



Grace School Project Proposal 2010-2011

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1. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

1.1. Project Title, Location and Timing

Project Name	Grace School
Country/Region/Province/Specific Location	Ethiopia, Tigray, Northwestern Zone, Tahtay Koraro Woreda, Tabia Lemlem, Kushet Chumay
Duration	July 2010 – July 2011

1.2. Agency Details

Implementing Partner	
Name	Abraham's Oasis
Address	PO Box 64, Shire-Endasselasse, Tigray, Ethiopia
Principal Contact Officer	Catharina van den Bosch
Telephone	+251 (0) 348 44 01 36 / +251 (0) 911 56 22 44
Email	abrahamsoasis@gmail.com
Website	www.oasisfoundationethiopia.org

1.3. Bank Details

Abraham's Oasis
Account Number: 24867
Commercial Bank of Ethiopia
Endasselasse Branch
Swift Address: CBETETAAXX
Fax 251-1- 51 78 22 / 51 78

1.4. Names of bank signatories

All cheques are signed by the Director, Miss. Catharina van den Bosch and either the Accountant, Ato Haben G/Egziabher or the Advisor, Miss. Ruth C. Kennedy.

2. INTRODUCTION,

The most vulnerable and marginalized in our work here in Shire-Endasselasse are the children, the small child surviving on the streets, the bigger children starting to steal in order to survive and some then developing into troubled teenagers leading to delinquency and an added burden to the community. There are children who have come to us because they are alone, abandoned or orphaned or have special needs that the local schools have difficulty in providing hence the basis of this proposal for a school on site at Grace Village.

2.1. Legal Entity for Abraham's Oasis (formerly Stichting the Oasis Foundation)

Abraham's The Oasis is an Ethiopian Resident Charity registered (Certificate No.0905) at the Charities and Societies Agency of the Ministry of Justice of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

2.3. Problem Statement

The orphaned, abandoned or deprived child has special psychologically and emotionally needs that are difficult to provide for even in the best schools; the large classroom and the busy teacher in public schools cannot be expected to supply this. We have planned for smaller classes to make this available to the children at Grace School.

2.4. Target Group

- Residential children previously abandoned or orphaned and other special need children in the community

3. VISION MISSION AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

3.1. Vision

“Sustainable opportunities for the marginalized and vulnerable”

3.2. Mission

Creating an enabling environment whereby social and cultural integration of the said marginalized and vulnerable will occur, strengthening them through childcare, farming and health resulting in dignity and independence of the individual and the community.

3.3. Geographical Location

Abraham’s Oasis is located five kilometres from Shire town, in North-Western Tigray Zone, Tigray Region, Ethiopia. The current plan is to continue the work being done in Woreda Tahtay Koraro, which measures 777.27 square kilometres, contains a population of 83,019.

4. SCHOOL PROPOSAL

4.1. Background

This second year continues to be one of ongoing development for us as a charity. Grace School has started well, and most children have flourished in this environment. We continue to identify gaps in the children’s needs and also of our community, for example the blind and deaf. We would like to see an integrated school for normal children alongside their non sighted hearing peers attending school in an integrated manner. Our small intimate classes are beneficial to all vulnerable children be they deaf, blind, orphaned or abandoned. To enable them to express their unique selves and receive more personal interventions by teachers while creating a distinctive school where children are able to help the blind class mate and where staff and children learn to sign, will create a special learning environment.

4.2. Purpose

Abraham’s Oasis seeks to be consistent in its dealing with all children, so that through treating each child individually and dealing with them as unique human being we are able to have fixed guidelines for each residential / community special needs child to meet his / her own requirements.

4.3. Goal

To provide more personalized schooling for vulnerable and unique children.

4.4. Objectives

- To provide a physical school building for Grace School
- To prepare playing fields for the children
- To equip the classrooms and office to required standards
- To employ a dynamic school director able to act, think and act outside the box.
- To employ six properly qualified and skilled teachers to teach grades 1st through 8th.
- To collaborate with and work as a branch of Gezgezia School
- To educate each child as per his/ her unique needs
- To meet national education standards
- To examine and test children in a timely manner
- To gradually bring in blind children and later deaf children into an integrated school.

5. PROJECT DESIGN AND STRATEGY

5.1. Introduction

Abraham's Oasis has an on-site school for its residential children from Grace Village and will now open to other special needs children as the need arises. The current breakdown is as follows:

Activity	Direct			Target	
	F	M	Total	F	M
Grace Village Children					
Grades 1-2 + (1 staff child)	3	8	11	100%	100%
Grades 3-4	6	2	10	100%	100%
Grade 5 plus children from community	3	3	6	100%	100%
Grade 6	1	3	4	100%	100%
Grade 7	1	3	4	100%	100%
Grade 8	2	1	3	100%	100%

5.2. The students

The number of students for this next year will be greater than the first year. Our children are competing with the local countryside schools and holding their own. One or two have learning difficulties but as a whole they are performing very well.

5.3. The teachers

We comply with the requirements set down by the Education Office; we will be making some radical changes in our teaching staff. A good director is essential and we have found one who has won awards for three years running for the effectiveness of his rural school in an area north of us here. He is willing to come and help us get Grace School on the map as it were.

Of the teachers who have been teaching we have selected some who will stay and others we will release due to their poor performance and lack of vision for the future of this integrated school.

The grade one and two teacher will go this year to Addis Ababa to learn Braille and how to teach the blind or poor sighted child. Next year we will send grade two/three teacher for blind children teaching and the grade one/two teacher for sign language teaching. Our hope is to integrate these disabilities in our school and create a helping / learning environment for all students and teachers.

5.4. The Physical School

We have a school building with five new classrooms, plus three classrooms in the old building. Of these one houses the science laboratory and the computer laboratory. There is a teachers' office. There are toilets for children and teachers, we have decided to build pit latrines for the children as the current toilets are often blocked and these are near the classrooms crating offensive smells.

The site is surrounded by fields which will be developed into playing fields, basket ball, and some sport structures for the children to play on and to keep fit. We would like to see these fields fenced off to keep the children in and demarcate the farming fields.

5.5. The Role of Woreda Education Office

The school functions as a branch of the Gezgezia School; we collaborate and work with the Gezgezia School, comparing grades and ranking of students to create a large competition for our small school. The school meets national education standards at all levels and aims to excel in pushing the bright child while aiding through extra tutoring the weaker students towards success.

6. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

8.1. Abraham's Oasis

Abraham's Oasis has a Director and team leaders who manage the local office. Regular meetings are held by Management, quarterly Board meetings are held and Annual general Assembly sessions are held and are open to the public. Minutes are kept for all meetings.

8.2. Monitoring

Abraham's Oasis works closely with the local line department principally the Woreda / Zonal Education Office and maintains open communications regarding cross-cutting issues. The actual school is monitored by the Woreda Office of Education.

8.2. Reporting Roles

Abraham's Oasis provides the required reports to corresponding government agencies, line departments and donors on a quarterly basis. This includes an annual review and audit of accounts and administrative matters.

9. BUDGET DESIGN AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

9.1. Financial Information

All our accounts are audited each year and we keep an asset register.

Risk Factors:

- Resources
 - Financial
 - Personnel
- Acts of God
- Emergency evacuation

Budget (in Ethiopian Birr)

SN	Item/ Activity	Month	Year
1	Admin (=5.21%)	1,042.00	12,504.00
2	Teachers	16,956.28	203,475.36
3	Teaching supplies	500.00	6,000.00
4	Uniforms for children	500.00	6,000.00
5	Teaching Aids	500.00	6,000.00
6	Maintenance	500.00	6,000.00
7	Contingency	301.72	3,620.64
		20,000.00	240,000.00
	Euro	1,111.11	13,333.33
	US Dollar	1,538.46	18,461.54

Direct Project Staff (in Ethiopian Birr)

Headmaster / degree holder	3,000.00	36,000.00
Teacher Grades 1&2 Diploma +1	1,115.00	13,400.00
Teacher Grades 3 & 4 Diploma +5	1,691.00	20,300.00
Teacher Grades 5-8 Diploma +5 Mathematics	1,691.00	20,300.00
Teacher Grades 5-8 Diploma +5 Basic Science / Civics	1,691.00	20,300.00
Teacher Grades 5 – 8 Diploma +5 Languages	1,691.00	20,300.00
Teacher Grades 5-8 Diploma +5 Chemistry, Physics, Biology	1,691.00	20,300.00
Kindergarten Teacher	1,050.00	12,600.00
Secretary	1,115.00	13,400.00
Cleaner	404.00	4,848.00

The capital projects are nice to have but not necessary. We are currently pricing these extras.

Capital Costs (in Ethiopian Birr) – to be calculated

SN	Activity	Cost
1	Fencing of school	
2	Gate into school	
3	Children's pit latrines	
	Total	
	Euro	
	US Dollar	

9. CONCLUSION

We have been graciously funded for this first year and now as we face 2010 – 2011 we seek funding for running costs. The capital costs would be simply for fencing and pit latrines, nice to have but not essential.

The child needs shelter, we shelter them; they need food, we provide three meals a day; they need clothes, we clothe them and they need education to help them develop into dependable and dignified members of our society. This is what we plan and hope for!

Catharina van den Bosch,
Abraham's Oasis
Director