



Dear Elnet Foundation family and supporters,

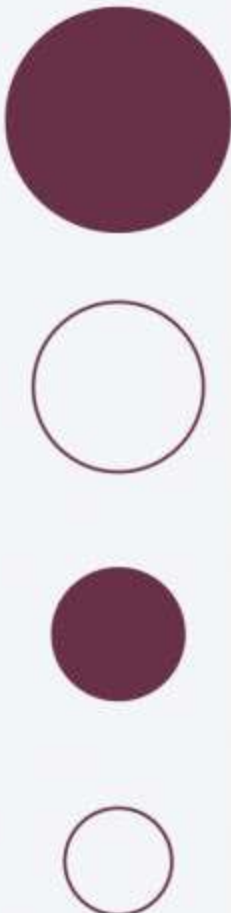
It is with our great pleasure that we share this first newsletter with you! So many things have happened since we started dreaming of Elnet Foundation – the Corporate Social Responsibility wing of Elnet Group. We are aspiring to be a leading example in Ethiopia and beyond for other companies to follow suit; to show that development can come from the resources and the people in our countries of operation. Elnet Foundation is existing to bring lasting change through tackling socio-economic challenges, environmental degradation and to alleviate the suffering of animals through caring and protecting for the creation as a whole.

Our vision is “Life in Fullness For All”. We believe that even the most discarded person, animal or place can be restored and become functional and contributing in their own way.

Since mid-July we are officially registered with the Ethiopian Agency for Civil Societies Organizations (ACSO). By August 1st, our office officially became functional with the staffing of our team which you can see below:



From the left: Dr Yimesgen Tarekegn - Animal Welfare Coordinator, Jalal Ameyu - Social Worker, Jessica Hedman - CEO/President, Dr Rahel Jigi - Regional Programme Director, Bereket Mulatu - Office Manager, Sima Gudeta - Finance and HR Director



We have had two hectic months behind us; working on strategy documents, consulting with officials and planning for which partners to collaborate with. We do not implement projects on our own, instead we work through selected partners that have the capacity, experience and expertise to effectively execute projects. We are aware of the great responsibility laid upon us as stewards of the resources donated and we believe that acting as a donor agency to our strategic partners is the most cost-efficient way to implement our initiatives. Our next step is to take the registration to Kenya and be registered as an international entity there.

Let us share a bit about the exciting things which has taken place so far – one of the first occasions we did as a group was to celebrate the Ethiopian New Year with about 200 street dwellers who would otherwise not be able to enjoy the festivities. Clothes and soap and basic commodities were donated – and this is part of our ongoing work to get people off the street and into work. Already a number of people that used to sleep rough (under bridges, at churches and mosques, etc.) have been given basic accommodation and simple means to start their own business. Shoe shining equipment, coffee selling items and other inputs are provided so they can start generating an income and become self-supporting.



Our New Year's Celebration took place at Biftu Bole Church in Bole Michael, Addis Ababa – they have a longstanding work with providing feeding and other types of support through their social wing Diakonia.



The project was launched by LegeTafo Mayor Mrs. Habiba Siraj Bekele on September 22, here pictured on the left.

We are underway with a number of high impact project, and you can read about a few of these ones below. You can also read more about our initiatives at our website, www.elnetfoundation.com

We are glad to share with you that one of our first large scale projects have now officially been launched! As you may know, youth employment is a major bottleneck in many cities in Ethiopia. We want to address this socio-economic challenge by creating job opportunities in whatever means and capacity we can through our interventions. A wonderful collaboration with the city council of Lege-Tafo-LegeDadi, led by the ever so active mayor Mrs. Habiba Siraj Bekele, has enabled us to kick-start an income generating project which will see 2,000 young people trained and getting into work! We have been allocated four factory buildings

in LegeTafo town, buildings that have been standing empty and unused for several years. We are now underway of starting up two textile factories where the trainees eventually will become the owners of the sewing machines. In the other two buildings we will support basketry production and the start-up of a modern pottery factory. This collaboration is enabled thanks to our generous supporting companies such as EIAuto Engineering and Trading P.L.C, and we are doing this in collaboration with our implementing partner Gudina Tumsa Foundation (GTF) and one of the newest companies in the Elnet Group - EIBee, who will be doing the manufacturing and marketing plans for the project. The project is for three years and with a budget of 33 million birr (about 710,000 USD).



Current pottery making
in a backyard in LegeTafo



The new pottery factory will include
modern molds, burning techniques, etc.



150 people have already been
trained on how to use the sewing
machines



In Bishoftu we have a social impact project targeting most vulnerable groups, such as creating income generating opportunities for economically vulnerable female-headed households. The project encompasses support to street children - of which many are trafficked to beg for money for their

traffickers - with an aim to reunite them with their families or to find suitable alternative housing and education. As a number of newborn babies are abandoned each year (in the street or at different institutions) we will provide safe temporary housing options to ensure that the

legal process for adoption is possible to take place. The project will also include school feeding at one elementary school upon the request from the city council of Bishoftu and support to a youth center. The total project budget is 75 million birr (about 1.6 million USD) divided over five years.



In Addis Ababa, we have just signed an MoU with the well experienced animal welfare NGO BROOKE Ethiopia to work on animal health, especially targeting equines (horses, donkeys and mules). We are planning for a state-of-the art mobile veterinary clinic, and we are at the designing stage for how to pilot this in Ethiopia. Furthermore we are planning for establishing animal sanctuaries in combination with eco-lodges; creating job opportunities for local residents, as well as providing affordable lodging for people who wish to go out in the nature and experience the beauty of Ethiopia. In close collaboration with Delta Productions, we are producing a series of animal welfare awareness videos, and we have posted this video on our YouTube channel. Working equines, such as donkeys, horses and mules, are

oftentimes abandoned when they get sick and too old to work. They pose a road safety threat, as well as suffer oftentimes a long and unnecessary painful death. At Elnet Foundation, we will support both treatment as well as humane euthenization for this neglected animal group.

Together with Taxiye we have plans to establish city-parks for young and adults alike; the parks will have playgrounds, traditional coffee hut and hopefully outdoor gym depending on the size of plots allocated to us. Our ambition is to establish mini-cooperatives which can provide income for vulnerable groups that become caretakers and managers of the park, while offering local neighborhood residents a place to spend their free time in a natural, tranquil

and corona safe environment! Our aim is to see this replicated all over Addis Ababa, so that residents in every sub-city will be able to enjoy such places.

Furthermore, we will take the Green Legacy of our donating company further, by various tree planting initiatives across the country; engaging student groups and elementary schools to plant and care for the seedlings. We are planning to combine this with rewards to the schools which are highest performing in terms of seedling survival and planting.

Thank you for keeping Elnet Foundation in your prayers! We look forward to keeping you abreast of new developments and the various initiatives that we are doing. Again, please don't forget to check out our webpage:

www.elnetfoundation.com

With all our hearts,

**Elnet Foundation
Through Jessica Hedman
CEO/President**