoting umbrella and networking groups that represent and support member NGOs.

Specifically in relation to street children and orphans, Pact developed a June 1998 addendum to its NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative proposal that identifies the following additional objectives:

- Strengthening the capacity of 25 NGOs operating at the national and local levels to design, implement, and evaluate programs addressing the needs of street children and orphans;
- Increasing the number of street children and orphans either enrolled in formal schools or participating in non-formal education programs;

- Increasing the economic status of at-risk families through support for income-generating programs;
- De-institutionalizing children currently in orphanages through support to family reunification programs; and
- Enhancing the life skills of street children and orphans to become economically productive and eventually self-supporting.

Pact's capacity-building activities emphasize organizational development. The first step is an organizational capacity assessment (OCA) facilitated by Pact staff and consultants trained by Pact. This process helps an NGO identify its strengths and weaknesses and Pact to determine where capacity needs to be built. Pact's interventions are made through a training and mentoring process focusing on strategic planning and management, project design, monitoring and evaluation, and financial management. The NGO is aided in developing its own strategic plan as part of this process. Mentoring by a consultant assigned by Pact usually continues for three to four weeks after more structured training. Training and mentoring may also include such topics as board development, leadership training, conflict management, domestic fund-raising, and administrative management. It may include exchange visits.

After completing a strategic plan, Pact's partner NGOs are eligible to apply to Pact for funding of staff positions, purchase of basic equipment and furniture, and provision of activity grants. Where needed, Pact can pay the salaries of a maximum of two staff members per NGO for up to three years. For the first year of staff grants, Pact covers 90 percent of the costs and the NGO 10 percent (90-10). In the second year, the respective shares change to 75-25 and in the third year, 50-50. Pact's commodity grants have been used primarily for computer equipment, office furniture, file cabinets, and safes. Its activity grants have been used to enable NGOs to demonstrate and expand approaches and interventions to improve the safety and well-being of especially vulnerable children.

In recent months domestic resource mobilization has been emphasized in Pact's capacity building. Generating a larger share of their resources from local sources can increase the independence of Ethiopian NGOs and the sustainability of their programs. Issues addressed in a recent workshop included the following:

- Promoting individual philanthropy,
- Exploring non-financial resources,
- Working with the media,
- Developing a community marketing strategy,
- Generating resources from the business sector,

- Improving partnerships with the government, and
- Lobbying for policy changes to support self-reliance.

Participants in the workshop's panel discussion on "the culture of giving in Ethiopia" formed a committee to seek ways for the private and NGO sectors to work more collaboratively. A Pact consultant, Richard Holloway, has adapted a manual of approaches to resource mobilization that has been used in training in Ethiopia.

At the time of the assessment, 23 of Pact's partner NGOs were engaged with street children and orphan programs. Two of them, however, were soon to be dropped from the capacity-building program due to problems with the reporting on their use of Pact funding. Also, USAID/Ethiopia recently increased Pact's funding to enable it to expand its capacity building to 10 NGOs working on public health issues in the southern part of the country, three of which focus on HIV/AIDS issues. Appendix E includes a list of the orphans and street children NGOs currently taking part in Pact's NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative.

During the assessment, Pact's NGO partners in the street children and orphans sector consistently reported that:

- The OCA had enabled them to identify their strengths and weaknesses as an organization;
- The strategic planning exercise led them to clearly define their priorities, focus their activities, and enabled them to chart their own course rather than to simply respond to donor interests;
- The provision of computers, printers, and financial management software (Peach Tree) and the related training enabled them to report responsively to donors, close accounts in a timely way, and, thereby attract additional funding; and
- Staffing and activity grants enabled them to implement new approaches, increase the number of beneficiaries reached, and improve program quality and effectiveness.

The Orphans Network

In cooperation with MOLSA, Pact has helped to facilitate the development of a network to exchange information and experience, access resource material, and carry out exchange visits among 19 organizations engaged in the care of orphans and other especially vulnerable children. These organizations represent three quarters of the orphanages in the country. In addition to NGO staff, network participants also include personnel of MOLSA orphanages, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, and the Italian Cooperation. Most of the network members are still providing

institutional care but are working to deinstitutionalize children and develop family and community protection and support for them and for other especially vulnerable children. Several of these NGOs have also developed programs to prevent children from moving onto the street. Helping children reunite with their families or reintegrate in society are primary issues. Pact encourages community-based over institutional care as a response to the needs of especially vulnerable children, and it has played an instrumental role in changing attitudes, behaviors, and practices among network members.

With Pact's support, the network enables its members to exchange information, access resource material, and carry out exchange visits. The network is also playing an advocacy role on behalf of orphans and street children. Through support from Pact, the network has a full-time coordinator as of the beginning of 2000, and JACH serves as its secretariat.

Other NGO networks that Pact has helped facilitate include the following:

- Non-formal basic education,
- Voter education,
- Microfinance, and
- Microcredit development (NGOs that formerly have microfinance programs).

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

Pact's Work with Orphans and Street Children NGOs

Effective Capacity Building

Pact's capacity building appears to be making a significant impact on its partner NGOs that are working with orphans and street children. Pact's efforts are relevant and timely. NGOs gave Pact substantial credit for their increases in budget and programmatic coverage and effectiveness. They consistently said that the OCA process helped them identify and address their strengths and weaknesses. The organizational capacity tool (OCAT) that Pact developed in Ethiopia for its NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative is now being used by Pact programs around the world, and some other NGOs have also begun to use it. Strategic planning has changed their perspectives and helped them focus their programs. They credited their improved financial management, in particular, with enabling them to secure funding from other donors. The sectoral networks among NGOs seem to be particularly valuable. Exchange visits to other countries have been a factor in some changes.

Pact has two highly competent professional staff who are responsible for its work with partners regarding street children and orphans. Their previous work experience and training is directly relevant to its capacity development work in this sector.

Most of the NGOs with which Pact has worked the longest have substantially increased their funding from donors other than Pact, as well as the number of children benefitting from their programs. Table 2 presents changes in budget totals for 11 of the orphans and street children NGOs. It includes the total budgets of the 11 NGOs at the point when they began the capacity building process and at the time of the assessment. Subtracting the activity grants made by Pact from the current budgets shows the increase in funding from donors other than Pact/USAID.

Collectively, the budgets of these NGOs have grown by \$2.6 million, an increase of 121 percent. This increase may not be exclusively attributable to Pact's capacity building, but consistently the NGOs visited credited their participation in Pact's program with enabling them to improve their ability to secure and effectively use funding from other donors. Looking at a selection of half of the NGOs with which Pact has worked, it is evident that Pact's capacity building has helped to leverage a significant amount of resources from other donors.

Table 2. Increase in Annual Budget of Sample Pact Partner Orphans and Street Children NGOs

NGO	Annual NGO Budget Upon Joined Pact's Program	Current Annual NGO Budget	Pact Activity Grant Contribution to Current Annual NGO Budget	Contribution of Other Donors Grant to Current NGO Annual Budget
Birhan Integrated Community Development Organization	209,173*	1,295,465	379,402	916,063
Abebech Gobena Orphan and School (AGOS)	5,754,233	11,500,000	426,095	11,073,905
Alem Children Support Organization	400,000	670,000	139,020	530,980
Godanaw Rehabilitation Integrated Project for Street Children	152,247	551,300	313,900	227,400
Jerusalem Association Children's Homes (JACH)	3,000,000	8,000,000	126,178	7,873,822
Kind Hearts Children Aid Development Organization (KCADO)	171,273	500,000	119,526	380,474
Rift Valley Children and Women Development Association	264,505	1,320,290	540,775	779,515
Integrated Family Service Organization (IFSO)	250,000	1,400,000	-	1,400,000
Children Aid - Ethiopia	500,000	700,000	17,390	682,610
Mary Joy Aid Through Development	1,600,000	2,800,000	499,838	2,300,162
Forum on Street Children Ethiopia	2,307,916	6,700,000	612,906	6,087,094
Total	14,609,347	35,437,055	3,175,030	32,252,025

*all amounts in Ethiopian Birr

Increased Impact

The increased funding reflected in Table 2 has also translated into additional and expanded programs for orphans and street children. Table 3 shows the number of children benefiting from nine of the NGOs when capacity building started and their current beneficiaries. Because of the significant differences in the nature of previous and current programs and their benefits, totals comparing the increases are not included in the table because of the different ways that children and their families are benefiting. For example, the Abebech Gobena Orphan and School was providing institutional care for 200 children, providing vocational training for an additional 30 children, and carrying out community-based services for another 290 children. This NGO's programs now are providing such services as clean water, health services, education, and housing assistance to 43,540 target households with an estimated 240,832 children in three rural communities in the Oromiya Region, and it is carrying out similar interventions for 2,006 households with 10,000 children in Addis Ababa. Although it may not make sense to increase the number of interventions, many more children are benefiting from these NGOs' programs than the number that benefited before these NGOs began participating in Pact's capacity building.

Table 3. Increases in Child Beneficiaries

NGO	Child Beneficiaries at Start of Capacity Building	Current Child Beneficiaries
Birhan Integrated Community Development Organization	402	1,812
Abebech Gobena Orphan and School	520	250,832
Alem Children Support Organization	275	480
Godanaw Rehabilitation Integrated Project for Street Children	130	1,332
Jerusalem Association Children's Homes	785	3,200
Kind Hearts Children Aid Development Organization	500	843
Rifit Valley Children and Women Development Association (RCWDA)	820	10,496
Integrated Family Service Organization	13	2,891
Children Aid - Ethiopia	50,400	86,400

Appendix F includes profiles of nine of these NGOs and gives a before-and-after-capacity-building picture of each.

Progress Toward Achievement of Objectives

The “Addendum to Pact’s Proposal for Phase II: Street Children and Orphans: Ethiopian NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative” of June 1998 includes five key objectives, illustrative examples of interventions, and relevant indicators. Pact appears to be making good progress toward the achievement of these objectives. However, it has not established a mechanism to collect indicator data on a periodic basis to measure its progress and, thereby, make programmatic adjustments. Progress that Pact reported toward achieving its objectives regarding street children and orphans follows:

Objective I: Strengthen the capacity of 25 NGOs operating at the national and local levels to design, implement, and evaluate programs addressing the needs of street children and orphans.

As part of the ongoing efforts of Pact Ethiopia's capacity building initiatives, most of the NGOs that are involved in caring for street children and orphans have received core training and mentoring programs. Such programs include strategic planning and management, participatory project design, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. Other organizational development training programs were also provided for the same group.

Initial organizational capacity needs assessments were conducted for all NGOs using the comprehensive tool that Pact/Ethiopia developed. The findings of this assessment clearly indicate the implementation capacities of the respective NGOs and their level of maturity.

NGOs, after receiving the core training and mentoring programs as well as the different forms of grants (activity, personnel, and commodity), will go through the second phase of organizational assessment (a repeat of the OCA). Accordingly, 10 NGOs have so far passed through this process—the result of which has been very encouraging.

Generally, progress has been made by most NGOs in terms of improving their implementation capacity. The seven major areas of organizational excellence include governance, management practice, human resource management, financial resource management, service delivery, external relations, and sustainability.

Other yardsticks also show the sharp increase in the implementation capacity of local NGOs. These increases include, but are not limited to, budget increases, quality of proposals NGOs produce, increases in beneficiaries, improved quality of services (focusing on preventive as well as community-based services rather than institutional services), and understanding the importance of forming networks and alliances.

Objective II: Increase the number of street children and orphans either enrolled in formal schools or participating in non-formal education programs.

No mechanism is in place to keep track of progress made in this regard. However, efforts demonstrating rapid growth, such as the following, have been made:

- © FSCE has increased the number of beneficiaries by 1,860.
- © AGOS has also been able to enroll 2,832 students.
- JACH has helped 3,360 students. In addition, JACH plans to serve 10,000 students through its community library.

- KCADO gave an opportunity to 714 children in addition to the 500 that had been given an opportunity before.
- RCWDA has also raised the number of beneficiary students from 820 to 10,496.
- IFSO has raised the number of beneficiaries who have access to education from 13 to 2,525 children.
- Godanaw has increased the number of children offered education from 130 to 1,332.

Objective III: Increase the economic status of at-risk families through support for income generation programs.

An attempt was made to support partner NGOs with the view to increasing the economic status of at-risk families by providing saving and credit services. Although government policy did not favor such services, DCOF was not able to provide the support. As indicated earlier in the report, few NGOs have received grants to run saving and credit programs. These NGOs include Ethiopian Aid, Godanaw, Mary Joy Aid, and Rift Valley Children and Women Development. A large number of families were reached through these programs. However, effort has not been made to find out the extent to which these programs influenced the lives of the beneficiaries. Therefore, it is difficult to provide quality data here. It is needless to mention that Pact has also played a role of paramount importance in building the capacities of NGOs to initiate microfinance institutions and undertake similar programs at length. DCOF will undertake a separate assessment to find how much the programs have positively affected the lives of mothers and children for future consumption.

Objective IV: Deinstitutionalize children currently in orphanages through support to family reunification programs.

Efforts were made to accomplish objective IV in the last few years. The most significant changes brought about in this regard is the attitudinal change attained so far by all concerned bodies. Partners such as AGOS, for example, who have never thought of enacting deinstitutionalization efforts before, are now planning to develop the same service.

The formation of the Orphanage Network is also one concrete step that elucidates the direction that the NGOs are following. The main purpose of the network is sharing information and exchanging ideas on innovative programs, as well as seeking alternative care for orphans.

In addition, 88 children, of whom 46 are now self-supporting, were reunified by AGOS. Of the 785 children JACH was supporting in different orphanages, only 160 remain in the

orphanages. The rest are either reunified with their biological or extended families or reintegrated into their communities.

Objective V: Enhance the life of street children and orphans to become economically productive and eventually self-supporting citizens.

Pact supported partner NGOs to enhance the skills of street children and orphans that would enable them to be economically productive. These organizations include AGOS, Godanaw, JACH, Terre des Hommes, and FSCE. Other NGOs, such as IFSO, are also able to place their 36 trainees. Pact plans to have a mechanism in place in the future to find out the extent to which the different training programs are effective and are able to help trainees be productive and self-supporting citizens.

Need for a Street Children Network

The orphans network whose development and operation Pact has facilitated, includes some NGOs that have community programs for street children or to help prevent children from moving onto the street, but that network focuses on helping its members make the transition from institutional care to community-based programming. A larger group of NGOs is engaged with street children's issues, and it would be beneficial for Pact to develop a network among them, with FSCE playing a key role.

Exposure Visits

Pact has organized visits to other countries and regions for NGO staff members and government officials to observe the operation of significant programs, the roles that NGOs are playing in problem solving and development, and mechanisms for government-NGO coordination. Pact is able to cite examples of how participation in these visits has resulted in new programmatic initiatives, policy changes, and better working relationships between government and NGOs in Ethiopia. For example, one NGO within the health sector—based on its experience during the visit to Zimbabwe—has introduced a highly regarded HIV/AIDS community outreach program. The Amhara regional authorities changed their policy and opened the region to non-formal education as a result of participation in an exposure visit. While such experience is encouraging, it was beyond the capacity of this assessment to judge the cost-effectiveness of the visits that have been carried out. Any future visits should be justified on that basis.

Costs and Benefits of Interventions

One aspect of taking a more strategic approach to the needs and problems of especially vulnerable children is for NGOs and donors to give greater attention to the potential of different

approaches and interventions to be scaled up. In its grant-making process, it is important for Pact to encourage NGOs to develop cost-effective approaches that can be replicated or scaled up to achieve significant benefits on a wide scale. One issue to which Pact should give closer attention is the cost per potential beneficiary of proposed interventions and, by developing programming and proposal review guidelines, encourage NGOs to do the same. Pact has a strategic perspective on making an impact on the problems of children on the street. It should encourage NGOs to develop approaches that are sufficiently cost-effective to be scaled up, replicated, and then sustained by other organizations.

Orphans Registry

One of the activities described in Pact's June 1998 addendum is the development of a central data bank for orphaned children. Such a data bank could be useful in the process of facilitating and tracking the deinstitutionalization of children in residential institutions, but experience in other countries has shown, it would be far too expensive, difficult, and of little value to establish and maintain a national registry of orphans. Such a system was attempted in Malawi, but the consistency and accuracy of reporting on orphans varied widely among communities, and, therefore, the information produced was not useful. The significant expense required to establish and maintain a more accurate system for enumerating and tracking orphans would not have been justified by the potential utility of the information. It was also recognized that collecting data on orphans created expectations that resources would flow in response, which, in turn, made collecting accurate information difficult and undermined the credibility of those seeking to collect the information.

Use of DCOF Funds

DCOF has committed a total of \$1 million to the Pact NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative, specifically to include NGOs addressing needs among orphans and street children. Prior to the January-February visit, DCOF received reports indicating that PACT had only obligated a fraction of the DCOF funds. During the visit, however, Pact provided a report indicating that, within the Initiative, it had established agreements with orphans and street children NGOs committing the following amounts for strategic action grants:

Table 4. Fund Expenditures

Activity	Amount
Internship program	\$ 6,154
Commodity grants	\$ 78,297
Activity grants	\$ 786,286
Technical assistance	\$ 60,725
Personnel grants - project	\$ 28,523
Personnel grants - finance	\$ 21,588
Total	\$ 981,573

Pact has committed almost the full amount committed by DCOF to the Initiative. Training and mentoring, exposure visits, and overhead costs are in addition to the above figures, and if these were taken into account, the total would exceed DCOF's commitment to date.

Appendix G includes graphs showing the amounts of grant agreements established by Pact for the orphans and street children component of the Initiative. As could be expected with a capacity-building project, the amounts allocated in the first three years were relatively limited. But as NGOs were strengthened, their ability to use grants effectively was increased, and the amount allocated in the fourth year (1999) far exceed that in the preceding years combined.

Broader Issues Concerning Especially Vulnerable Children

Microeconomic Interventions

Microfinance services are showing promise as a component of a strategy to mitigate the impacts of AIDS on children and families and to prevent children from having to turn to the street to survive. To plan strategically, it is important to determine which of the approaches being used in Ethiopia are more effective and sustainable. Most of the orphan and street children NGOs visited during this assessment have incorporated into their programs credit and saving and other economic initiatives intended to strengthen the economic capacities of vulnerable households in sustainable ways. There appear to be a variety of approaches being taken, ranging from thinly disguised grant programs to potentially sustainable microeconomic interventions.

A review and assessment of the different approaches being taken would be very useful, with a view toward identifying those with the best promise of making a difference in household coping capacities, being sustained, or being replicated on a wide scale. There are good examples elsewhere in the region of microfinance services helping to mitigate the impacts of poverty on children and families, and an assessment should look at Ethiopian microeconomic programs in relation to these.

Need to Develop a Collaborative, Strategic Response to Especially Vulnerable Children

The changes in program orientation and capacity that Pact has helped bring about are significant, and there is a need to take to another level the strategic approach Pact has helped NGOs apply in their individual programs. The magnitude of the problems and the depth of poverty in Ethiopia are too extensive for individual programs to make much difference on the situation as a whole. Collaboration is needed among government agencies, NGOs, international organizations, donors, religious bodies, and the private sector to reach a critical mass of effort and to make a difference in the situation of vulnerable children. Massive new programs are not on the horizon, but it would be feasible to develop mechanisms to facilitate common goals and strategies and to share more effectively information and experience among key actors and, thereby, piece together a constellation of interventions that could make a difference.

Networking has facilitated information exchange among programs and advocacy, but a more collaborative, strategic approach is needed among all the key actors: national, regional, and local governments; donors; international and local NGOs; religious bodies; and the private sector. At the time of the assessment visit, USAID/Ethiopia had not communicated with other donors about the respective interventions they are supporting to benefit street children. A first step toward a more collaborative and strategic approach to the situation of street children and their families would be for donors supporting activities in this area to begin exchanging information on their programs and interventions.

Effective collaboration requires a shared understanding of the nature and magnitude of the most pressing problems among especially vulnerable children and some degree of consensus among key actors about the kinds of interventions needed. FSCE has proposed a year-long study to determine the number of street children in the major cities and towns throughout the country. While such a process could develop more accurate estimates of the number of street children and children at risk of moving onto the street, a more ambitious activity is needed. Such an activity would be a collaborative situation analysis to identify the major factors pushing children onto the street and cost-effective interventions with the potential for making broad impacts, followed by the development of a shared strategy, and the defining and clarifying of roles and responsibilities to carry out the strategy.

The street children study could be reconceptualized as a collaborative, national situation analysis regarding especially vulnerable children, with the participation of MOLSA, other ministries, donors, NGOs, religious bodies, and possibly UNICEF. Pact has demonstrated its ability to bring together governmental and NGO actors to address issues of common concern and has effective contacts with the religious community and private sector as well. Pact also has demonstrated skills in facilitating participatory strategic planning, making Pact a well-positioned organization to play a catalytic role in bringing together key actors to undertake collaborative situation analysis and to plan strategic action.

It would be unrealistic to envision a nationwide set of interventions being developed as a result of a collaborative situation analysis, but it would be possible to develop strategic interventions in geographic areas identified as having particularly serious problems, to initiate responses to these problems, and to find opportunities to demonstrate and spread effective interventions. Through developing a shared framework and consensus about goals, objectives, and strategic approaches to the needs and problems of street children and their families, it would be possible to make an impact on their problems at the scale at which those problems are occurring.

As in many countries, programs in Ethiopia addressing the needs of especially vulnerable children tend to be concentrated in the capital, Addis Ababa. Developing collaboratively a balanced, reasonably comprehensive perspective on needs and problems throughout the country would facilitate better resource allocation by donors and NGOs.

In developing its own approach to collaborative situation analysis, consensus building, and strategic planning, Ethiopia could benefit from Zambia's recent experience with its situation analysis of orphans and vulnerable children. The steering committee for that study included representatives from the ministries of health, education, and community development; a World Bank-funded poverty alleviation program; UNICEF; USAID; and a network of indigenous and child-focused NGOs. Its components included a literature review, a review of numerical data, a review of current programs, an assessment of community responses, and an in-depth review of selected programs. The Zambia situation analysis produced a set of reports and recommendations that were then used in national workshops to develop a plan of action for the country.⁷

Children Orphaned by AIDS

An increasing number of children will be orphaned or otherwise made vulnerable by AIDS in Ethiopia. They are not likely, however, to stand out as a distinct group requiring separate, new programs. They will add to the number of children on the street, at risk of moving onto the street, at risk of sexual or physical abuse or exploitation, at risk of labor exploitation, and at risk of HIV infection. Their needs require attention, but not as a separate area of activity. Much of the community-oriented work being done by NGOs in Ethiopia is similar to the most promising

interventions being made to address the needs of orphans and other vulnerable children in countries with more advanced HIV/AIDS epidemics—they are strengthening the capacities of families and communities to recognize and respond to their most vulnerable children.

Some needs and opportunities particular to children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS require special attention in programs for vulnerable children. Because HIV/AIDS causes a series of opportunistic infections and is ultimately fatal, and because of the stigma associated with this sexually transmitted condition, there are significant psychosocial impacts on parents who are ill and on their children. The current lack of voluntary HIV testing and counseling services in Ethiopia means that few people who are HIV positive know it, and that they may not recognize that they have a fatal illness until it progresses to the end stages.

Children's psychosocial distress over a parent's illness, however, begins early in the HIV progression, particularly in communities more seriously affected by AIDS, where the indication of AIDS-related illness is likely to be recognized by children and adults but openly acknowledged by no one, even within the family. Children and parents begin at an early stage to worry about what will happen to the children if a parent dies. Will they still be able to go to school? Where will they live? Will brothers and sisters be able to stay together? How will they live? They need support from their family, community, and religious group to face and prepare for these practical issues, and they need the opportunity to talk with someone about them and to receive some emotional support.

Ethiopia needs voluntary HIV testing and counseling services that can help parents determine their HIV status and give those who test positive more time to make some arrangements for their children's future and to receive emotional and practical support to do so. Those who are negative also have more incentive to avoid risky sexual behavior. The street children and orphans component of Pact's NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative is not going to solve this problem. However, the organizations involved with the Initiative can advocate the establishment of such testing and counseling services and establish partnerships with them where they exist to build the capacity of HIV/AIDS-affected households to cope with their practical problems and emotional distress. Street children and orphans organizations can work to reduce the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS by introducing the disease as a topic in community discussions, dispelling myths, providing accurate information, and promoting compassionate and supportive responses to affected individuals and households. They can use their contacts with households, street children, youth groups, community groups, religious bodies, and community leaders to promote HIV prevention. Appendix H includes a description of ways that care activities can be a starting point for HIV prevention.

Needs and Opportunities in Tigray

DCOF seeks to support and develop approaches that can be scaled up or replicated to make a substantial impact on problems among its target groups, children affected by armed conflict, children orphaned by AIDS, and street children. The three groups are all present in the Tigray Region, where their needs have had only limited direct attention. There may be opportunities in Tigray to develop approaches that can be implemented at scale to improve the well-being of these especially vulnerable children. The hundreds of miles of stone terracing evident on the road from Mekele to Adigrat demonstrate the degree to which Tigreans can be mobilized around an issue of common concern.

The Relief Society of Tigray (REST) was established in 1978 and played a significant role during the country's civil war. It has a large staff and many links with communities throughout the region. REST advocates participatory, grassroots efforts to address local needs, an approach that appears to be consistent with DCOF's orientation toward community mobilization and capacity building.

REST has also initiated a microfinance program in Tigray, which has 250,000 regular clients who are organized into groups of seven. The program has 110 sub-branches and 12 branches. Loans range from about \$12 to \$614. In addition, agricultural loans averaging about \$9 each are made to another 275,000 people. This program could be a resource in mitigating the impacts of armed conflict and AIDS on children and families in Tigray. The World Food Program also has a major program in Tigray that might play a role in scaling up a response to the needs of especially vulnerable children in the region. The assessment team's visit to Mekele and Adigrat was far too brief and the contacts too limited to determine whether it would be appropriate for DCOF to fund activities in Tigray, but enough possibilities were identified for DCOF to justify exploring the matter further with the mission.

Ongoing Exchange Within the Region

Ethiopia has important experiences to share with other countries in the region engaged with the issue of street children. Valuable lessons can be drawn from the deinstitutionalization experience of some Ethiopian NGOs regarding how to achieve family reunification and community reintegration. These NGOs also have rather unique experiences making a transition to community-based programming. These experiences should be of particular interest in Rwanda, Kenya, and other countries where orphanages have proliferated.

Ethiopian NGOs would also benefit from and could apply information about the community mobilization approaches DCOF has been supporting in southern Africa. DCOF would like to

maintain ongoing information exchange with key stakeholders in Ethiopia on the issues regarding especially vulnerable children and the ways AIDS is making children more vulnerable.

Resource material that would be useful for Pact and/or FSCE to make available to Ethiopian NGOs concerned with especially vulnerable children listed in Appendix I.

NOTES

1. The Center for International Health Information Statistics Report: Ethiopia, January 1996, projects a population of over 70 million in 2000. Estimates from other sources are closer to 60 million.
2. "The State of the World's Children 1998," by UNICEF, Table 5: Gross domestic product per capita.
3. USAID Basic Education Programs in Africa: Ethiopia, USAID web site.
4. The most recent Food and Agricultural Organization/World Food Program report as of April 2000, as cited in USAID's 2000 Report to Congress.
5. "Epidemiological Fact Sheet on HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Ethiopia," UNAIDS, p. 3.
6. Personal communication on January 29, 2000, with Alan Johnston of the Futures Group.
7. "Situation Analysis of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Zambia 1999," joint SAID/UNICEF/SIDA/Study Fund project, November 1999, 6 volumes.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A- SCOPE OF WORK

John Williamson, DCOF senior technical expert, will be traveling to Ethiopia from o/a January 22 to February 5, 2000. His assignment is to look at the existing DCOF-funded Pact program and assess its impact. While some retrospective analysis is required, the majority of his time should be spent on how the program needs to evolve in the future. He will also make recommendations regarding future directions. Given the war and the impact of HIV-AIDS, what are the current gaps in addressing the needs of most vulnerable children in Ethiopia?

History

Pact (Participating Agencies Collaborating Together) submitted an unsolicited proposal to USAID in January 1995 for the Ethiopian NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative. This three -phased proposal was a follow-on to the CRDA grant* in a sense but more a response to the needs of NGOs in Ethiopia. DCOF and USAID/E have a long and frustrating history in this area. Pact addressed the institutional needs of NGO's focusing on rural development/food security, education and democracy and governance. As originally conceived, this project was to be funded by USAID Ethiopia.

Meanwhile, Gene Chiavarolli (retired USAID) was named as Pact's Country Director. This was a good opportunity for DCOF to get re-involved and Lloyd asked Gene whether or not he would be willing to work with street children as part of the grant. Gene thought it was a great fit and agreed, as did the Mission. DCOF send out FY 95 \$500,000 for use in the Pact cooperative agreement** (though nothing was written into the grant nor were any modifications done referring to it) .

With DCOF funding, Pact did a NGO sector assessment of orphans in October 1995. They conducted needs assessments, did training, provided commodities grant to buy computers and other necessities. Pact conducted travel exchanges, workshops and they developed internal measures to assess the impact of their work e.g. how well organizations were being strengthened (OCATs)

Cathy Savino visited Ethiopia from Jan 21-26, 1998. Sadly, the country director Gene Chiavarolli had recently died. Pact's work with street children grantees continued to be primarily in institutional strengthening. After discussions with the Mission and Pact, it was decided that before further DCOF funding could take place, there needed to be a definite plan in place for the DCOF-funded portion of this grant. A memo dated 1/26/98 was drafted and approved while in country***.

In response to that memo, Pact put together the **Ethiopian NGO Sector Enhancement Initiative** dated June 1998. (Phase II). This included a proposal and budget for \$2,000,000 (of which \$500,000 has been funded.) This is the most current document that describes the program.

Co-directors of Pact are Tsegaye Chernet and Leslie Mitchell.

Questions

Overall

- The issue of orphanages increasing their populations because of the war (and HIV-AIDS) came up in recent discussions. Is this trend continuing? What recommendations can be made to influence the outcomes?
- What's the overall status of vulnerable children in Ethiopia given the war, given HIV-AIDS?
- How are people/programs dealing with HIV-AIDS?

Pact-Specific

- What's been the impact of the Pact program on street children and on organizations that serve them? How many children are being reached ?
- Are these programs effective in addressing the problems? What's the sense of where grantees feel they need to go?
- Given that this area (working with street children organizations) has been a bit outside of Pact's regular mandate in Ethiopia, and given that the Mission in recognition of their superior work has increased the number of their DG partners, is it Pact's intention to stay involved with this issue?
- The Forum for Street Children was the most promising of DCOF funded NGO's. Their work in getting juvenile advisors into every police department was going well in its initial stages...is it still working out?
- Fasil W. Marriam was the charismatic leader of the Forum....being asked to speak in different countries (I think he was going to Libya) about his group and their philosophy. Any progress on a policy level of getting better government involvement with these kids?
- Funds were also spent on the Forum's resource center...is this being utilized? By whom?
- There was talk of making the Forum for Street Children an umbrella that might support other like-minded NGO's . Do they have this capacity?
- Forum was also getting funds from other groups as well (Trickle Up) comes to mind. How's this IGA going?
- Of the Phase II \$500,000, very little spending has taken place to date. What's the reason? What's the breakdown of implementation grants versus institutional strengthening grants/commodities?
- The Network on Street Children was a coordination body that Pact funded. How is that group working together? Is UNICEF involved in the issue at all?
- There was discussion of the USAID/Ethiopia Mission wanting a health component to be added to Pact's scope. Has this been a productive addition? Are street kids NGO's adding health programs to their activities?

Suggested Visits

USAID Mission

Getahun Dendir
Dr. Ayana Yeneabat/USAID/E – HPN Office

Jerusalem Association Children's Home in Bahir Dar.
Mulugeta Gebru – Managing Director

The Forum for Street Children
Fasil W. Marriam

Other Pact-supported street children NGOs that either are long time partners or bring leadership or innovation to the program

Group that knows HIV-AIDS situation in Ethiopia

Save the Children/US

Jay Zimmerman Field Office Director
Location: :Higher 18 Kebele 33 House No. 321
Phone Numbers: 011-251-1- 65-32-83 16-44-90

UNICEF

Relevant government official

*Christian Relief and Development – 1988-1995 - a consortium of non-governmental organizations

\$2,000,000 of DCOF funds,
funds were used to support old grants (\$207,650) and umbrella grant (\$800,000) and a Cooperative Agreement (\$875,000)
Many of these grants were emergency funds.

** Pact grant - initial grant - Started 7/31/95 End 3/30/02

\$500,000 FY 95 Phase One
\$500,000 FY 98 Phase Two

*** While there, the Mission was doing the modification to the Pact grant. They needed DCOF ok immediately to proceed with the modification....(and it had already taken months to get as far as they did, and the only reason it was shared with us was because I happened to be there). Lloyd agreed to fund them for another \$500,000 but there were steps that needed to be taken. The modification (#11 dated 8/17/98) again mentioned nothing about DCOF.....it just added \$500,000. The contracting officer filtered the money into existing line items making it difficult to track DCOF expenditures. Pact was aware of this but could not affect any substantive changes. Pact has since been able to code DCOF funds and does this separate financial reporting when requested. Of the \$500,000 put

Displaced Children and Orphans Fund

into the grant, in Phase I...there was some carryover into Phase II.... My notes says that it was going to be about \$180,000.

APPENDIX B - CONTACTS

Organization	Individuals	Contact Information
USAID/Ethiopia	David Eckerson, Deputy Director Jim Polhemus, Democracy and Governance Advisor Getahun Dendir, Civil Society Program Co-Ordinator Dr. David Losk, Public Health / Human Resources Development Dr. Ayana Yeneabat, Infectious Disease Advisor Liz Lukasavich, Food and Humanitarian Assistance Office	Tel: (251) 1- 510716
Pact Ethiopia	Leslie Mitchell, Co-Director Tsegaye Chernet, Co-Director Kederalah Idris, Program Manager Endeshaw Tadesse, Grant Manager Berhanu Digafe, Consultant	P.O. Box 13180 Addis Ababa Tel/fax: (251-1) 615963 pact.eth@telecom.net.et
Forum on Street Children - Ethiopia	Fassil W. Marriam, Executive Director Amakelew Cherkosie,	P.O. Box 9562 Addis Ababa Tel: (251-1) 534432

	Program Coordinator, Child Resource and Development Center Makda Getachew, Program Coordinator, Preventive and Support Program for Sexually Abused and Exploited Children	Fax: 534469 FSCE@telcom.net.et
Jerusalem Association Children's Home	Mulugeta Gebru, Managing Director	P.O. Box 41742 Addis Ababa Tel: 611092 / 620862 jach@telecom.net.et
Supreme Court Juvenile Justice Project	Tedla Deresse, Head	Tel. 553400 ex. 204
Labor and Social Affairs Bureau	Fissahaye Almayehu, Head of Bureau	P.O. Box Mekele Tel: 400433
Department of Social Affairs, Mekele	Asafa Haile Selassie, Department Head	
Department of Labor and Social Affairs, Adigrat	Gebreyesus Gebre Michael, Department Head, Eastern Tigray	P.O. Box 94 Adigrat Tel: 450019,
United Nations Children's Fund	Ibrahim Jabr, Representative Rodney Phillips, Deputy Representative Sefaye Shiferaw, Project Officer, Health	P. O. Box 1169 Addis Ababa Tel: (251-1) 515155 Fax: 511628
United Nations World Food Program	Thomas Thompson, Head Mekele Sub-Office	c/o WFP Ethiopia P.O. Bax 5580 Addis Ababa Tel: (251-3) 405206 Fax: 405207

Mary Joy Aid Through Development	St. Zebider Zewdie, Executive Director Tadele Seifu, Micro Credit & Awassa Urban Development Project Coordinator	P.O. Box 12939 Addis Ababa Tel: 792108
Members of orphans network: Kechene Children's Home Kebebe Tsehay Children's Home Italian Cooperation Integrated Family Service Organization Terre des Hommes-Lausanne Jerusalem Association Children's Home Kale Heywet Church Development Program	Kokebe Lema, Social Development Asiya Yimer, Head Administrator Azeb Adefere sew, Program Manager Lulseged Erkihun, Program Officer Girma Deressu, Head of Child & Youth Affairs Alemayehu Mamo, Program Officer Girma Abebe, General Administrator	
	Tkelewine Asega, Executive Director Berhane Gebre-Egziabhere, Head, Relief and Rehabilitation Department Dr. Tewelde Brhan Hailu, Head, Health Division, Relief Society of Tigray Tsegai Asefa, Relief Coordinator	P.O. Box 20 Mekele Tirgray Tel: (03) 400615 Fax: (03) 402629
Rädda Barnen (Save the Children, Sweden)	Hirut Tefferi	P.O. Box 3457 Addis Ababa Tel: 710208 / 710323

		Fax: 710149 radda.barnen@telecom.net.et
Save the Children USA	Jay Zimmerman, Field Office Director	P.O. Box 387 Addis Ababa Tel: (251-1) 653283 / 655968 Fax: 653615 ussave.children@telecom.net.et
Ethio-Netherlands AIDS Reserach Project	Tobias Rinke De Witt, Expatriate Laboratory Manager	P.O. Box 1242 Addis Ababa Tel: (251-1) 757751 Fax: 756329 enarp@telecom.net.et
Terre des hommes - Lausanne	Girma Deressu, Project Coordinator Tadesse Haile, Project Coordinator, Dessie Street Children's Project	P.O. Box 6479 Addis Ababa Tel: 182308 / 512683 Fax: 513835 tdhl@telecom.net.et P.O. Box 679 Dessie Tel: 111160
Children Aid Ethiopia	Anannia Adamassu, Managing Director	P.O. Box 5854 Addis Ababa Tel: 136068
The Futures Group	Alan Johnston	Tel. 502973
Alem Children Support Organization	Alemnesh Mogessie, General Manager Ygezu Atnafe, Board Member Aklilu Hailu, Public Relations and Fund Raising Officer Abiye Mekonnen, Project Assistant	P.O. Box 12280 Addis Ababa Tel: 712634 / 715654 Fax: 553611

Birhan Integrated Community Development Organization	Jemal Abdela, Executive Director Girma Bekele, Project Officer Aike Asfaw	Tel. 125971
Abebech Gobena Orphanage and School	Abebech Gobena, Founder & General Manager Abayneh Abebe, Program Officer	Tel. 553622

APPENDIX C - SCHEDULE FOR JOHN WILLIAMSON

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Place</i>
24/01/00 Monday	08:00 - 10:00	Meet with Leslie and Tsegaye	@ Pact
	10.00 - 12:00	Meet with Keder, Program manager and Endashaw, Grant Manager	@ Pact
	01:30 - 03:00	Review scope and schedule	@ USAID
	03:30 - 05:30	Meet with USAID Head Office - Doug Sheldon, Director David Eckerson, Deputy Director Jim Polhemus, D&G Advisor	@ USAID
25/01/00 Tuesday	08:30 - 10:00	Meet with coordinator of orphanage network: Mulugeta Gebru, Mengiste Ayele and Alemayhu, Jerusalem Association Children's Home	@JACH
	10:30- 12:00	Tedla Deresse, Supreme Court Juvenile Project (553400 ex. 204)	@ Radda Barnen
	02:00 - 04:00	St. Zebider Zewdie, Mary Joy and Bedilu Teferi	@MaryJoy
26/01/00 Wednesday	02:30 - 12:00	Fassil W/Mariam and staff Forum on Street Children	@ Forum
	02:00 - 03:30	Members of Orphanage Network	@ Pact
	04:00 - 05:00	Getahun Dendir & Dr. Ayana	@ USAID
27/01/00 Thursday		Travel to Mekele and Adigrat (travel byAir)	
29/01/00 Saturday		Return to Addis	

APPENDIX D - OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

FSCE Child Resource and Resource Center: Nexus for Research, Training, and Information Network

1. Background

1.1. In order to contribute to the efforts being made nationally and at micro levels in addressing the needs of disadvantaged children, there are very few organizations both local and foreign based operating in the country. Some of the local organizations are new to NGO operations and do lack the necessary resources (in terms of finance, human and physical), information and skills to run projects for children who are in desperate need of basic and developmental services. There is a general understanding that any one, with low or without adequate qualification, can work with and for children.

1.2. Most important there is a serious information gap about children in Ethiopia. In spite of the fact that the various problems such as child abuse and neglect, child prostitution, rape and abduction and juvenile delinquency are admitted to exist, nevertheless the knowledge in the area is limited such as their origins, community attitude towards the problems, the results of various efforts made to date to address these problems and the way forward.

1.3. FSCE firmly believes that in order to improve the fulfilment of the needs and interests of children, the management needs to have tangible data from resource materials and research findings that will adequately facilitate the planning and decision making processes and staff members who directly work with children should be equipped with the basic communication and child focused project management skills.

1.4. The child Resource Development Center was established with the aim of improving the information gap on the situation of children in Ethiopia and mutually initiate capacity building interventions. It was established following the series of discussions among a number of child focused organizations where FSCE was mandated to take the lead. Training programs were organized for grass root staff members even before the Center was established in collaboration with the fund secured from the University of Amsterdam. The initial funds for the Center were secured through a proposal to Pact.

1.5. The Resource Center has certain guiding principles, which includes the following.

* The improvement of the quality and standards of services rendered to children depends on, among others, the quality of staff assigned.

* Through the development of the competencies of middle and grassroots staff and information, exchange, child focused NGOs can live up to the public expectations and government standards and policies.

* The Resource center can serve field practitioners and academics as a forum for exchanging ideas and experiences thereby adopting best practices as relates to child services in order to tackle emerging social problems.

The child Resource & Development Center (CRDC) is one of the projects of FSCE which is intended to provide services in the field of research to fill the part of the information gap about the problems of children of Ethiopia, information exchange and training for net work institutions engaged on child and family focused activities. FSCE strongly believes that all actors for children of the urban poor can devise improved interventions if the respective training needs are identified and training programs are planned in response to the needs.

2. The Resource Center is engaged in three major areas benefitting NGOs and NGO staff members, government institutions, university students, researchers, consultants, etc. These are:

2.1. Research in the area of child abuse and neglect, child right issues, urban issues, sexual exploitation, disability, street children, HIV/AIDS, etc.

2.2. Training for grassroots, middle level and higher-level staff members of partner organizations as a capacity building initiative

2.3. Collection, Documentation, Publication and Dissemination/Information Network,

3. A very brief information on the activities so far accomplished

3.1. Research Activities

FSCE in the course of its contact with partner organizations realized the crucial role of information and data in the design of child focused programs and in evolving meaningful interventions.

FSCE co-ordinated studies, with the fund support of Rädä Barnen and other sources, on topics established on the basis of information need assessment survey carried out by the center during its initial period. At the moment, there are studies completed serving as reference materials for government staff, NGOs staff, consultants, University lecturers and students, and Private College's students, etc. The following are the list of completed and on-going studies

being co-ordinated by the Center.

a) List of Completed Studies:

1. Abraham Hussein (Dr.), Parental Perspectives on Mentally Retarded Children: Improving the Social Environment of Mentally Retarded Children. 1998.

2. Abeje Berhanu, The Situation and Trends of Survival of Female Street Children: The Case of Addis Ababa. 1998.

3. Belay Zeleke, Fiseha Worede and Bulti Gutema (Dr.), An Evaluative Study of Service Provided to Female Street Children by Different Organizations in Addis Ababa: The Case of FSCE, Goal Ireland, Mobile unit and Rädä Barnen Drop in Center. 1999.

4. Eshetu Alemu, Some Correlates of Poly-Drug Use Behavior Among Street Children: The Case of Four Urban Centers. 1998.
5. Gobena Daniel, A Study of Child Sexual Abuse in Addis Ababa High Schools a Focus on Causative Factors and Manifestations. 1998.
6. Keremenz Agonafi, Female Headed Households in Addis Ababa Survey on Their socio-economic Situation and Streetism and Prostitution Among Their Children. 1998.
7. Meseret Tadesse Beshah, Homeless Children in Ethiopia. 1998.
8. Seleshi Zeleke and Sentayehu Tadesse, Parenting Styles Differences Among Selected Ethnic Groups in Ethiopia. 1998.
9. Tesfa Abebe and Shibesi Lema, Assessment of Children's Books in Addis Ababa Needs and Prospects for Publication. 1997.

b) Ongoing Research nearing completion

1. "Parenting a Child With Disabilities : Needs, Challenges and Strategies" by Fasikawit Ayalew, Ethiopia Haile and Daniel Desta
2. "Identification of Coping Strategies and Preparation of a Resource Manual for Combating the Problems of Female High School Students at Risk "by Darge Wole(Dr.).
3. HIV/AIDS in Addis Ababa: An intervention study in selected areas with particular emphasis on its consequences affecting children and youth by Anania Admassu.
4. Management of child Abuse and Age Determination in Health Institutions in Addis Ababa., by Getenet Tadele

c) Other small scale ongoing studies :

NGO -based studies : Small scale NGO-based action oriented participatory research activities are also going on with the involvement one staff member as a lead investigator to help NGOs identify problems related to service delivery planing and programming, management, etc. The list of on-going research work are the following.

1. "Evaluative study of the activities of Child Protection Units (CPUs) in Addis Ababa," W. Kidan and staff, CPU
2. "Traditional practices that Safe Guard the Interests of Children during divorce within the vicinity of the Project area (Rural Community)," Ato Damenu Kibret, KHCDO
3. "Educational problems of children with hearing impairments," Mekonnen Nega, HPDO
4. "Promoting CRC through Child Participation at Hope Schools in Addis Ababa and Dessie Town," Aynalem Ashebir, Hope Enterprise

Partial Support to MA Theses Focusing on Children and Education

A small amount of financial support has been given to university students to help them finalize their MA thesis. All are working on problems of children. Participatory Action Research (PAR) methods are applied. This means in the service provision evaluative studies the children participate in needs identification, prioritization, planning, implementation and ultimately in the ownership of the project. This approach has

the advantage of curtailing unnecessary expectations, and realization of their rights by children themselves besides ensuring the relative sustainability of the project.

1. "Assessment of Adaptive Behavior of some children with Mental Retardation," Nema Behutye, MA. Thesis
2. "Coping with Disability: the social relations of Disabled Children and Youths with their parents and the larger community, a case study in selected areas of Addis Ababa," Getnet Kebede, MA thesis
3. "Attitudes of Teachers and Students Regarding the Integration of Hearing Impaired Students into Regular Classes," Abebe G. Selassie, MA. Thesis
4. "Investigating the Implementation of CBR Program for Children with Disabilities in Nazareth (Adama)," Daba Feysia, MA. Thesis
5. "The Role of NGOs in Promoting Equitable Access to Primary Education in Southern Region of Ethiopia," Alemayehu Debebe, MA

3.2 Training workshops

The following training programs were organized to staff members of partner organizations. During 1999 over 145 grass-root and higher-level staff members of NGOs have been enrolled in different training workshops. The gender mix of the training participants is 75 male (51.7%) and 70 Female (48.3%). The participants came from a variety of organizations and projects. The skill-training program is reaching out organizations/projects that focus not just one aspect of child services, but on different aspects. Over 22 organizations have been represented in the training programs. This capacity building initiative helps to strengthen the competence of staff in different skills.

a) Training workshops Conducted

Title of the Training	Year	No. of trainees
1. Steps in Indicator Development	1997	20
2. Participatory Action Research Methods(classroom-based and field work)	1997	16
3. Participatory Action Research Methods (classroom-based and field work)	Sep 17-24, 1998	16
4. Child to Child	May 27-30,1999	24
5. Communicating with Children	June 23-24,1999	16
6. Effective team building	Sep 3-4,1999	15
7. PAR Chart Workshop	Sep 7, 1999	16
8. Project Proposal & Report Writing	Oct 6-8, 1999	24
9. Guidance & Counseling	Nov 18-19,1999	27
10. Child to Child Feed Bach	Dec 15-16, 1999	23
11. Guidance and Counseling	Feb 24-25,2000	25
Total Participants		222

b) Workshops (Gathering of program co-ordinators, NGO Managers, researchers, etc.) to exchange information on the situation of children

Workshop Title	Year	No. of participants
1. Research outcome workshop on various issues concerning children in Addis Ababa.	1999	51
2. Children's Books Production Workshop (to exchange ideas on how to produce low cost children's books where members of the Ethiopian Authors Association, renowned writers, linguists, etc. participated)	1999	23
3. National workshop on the studies of various issues concerning children and families in Ethiopia.	1998	49
Total participants		123

NGO managers, program, and government staff took part in the series of workshops on "Development of Change indicators for street children programs and "Research outcome workshops." They shared knowledge, ideas, and new information based on studies and experiences. The joint development of indicators of change relevant to street children programs have given impetus to program people pay special attention in designing their program goals, objectives, activities and measuring indicators.

3.3. Collection and documentation, publication and dissemination.

3.3.1. Collection and documentation

The Center is getting strengthened with best and up to date resource materials. The number of users of the center is increasing from time to time. As a result small size extra reading room has been annexed with a fund support received from Kinderen in De knel/Children at Risk. Currently the Center has over 1,500 collections excluding journals and newsletters.

3.3.2. Publication and Distribution

* Reading materials for children and field/youth workers on HIV/AIDS, CTC materials, Environmental sanitation have been printed and distributed to all CRDA member organizations, child-oriented organizations, and public libraries, relevant Ministries, targets in regional program offices of FSCE.

* The Resource Center also provides services by publishing Child Internet annually. This periodical focuses selecting on issues of prime interest, and at the same time help to convey to all interested the achievements of NGO's and the problems they face in carrying out their activities. It is an essential networking instrument. It tells who is doing what?

* The Center has also embarked on a new venture, which deals with the production of children's primers. This kind of contribution is new in the activity of NGO's and it makes a critical input to the meager children's literature in the country. So far the Center has co-ordinated the production of over forty thousand copies of four titled children's Books by involving the Ethiopian Writers' Association.

5. Supervised Internship Program:

* Every year we involve 5-8 senior University students in the different projects and units for two months and half to help them to get exposure to NGO operations, appreciate social Problems, gain work experience, to fill gaps and use their expertise, etc.

APPENDIX E - PACT'S PARTNER NGOS WORKING WITH STREET CHILDREN AND ORPHANS

1. Abebech Gobena Orphanage and School
2. African Network for the Prevention or the Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect
3. Alem Children Support Organization
4. Almaz Children and Family Support Program
5. Birhan Integrated Community Development Organization
6. Children Aid-Ethiopia Organization Forum on Street Children
7. Godanaw Rehabilitation Integrated Project for Street Children
8. Integrated Family Service Organization
9. Jerusalem Association Children's Home
10. Kangaroo Child and Youth Development Society
11. Kind Hearts Children Aid Development Organization
12. L'Esperance Children's Aid
13. Mary Joy Aid Through Development
14. Meserete Kristos Church Relief and Development
15. Nazareth Children's Center and Integrated Development
16. Nile children and Family Support Organization
17. Rifit Valley Children and Women Development Association
18. Terre des Hommes-Lausanne
19. Women, Youth and Children Development Program
20. Yeteem Children's and Destitute Mother's Fund

APPENDIX F - PROFILES OF SELECTED NGO PARTICIPANTS IN PACT'S NGO SECTOR ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE

BICDO

BICDO became Pact partner in 1998. At that time the total annual budget of the organization was Birr 209,173.40. They did not have an annual budgeting system and all their expenses were covered through grants obtained to implement projects. The NGO had only 3 regular staff out of which one was a semi professional one. The total number of children supported through their three projects namely feeding program, vocational training, and credit scheme program were 300, 32 and 70 children respectively.

Since becoming a partner with Pact, the project design, monitoring and evaluation capacity of the NGO has significantly improved. As a result the NGO has managed to raise more resources and support a larger number of children. According to the Executive Director, by 1999 the annual budget of BICDO has increased to Birr 735,159.96 and their expected year 2000 budget is Birr 1,295,465 out of which Birr 964,772 is already obtained.

Currently the number of children the NGO is supporting has increased to a total number of 1,812. There are children supported directly through their street children preventive program financed by Pact, educational programs supported by Radda Barnen, credit scheme program supported by Action Aid and Pact. The number of projects the NGO is implementing has also increased from 3 to 8 and the total number of staff of the NGO has grown to 15 out of which 3 are professional and 2 are semi professional.

Since 1998, the NGO has diversified its donor base and has also become a member of CRDA, the only umbrella organization in Ethiopia. In addition to this, the NGO has also managed to get two reliable funding organizations namely Action Aid and Red Barna Ethiopia. This was made possible because of the capacity of the NGO developed recently.

AGOS

AGOS is one of the first Pact partner NGOs who joined in the program in 1996. Their annual budget then was Birr 5,754,233 which has currently grown to Birr 11,500,000 in 1999.

Institutional support has been the main child support program and were assisting a total of 200 children. In addition to this, AGOS was also running vocational training program for 30 children and child focused community based program for 290 children in Addis Abeba.

Since their partnership with Pact, AGOS has diversified its child support program. Today the NGO shows a strong move away from residential support program for orphans. As a result, a total of 88 children have been reunified, out of which 46 children have started an independent and self supporting life in the community. Similarly, the NGOs is currently involved more on community based child support program. This programs currently focus in providing family based support to poor children living both in urban and rural areas. The projects involve providing basic social services such as clean water, health, education, housing and other related services. Such programs have been initiated in three rural localities in Oromilya region namely Burayu, Buder and Fitcha areas and all the above projects provide support to a total target house holds of 43,540. The total number of children benefiting in the three localities indicated above is also indicated to be 240,832.

AGOS has also initiated a similar child focused urban development program in one of the slums of Addis Ababa. The project target total of 2006 house holds and 10,000 disadvantaged children from poor families. The children are provided with education, basic health services, clean water, housing, recreational facilities etc. The family of the children are also encouraged to be involved in income generating activities with the objective of improving the family income.

In 1996 AGOS had only two professional staff which has now increased to 9. The total number of staff employed by the organization has also grown from 70 to 152 today. In terms of donor base the NGO used to get support from 4 donors in 1996, but currently they have 14 regular donors.

According to AGOS they have benefited significantly from the capacity building program of Pact. According to them some of the benefits of the program include:

- C The quality of work of the organization has improved as they have more qualified personnel.
- C The target beneficiary children has increased as they were able to raise more funds.

- C The way of thinking of the organization about the welfare of children has changed. Today the NGO is implementing more sustainable programs that best address the interest of the children.
- C The activities of the organization have become increasingly systematized. This has also improved the quality and efficiency of their work which has won the appreciation of donors, the government and stakeholders.

ACSO

ACSO became partner with Pact in 1998 and at that time it was implementing only one project which focused on a preventive street children program. The annual budget then was Birr 400,000 which also came from 4 donors including the donations made from the founders family. Currently the budget of the organization has increased to Birr 670,000 and the number of projects they are implementing has also grown to 4.

The total number of children benefiting from the projects of the NGO by 1998 was 275. Currently, this number has increased to 996 including the project financed by Pact. Their projects mainly focus on a preventive street children program which tries to support children of very poor families with the required basic services such as education, health, nutrition rehabilitation; income generating, vocational training and advocacy programs. The NGO is also in the process of initiating a new project to support 200 children of very poor families in Addis Ababa.

According to the management, ACSO has benefited significantly from the capacity building program of Pact. Major among these include the following:

- C ACSO has become a well organized NGO with all the required systems and procedures in place. According to them, all the credit in this regard goes to Pact.
- C The reporting system and particularly their financial system which was established through Pact's support has become a valuable asset of AGOS. This has also attracted many donors to support their organization
- C The public promotion activity currently implemented by Pact has contributed in improving their public image and to raise funds from domestic sources

GODANAW

It is one of the youngest NGOs that joined Pact's capacity building program in 1997. The NGO works mainly on the rehabilitation and prevention of street children in Addis Ababa. The annual budget of Godanaw in 1997 was Birr 152,247 and the number of their projects was also limited to 3 that provided support to a total of 130 children. The projects mainly focused on providing vocational training to street children with the objective of helping them to become self-supporting. In addition to this, the NGO provides night shelter and full board support to street girls and child commercial sex workers with the objective of integrating them in to a healthy life.

Currently, the number of project the NGO implements and the number of children supported has grown to 10 and 1332 respectively. The increase has mainly been to the number of new and better projects they have initiated recently. The NGO has diversified its programs and provides preventive AIDS education to the youth in the community.

- C Recreational services to poor children
- C School assistance program for children of poor families
- C Vocational training and a credit program to street children.

Because of the above additional projects, the annual budget of Godanaw has increased to Birr 551,300 by 1999. This was also obtained from a total of 8 donor agencies. In terms of staffing also, the NGO currently has the service of 4 qualified professional staff and by 1997 the NGO had only one professional staff.

According to the NGO, Pact's capacity building program has contributed to Godanaw in raising more funds which in term is helping larger number of disadvantaged children.

In this regard their OCA report and the recently developed strategic plan document alone has played positively. Godanaw has sent the above documents to all of its donors and this has also resulted in getting more funds for their program.

The NGO has also diversified its activities and is currently involved in communities based programs. It operates in one of the major slum areas of Addis Ababa and provides clean water, toilet facility and health education to a total 4500 target households, children benefiting from these projects number to 30,000.

According to the management, Pacts capacity building program contributed to the NGO through the following actions:

- C Improving the number and quality of their projects as they have obtained the service of gratified program staff through Pact grant;
- C Creating systems in the organization, which has been highly appreciated by donor and government agencies. Particularly their financial and reporting system has been the major one;
- C Increasing the NGOs perception on innovative child support programs and helped in networking with other organizations doing similar activities.

JACH

JACH is one of the first NGOs involved in Pact's program since 1996. The annual budget of JACH used to be 3 million in 1996 and this has currently grown to 8 million in 1999 and 12 million in 2000. The organization used to implement 4 residential institutions in four locations in Ethiopia with a total number of 785 children (orphans).

Currently, JACH has been one of the pioneers involved in de-institutionalization program. As a result, the number of children in the residential program has decreased to 160. All the other children have either been reunited with relatives or are established on their own and re-integrated in the community. The remaining 160 children are also in the process of reintegration and reunification. Because of this program one of the four homes of JACH has been completely closed.

A recent assessment of JACH also revealed that above 90% of the re-integrated children have become successful. They are supporting themselves, and married with children. Some of them have even adopted orphan children from the home and are supporting them.

JACH has currently initiated new programs and as a result it is implementing the following child based communities development program;

- C An urban program that supports approximately 2000 children of poor and destitute families in Bahir Dar town through its preventive street children program.
- C An integrated children focused rural development program that supports 1200 children and their family in the Bahir Dar area.

- C Established a community library in Bahir Dar, which is going to serve a total of 10,000 school children.
- C JACH is also serving as a resource NGO on residential programs. Based on its experience, the NGO is in the process of sharing its experience with other similar NGOs.

According to the Managing Director, Pact's capacity building program has significant impacts on the number and types of programs, amount of funds they have and the qualities of services they provide to disadvantaged children. "The Organizational Capacity Assessment report made though Pact alone has served JACH as a strong fundraising tool", said the Manager. In addition to this;

- C Reporting is now done timely. Because of this, there is high donor satisfaction and confidence on JACH. This has also helped JACH to create smooth relation with the government as reports are also submitted to them timely.
- C Systems are in place and this has promoted the transparency and accountabilities of the organization and facilitated easy and fast decision making;
- C Human resources, personnel secondment especially in program area has contributed in formulating quality projects which can attracted new donor funds.
- C The advisory work of Pact program staff, the commodities grant and the different training programs have also contributed in improving the efficiency, speed and quality of all projects aimed at improving the life of the poor children, and assisting the organization in scaling up its operations to benefit more children.

KCADO

The NGO joined Pacts program in 1997 and had an annual budget of 171,273 which was not enough to cover most of its overhead cost. Currently, the budget has increased and by 1999, was half a million Birr. The total number of projects in 1997 were 3 namely: Family Support Service, Sponsorship and Primary Education Projects providing support to a total of approximately 500 children. According to the manager, none of these children received any significant support before 1997, as the budget was not enough.

By 1998 and 1999, particularly after completing Pacts training in project design and after having employed a qualified Project Officer through Pact's grant; the NGO managed to raise more funds to finance new projects. As a result the annual budget grew to the present ½ million and all the

children began benefiting from the NGO. This included education, credit program, nutritional rehabilitation, clean water etc. In addition to this, the NGO also initiated a pilot program for an additional 20 deaf children. The additional number of children receiving new support include the following:

- C 100 children get full sponsorship program support (not supported by Pact)
- C 70 children are receiving pre-school education in KG established by the NGO
- C 574 rural out of school children are covered through their non-formal education programs,
- C 79 families with 790 children receive family support programs which aim at improving the income of the family.

In terms of staffing, the NGO has also shown increase from 19 in 1996 to 34 in 1999. Previously, the NGO did not have enough human resources. But currently they have employed 3 highly qualified persons working both in project and finance activities.

According to the manager, the contribution of Pact's program to the capacity of their organization is significant. The employment of a project officer alone has contributed in increasing the number of their projects and the children benefiting from their projects . Similarly, the NGO before 1996 had suffered from budget deficits and currently they are able to finance both the old and new projects of the organization. The manager also noted that, the NGO was going to be de-registered by the government, as it was not able to implement all the projects that they had entered in to agreement with the government. However, due to Pact's strategically important supports such as personnel grant and technical training, they were able to raise more funds and meet the requirement of the government. Today, they are not only supporting additional number of children , but they are also making realistic support to the original 500 target children. The established systems within the organization have also won the appreciation of new donors willing to finance their programs in the future.

RCWDA

By 1996 when RCWDA joined Pact program, their annual was Birr 264,504.70, which were budgets allocated to finance their two projects namely; Non Formal Education and Micro-Credit Programs. The staffing level during that period was 12 with two professionals and 10 non-professionals.

The current budget of RCWDA in 1999 is Birr 1,320,289.56, which finances the budget for 15 projects. The number of children that were supported through their programs have also increased from 820 to the present level of 10,496 children that are directly involved in their projects. In addition to this, the NGO is involved in other large projects such as designing a non formal education curriculum for Oromiya region, initiating a level Bank program as a means of rural food security and promoting gender and development programs in rural areas particularly to promote the role of rural girls. Similarly, the NGO has replicated its projects in several places and is trying new peripheral regions in Oromiya.

At present the NGO has a total of 64 staff out of which 8 are highly qualified professionals. According to the program director the capacity building program of Pact has made significant contribution on the NGO. As a result of the OCA assessments and interventions made thereafter, the NGO currently has a regular office well established systems and organizational structure. Currently they are a well organized NGO with the capacity to implement bigger projects. Because of this, the NGO has been identified by Action Aid to initiate a Grain Bank project in Bale Zone of Oromiya region.

The manager also indicated that the short video produced through Pact's support alone has benefited the NGO through image building and serving as strong fundraising tool. Very soon the NGO is to have the film aired on ETV. Similarly, the employment of qualified project officers through Pact's grant and the different training provided to them have helped them to prepare quality projects which are funded by many donors easily. The NGO today claims that it is even giving support to government institutions. In the area of non-formal education, the NGO is serving as a resource NGO for the government and leading the regional government on how to formulate curriculum in the area, as well as mentoring other NGOs in their approach in nonformal education.

IFSO

IFSO joined Pact in 1996 and did not have an annual budgeting system. The total fund utilized during that year was Birr 250,000. The focus of the program was only one kebele (smallest unit of Admin) in Addis Ababa providing sponsorship support to 13 children with a staffing level of 2 persons only.

The current budget of the NGO is Birr 1,400,000 and the children directly benefiting from the sponsorship program has increased to 425 (not supported by Pact). The NGO also implements a family based child support program which targets 300 families with a total of 2,100 children. The NGO has expanded its project area and currently it is working at a woreda level by including 13 kebeles. The project has also initiated a credit program to improve the life of poor families.

This project which was initiated since the NGO became a partner with Pact currently supports 61 families with a total number of 366 children. Very soon a similar credit program will support 200 families benefiting 1200. Funding for the program has been obtained from other donor sources.

By diversifying its program IFSO has also initiated a vocational training program for school drop out youth girls.

At present a total of 36 girls have completed the training and are being placed. In year 2000 an additional 40 girls will be included in the program.

IFSO today has diverse donor base. From one donor base in 1996 they currently have 9 regular donors. They are also member of CRDA and the orphanage network established by NGOs involved in similar programs.

According to IFSO manager Pact's program and its office and staff are friends of IFSO. When we enter into Pact compound, we feel at home and as a family member. You can openly discuss with Pact staff and get solutions to your problems. Because of this IFSO appreciates Pacts program.

- C IFSO has established a well orgnaized finance system which is appreciated by many donors. Many donors agree to finance the projects of IFSO after only reviewing the system. This has been one major contribution of Pact.
- C The SPM report is also considered as a guiding document for the NGO. It has helped the NGO to have vision, mission and consistently oriented to this.

CHADET

The NGO joined Pacts program in 1998 and had an annual budget of only Birr 500,000. Currently this budget has increased to Birr 700,000. The number of projects of the NGO by 1998 was only 2 mainly focusing on HIV/AIDs awareness program targeting 80,000 youth in their locality in Addis Ababa. Their projects today have increased to 5 and include a preventive and rehabilitation program for 400 child prostitutes and HIV/AIDs educational programs for schools through an AIDs clubs.

The NGO at present has a total staff of 14 out of which 6 are professionals. Because of this situation, the NGO is currently in the process to initiate a child focussed urban program in Arsi region of Oromiya region.

According to the manager of CHADET, Pacts capacity building program is instrumental in assisting their NGO to reach a larger number of children because of other donor interest. . It fills the gap that has been mainly ignored by many donors. Because of this support, the NGO has become a credible development institution working with different donors, and institutions in the country.

Marry Joy

The NGO joined Pact's program in 1998 with the annual budget of Birr 1,600,000 and total staffing level of 14 full time workers with 3 professionals and 11 non professionals. The NGO was mainly implementing health project particularly in relation to HIV/AIDS. Environmental Health, and preventive street children program. The target family size of the project was 100 with 500 children.

Currently the annual budget of the NGO has increased to Birr2,800,000. This has also increased the target area of operation of the NGO. In this regard their development activities are currently operating in 3 kebeles and cover target population of 43,000 households and 215,000 children. In 1998 they were only limited to one kebele and 11,000 households and 55,000 children. Similarly, their HIV/AIDS sensitization and advocacy program has also increased its coverage from one kebele to two weredas covering 120,000 households and 600,000 children and youth.

The staffing level of the NGO has also increased. Currently the NGO has a total of 34 staff out of which are 8 are professionals. Because of this capacity, the NGO is in the process of initiating a street children program in Awassa town of southern region. The total budget allocated for the program in Awassa is Birr 6.5 million for one pilot program in one kebele.

According to the manager, the capacity building program of Pact has been very instrumental in increasing the programs of the organization. Because of this, the NGO has obtained the support of Redd Barna Ethiopia, Action Aid, BILANCE, Memissa, German Agro Action and others as regular donors. Pacts support according to the manager have helped the NGO to have the following:

- C Wider vision on their programs and built their confidence
- C Improved the quality of their projects which are always funded by donors

C Credibility with donors and good relationship with government and community.

Forum SCE

FSCE one of the first partner NGOs that joined the program with an annual budget of Birr 2,307,916 implementing child advocacy programs model preventive street children programs in Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa and Nazareth towns. The project used to support a total of 4000 children in the three areas.

Currently the NGO diversified its activities and replicated its programs in other regions such as Dessie. Additional projects such as a joint FSCE and police program on the protection of children, community based preventive program and street girls preventive and rehabilitation program. In addition to this, FSCE has also initiated information networking program which is currently supporting over 40 NGOs working without Pact support:

- C Wider vision
- C Confidence building
- C Quality project proposal preparation not rejected
- C Quality of work
- C Credibility by donors
- C Good relationship
- C High government and community support
- C Donor base has increased UNICEF, Radda Barnen, Memisa Bilan GAA, CRDA, AAE, own income.

APPENDIX G - TOTAL GRANTS PER YEAR (BAR GRAPHS)

Chart1



Amount of Grants by Year Sector (Combined)

Activity= Strategic Action Grant
Sector = Child Welfare

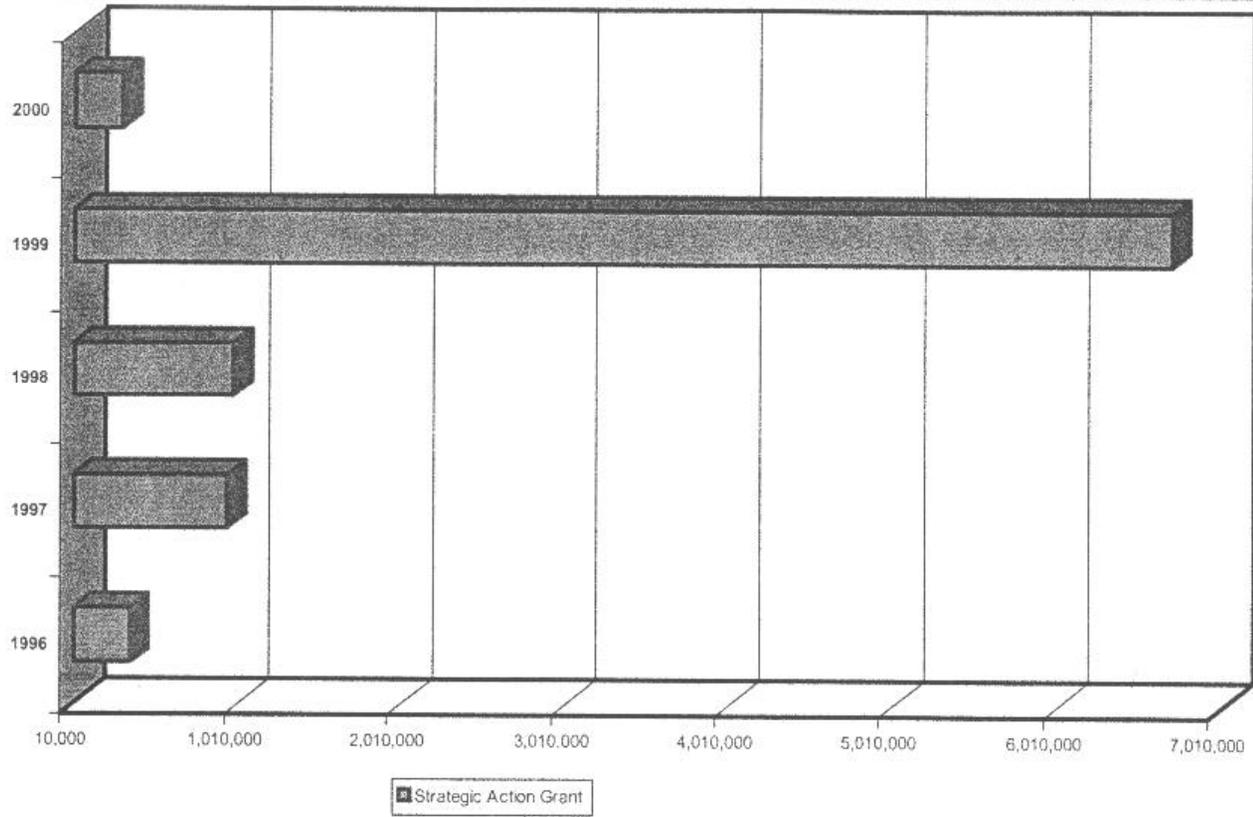
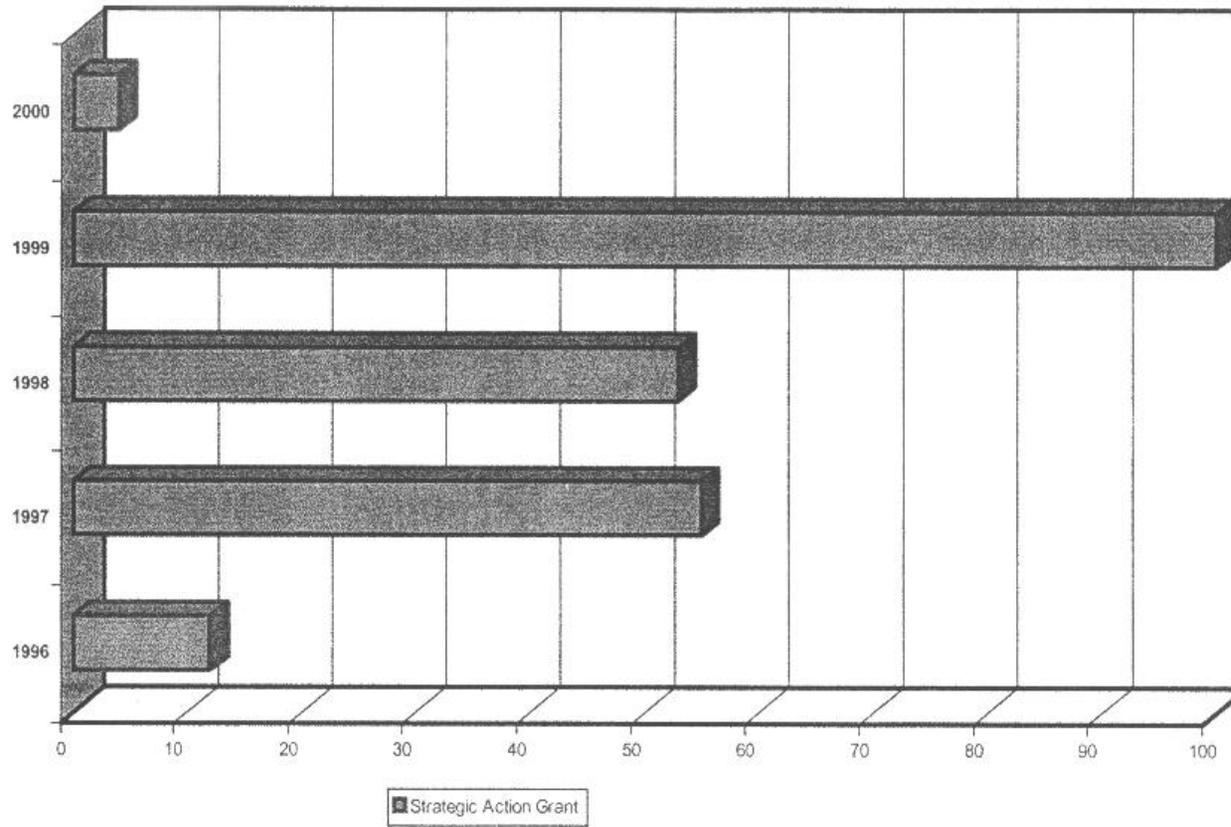


Chart11



Number of Grants per Year - Sector (Combined)

Activity = Strategic Action Grant
Sector = Child Welfare



APPENDIX H*

*From a draft of *Finding a Way Forward: Principles and Strategies to Reduce the Impacts of AIDS on Children and Families*, by John Williamson, March 2000, which will be included as a chapter in the upcoming book, *The Orphan Generation – The Global Legacy of the AIDS Epidemic*, which is being edited by Carol Levine and Geoff Foster and is to be published by Cambridge University Press.

Integrating Care and Prevention

To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of interventions, those engaged with HIV/AIDS issues must give greater attention to ways that care and prevention activities can reinforce each other. For example, there is growing interest in ways that orphans activities and other kinds of care can provide entry points for promoting HIV prevention at the community level. Care issues are concrete and of immediate concern. Making changes in personal behavior to avoid HIV infection, on the other hand, requires a series of conceptual leaps, such as a firm belief in germ theory, a strong future orientation, and a conviction that what one does now will make a significant difference in the distant future. This makes effective HIV prevention a very difficult enterprise, so it is worth assessing carefully whether people's immediate engagement with the concrete realities of care issues can be a catalyst for prevention efforts. Prevention should be approached in ways that make sense in terms of people's day-to-day experiences and concerns. One of the main reasons why HIV has spread as extensively and rapidly as it has is the long lag between infection and illness. The link between change in sexual behavior and avoidance of illness is more difficult to demonstrate, for example, than the reduction in malaria and the use of treated bed nets. It may be that engagement in care activities can help make a cause and effect link in participant experience that will reinforce prevention messages. Also, the sense of empowerment that comes through community mobilization--joining with others to address immediate problems--may stimulate a sense of hope and the belief that it is possible to have greater control over the things that affect our lives. Hope and empowerment may increase receptivity to prevention messages.

Linking care and prevention activities seems particularly relevant in programs involving children and adolescents. In many countries, young people frequently show a willingness and capacity to organize and address community problems. For example, in addition to providing direct benefits for those assisted, promoting the engagement of youth anti-AIDS clubs in the emotional support and daily living needs of orphans or people living with AIDS can provide opportunities to convey and reinforce prevention messages among participating youths. As one agency head from Zambia observed, anti-AIDS club members get bored if they just talk about why they should not be having sex.

Care interventions should be integrated in ways that help AIDS-affected households cope with the range of problems they are facing, including caring for people who are ill, gaining access to basic medications, reducing stigma and psychosocial distress, keeping children in school, and compensating for lost adult labor and income. The care and support of people living with AIDS should be linked with efforts to mitigate the economic impacts on their families. The psychosocial needs of parents living with HIV/AIDS and their children are directly related and can be addressed through integrated interventions.

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