

Annual Report 2009



Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE)
Striving for sustainable protection, growth and
development of vulnerable children

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ANPPCAN African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against; Child Abuse and Maltreatment

CANU Child Abuse and Neglected Unit

CBCC Community Based Child Center

CBCP Community Based Correction Program

CBCPU Community Based Child Protection Unit

CBO Community Based Organization

CFC Child Friendly Court

CHAD-ET Child Aid Ethiopia

CPP Child Protection Program

CPU Child Protection Unit

CR Child Right

CRC Child Right Committee

CRDA Christian Relief and Development Association

CRDC Child Resource Development Center

CSEC Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

CSO Civil Society Organization

CST Child Sex Tourism

DIC Drop In Center

EDA Emmanuel Development Association

EvC Every Child

FFIC Federal First Instance Court

FGD Focus Group discussions

FSCE Forum on Street Children Ethiopia [Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment]

GBV Gender Based Violence

ICT Information Communication Technology

IGA Income Generating Activities

IEC Information Education, Communication

NFE Non Informal Education

NPA National Plan of Action

NGO Non Governmental Organization

Go Government Organizations

HAPCO HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office

NFBE Non Formal Basic Education

OPRIFS Organization for the Prevention, Rehabilitation and Integration of Female Street Children

OVC Orphan and Vulnerable Children

PADET Professional Alliance for Development in Ethiopia.

PASDEP Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End

Poverty

PRRP Participatory Review and Reflection Process

RH Reproductive Health

SAC Saving and Credit

SAEC Sexually Abused and Exploited Children

SKN Stichiting Kinderpostzegels Nederland

SNE Society for Nutrition Education

STI Sexually Transmitted Infections

VST Vocational Skill Training

UN European Union

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UNCRC United Nations Child Rights Convention

Message From Executive Director



In the year 2009, many thanks to the commitment and dedication of its supporters, volunteers, partners and staff, FSCE has accomplished remarkable results in attaining its objectives and goals. For FSCE, the year 2009 was a very special year and also a period of series of realignment and transformative processes.

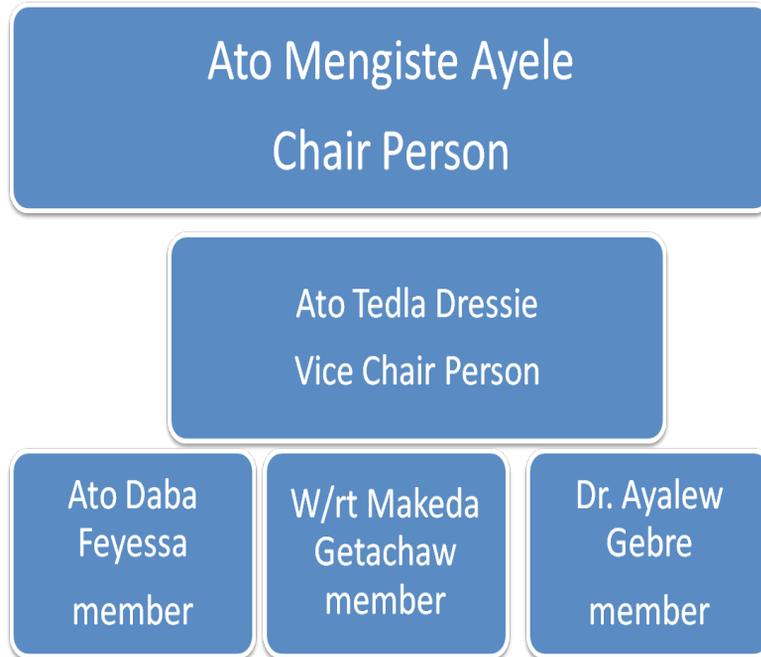
The major mile stone reached was the completion of our 4th strategic plan and following the issuance of charities and societies proclamation, FSCE has entered in to searching its future direction and re-alignment exercises.

Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment-new FSCE was born out of these series of consultations and explorations which also produced new vision, mission and transformative programs. Now its new program direction is geared towards comprehensive approach where child protection is addressed through promotive, preventive and rehabilitative interventions.

The year 2009 was concluded by marking the twenty years of FSCE works in promoting and implementing child protection works in Ethiopia. The event brought together its founders, board members, partners, volunteers, children, parent, community leaders and staff to reflect on the performance of its past and reaffirmation on the new direction. It was also an opportunity where the stakeholders revitalized their commitment, professionalism and dedications towards meeting the targeted goals and objectives of Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE) in the years to come.

This annual report of the year 2009 has documented, for reference, the achievements of FSCE at organizational and area program office levels. Once again, I would like to take this opportunities to thank all our partners, supporters and stakeholders for their contributions, resourcesfulness, commitments and dedications. I am proud of the accomplishment we have made in the past year and I look forward for your continued support in achieving our goal of promoting and implementing child protection in the year 2010.

Executive Board Members



Honorable Medalists awarded on the 20th anniversary of FSCE celebration ceremony due to their greatest contributions and efforts for the organization



Ato Tsegaye Chernet



Save the Children
Sweden



Ato Fasil W/mariam

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3. Country and Organizational Profile

Ethiopia is one of the highly populated countries with 74 Million (2007 census, CSA). The country has a fast growing population with a very high proportion of children. The percentage of the population below the age of 18 years old was 42,124,000 (UNICEF, 2007) beings over 50% of the total population of the country making the issue of child welfare one of the most critical focus of attentions.

Ethiopia's economy which is largely dependent on exports of the primary sector, though showing growth is challenged by many factors including weak production base, relatively low international prices for agricultural products, the current world economic crisis, high rates of inflation and unemployment and in particular youth unemployment. While the government has developed and is implementing economic policies and strategies to improve the economic situations, the challenges have persisted.

Reports on child protection show that the country has low performance under all indicators. According to UNICEF report; there is insignificant birth registration; violence against children, child marriage, female genital mutilation/cutting, child labor, sexual exploitation, Child trafficking, migration, children with disabilities, children without parental care, children in justice systems and children in emergencies are very high [UNICEF, 2008].

The number of orphan children (age 0-17 years) in Ethiopia is estimated to be 5,000,000 of whom 800,000 are orphaned duet to HIV/AIDS (UNICEF, 2007). Orphans and other children affected by HIV/AIDS find themselves vulnerable to exploitation, abuse and to contracting the virus themselves.

Despite this, many children and young people are extremely resilient and are able to cope even under extreme circumstances given the right kinds of support.

FSCE was established 20 years ago by very few dedicated Ethiopians with the aim of promoting the cause of disadvantaged urban children. Today, FSCE as a non-profit NGO is working for the benefit of marginalized children. The organization is governed by a general assembly and a board that has an executive committee. The Executive Director runs the operations of the organization and also officially represents FSCE. The Director is assisted by professionals who lead and coordinate different programs of the organization.

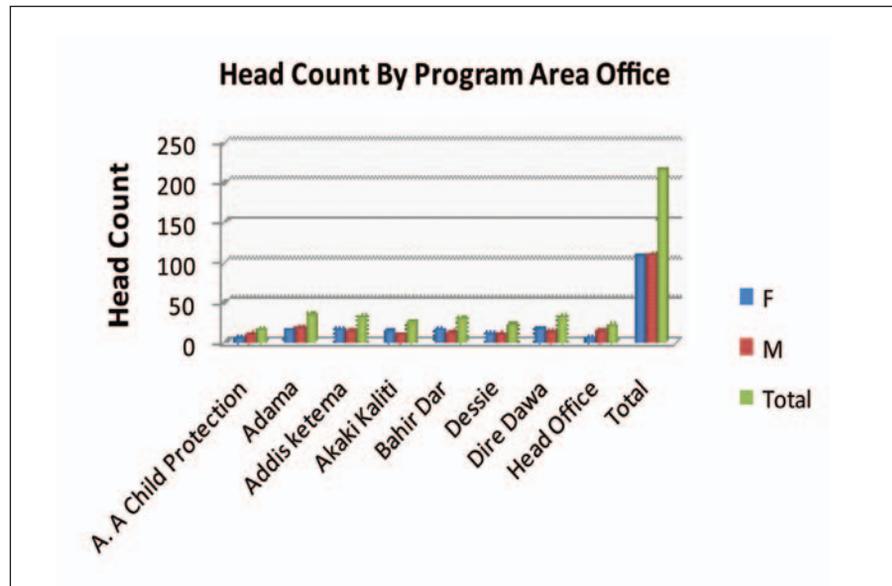
FSCE, being a pioneering NGO, has built good reputations through promoting the rights of children and the provision of quality services for disadvantaged children in general and marginalized urban children in particular over a period of two decades.

FSCE has been implementing projects to achieve goals and objectives set in its strategic plan designed for five years since 2004. This strategic plan had put four programs with their respective goals and each program has its own sub programs with objectives. FSCE checks the fulfillment of all these project objectives through monitoring and implementation reports. This annual report document; therefore, explains what has been achieved in 2009 through figures, narratives and by presenting cases of some intervention outcomes. However, this report document is a simple summary of results seen at outcome level during the reporting year. Hence, detail activity and output performances are not included.

4. Head Office Accomplishments

4.1 Human and Material Resources Management

As indicated in the forward message of the Executive director, realignment has been done and a new strategic plan with new programs have been designed. This realignment process is also done in the human resource aspect to make it compatible with the new legislation on CSO and the strategic plan. Side by side, taking the high cost of living into consideration as well as to motivate and retain staff, salary adjustment has been done by external consultant which will be implemented in the coming year.



The second major activity of the year was conducting skill gap assessment of the staff. Accordingly, questionnaire was distributed and the kind of training that needs to be conducted has already been identified. In this regard strategy is being designed on how to use skill and knowledge of the internal staff.

4.2 Program Direction

The program director oversees the program wing of the organization. During the reporting period, overall leadership has been provided by program unit to all area program offices. To enable the area program offices effectively deliver program interventions, the following guidelines have been put in place:

- Program quality management guideline
- Effective teamwork and team building guideline
- Contract Management guideline
- Risk Management Guideline

The unit has actively participated in the development of the new strategic plan. As per the new strategic plan Area Program Office, New Organizational Structure has been developed and work and role relationship between area office program managers and program coordinators has been clearly demarcated and put in place.

Area program offices have been supported to develop their five year long range plans. In order to supplement existing projects and address more needy children, five project proposals have been developed and submitted to different donors.

The day to day program activities within the seven area program offices have been monitored and the necessary technical back up has been given to the offices. Addis Ababa Area program office child protection and community based correction programs have been evaluated using external resource persons.

4.3 End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes [ECPAT] East African Network

Since the year 2009, FSCE has been running its National program which is part of the ECPAT Eastern Africa regional program and the coordination role has been given to Uganda Child Rights NGO Network/UCRNN. Therefore, the report below presents the national program accomplishment within the reporting period.

The ITRC project was successfully implemented in collaboration with FSCE's IT unit and CRDC till June, 2009. With this support, the upgrading of the ECPAT Eastern Africa website has been finalized and all the necessary information including password and details about the website was communicated to UCRNN for their future handling of the website. In addition to the website, FSCE has also implemented activities related to the IT and resource center immediately after it has received the donation from ECPAT international by procuring the proposed items (Laptop computer for the IT, Scanner-printer for the resource center and flash disk benefiting both programs). Continuous communications are also maintained with ECPAT international as well as Coordinating office on different issues.

Through the close consultation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism the baseline survey on child sex tourism is being carried –out in six major tourist destination areas of Ethiopia. A joint proposal on “Equal Rights and Opportunities for Girls and Young Women “with child rights alliance (Plan Nederland-the applicant-and Child Helpline International (CHI), Defense for Children Nederland-ECPAT, Free Voice, International Child Development Initiative (CDI) and Women Win-the co-applicants) was prepared and submitted to potential funders for funding

4.4 Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring and Evaluation

4.4.1 Planning and Budgeting

The organizational planning deals with the development of an integrated plan of many projects implemented in every program area office which is different from donors’ plan. During the reporting period two major achievements can be marked; development of five year strategic plan and adaptation of computer aided planning using MS project.

An end of the former strategic plan (2005 - 2009), and national and international changes, especially the proclamation on charities and societies were reasons for the designing of a new strategic plan. To make the strategic planning participatory as well as responsive to contemporary environmental phenomenon future search was conducted at head office and program area offices level. As a result new vision, mission, programs and strategies are coined (see back cover page).

Nevertheless, the new legislation on charities and societies has demanded systematic budgeting that can help to plan ahead and manage costs of the organization so as to comply with the law, 70/30. In response to this, FSCE has given emphasis to the use of Microsoft Project software for planning of projects under implementation. Hence consecutive training has been given to program area managers and officers and as a result the 2010 planning is done using the new software.

4.4.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

FSCE has long experience in conducting organized quarterly monitoring of projects’ implementation in addition to regular follow up of activities. Outcomes of the monitoring process have been very helpful in taking timely action on deviated projects and learning from success as well as failures. During the reporting period, bi-annual and annual monitoring were conducted. To discuss

on the results, share best practices and include views of staff and the board annual and bi-annual review meetings were held on time.

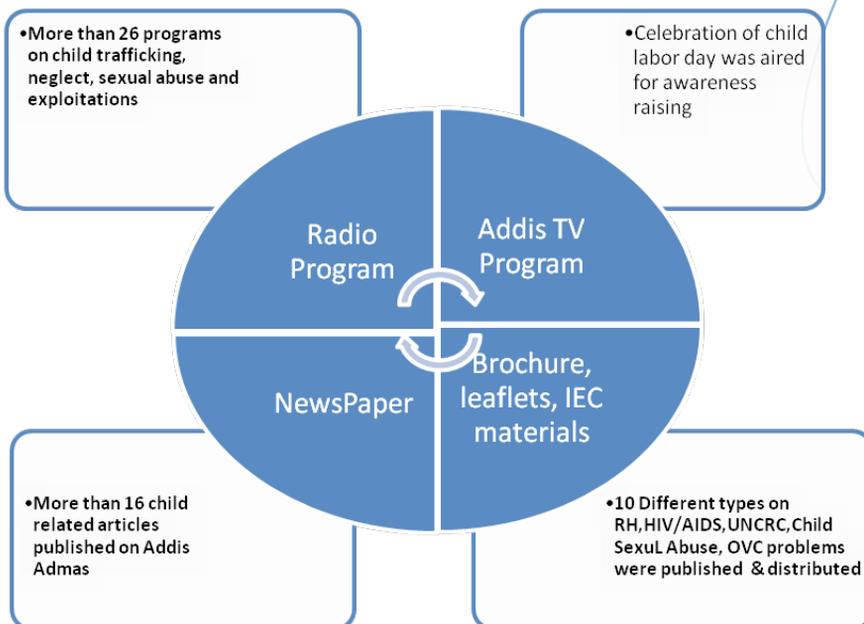
4.5 Advocacy, Networking and Communication

4.5.1 Advocacy and Awareness Raising

Various activities have been carried out to raise awareness of the community, government and members of different groups and organizations through workshops, street marches, school mini-media, billboards etc on child trafficking, child sexual abuse, child labor, neglect, OVC, HIV/AIDS, RH and UNCRRC. Moreover published and electronics media has been used to advocate children issues in the reporting period as summarized below.

4.5.2 Networking and Partnership

- CRDA regional plat forms; as steering committee member in the CRDA Addis Ababa and Oromiya region platform, FSCE actively participated in developing Terms of Reference and organizing a discussion forum for member organizations in relation to the new CSO/NGO legislation.
- African Child Policy forum Steering committee; FSCE is also a



steering committee member in the ACPF formed to establish national Hotline. As a result, FSCE has actively participated in lobbying Ethiopian Telecommunication to give free hotline at national level, organizing national conference on the need of its establishment, and collecting information about child focused service providers. Currently, Ethiopian Telecommunication Corporation has agreed to provide the three digit line which is free of charge and operates at national level.

- As a member of National steering committee against sexual abuse and exploitation of children in the Ministry of Women Affairs, the unit participated in the 2009 African Child Day celebration.
- Multi sectoral Joint project in Addis Ketema Sub City: The project has been implemented in partnership with CHAD-ET, OPRIFS, ANPPCAN, ACPF, and Goal Ethiopia. During this reporting period, the following activities were carried out:
 - Training was provided to police officers and bus terminal workers
 - Medical Treatment was provided to abused children
 - Discussion forum is organized for police, medical professionals, judges etc
 - The transit shelter for trafficked children was strengthened and has enabled to provide services to 100 trafficked children
 - Proposal Development in collaboration with partners
 - Develop concept note for EU call on elimination of child labour through education with other partners like SKN, MVF India, SNE Morocco, Aasaman Nepal
 - Develop project proposal on children on the move in the northern corridor of Ethiopia with local partners- EDA, PADET, CHADET and ANNEPCAN

4.6 Information Communication Technology (ICT)

The ICT devices such as computers, printers and resources like internet in FSCE Head Office and all program area offices are connected and shared by using the Local Area Network (LAN). The ICT Department has been constantly maintaining or fixing the LAN for efficient service. In the future the ICT Department has a plan to expand the LAN into WAN (Wide Area

Network) to connect all FSCE project area offices with the Head Office.

The dynamic website of FSCE(www.fsc-e.org) has been exposing the organization profiles activities and events to the world. The website has been a media for the organization. In the year 2009 lots of activities and events have regularly been posted through the website. Besides, the organization has been inviting professionals to recruit through the vacancy page. More than 50 downloadable e-books from the resource center have also been uploaded into the Resource Center page.

Some of the features of FSCE website are the following:

- News, Journals, different publications
- Child Resource Development center online service presenting e-books
- Vacancies, bids

Along with the website, core staff in Head Office have mail boxes, name@fsc-e.org to communicate about the organization business.

For the coming year the ICT Department is planning to create a new page for children to post what's in their mind.

Furthermore, the ICT Department has been managing different databases under the organization. For instance more than 600 child trafficking cases are easily processed by the Child trafficking database during the year. Based on the experience learned from Addis Ababa child trafficking unit and Child friendly court databases the ICT Department is planning to implement different databases in the organization administrative and program areas. Besides, the ICT Department has been taking care of all ICT devices available thereby maintenance and troubleshooting



4.7 20th Year Anniversary of FSCE

Forum on street children-Ethiopia (Now “Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment”) marked its 20th anniversary on December 22, 2009. During the 20-year service time, FSCE has been of a great help in mitigating the plight of disadvantaged children through advocacy, awareness raising as well as prevention, rehabilitation and protection programs.

Equipped with long years of experience, FSCE has become always effective agent in alleviating the problems of the disadvantaged children in general and the sexually abused and exploited children in particular. FSCE strongly believes that it can do more than what has already been achieved.

The commemoration of the 20th anniversary was an opportunity to vividly show the services FSCE has rendered during the 2 decades, the success it has attained, the impacts it has made on its beneficiaries.

The major activities of commemoration day were Exhibition, Panel discussion, Music and Drama by Children and Documentary film show. The activities of the event are mainly to:

- reflect how FSCE came into being, its growth, expansion and maturity.
- show FSCE’s achievements over the 2 decades, the successes it has attained, the impacts it has created.
- create a platform to thank and acknowledge all those who have made outstanding contributions to mitigate the plight of the disadvantaged children.
- be a forum where FSCE will be able to share its good experience and best practices to all those concerned institution/organizations and individuals.
- help to use panel discussions to share good views, opinion, etc of others to improve the future activities in order to produce quality services.
- show that FSCE is a real development partner of government doing its share in mitigating the national social problems and help build stronger relationship with government which will be instrumental to help sustain its programs.



5. Area Program Office Accomplishments in 2009

5.1 Child Support, Protection and Prevention Program

5.1.1 Child Support Sub Program

The child support sub program has been designed to rehabilitate/reintegrate child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, to reunify trafficked children with their families and to correct and rehabilitate children in conflict with the law. As indicated below, last year (in 2009), remarkable outcomes were seen using the strategies and models mentioned.

Community Based Child Centers (CBCC)

In correcting and discharging children in contact with the law, a number of services and skill trainings such as life skill training, psychotherapy, computer skill training, music and theater training; vocal, playing instruments, dancing, theater and drama and counseling services are provided. School uniform, educational material and reference books are also distributed to children from poor family. In addition, there is an enter CBCC educational competition whereby outstanding children are awarded planned to motivate children to improve their education. To entertain target children, they sometimes are taken to public entertainments and different events like music and drama shows are conducted.

At the center of this program, there are elders 'Mekari Shimagles' who play the lion share role. They give elderly advices to children, communicate and mediate with parents of the child, and share their knowledge they acquired from training on proper handling of children to the family. Through all these programs children in conflict with the law are corrected while attending their schools and living with their parents.

Starting from Addis Ababa CPU program area office, the pilot project has now expanded to Dredawa (a new CBCC has been color-fully inaugurated and was even aired as a new through VOA Amharic radio service), Bahir Dar, Akakai Kaliti, and Adama.

In 2010, for this program has already been permitted by the newly established agency on CSO, FSCE is planning to implement it widely in all program area offices. During the reporting period, the following out-comes have been achieved in this subprogram:

- Addis Ababa CPU program area has been successful in building a model CBCC through rehabilitating and strengthening an existing center. This model will help the organization to use it as bench mark in opening other centers so as to provide quality service to target children.
- 351 (59 female) children in conflict with the law and other children admitted to avoid bad image of the center have been attending the program and
- 51 (21 female) children in conflict with the law were successfully corrected and discharged.



Children at Community Based Child Center

Counter Trafficking

The counter trafficking is a project implemented in partner with the police, community, court, and other NGOs. Donors, especially save the children(s), Oak Foundation and People In Need are at the center in financing and technically supporting the program. This intervention is a response to the need of protection of children from further abuses after they are trafficked or migrated from their localities.

In some area program offices, target children are identified at bus stations or on the street and reunified with their parents. In other projects FSCE is opening check points in entry to and exit from big cities [satellite towns], for instance, in Bahir Dar at Woreta, Adet, Tis Abay etc so that it will be easy to protect children before they face many challenges in big towns.

In reunifying trafficked or migrated children, they are provided with temporary shelter, food, basic sanitation, health, guidance and counseling services together with community workers until police find their family. Moreover, traffickers might be red handed and the child may be physically and/or sexually abused. In such case, FSCE together with police takes traffickers and abusers to the court and facilitate their prosecution while the child is referred for medical treatment.

In some program areas like Bahir Dar, FSCE is involving the community of transit towns where trafficked children pass through by organizing them in to check-point committee to take leading role in protecting children and reunifying them. As a result, the project has become successful than ever before.

Looking at the magnitude of the problem, FSCE has been expanding the program to other regions where it is operational in collaboration with stakeholders. It was in mid 2009 a counter child trafficking project implementation started in Dessie town with financial and technical support of People In Need. Shelter is already made available, house mothers, guards and counselor hired and all facilities are fulfilled. In this short time, the program area office has given protection service to 17 (1 female) children. Yirga age 14 is one of them.



“My name is Yirga. I came from Soketa weeks ago. I had nowhere to sleep since I came here. So I used to sleep on the street. One day, while I was walking on the street a guard of an organization asked me where I was going. I told him that I was walking because I had nowhere to sleep. Then the guard asked me to pass the night in his room. I agreed and entered to his room to sleep. After a while he came and ordered me to take off my cloths. I did as he asked me to do. Then he pushed me to his bed and he started taking off his cloths. I was scared and run out of the class to the road naked. A man passing by gave me his scarf and helped me to go to FSCE the day after. Then I was taken to the court and asked to give my witness on what happened on me” This is just one case from the many problems trafficked and migrated children face. Now the perpetrator is in jail and the child is reunified with his parents.

This clearly indicates that FSCE has given protection to many children either trafficked or migrated from their home to towns where the organization operates. In 2009 such kind of protection service was provided to 723 children. Half of them are female. It can be imagined what could have happened to these children if they were left without help.

In general, FSCE successfully performed the following activities in 2009:

- In Dredawa, 27 children were given with the necessary protection and reunified
- In Bahir Dar, 88 children were intercepted and reunified with their parents from the four satellite towns.
- Through Addis Ababa CPU (Child Protection Unit) 550 children were found displaced and some of them were reunified, some were referred to OPRIFS for further help
- Adama program area office protected 58 migrated and trafficked children and reunified them.



Fig. Shelter for trafficked children in Bahir Dar constructed by the community

Rehabilitation and Reintegration

For different reasons children may be dragged in to commercial sex exploitation. These children need much investment of time, expertise and various special interventions so as to help them have positive self image as well as positive view towards life. In supporting these child victims of abuse and exploitation, different kinds of services are provided in drop in center where they get admitted while living outside of the center. During their second phase of rehabilitation, the children live in a center (Safe Home) designed to rehabilitate, bring behavioral change, develop different skill and reintegrated with the community. In Adama and Akaki Kality program area offices, the rehabilitation process is done differently. Child victims of abuse and exploitation are rehabilitated and reintegrated while living outside of

centers. Peer housing is used for sheltering. In both cases from admission till they are reintegrated, the children are provided with psychosocial services, employable vocational skills, formal and non formal education, shelter, food, recreation, counseling, life skill trainings, health education, and health care services.

In project areas, where there is center, children are first admitted to the DIC through outreach programs and friend's referral. These children are provided with different kinds of services such as food, rest room during day time, cleaning materials like soap, life skill trainings, individual and group counseling, health educations, contraceptive and medical treatment, arrange programs where they can learn from each other like through debating, peer evaluation, experience sharing etc. All these programs are expected to shape their behavior and help them change their attitudes towards themselves, others' life as well. Once it is believed that they are psychologically ready and have fulfilled some criteria, they graduate to safe home and the programs continue. In addition, in safe home, they are given opportunity to vocational skill training such as hair dressing, food preparation etc and business skill trainings. Finally, they graduate from safe home and are helped to start their own life through provision of start-up capital to those who need to run business while others are supported to get employed in different organizations if their skill allows to. It is at this time the rehabilitation process ends and they reintegrated with the community.



Blen Ahimed is one of those who become successful from Dredawa program area office. She could be taken as an exemplary to her friends.

"My name is Eden Ahmed. I am 17 years old. I used to live on the street since both my mother and father passed away. I had faced many problems like abuses, shortage of food, clothing, shelter and all other basic necessities for my su

One day community workers from FSCE approached me on the street while they were conducting outreach program, explained to me what FSCE has been doing and they asked me if I was willing to join the Drop In Center.

I consider myself as lucky among friends on a street that I got the opportunity to be admitted at the center where I could easily get food, clothing, medication, shelter and everything to keep my hygiene. Especially I was supposed to engage myself in many programs like attending in guidance and counseling sessions, group counseling sessions, debate programs, "lib le lib" where we were sharing experience etc which shaped my behavior that could have deteriorated my life. Six months after my admission, the organization gave me a chance to take vocational training in hair dressing and grooming together with my colleagues in the center while attending my regular education. I completed the

training successfully and now I am employed in SESUN Beauty Salon.

The organization has given me the base on which I could build my life. I am looking for a better future. I have joined Grade 10 this year and I am studying very hard to join Grade 11. I hope I will join university and study sociology."

During the reporting year, FSCE has been successful in rehabilitating and reintegrating 98 similar child victims of abuse and exploitation. The following could be mentioned as examples:

- In Dessie, 9 children were rehabilitated and helped to engage themselves in petty trade and get employed.
- In BahirDar, 15 children were successfully rehabilitated and had been waiting purchase of equipments to open their own beauty salon.
- In Dredawa , 26 children have successfully been rehabilitated and reintegrated .
- In Akaki/Kaliti, 11 children were trained in hair dressing and are now reintegrated.
- In Merkato 18 children are rehabilitated, engaged in activities where they can generate income to support themselves and reintegrated.



Experience sharing at safe home Bahir Dar



Safe home graduate

5.1.2 Child Protection Sub-program

This sub program is designed with an objective of facilitating legal protection for abused, trafficked and children in conflict with the law; facilitate the prosecution of suspects of child abuse, exploitation and trafficking; offer legal advice for children whose payment is denied for their labor service in collaboration with police, women's affairs, the community, donors, and other NGOs. FSCE provides protection services to children through CPU, CBCC, Child victims' friendly bench, and child friendly court.

Child Protection Units (CPU)

In Child Protection Unit, only children and women's cases are handled and fast decision is provided. This has encouraged the community to report child abuse cases without fear. When such case is reported, the child immediately is referred to hospital for medical treatment and check-up. At the same time, the perpetrator is taken to the court for trial.

Hence, the following cases were reported:

- 1,956 child abuse cases were reported to child protection units in all program area offices.
- From the above mentioned reported cases, 1,013 suspects of child abuse were taken to the court
- Out of the 1,013 suspects of child abuse, 228 were found guilty and sent to prison.
- Most child abuse cases were seen in the child victim friendly benches*

5.1.3 Prevention Sub-program

This sub-program is designed to meet an objective of ensuring the protection of children from different kinds of abuses and address the problems related with child right violations.

Girls /Boys Clubs and Child Parliament

Through projects designed under this sub program, girls clubs are formed and supported with stationeries and other materials, mini-libraries are constructed

and furnished, training on self-esteem, assertiveness, self defense, child right issues, etc is given with an aim of familiarizing club members with child right issues, claim their rights and defend themselves and others. Moreover, to make clubs sustainable, they are provided with basic business skill training and start-up capital so that they can support themselves through Income Generating Activities 2(IGA). In 2009, different kinds of supports were given to 10 girls clubs in total in all program area offices.

Believing that boys too can take their share in protecting children, they are enrolled in clubs and provided with similar trainings and supports. Additional contribution is also expected from child parliaments. Hence, FSCE has expanded its awareness raising, training and material support to child parliaments as well.

*Child victims friendly bench is a section in a court where only children abuse cases are handled placing the child in a room separated from where the perpetrator follow up his/her case. It is designed to reduce trauma and make the child talk freely about what happened to her/him.

5.2 Holistic and Integrated Child Development Programs

The goal of this program is to address and ensure developmental needs of disadvantaged children. In this program children from poor households, usually with single parent mostly mothers are enrolled in the non-formal education centers and provided with school materials like books, uniform, exercise books and pens. Side by side, their mothers are engaged in IGA through saving and credit schemes so that they can feed and provide their children with all necessary materials. Moreover, so as to help them sustain their business and health of their family, mothers are provided with different skill trainings like primary health education, business skill trainings, nutrition, family planning etc. Whenever it is possible, the saving and credit schemes are helped to form cooperatives.

5.2.1 Education Sub-program

This sub program has the following objectives:

- To create access for education to out of school children and
- To improve academic performance of poor achiever children

Target children of this program i.e. children who do not have access to the formal schooling are enrolled in the NFBE centers and finally helped to join the formal school. FSCE usually constructs and furnishes Non Formal Basic Education (NFBE) centers and run them for some time. However, in order to make the centers sustainable, education committee is formed by the community, trained and helped to start IGA. The training helps the committee to develop competency on school administration and fund raising.

Experience sharing is also arranged among committees of different centers. Then the centers are handed over to the committee whenever it is believed that they are able to take over.

Last year, four additional non-formal basic education centers were constructed. In all centers, 3,043 children have got access to education and some of them will join formal school next Ethiopian academic year. In addition to the access created to NFBE, poor achiever children in the formal school have also been supported through tutorial educational services. This intervention usually helps to avoid grade repetitions and drop outs.



Education Committee members on training

5.2.2 OVC (Orphans and Vulnerable Children) Support Sub Program

This sub-program is designed to enable the target community and CBOs (Community Based Organizations) provide care and support for OVCs. In OVC support sub program, two ways of helping children are usually followed; directly and indirectly. Some children who are in worst form of life are supported directly either through monthly stipends or helping them to start IGA if they are old enough to do so. The second way is through Iddirs and Iddir coalitions. In this case, Iddirs are supported to form coalitions and assisted to start a kind of income generating activities so that they will be able to support OVCs on a sustainable manner.

A case in point is, Dessie program area office which is exemplary in the indirect form of OVC support. FSCE was able to form a coalition of 41 iddirs. This coalition has been able to help many children to start IGA and assist in their education. In 2009, the coalition was able to help 275 children to continue their education and 4 of them have joined university. 30 children are enabled to start IGA through the support of this coalition. This year it has started animal fattening business which is expected to generate income in order to help many orphans and vulnerable children. Similarly, Bahir dar, Adama and Dredawa program areas have been able to form iddir coalitions.

During the reporting, period many OVCs have got access to different kinds of supports from FSCE in all program areas directly and indirectly as indicated below .

- 11, 993 children are supported to continue their education through provision of educational materials
- 25 Older OVCs were helped to start IGA through provision of start-up capital and trainings
- Number of OVCs provided with monthly stipends were 375.
- Medical and other supports was provided to 265 children.



Vocational Education to OVCs, Bahir Dar

5.2.3 Lively Hood Promotion Sub-program

i. IGA to mothers

Through this sub program mothers are provided with BBS trainings, given revolving fund, helped to form saving and credit associations and establish cooperatives. Last year 306 mothers has been beneficiary of the program. These mothers were able to:

- Develop their business skills.
- Raise their capital and expand their business.
- Improve their children and their own living condition.

ii. Community Health

Through community health project, mothers' knowledge on HIV/AIDS and other health issues is raised through leaflets, health educators, peer mothers, and coffee ceremonies, so that they can prevent themselves and their children from illness. Similarly, young children are thought about HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancy in this program.



Mothers in Saving & Credit Scheme

5.3 Child Focused Resource Development and Capacity Building Unit

This unit has been established with a goal of promoting excellence in the process of making appropriate interventions aimed at addressing the rights and needs of children and to build initiatives of child focused organizations and CBO's and increase FSCE's coverage of addressing the problems of disadvantaged children. The unit has opened a small library where child focused publications and research results are documented and referred to. The library has become familiar that it is being visited by increasing number of scholars and organizations. Last year the library was visited by 445 visitors.

5.3.1 Publication and Distribution

- Sounds of the street (biannual publication) vol 16, published with an issue of children, youth, families and gender in 1,000 copies are distributed to relevant local organizations.
- Child Internet (annual periodical magazine no 11 and 12 were published and distributed to pertinent orgs. Vol 11- has covered topic on "Engaging Community Leaders in to Child Protection Unit: Roles of Influential Community Leaders in FSCE Child Protection Unit". And Volume 12 covered "Our Experience of Multi-Sect-oral Response in Child Protection System".
- The center has also collected more about 13,000 children books and distributed some of them.

5.3.2 Documentation

1. 121 different materials (i.e books, research reports, workshop and conference papers, etc.) were collected in 2009 and made available for reference purposes through purchase, donation and photocopying
2. Research reports are displayed on the internet for reading in two languages; Amharic and English (225 in Amharic and 2407 in English).

5.3.3 Capacity Building

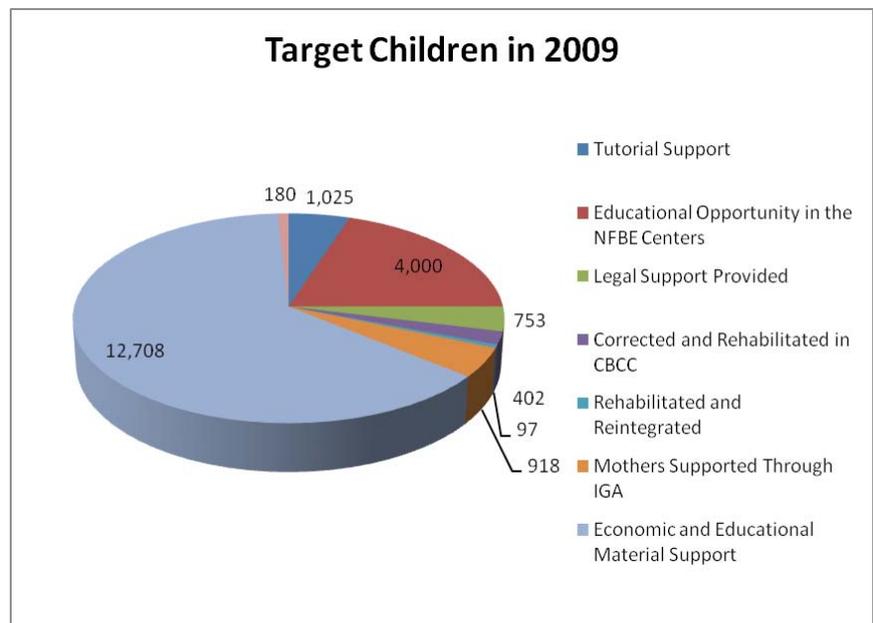
- Training has been arranged to FSCE staff and management on "community capacity enhancement and program/project management and coordination".
- The unit has shared its experiences to many organizations and given a free consultancy services on how to run similar unit.



Guests visiting the child resource center

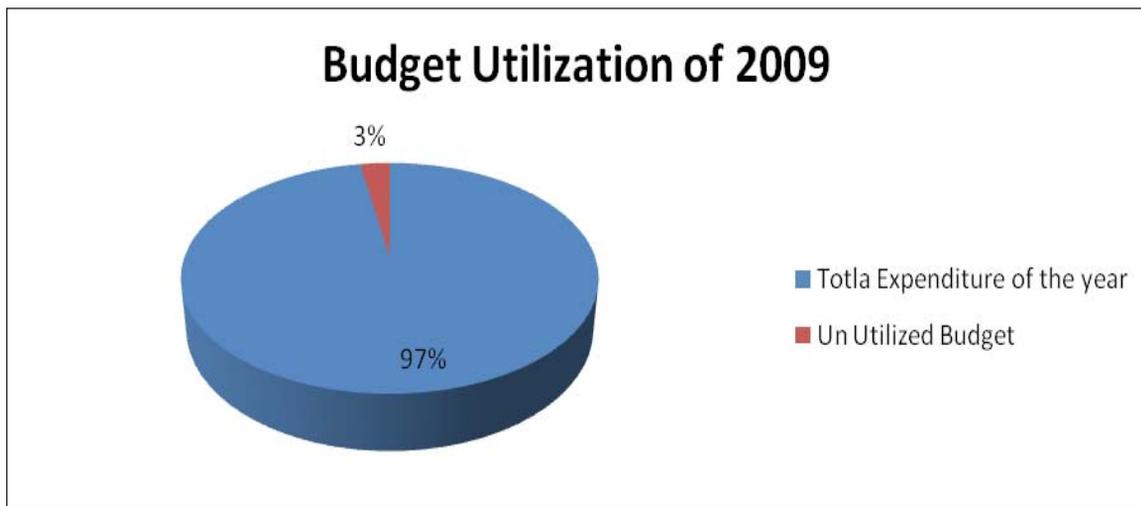
Number of children benefited from 2009 intervention

The 2009 operation has made 20,083 children benefited directly from all program intervention. These are only benefits seen at outcome level. Whereas, the number is higher than this should we include children who have got different kind of services from FSCE.



6. Financial Management

The 2009 budget year expenditure indicates a remarkable improvement in budget utilization. Out of 19 million Birr only 3 percent is reported unutilized. In order to spend more on the beneficiaries and comply with the new legislation on CSOs, 70/30, the Finance Department has prepared separate codes for administration and program costs and all program area offices including the budget for head office is planned accordingly.



7. Challenges, Opportunities and Lessons learned

7.1 Challenges

1. The high inflation experienced last year negatively affected the over all performance of projects by increasing cost of commodities and services more than the budget secured.
2. The realignment process had taken much time and budget of the organization which otherwise could have been allocated for keeping quality of interventions and boost our performance.
3. Some programs planned to be carried out with partners could not be implemented as scheduled
4. There was high staff turn over, which lagged some activities from completing as planned.

7.2 Opportunities

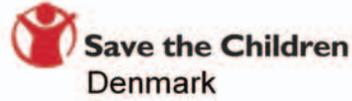
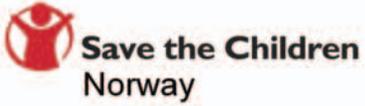
1. The realignment of FSCE work is expected to forward child protection programs
2. The re-establishment of the program area offices would enhance positive competition and result in high performance
3. The new approach from issues based to comprehensive multi-stakeholder community based child protection programming is expected to bring remarkable change on disadvantaged children.

7.3 Lessons learned

During the year 2009, FSCE learnt a lot from its previous interventions

In the earlier years, FSCE used to undertake projects that focused on single issues such as child trafficking, street children, child labor etc. However, despite the remarkable merits of these approaches, such interventions have resulted in fragmented child protection responses. Therefore, adapting from the UNICEF report on progress for children, FSCE has embarked on a comprehensive community based child protection approach. The new approach enhances sustainable child protection works at community level through full participation and involvement of multi-stakeholders. It also addresses all child protection issues at the same time.

Similarly, organizational shift has also been made on approaches towards addressing children problems. With an aim of looking and solving children problems from multi-dimensions as well as bringing sustainable impact on disadvantaged children, FSCE has made a shift from project to program based approach and from activity level emphasis to impact/outcome level performance measurement.



Finland-Embassy



Pact



Groupe Development France

Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment

P.O.Box 9562

Tel: 251 1 153 4432

251 11534722

25111524294

fax: 25111534469

fsce@ethionet.et

www.fsc-e.org