



## About The Hunger Project

The Hunger Project (THP) is a global, non-profit, strategic organization whose mission is to end hunger and poverty by pioneering sustainable, grassroots, women-centered strategies and advocating for their widespread adoption in countries throughout the world. Our vision is a world where every woman, man and child leads a healthy, fulfilling life of self-reliance and dignity.

THP was established in 1977 in the United States and is a United Nations accredited non-governmental organization that has received recognition from top charity watchdog agencies.

THP has identified three critical elements that, when combined, empower people to make rapid progress in overcoming hunger and poverty:

1. Mobilizing people at the grassroots level to build self-reliance.
2. Empowering women as key agents.
3. Forging partnership with local government.

THP and its affiliated Partner Countries have a worldwide staff of more than 300 people. THP's Global Office is located in New York, NY. THP is active in Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Canada, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, India, Japan, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Senegal, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda and the United Kingdom.

## The Hunger Project in Ethiopia (THP-E)

The Hunger Project has been working in Ethiopia since 2004 and empowers partners in six epicenter communities comprising 22 kebeles in three regions, reaching around 96,000 people. The epicenters are in the areas of Jaldu, Debre Libanos, Meskan, Machakel, Wurib and Enemore.

Examples of specific components of the Epicenter Strategy include:

- **Increasing Food Security:** THP-E supports farmers with trainings and materials, such as seeds and farmhand tools, to increase and diversify their food production. During lean seasons, food banks at the epicenters provide villages and households access to food grains to enable them to overcome food shortages. The community also makes available a plot of land for a community farm at the epicenter site. THP-E also supports farmers through an agricultural input, revolving fund to minimize the effects of price escalation.
- **Access to Health Services:** Epicenter health centers provide primary health care for all, especially mothers, and immunizations for children. Intensive and continuous awareness campaigns are carried out on combating communicable illnesses, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. These programs are conducted in close collaboration with the District Health office and Health Extension agents. training, family planning and HIV/AIDS awareness workshops.

- **A Microfinance Program** of savings, credit and training empowers women and men to become economic players, decision makers, planners, entrepreneurs and leaders. In the first half of 2012, THP-E disbursed loans totaling \$239,456. Partners in Ethiopia deposited \$37,412 in savings during the year. All six epicenters in Ethiopia have government-recognized Rural Banks.
- **Access to basic education** is attained for eligible children, youth and adults in the districts through the formal and non-formal systems. THP-E collaborates with partner districts and the District Administration to furnish primary schools, which are also used to conduct functional adult literacy programs. THP-E's model preschool with meal program is also being scaled up in some villages.
- **Access to safe and adequate drinking water** is assured through the development of medium water wells. Partners are trained on sanitation and hygiene practices, and WASH committees are formed and trained to manage the water supply scheme.
- **Environmental sustainability** is improved through roof and running water harvesting, rehabilitation of gully areas, enclosing degraded areas, planting trees, supporting seedling production, and introducing technology that substitutes the burning of wood for cooking and heating.



## The Hunger Project in Africa: The Epicenter Strategy

In Africa, THP operates in partnership with local communities and government in the countries of Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal and Uganda.

Using an integrated methodology called the Epicenter Strategy, THP builds people's capacity to successfully access the basic services needed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and lead lives of self-reliance.

The centerpiece of the strategy is an L-shaped epicenter building where communities from clusters of rural villages run their own activities. The strategy includes programs in health (including HIV/AIDS prevention), nutrition, education, adult literacy, women's empowerment, improved farming and food storage methods, microfinance, and water and sanitation. The momentum built from accomplishments that involve the entire population contributes to a thriving sense of community spirit.

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## The Hunger Project–Ethiopia

### A Success Story

A huge cully created by runoff water in a village near Machakel Epicenter was threatening the livelihoods of a number of households due to soil erosion. In partnership with the district sector development office and the communities, THP-E provided technical and material support and over the last three years, more than 15,000 forest seedlings were planted. The degraded land is now recovering quickly.

### Funding and Partnerships

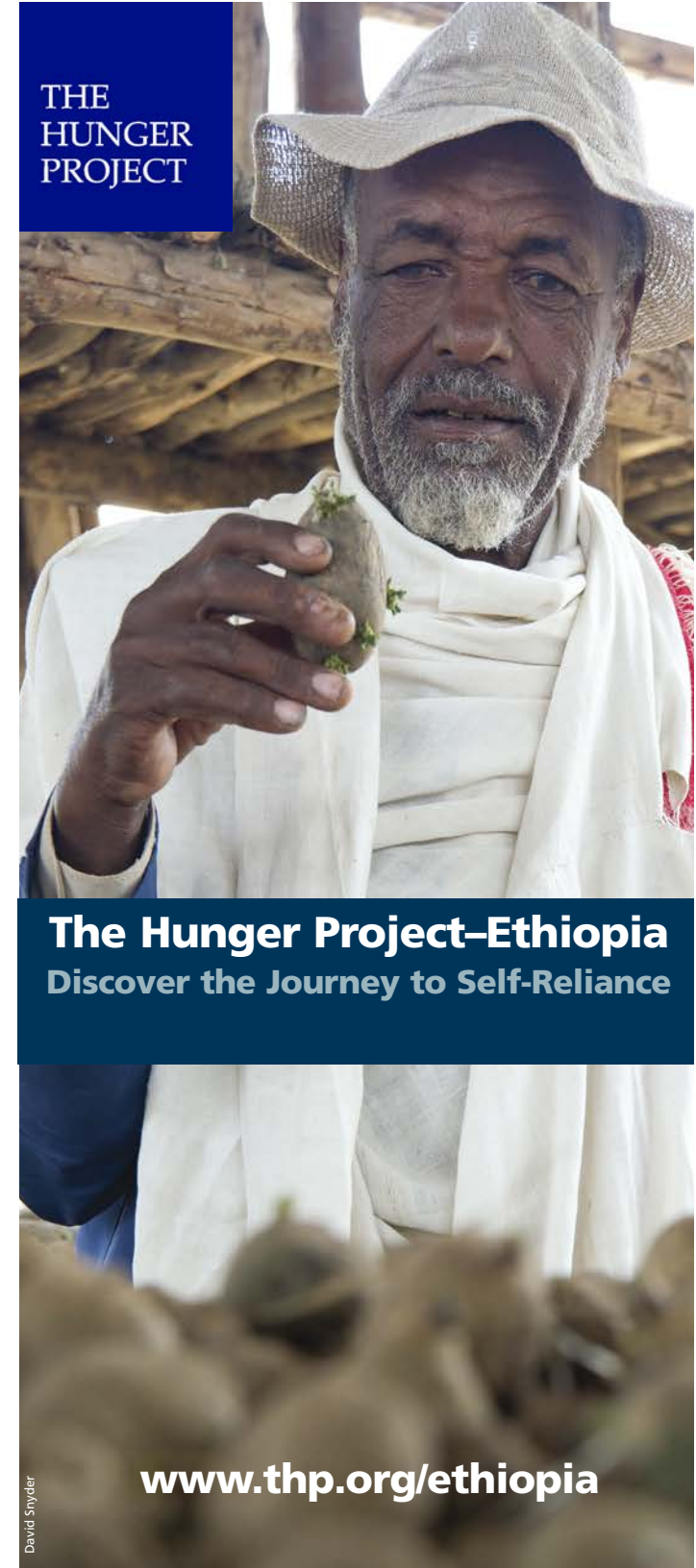
THP-E partners with government sector bureaus at different levels. This includes finance and economic development, health, education, agriculture, women's affairs, and water and energy development offices. Private and NGO partners include:

- Rotary International (water projects);
- Radiohjälpen, Sweden (integrated development program support);
- HIDA (Hivot Integrated Development Association);
- Sasakwawa Global 2000 (roof water harvesting and advanced seeds);
- The German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) (renewable energy);
- Girar Bet Rehabilitation Center; and
- NGO Consortium 3000 (a network of seven local and international NGOs).

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Discover the Journey to Self-Reliance

David Snyder

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