

**TIGRAI DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION  
(TDA)**



**COMPLETION REPORT FOR THE DRY PIT LATRINE CONSTRUCTION AT  
DEDEBIT COMPLETE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Funded by UTNA (United Tigrians in North America)**

**December, 2012  
Tigray, Ethiopia**

## **I. Executive Summary**

Tigrai Development Association (TDA) as a community based organization has been implementing a number of successful projects especially educational and health care service projects at the grassroots level in partnership with an active financial support of different donor organizations, community members and individuals. One of these donor community members is UTNA (United Tigrans in North America). With the financial support of UTNA, TDA is able to build toilets in Dedebit complete primary school. Dedebit primary school has currently 778 students, of which 420 are females (54%) and the remaining 358 are male students.

TDA/UTNA are able to build two toilets one for each sex having 8 pits each. Further 100 Combined desks and 10 teachers' desk is manufactured and provided from TDA/UTNA to equip the school with internal facilities. Prior to this, TDA was also able to build two blocks having four classrooms each. The overall budget allocated for the toilet construction project was Birr 452,640.00. TDA also expended additional cost for administrative, vehicle and monitoring costs. The dry pit latrines are now ready to give service. Provisional acceptance has been done among the three parties: TDA, the contractor and the school.

## **II. Background of the Project**

The project area, Dedebit Complete Primary school is found in the North Western Zone of Tigray Region, 73 kms away from Shire, the capital of the North Western Zone of Tigray Region. The total population of the Tabia is estimated to be about 6000. There are three schools in the Sub-Woreda/Tabia in which Dedebit complete Primary school is one. Before the implementation of the project, the school had a problem of toilet and the existing toilet rooms were not properly functional and /or were not sufficient for the entire school community. To solve this problem, TDA/UTNA constructed two toilets and the problem of toilet is now solved, though there are other unsolved problems in the school. In addition, the school had shortage of furniture. To alleviate such problems TDA/UTNA provided them with combined desks and teacher's chairs.

The main reason for the intervention of the project was to solve the shortage of toilet and furniture. Had the project not been implemented, many students of the project would have been forced to use an open-air toilet or would have used the congested toilets which is not properly functioning now.

## **III. The Planned Objectives and Outputs of the Project**

The school now has 778 students. These students are now attending their class at 4 building class rooms and 7 makeshifts. The school has a number of problems among them, shortage of classrooms, furniture, blackboards, internal facility like laboratory, library, center, and lack of water.

In the school compound, there is a corner stone stating that this dry pit latrine is constructed in collaboration with North America's Tigran Association (UTNA) and

the people and the administration of AsgedaTsimbla Woreda. In addition, clean water provision, additional furniture and other internal facility provision was *proposed to be implemented*.

It is clear that the school has the aforementioned problems and accordingly the North American Tigrians Association initiated to take their part to solve these problems. In fact the school still need additional academic blocks, water, internal facilities like blackboards, laboratory, library, books, etc.

The detail data/information of the school is presented below.

### **The Total Number of Students by Sex & grade category**

Table-1: Number of students by sex category in Dedebit Complete Primary school

S/N	Number of students by Sex			Remark
	Male	Female	Total	
1	110	100	210	
2	71	79	150	
3	41	46	87	
4	35	37	72	
<b>1-4</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>519</b>	
5	32	59	91	
6	31	37	68	
7	17	32	49	
8	21	30	51	
<b>5-8</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>259</b>	
<b>1-8</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>778</b>	

Source: Dedebit Primary school-2012

Currently, there are only 170 combined desks and it is possible to understand that the school needs further additional combined desks. If we take the number of classes and the number of students into consideration, the school still need 90 additional combined desks to make standardized as per the standard of the Bureau of education.



However, all other parts of the projects are not implemented (materialized). Due to this reason, the problems stated above still persist and the school community is still hoping that they will be materialized in the future by UTNA.



Picture: Students in under shade tree classes and the community's effort

### **V. Major Outcome of the Project**

The problems of the schools toilet has been alleviated through the construction made with the financial assistance obtained from United Tigrins in North America (UTNA).

It may be easy to see the long term outcomes of the project. The immediate results are difficult but it can be viewed in the following manner.

- The problem of toilet is remedied already and the school community members (students, teachers) are using standardized blocks of toilets.

### **VI. Problems /Challenges encountered**

During the construction, there was problem of transporting materials to the area. Required materials could not be obtained in the area and had to be procured from Shire and transported. Moreover, labour is a bit expensive since youths are engaged in gold mine nearby.

### **VII. Success Stories (Comment /perception of Beneficiaries and stakeholders)**

To assess the perception of the beneficiaries regarding the construction of toilets, students (a male and a female) and a representative of the parent and teachers association (PTA) & the school principal have been interviewed. Here is their reflections and their expectations too.

#### *1. Ato Shiferaw Brneh (Member of PTA) & the school principal*

We are very happy that these toilet blocks are constructed especially it is for both sexes. The community is having the same feeling. But, what has been proposed and written in the corner stone are not fully operational. We had the hope and believe that it would be implemented altogether. We are planning to transform the school into a model school and the help of UTNA is of paramount significant. Regarding the sustainability, there is no problem that we will take

good care of it, as the school has fence. UTNA promised about half a million will be fund raised and solve some of the problems in the school. Some of the existing problems are: classroom blocks, furniture, lab equipments, library, critical water problem, computers (power access will be obtained soon), photocoppy machine, which are difficult to acquire them by the community. The community is doing its level best to solve the problems. The community has contributed money for the renovation of one additional block. The school tried to contact Satcon Construction (who is asphaltting the road from Shire to Dedebit) and promised to make the sport fields levelled. In addition, IRC (working in the nearby refugee camps) is helping the school in software programs like in enhancing the capacity of the school clubs, nothing more than that.



Photo: Discussion with PTA member and School principal and teachers

2. *Tfto Tsegay (Grade seven Female Student).*

I am having good feeling and happy and wanted to say TDA and UTNA thank you for they made us to use separate toilets. Regarding the use of the toilet the kids may have a problem to its use and we will advise them to properly use it. However, we have a critical water problem in the school. The situation is aggravated as the area is naturally very hot. Black board and classrooms are also the problems of the school.



Photo: Discussion with Female student, Tfto

3. *Negasti Haile (Grade eight male student).*

My name is Negasi Haile. I have attended grades 1-8 here. Now I am grade eight. I am very happy of the construction of the toilet blocks. The existing toilet block was not sufficient taking the number of students into consideration. I wanted to say thank you to TDA and UTNA. But, the kids are attending in an open under shade trees (makeshift classes) and are exposed to snakes and other harmful animals. The existing water pump stops after the beginning of the second semester.



Photo: Discussion and reflections from male student called Negasi

### **VIII. Total Project Cost**

The total budget for the project was Birr 452,640.00 (359,640.00 for the toilet construction & 93,000.00 for the furniture) and the total expenditure of the project is Birr 472,639.00 (379,639.95 for the toilet construction & 93,000 for the furniture). However, TDA expended additional cost for monitoring, evaluation, fuel, vehicle and other personnel costs. TDA's contribution is measured in terms of personal expertise, logistic support like transportation and office equipment.

### **IX. Project Phasing Out**

TDA has rich experiences in handing over projects smoothly to the beneficiary community and line offices in time as per the standard. Projects are normally meant to be handed over to the community. The community is expected to take over projects and ensure their sustainability by financing, undertaking monitoring and supervision and so on. Hence, the project is now handed over to the school and concerned bodies after taking it over from the contractor. Therefore, the school community together with other stakeholders like Parent-Teachers Association (PTA) and the local communities are responsible for the controlling and monitoring of the proper utilization of the toilet, and furniture.



Photo: Side view of the completed DPL & one of the makeshift classes