



More than 3,000 years ago, the land of Ethiopia was home to one of the world's most advanced civilizations. Today, Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world. The people of Ethiopia are struggling to recover from decades of drought, famine, disease, war, and tragically misguided international policy. In Ethiopia, millions of people are hungry, most households do not have access to safe drinking water, and disease continues to take a devastating toll on the lives of these extraordinary people.

Since the fall of the communist government in 1991, and with the continuing development of democracy, the people of Ethiopia have made noteworthy progress; however, the world must champion and maintain these gains at every opportunity. We must unite to help the successes in Ethiopia spread across the country faster than the famines, the insects, and the despair. This is a critical time for Ethiopia and for all of the world's poorest countries; *it is a time when everyone can make a meaningful difference in the lives of millions of people.*

The Praxis Ethiopia Foundation is a US non-profit corporation committed to reducing extreme poverty in Ethiopia through community driven, science-led development. We are not a relief agency; *we focus on development and sustainability.* Ethiopian communities define their most pressing needs, and experts from around the world join with the community leaders to identify and implement scientifically sound and sustainable solutions.

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The Foundation's mission and services were designed in close consultation with the people who know the most about Ethiopia's situation. We worked with Ethiopia's top experts in poverty reduction. The Foundation serves a vital role in Ethiopia's restoration. This close partnership and commitment to shared purpose is evidenced in the fact that:

- ❖ *His Excellency* Prime Minister Meles Zenawi is the Honorary Chairperson of the Board of Directors,
- ❖ *His Excellency* President Girma Wolde Giorgis made the welcoming address at the Foundation's inaugural event in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and
- ❖ *His Excellency* Dr. Aseffa Abreha is the Chairperson of the Board. Dr. Aseffa was the manager (w/ rank of minister) of the Ethiopian Social Rehabilitation & Development Fund, which pioneered successful community-driven poverty reduction programs funded by the World Bank.

Consistent with the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals, and Ethiopia's own Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development Plan, the Foundation promotes, supports, and honors science-led, community driven poverty reduction in Ethiopia.

Gifts to the Foundation support development projects, recognize and honor distinguished contributions to Ethiopia's community-driven poverty reduction program, and advance Ethiopia's cause in the world.

The Foundation's resources are committed to helping Ethiopia regain its place in the world as a thriving trading partner.



Service Clubs and Places of Worship can help the Foundation through the ONE FROM ALL, ALL FOR ONE PROGRAM or the CHANGE FOR CHANGE, HELPING ETHIOPIA PROGRAM.

The ONE FROM ALL, ALL FOR ONE PROGRAM helps service clubs contribute to community-driven poverty reduction in Ethiopia. If your service club would like to advance the Foundation's work and would like to contribute one dollar per member per month to this cause, you can become a supporter through this program. Your club will be listed on our website and it will receive an electronic newsletter on progress in Ethiopia. To learn more about this program, please see our website or email us at Information@PraxisEthiopia.org.

The CHANGE FOR CHANGE PROGRAM helps Places of Worship contribute to community-driven poverty reduction in Ethiopia. To participate, your Place of Worship would designate one service (or more) each month during which people attending the service would have the opportunity to give their spare change to support the Foundation's work. Then every few months, your Place of Worship would send a check to the Foundation for the amount of money collected. Your Place of Worship will be listed on our website and it will receive an electronic newsletter on progress in Ethiopia. To learn more about this program, see our website or email us at Information@PraxisEthiopia.org.

THE PRAXIS ETHIOPIA FOUNDATION
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The Praxis Ethiopia Foundation is a publicly supported charity operating under section 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. Your gift to the Foundation is deductible to the extent allowed under the tax laws of your country.

—A SHORT HISTORY—

In January 2002, professionals from around the world convened in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to participate in Ethio-Forum 2002. Under the leadership of *His Excellency* Dr. Aseffa Abreha, the Ethiopian Social Rehabilitation & Development Fund sponsored this important forum to provide the opportunity to strengthen our collective understanding of how to help Ethiopia reduce extreme poverty. The Forum also provided the opportunity to share remarkable stories of successfully controlling insect pests, building small-scale irrigation systems, educating people, and strengthening healthcare.

Ethio-Forum 2002 was a pivotal event in Ethiopia's history. During the forum, as Ethiopia's leaders and policy advisors provided their assessments of Ethiopia's problems, a single recurring theme emerged. Ethiopia has extensive international financial assistance and relief aid; however, Ethiopia desperately needs 'technical backstopping.' Ethiopia needs help from people who have the expertise to identify and apply scientifically sound solutions to pressing problems in food security, healthcare, education, and using technology.

Ethiopia's need significantly exceeds the capacity of its educational system and expert networks. Ethiopia desperately needs *additional* intellectual capital to help communities to help themselves. Ethiopia needs people from around the world who want to help restore the country by helping Ethiopians rebuild Ethiopia; essentially, a group of well-informed people dedicated to community-driven poverty reduction.

At the conclusion of Ethio-Forum 2002, Dr. Getachew Tikubet, Dr. Donald C. Johnson, and Dr. Dave Blankinship met with many of the professionals who participated in the Forum. After extensive discussion, they drafted a description of an autonomous international coali-

tion of educators, scientists, entrepreneurs, and technical advisors dedicated to community-driven poverty reduction in Ethiopia; they named this group PRAXIS ETHIOPIA.

Roughly translated, "praxis" is the application of knowledge to solve problems. Ethiopian communities need people with the knowledge to help them to discover or re-discover scientifically sound solutions to their problems with food security, healthcare, education, and technology applications: that is PRAXIS ETHIOPIA.

On 25 January 2002, *His Excellency* Dr. Aseffa Abreha lead a delegation of professionals who met with *His Excellency* Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, and invited him to serve as the Patron of PRAXIS ETHIOPIA. His Excellency graciously accepted the group's invitation and PRAXIS ETHIOPIA began that day.

Since its creation, PRAXIS ETHIOPIA's members have assisted Ethiopians to strengthen food security, improve healthcare, promote education, and facilitate simple technology transfer. Millions of Ethiopians have benefited from the ongoing activities of PRAXIS ETHIOPIA—and we are just getting started.

For more information, please go to

WWW.PRAXISETHIOPIA.ORG

