

Achievements Celebrated as the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Emergency Pilot Programs Closed

A closing event of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation supported pilot program was held yesterday, 27 April 2017 at the Institute of Development Studies, Addis Ababa University; Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia’s project was one of the programs. In partnership with Action Aid, Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia implemented the Social Service Improvement for Drought Emergency Response project that aimed to mitigate forced migration through income generating activities and improvement of sustainable access to essential basic services in the Tarmaber and Ankober woredas of North Shoa zone for a 10 months period starting in May 2016.

On yesterday’s event, as the achievements of each program were celebrated in the presence of nearly 100 participants, including government officials, representatives of various government organizations and non-government partners, Amref Health Africa was acknowledged as a key partner, which successfully implemented its project in Tarmaber. As part of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation’s initiative to track the root causes of irregular migration and reduce it through local development, Amref Health Africa developed several water schemes and boosted water coverage that benefited nearly 10,000 populations, who could have been forced to leave their locality due to the lack of access to water.



Speaking on the occasion, Geneva Letizia, Head of Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Ethiopia, said “Italian NGOs [implementing partners] are our friends more than just partners. They showed us every opportunity to intervene and successfully complete our programs.”

Research findings on migration were shared and follow-up interventions to capture best practices and scaling up these piloted programs were repeatedly echoed by the Head of the Agency and other representatives.



‘Give Me A Reason’ - A photograph Exhibition

A photo exhibition entitled ‘Give Me A Reason’ highlighted the reasons that push many young people to leave (migrate). The answer that the initiatives of the Italian Development Cooperation tried to provide was ‘Give me a reason....to stay’. This exhibition will remain open for one month.

Photos of Amref Health Africa’s Intervention in North Shoa were exhibited captioned as: **We do not carry the Jerry-cans on our shoulders for more three hours any longer. Improving our life also means not having to try to live anywhere else.**

