

## ETHIOPIA: Evangelism, Education and Tribal Peace Project

Gambella region mission center seeks to calm conflicts and improve lives



A guest house under construction at the Gambella Center for Mission in Gambella, Ethiopia, is part of a three-year construction on a mission center that will serve the community in multiple ways. A library to serve school children is included in the first phase of construction.

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

**CONTEXT:** The Word of God is thriving in Ethiopia's Hizboch (Gambella Peoples) state, but many of the 52 Anglican churches there struggle with inter-tribal tensions. The Anglican Church has 6,000 believers organized in clusters. With a population of 253,000 people, Gambella, bordering Sudan, is one of the poorest and least-developed of Ethiopia's nine states.

**NEED:** The people in this region have limited access to education, jobs and basic healthcare services, resulting in outbreaks of easily preventable diseases. Frequent ethnic conflicts between the Nuer and Annuak tribes affect the region. Churches are under-resourced and the pastors, limited in skills, are not spared the inter-ethnic conflict.

**SOLUTION:** The goal of this three-year program is to strengthen the local Anglican Church through evangelism, pastoral training and comprehensive community programs that promote education, literacy and conflict resolution. It involves the construction of the Gambella Center for Mission, which will consist of a

250-seat Community Information Resource and Training Center, offices, library, seminar rooms, guest house and sports fields. During the first year, a projected 1,000 students will use the mission center library. Within three years, it will serve some 75,000 people, including Bible study activities and education, as well as community outreach programs that promote tribal conflict resolution.

### LIFE IMPACT

Phase one of this project benefits 39,002 people  
**WILLINGNESS:** 30,435 people increase in willingness to learn from Scripture through center activities  
**UNDERSTANDING:** 2,844 people increase in understanding of Scripture through participation in peace building-reconciliation community outreach sessions  
**ACTION:** 418 people, trained to use Scripture as a tool to resolve conflict, take action during outreach activities  
**COMMUNITY:** 4,725 people gain access to a well-stocked library, 100 acquire vocational skills and 480 are trained in the use of sustainable technologies, such as bio-gas generation and installation of solar panels

### PROJECT PROFILE

Ministry Partner  
**CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY (CMS)**  
**IRELAND**



ID: ARDF-0809-Ethiopia

Willingness:	30,435
Understanding:	2,844
Action:	418
Community Engagement:	5,305

Lives Impacted **39,002**

Total Amount Requested **\$109,447**

Risk 

Breadth/Depth 

Timeline **1 year (of a 3-year project)**

### IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"I have used the [community] library since 2006. I am able to use many reading books and reference books. The quiet reading rooms are suitable for studies. It is also a place for me to meet my friends and share ideas and discuss different problems."

— *Tsebay Side, a 12th-grade student and frequent visitor to a CMS Ireland-funded community resource center library in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*



## WHAT IT'S LIKE NOW

"[It is] unfortunate that the people of Gambella couldn't reasonably benefit from the natural endowments and development endeavors; mainly due to the prevalence of conflicts and instability. And thus, the region and its people [remain] marginalized and disadvantaged in view of many development indicators and compared to other parts/regions of the country. ... To sum up, the intermingled socio, economic and political problems – i.e. conflicts, inadequate public resource allocation, weak governance, shortage of trained manpower, less participation of non-state actors both [community service organizations and nongovernmental organizations] and the private sector, and weak institutional capacities across the sectors require organized, systematic and immediate supports from development partners."

— *www.undg.org/docs/8861Joint-UN-Special, Initiative in Gambella Regional State*

Ethnic attacks "claimed the lives of 26 people, as well as resulted in loss of livestock and the destruction of property. In total, 200 houses were burned down, and large herds of cattle belonging to the Anuak raided. ... Some 5,000 people are reported displaced."

— *Action by Churches Together, a Geneva-based global alliance of churches, April 20, 2007*

## PROJECT DESIGN

This three-year project starts with the construction of a multi-purpose community center. CMS Ireland, in partnership with the Episcopal Area for the Horn of Africa, will build the Gambella Center for Mission. An executive committee of local leaders will oversee construction and recruitment of staff. The committee will hire a contractor and supervise the work, payments, procurement of materials and inventory. A project director, an education coordinator and a peace coordinator will be hired to complete a baseline study of Gambella and to mobilize communities to form active disease prevention, education and peace-building initiatives. The center will be the only equipped community information and resource center for some 253,00 people. The facility will have limited use the first year. About 1,000 students will use the resource center, mothers will take part in Bible literacy and family health education, and sports activities will be held for youth from different tribes. In years two and three, at least 3,620 youth will be involved in sports (with strong elements of prayer), Bible studies and peer education. Some 700 women will take part in Bible literacy classes, 208 church leaders will receive leadership training, 500 leaders will attend conflict resolution conferences, 25,300 people will

attend health education training and 540 people will learn vocational training and sustainable technology.

**Measuring impact.** The center will track the number of students visiting the library, attending coaching sessions and using Scripture resources. Bible literacy tutors will report on the number of women able to read the Bible. The impact on youth will be measured by anecdotal evidence of their willingness to interact socially regardless of ethnicity. Church leaders leading the outreach activities will keep a record of those attending and - to a limited extent - how they apply the acquired knowledge or skills in their daily lives.

## TRACK RECORD

CMS Ireland, in partnership with the Anglican Church, has supported extensive holistic Christian ministry, health and educational programs in the Diocese of Egypt – consisting of four countries in North Africa and four countries in the Horn of Africa, which includes Ethiopia. This project is an extension of more than six years of work by CMS Ireland in support St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Addis Ababa and 52 other Anglican churches, including eight churches in refugee camps in the Gambella region.

### PROJECT BUDGET

ITEM	REQUESTED	LOCAL/OTHER
Construction materials	\$76,737	\$150,037
Staff*	\$15,468	
Research and evaluation	\$11,726	
Program**	\$2,212	
Monitoring	\$2,278	
Furniture and equipment	\$1,026	\$143,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$109,447</b>	<b>\$293,037</b>

### SOURCES OF FUNDS

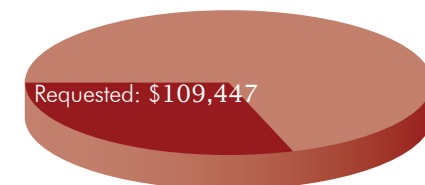
#### NOTES:

This three-year project is valued at \$985,589, of which \$738,675 has been secured. ARDF will co-fund just the first phase, which represents 25 percent of construction costs for this phase.

\* local recruitment and one year's salary for a project director, an education coordinator and a peace and reconciliation coordinator

\*\* to start Bible literacy activities at the center

 Requested  
 Local/other



Cost for one beneficiary: \$10.32

## ANALYSIS

### Risk



#### CONCEPT: 1

The project has potential to become a model for the gospel as a tool for peace, reconciliation, forgiveness and unity in the body of Christ. It can impact thousands of lives in multiple ways.

#### PROGRAM DESIGN & EXPERIENCE: 2

The project has regional and local support of the government and local churches. Work will be done in stages with local oversight. The proposed activities have the potential to transform lives, especially in the second and third years of the project. CMS Ireland has a successful track record.

#### LEADERSHIP: 2

CMS Ireland staff has strong ties to the local Anglican bishop overseeing the project. A local executive committee is providing oversight of construction. Local staff will be involved with community outreach, while local Anglican pastors will provide needed spiritual guidance.

#### FINANCIAL CONTROL: 1

CMS Ireland has stable management, independent governance, secure wire transfer methods, and its financial statements are externally audited.

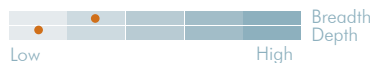
#### SUSTAINABILITY: 1

CMS Ireland has secured funding beyond the first-year phase of the project. Local Anglican churches are actively involved in raising funds and will be beneficiaries to the proposed services.

#### EXTERNAL: 3

The Gambella region is a conflict-prone region that is subject to drought and heavy rains. The success of this extensive outreach program depends on the success in limiting inter-tribal conflicts.

## Impact



#### BREADTH: 2

An estimated 1,000 people will be reached in the first year of this three-year project at a cost-per-beneficiary of \$402. The cost-per-beneficiary in the second and third years of the project will be substantially lower as multiple community services get under way.

#### DEPTH: 1

The library is the only facility that will be in use at the end of the first year. Holistic ministry will be implemented in years two and three. At that time, more than 75,000 people are expected to be impacted in multiple ways.

## IMPLEMENTER FINANCIALS\*

	2006	%	2007	%	2008	%
<b>INCOME</b>						
Diocesan and parochial	857,682	26	929,664	33	1,145,786	38
Non-parochial	680,892	21	488,782	17	593,469	19
Dividends, interest	265,809	8	340,099	12	324,644	11
Legacies	965,055	29	31,729	1	99,941	3
Bishop's Appeal	269,166	8	84,008	3	198,430	6
Irish aid	163,733	5	874,930	30	560,297	18
Miscellaneous	114,705	3	124,003	4	140,574	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,317,042</b>		<b>2,873,215</b>		<b>3,063,141</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
Designated overseas	1,537,139	59	1,630,953	50	2,365,192	56
Administrative	254,800	10	321,433	10	361,841	9
Resourcing the church in mission	635,342	24	768,861	23	696,639	17
Other	171,426	7	553,595	17	748,848	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,598,707</b>		<b>3,274,842</b>		<b>4,172,520</b>	
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>718,335</b>		<b>(401,627)</b>		<b>(1,109,379)</b>	

#### NOTES:

\*Income and expenditures reported in U.S. dollars

INCOME: The first three categories of income have fluctuated significantly from year to year due to the unpredictable nature of giving. The Bishop's Appeal is a development fund run by the Church of Ireland, which is open to organizations such as CMS Ireland. Awards are made by the Bishop's Appeal committee and outside the control of CMS Ireland. In 2007, the Irish government's overseas aid program increased dramatically and CMS Ireland received more funding. Due to downturns in the economy, the Irish government announced significant cuts to its overseas aid program and it is unlikely that CMS Ireland will receive significant funding from this source in the near future.

EXPENDITURES: Most funds designated for overseas go to Africa, with Kenya, Uganda and Sudan as major recipients. Salaries are the major cost component and were \$676,381, \$657,889 and \$493,305 for the year's in view, respectively. Other expenses include educating members of the churches of Ireland about mission and providing support to global partners. Expenses in 2007 and 2008 were in excess of revenue, but the organization still has almost \$3 million in equity.

## PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION

"I just returned from the project site three weeks ago. Construction work for the offices, priest's house and library are under way. The Anglican Church has eight mission centers in Gambella province and I have managed the Lare Mission Center with 12 active congregations. The proposed Gambella mission center will be the only one of its kind in the province. It is being built to serve as an inter-tribal church facility. The facility will serve all major ethnic groups and promote collaboration with other denominations in bringing God's Word to the marginalized people living in the province."

— The Rev. Mark Deng Kuor, Anglican Mission Centers, Gambella

## LEADERSHIP PROFILES

The Rev. Andrew Proud has served as area bishop for the Horn of Africa since 2007. His background includes:

- former chaplain, St. Matthew's Church, Addis Ababa
- former rector and ordained deacon for several parishes in London, United Kingdom

David Gough is regional mission manager for Eastern and Southern Africa. His background includes:

- fund-raising, emergency program management and media experience
- work with global missionary organizations and international nongovernmental organizations

## REFERENCES

"CMS Ireland is a respected organization, not just here at home, but in different countries where it supports the work of different churches. I have worked closely with its leaders at home and abroad in the production of TV programs, other video programs and the writing of human stories and

opinion and editorial pieces. I am an eyewitness to its work in countries like Sudan, Kenya and Ethiopia, often traveling with its leaders. I have seen the organization invest in strengthening local churches and in promoting interchurch relationships, in addition to supporting projects that make education, healthcare and clean water accessible to marginalized communities."

— *Paul Clark, news anchor, Ulster Television, Belfast, Ireland*

## BEST PRACTICES

Based on GSI research on evangelism, this project adheres to the following best practices:

- promotes community participation and ownership of the development process over time until the community can access full responsibility for managing its development
- works intimately with the local church in delivering God's Word
- provides spiritual growth within target communities
- can be sustained by the communities

## Researcher's Statement



**Jane Wathome**  
Sr. Research Analyst  
August 2009

*Wathome*

This investment meets the Anglican Relief and Development Fund's requirements for "Scripture impact at the heart of holistic engagement." It offers an opportunity for rapid church growth, as evidenced by the hunger for the gospel among Sudanese refugees and the local community. This project offers multiple returns – Scripture-driven peace and reconciliation, vibrant local churches, improved education, better healthcare and strong vocational skills. However, these benefits depend on managing the frequent conflicts. Also local CMS partners must manage the collaboration and implement activities prioritized by the different groups within the region.



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## HOW TO FUND THIS PROJECT

### PROJECT RECAP

ID	- ARDF-0809-CMS
Implementer	- Church Mission Society (CMS) Ireland
Timeline	- One year (of a 3-year project)
Requested	- \$109,447
Modified	- 090109



The Anglican Relief and Development Fund

For information about the fund or projects, write to:  
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## INSPIRATION

The King will reply, "I tell you, whenever you refused to help one of these least important ones, you refused to help me."

— *Matthew 25.45, GNT*