

Annual Performance Report

January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020



**Power is elastic, the more you share it
the more there is of it.
The more people who are involved
the better the decisions made**

Winnie Byanyima – Africa Union

Executive Summary

Progynist is an indigenous ‘pro-women’ civil society organization established in April, 1997. Since then, it has been committed to making a positive difference in the lives of Women and Children.

Progynist, despite the cataclysmic COVID-19 challenge, has been delivering five programs across two regions for the year 2020. It has been making excellent strides towards combatting gender-based violence with sexual violence prevention interventions and several awareness campaigns. It continually made efforts to strengthen the capacity, collaboration, and commitment of others to increase gender equality. It made primary duty bearers at the forefront of gender and gender-based violence interventions. Implementation strategies are continually re-designed to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Progynist’s programs in the year 2020 brought a tried and tested community-based HIV services approach through partnership with local authorities by mobilizing community resources to improve the lives of HIV affected orphan and vulnerable children and their adult care givers. In turn it is working towards to the attainment of HIV epidemic control within the four towns in SNNPR. Progynist has also been working towards the enhancement of the response of communities to violations of rights of women and girls by especially addressing gender-based violence.

Progynist is a Lead organization on Ministry of Peace and CSOs partnership in Emergency Response Initiative under COVID-19 Challenge. The project was initiated by The Ministry of Peace (MoP) and was developed jointly with the coalition of seven Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) committed to contribute the Government of Ethiopia’s (GOE) response problems and devastating effects caused by COVID-19 in the City of Addis Ababa, Kolfe-Keranio Sub-City, Woreda 10 Administration. The project enhances appropriate institutional leadership capacities of the local structures, provide essential life-saving materials support and galvanizing communal solidarity to defeat COVID-19 in two phases over a period of 3-6 months (June-November, 2020). The total budget was 8,144,000.

Table of Contents

- Executive Summary.....1
- Acronyms3
- Performance in the year 2020 (January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)4
- 1. **USAID/ETHIOPIA-HIV Epidemic Control Grants for Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) ...4**
 - 1.1. Program Description.....4
 - 1.2. Objectives5
 - 1.3. Implementation Strategies5
 - 1.4. Program Performance6
- 2. **USAID/ETHIOPIA Family-Focused HIV prevention, care and treatment services.....9**
 - 2.1. Program Description.....9
 - 2.2. Objectives 10
 - 2.3. Implementation Strategies 10
 - 2.4. Program Performance13
- 3. **Beyond Numbers: Towards Gender Transformation (CSP2).....15**
 - 3.1. Program Description..... 15
 - 3.2. Objectives 16
 - 3.3. Implementation Strategies 16
 - 3.4. Project Performance 17
- 4. **Improving the social and economic situation of vulnerable women in Addis Ababa.....20**
 - 4.1. Program Description..... 20
 - 4.2. Objective..... 20
 - 4.3. Implementation Strategies 20
 - 4.4. Program Performance 21
- 5. **Leveraging Women’s Potential for Maintaining and Sustaining Peace21**
 - 5.1. Program Description..... 21
 - 5.2. Objectives 22
 - 5.3. Implementation Strategies 22
 - 5.4. Program Performance (*up to January, 2021*) 23
- 6. Annex24
 - 6.1. An overview of activity and financial achievements during the year 2020..... 24
 - 6.2. Financial Audit Report for the year 2020..... 24

Acronyms

AGYW	Adolescent Girls and Young Women
ART	Anti-Retroviral Treatment
ARV	Anti-Retroviral Viral
BoWCA	Bureau of Women and Children Affairs
CAG	Community ART Refill
CBO	Community Based Organization
CC	Community Committee
CCC	Community Care Coalition
CEF	Community Engagement Facilitator
CG	Care Giver
COP	Country Operational Plan
CRP	Community Resource Person
CW	Case Worker
DSD	Direct Service Delivery
DSDM	Differentiated Service Delivery Model
EDHS	Ethiopian Demographic Health Survey
FBO	Faith Based Organization
FP:	Family Planning
FSW	Female Sexual Worker
HAPCO	HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office
HCT	HIV Counseling and Testing
HF	Health Facility
HIVST	HIV Self-Test
HTC	HIV Testing Counseling
HTS	HIV Testing Services
ICT	Index Case Testing
IGA	Income Generation Activity
IPTT	Indicator Performance Tracking Tool
KP	Key Population
MJE	Mary Joy Ethiopia
OVC:	Orphan and Vulnerable Children
PEPFAR	Presidents Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PLHIV	People Living With HIV
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PP	Priority Population
SNNPR:	Southern Nation Nationalities People Region
SNU	Sub National Unit
SOP	Standard Operational Procedure
SSW	Social Service Workers
TA	Technical Assistance
TOT	Training of Trainers
TX_CURR	Currently Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy
UNAIDS	United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS
VL	Viral Load
VLS	Viral Load Suppression

Performance in the year 2020 (January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)

Progynist continued to operate in Addis Ababa, Guraghe zone in Butajira, Hadiya zone in Hosaena and Bench-sheko zone in Mizan Aman of the newly formed South-west region. It has successfully expanded into the Sheka zone, Tepi town to implement the Family-focused HIV prevention, care and treatment services program.

Project Name	Period of Activity	Annual Budget (ETB)	Program Status	Project site/s
1. USAID/ETHIOPIA-HIV Epidemic control grants for Orphan and Vulnerable children	Jan 1, – Dec 31, 2020	8,916,624.58	<i>Phased out</i>	- Butajira - Hosaena - Mizan Aman
2. USAID/ETHIOPIA Family-Focused HIV prevention, care and treatment services	Oct 1, - Dec 31, 2020	11,697,097.01	<i>Ongoing</i>	- Butajira - Hosaena - Mizan Aman - Tepi
3. Civil Society Support Program Phase II (CSSP2) - <i>Beyond Numbers: Towards Gender Transformation</i>	Jan 1, - Dec 31, 2020	1,381,860.24	<i>Ongoing, Phases out in April, 2021</i>	- Yeka Sub-city, AA - Butajira
4. MISEREOR Improving the social and economic situation of vulnerable women in Addis Ababa	Jan 1, – Dec 31, 2020	1,701,833.59	<i>Terminated</i>	- Yeka Sub-city, AA - Nifas Silk Sub-city
5. PIE Leveraging Women’s Potential for Maintaining & Sustaining Peace	Oct 1, – Dec 31, 2020	2,047,480.06	<i>Ongoing</i>	- Yeka Sub-city, AA - Nifas Silk Sub-cities, AA
6. Ministry of Peace and CSOs partnership in Emergency Response Initiative under COVID-19 Challenge	July 2020 – March 2021	8,144,000.00	<i>Ongoing</i>	- Progynist operates as a lead organization to 7 CSOs

1. USAID/ETHIOPIA-HIV Epidemic Control Grants for Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC)

1.1. Program Description

HIV Epidemic control grants for Orphan and Vulnerable children is a PEPFAR funded USAID program that gradually replaced the Caring for Vulnerable Children program (CVC). Progynist implemented the program with a total budget of ETB 8,916,624.58 during the period of October, 2019 to September, 2020. It was implemented in three zones of SNNPR in the Gurage Zone at Butajira town, Hadya Zone at Hosaena town and Bench-Sheko Zone at Mizan Aman town.

The PEPFAR/USAID funded program comprehensively benefitted 7,592 orphan and vulnerable Children (OVC) and their care givers (CG).

1.2. Objectives

The General objective of this program was to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for the 7592 OVCs in SNNPR - Butajira, Hosaena and Mizan Aman woredas by enabling more OVC access to individualized and well-coordinated care.

Specific objectives were:

- ★ Increase demand for high impact community-based HIV services through effective health communications and social mobilization activities;
- ★ Increase quality of high impact community-based services through quality improvement approaches, training and data analysis;
- ★ Increase sustainability of high impact community-based HIV services through partnership with local authorities, evaluation and community resource mobilization;
- ★ Increase sustainability of high impact community-based HIV services through partnership with local authorities, evaluation and community resource mobilization;

1.3. Implementation Strategies

- Prognist supported MoWCA to fulfil its leadership and stewardship mandate for child welfare at all levels, and act as the convener of a multi-sectoral, system of care.
- By working closely with Community Care Coalitions (CCCs)/Community Committees (CCs) to use evidence-informed screening criteria to identify and serve the most vulnerable children and families.
- Build the capacity of child welfare stakeholders such as the Health Bureaus (WoHBs), HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (HAPCO), Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs (BoLSA), the WoEB, the Police, and the justice system, including HVC themselves, their caregivers, CCC/CCs in the effort to address barriers and challenges that limit the availability, reach and quality of essential services for OVC and their families.
- Support OVC households to achieve self-sufficiency in meeting their basic needs, and increased resilience in responding to HIV-related and non-HIV-related shocks by fostering close relationship with Micro finance institutes, TVT, MSEDAs, Cooperatives and Promotion office in each woreda in Strata 3.

→ By working closely with ESSSWA and EPHFEA directly or through their respective affiliates, civil society and faith-based organizations, clubs, association of People living with HIV/AIDS, CBOs like Idirs, women and youth associations; Woreda and town Child Protection structures and Child Parliament in the target woredas.

1.4. Program Performance

Result 1: Increased access to high impact community-based HIV services to be achieved in partnership with local authorities on referrals, linkages and service delivery of critical interventions to reduce HIV transmission in the community.

- Arranged a meeting with HAPCO, health institution and major stakeholder teams and briefed them and signed MOU with eight different stakeholders for the year's activities in all three target towns.
- Established prevention and response team of gender-based violence among legal, WCYA, police, health institutions, and CCCs in the target towns to achieve the program's ultimate goal of controlling HIV Epidemic.
- Undertook HIV risk assessment for 7592 OVCs – Beneficiaries with HIV were linked to ART services. From Q1-3 Viral load monitoring for HIV positive children and caregivers in collaboration with health facilities have been conducted for a total of 64 children and 80 care givers.
- 6 health facilities of all kebeles in all three target towns participated in the facilitation of collaboration among CWs with HEW/HDA to create information exchange mechanisms and link and follow up service provision to pregnant women for HIV test, PMTCT for ANC/PNC and other HIV related services.
- Volunteers of each respective kebeles with support of SSWs provided breastfeeding counseling service for pregnant and lactating female caregivers
- Bi-annual experience sharing meeting among health facilities was conducted with facility heads and health workers, to improve management of OVC issues including identification, bi directional referral, viral load suppression, monitoring, and management of sexual violence within each town.
- Volunteer workers were trained on HIV disclosure and other HIV/health issues and 75 CCCs members were trained on coordination of care.
- facilitated tutorial support for 45 (15 M and 30 F) OVC through referral linkage with kind cooperation of volunteer teachers. The service had been delivered in collaboration with CWs and

volunteer teachers. The tutorial support had contributed a lot to the OVCs for the final exam of the semester.

- ✿ Educational counseling was provided to 7592 OVC and their caregivers on importance of education, attendance, performance for through home visits by CWs and SSWs.
- ✿ 367 households across each town were provided Asset transfer support (QI-IV) using household economic risk assessment as well as needs and strengths assessment tools.
- ✿ financial capability training was provided for a total of 90 CGs in the three sites.
- ✿ Delivered evidence based positive/better parenting education to 1039 households through VSLA services
- ✿ Provided individual counseling to support adherence using the calendar method; including SMS, phone calls, home visits, and intensive facility/ community-based adherence counseling targeting 15 caregivers with poor adherence.
- ✿ 1064 (825 Female and 259 Male) caregivers were provided directions on procedures of child abuse and sexual violence reporting through different community plat forms, such as: during home visits and different group meetings like VSLA.
- ✿ Provide hygiene and wash messaging for OVCs and their 2531 CGs during home visit or through remote communication as appropriate.
- ✿ Scholastic materials (Exercise books, pens, and student bags) were provided to 271 for student OVCs according to their grade levels and needs.



Description: Asset transfer to selected destitute households in Butajira, August, 2020



Description: Scholastic Materials Provision to selected orphan children in Butajira, September, 2020

Result 2: Increased demand for high impact community-based HIV services to be achieved through effective health communications and social mobilization activities

- HIV/AIDS education to reduce the risk of HIV infection in OVC households was provided through Brochures and pamphlets as well as mini media to 1814 OVCs and their CGs.
- Created awareness related to stigma and discrimination for 75 CCCs
- Due to COVID-19 pandemic group discussions had been restricted, CCCs were reached via duplicated Child abuse protocol material in the three target towns during the reporting period.
- Gender responsive communication materials (Gender based violence, gender norms and related topic PPT, Brochures, and pamphlets that easily readable) were made available for CCC members at kebele level have been disseminated.
- Quarterly consultative meetings with 10 heads of health facilities across all towns

- ✿ SINOVUYO Program for Parents and Teens is a parenting program that aims to strengthen caregivers' abilities to respond and protect adolescents from the risks of HIV by providing a nurturing and protective environment. This also was disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program had made astonishing progress in improving the skill of parenting.
- ✿ COVID-19 sanitary and protective materials was provided to 1244 HHs, staff and volunteer workers.

Result 3: Increased quality of high impact community-based HIV services through quality improvement approaches, training and data analysis.

- ✿ Quarterly performance review was conducted with 45 participants with the program stakeholders (WCYA, BOLSA, BOH, BOFED, BOE, zone, woreda level, and community groups)
- ✿ Quarterly performance assessment and appraisal of 21 SSWs to improve the quality-of-service provision.
- ✿ Heads of health facilities were involved in a quarterly consultative meeting in all of the three towns (12 heads of health facilities, 15 HEWs and 21 SSWs were involved)

Result 4: Increased sustainability of high impact community-based HIV services through partnership with local authorities, evaluation and community resource mobilization

- ✿ Child abuse response protocol was distributed and short orientation was provided to CCCs, SSWs and towns' WCAO, and orientations were cascaded step by step to them. SSWs on the other hand have cascaded it to CWs for proper utilization of the protocol
- ✿ Strengthened existing partnership and networking with government sectors, CBOs and other stakeholders through face-to-face discussions. They have also been involved in different activities of the project.

2. USAID/ETHIOPIA Family-Focused HIV prevention, care and treatment services

2.1. Program Description

The project is funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Ethiopia. Prognyst signed an agreement with the donor to implement the program for three years with a total budget of 11,353,946.45 birr.

The project is designed to achieve two broad spectrum results i.e. Increased access & demand to family-focused HIV services that reduce HIV incidence in the community and Strengthened utilization of data to monitor service delivery and conduct quality improvement of program services. Progynist, as a local implementing partner (LIP), will implement Family-Focused HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment Services in SNNPR in Guraghe zone at Butajira, Hadiya zone at Hosaena, Bench Sheko zone at Mizan Aman and Sheka zone at Tepi towns to address the needs of 7589 orphan and vulnerable children of 1295 KPs and PPs adult care givers. Progynist will reach all target project geographic areas, target families and communities with intended services.

2.2. Objectives

- The overall goal of this project is by 2023, to reinforce and revolutionize the multi-sectors and multi-stakeholder responses of HIV epidemic control at Butajira & Hosaena at SNNPR and Mizan & Tepi at South-west Region.

General Objective:

- ⇒ To improve the lives of 7592 orphan and vulnerable children by increasing access & demand to Family-focused HIV services that reduce HIV incidence in the community.

Specific objectives:

- ⇒ To contribute to the attainment of HIV epidemic control within the target SNUs by 2023.
- ⇒ To strengthen utilization of data of the 8884 beneficiaries to monitor service delivery while applying continuous quality improvement of program services every year until 2023.

2.3. Implementation Strategies

- (1) Operation Triple Zero:** To achieve this purpose, the project will ensure that the targeted SNUs, Woreda Health bureaus and Health Facilities, community structures, CCC, FBOs CBOs and stakeholders have the capacity to facilitate high quality HIV/AIDS related services for HIV impacted OVC tailored to addressing TRIPLE ZERO approach namely: Zero missed appointments, Zero missed medications, Zero viral load, Zero infections 9-14 to contribute to national 95/95/95 goal. The OTZ (Operation Triple Zero) interventions will be used to reach all children/adolescents with HIV. Progynist will facilitate PLHIV support group /OTZ club/ at Butajira, Hosaena and Mizan Aman.
- (2) Accelerating community-based ART:** Progynist will enhance acceleration of community-based ART to full implementation in all project areas and significantly reduce patient loads at health facilities, especially during COVID-19 pandemic conditions. To do this, we will advocate and lobby

the health sectors in the targeted SNUs on strengthening and expanding the implementation of the 6 months multi-month dispensing (MMD) and introduce health worker managed Community ART refill Groups (CAG) and promote fast track pharmacy refill at the three targeted SNUs.

- (3) Realigning OVC program to HIV treatment program:** OVC/C&T will use case management standard procedures to assess needs and deliver family focused integrated services for targeted OVC sub-populations including HIV+ children, adolescents and children of HIV+ mothers. The project will prioritize fostering facility and community-based Index Case testing of KPs and PPs adults and their biological children by tracking them in the community and providing professional assisted self-testing. Currently, Progynist has MOUs with health facilities, CC/CCC in targeted SNUs that will be utilized and updated in the context of this project. There are several community cadres the partners are already working with including SSWs, Case Workers, health facility professionals and health extension workers.
- (4) Focused HIV testing and linkage for newly diagnosed cases in the community:** Approaches include user friendly services for adolescents, facilitating separate space and scheduling for clients with high viral load, establishment and facilitation of Facility-Community collaboration for case identification, adherence support and tracing of lost clients. Health facilities and providers will be capacitated to address the demands and needs of those who might be displaced or self-transferred.
- (5) Delivering differentiated service package for pediatric, adolescent and adult ART clients to improve retention, adherence and viral load suppression:** The following activities will be implemented to build HIV/ART literacy of beneficiaries: HIV/ART literacy education to caregivers on HIV/ART, Disclosure support for caregivers so children/adolescents with HIV infection are disclosed of their HIV status, HIV/ART literacy education to adolescents with HIV through peer-led group support.
- (6) As innovative approach Progynist deploys U = U initiative** which includes one to-one peer support for newly-initiated patients and those with high viral load. The strategies include reinforcing interface between community and facility-based actors; improving documentation of patient demographics; engaging FBOs as program advocates and ensuring messaging that is consistent and aligned with evidence-based approaches for HIV case identification, treatment of HIV and co-morbidities, and at the same time respecting and adhering to social and religious values among the community. Additional strategies include ongoing bring back-to-treatment periodic campaigns. The following tools will be used to ensure proper adherence assessment and support is provided for each infected child/adolescent:

Appointment calendar to track ART and viral load testing dates and send reminders ahead of time, **Scripted adherence counseling** guide to provide proper support and identify adherence barriers ahead of time before a problem arises, **Adherence barrier analysis and support** for clients who are LTFU, have missed appointment, missed dose, or high viral load. For clients with high viral load, enhanced adherence counseling and support will be provided.

- (7) **Primary prevention for HIV and violence among 9-14-year old:** We will use the PEPFAR approved curriculum of IMpower and Sinovuyo Teens. We will work with the curriculum developers to complete the ongoing TOTs to build capacity of our trainers and scale up reach to adolescents and their families and communities with the curriculum interventions.
- (8) **Supporting risk and needs assessment of beneficiaries** encountered by the program or served by collaborating agencies to mitigate risk of HIV acquisition, ART retention and adherence barriers to improve viral load suppression. A risk assessment tool will be systematically applied to all identified at risk children, youth and adults with unknown HIV status in all the target SNU's to determine which of them need to be tested.
- (9) **Quality improvement approach:** Two models will be used to address gaps in quality in ICT and viral suppression cascade. Training will be provided to project staff based on FHI360's quality improvement model using Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycle.
- (10) **Cross cutting themes:** Prognyst will work to addressing HIV and gender equitable HIV prevention, care, treatment and support to promote positive gender norms; Gender-based violence prevention and care services for beneficiaries identified by the program including post-GBV care; and increase gender equitable access to income and productive resources, including education and health care.
- (11) **HIV and COVID-19:** The project implementation will give due attention to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 which might be the additional burden of HIV through protecting front line health workers and technical staff of the project using USAID guide lines and principles that will enable us to protect the gains of thus far efforts on HIV responses. In addition, the project has allocated **192,360.00 ETB** to procure and distribute PPE for COVID-19 mitigation to its staff, volunteer workers and each beneficiary household.

2.4. Program Performance

Key Services Provision

- Case Workers have provided comprehensive services for both 7589 OVC (3795 for comprehensive services and their CGs of OVCs who are in comprehensive services during home-to-home visits.
- 3509 OVC had been provided with hygiene counseling and WASH messaging; monitored 1516 OVC (610 M & 906 F) child's school performance and attendance to ensure progression to the next grade;
- Completed link to age-appropriate HIV literacy education for 1516 OVC (610 M & 906 F); Likewise, during home-to-home visits hygiene counseling and WASH messaging services had been given to 1156 CGs; Completed link to age-appropriate HIV literacy education for 513 CGs (219 m and 294 f); 42 CGs were provided referral to viral load or CD4 testing services.
- Progynist provided OVC services to 3509 (92%) to orphan and vulnerable children and their caregivers; in Butajira 1004 (96%), Hosaena 901 (100%) and at Mizan aman 1604 (87%).

During this period, performance was hindered by a multitude of factors. Although number of children and adolescents on ART who were offered enrollment into the OVC program is low, all the offered ones were enrolled into the OVC program (100%). All (100%) HIV positive children and caregivers (active or graduated) at Butajira and Hosaena served by the OVC comprehensive program who are on ART were eligible for VL. Mizan Aman only 88% of those on ART were eligible. From those served by the program those with a known documented viral load test result within the previous 12 months are 80 (52%) at Butajira, 80 (71%) Hosaena and 509 (92%) at Mizan. From the eligible as it stands, 88% at Butajira, 88% at Mizan and 93% at Mizan are virally suppressed.

Progynist offered ICT services to 55 clients (34 Females and 21 Males) and tested 27 clients (15 Females and 12 Males). A total of 38 clients (24 Females and 14 Males) (36 clients <18, 2 clients >18) were line listed and offered ICT services at Butajira and from those offered, a total of 18 clients (11 Females and 7 Males) (16 clients <18, 2 Clients >18) were tested; Butajira also distributed 2 kits for unassisted self-testing. In Mizan aman 17 clients (10 Females and 7 Males) (both above 18) were offered ICT services from those 9 clients (4 Females and 5 males) were tested. Although 2 HIV positive cases were found, we are still awaiting their recency results.

Result 1: Increased access & demand to family-focused HIV services that reduce HIV incidence in the community

Intermediate Result 1.1: HIV testing and counselling in the targeted SNU's increased.

- All sites conducted a one-day program launching workshop with relevant government stakeholders present. (Butajira, Hosaena and Mizan)
- In Mizan Aman: A one-day Stakeholders Forum was conducted on Dec 31, 2020 at Mizan tepi teaching Hospital. 21 participants from Mizan Aman (from BoH, BoFED, BoLSA, WCAO, Mayor's office representatives, Health center & Hospital representatives, PLHIV association focal persons, adherence supporters) and 15 participants from Yeki woreda, Tepi town (from WCA, BoH & BoLSA) attended the forum. A team led by the Executive Director was present during the event and during their stay conducted consultative meetings with each of the government stakeholders for the FY21 program. Representatives from Zone BoFED, BoLSA, BoH, mayor's office and PP office were reached.
- Identification and enrolment of 4 biological children (1M & 3F) of PLHIV.
- After the identification, 16 OVCs and 2 CGs (M=6, F=10, T=16) (discordant couples 1M & 1F) tested but no positive was found.
- 2 (1M & 1F) clients in Butajira were provided with self-test kits for assisted HIV self-testing
- All sites printed and distributed HIV testing algorithms and job aids to Referral linkage professionals for use in Health Facilities.

Intermediate Result 1.2: HIV retention and adherence services improved

- 27 clients across the three sites were reached with cervical screen messages using routine counseling and awareness creation to get early screening for cervical cancer. 2 clients at Butajira were referred for VIA test.

Intermediate Result 1.3: Mitigation of OVC programming: Comprehensive OVC & Primary prevention.

- During this period, new enrollment has been conducted in place of those OVCs exited without graduation and transferred to non PEPFAR site during the last program.
- 26 HIV infected children and adolescents <18 years of age were enrolled.
- 415 Children of PLHIV were enrolled.

- 562 Children with HIV infected siblings were enrolled.
- 61 HIV exposed infants were enrolled from health facilities.
- 686 Children of female sexual workers were enrolled to the program.
- 191 Survivors of sexual violence were enrolled to the program.
- 32 HIV infected pregnant and breast-feeding Women (PBFW) aged 10-24 years target were also enrolled for the comprehensive OVC services; the rest 50% OVCs will be reached through HIV & sexual violence interventions. Generally, we have identified and enrolled 1993 OVCs and along with the already existing 1516 OVCs, we are at 92% enrollment status. The program is currently conducting single registration, house hold need and strengthening assessment, HIV risk assessment, care plan development and service provision.

- Signed/updated MOUs with HAPCO & health facilities to strengthen referral linkages and strengthen HIV services in all towns.
- Mobile air time was provided to case workers and ART case managers to facilitate HIV testing and OVC mitigation services easily and to communicate without physical appearance.
- 285 female care givers received breastfeeding counseling and health education on the importance of exclusive breast feeding for the 1st 6 months.
- Educational counseling on importance of education, attendance, performance was provided to 321 OVCs and their caregivers (188F & 133 M) through home-to-home visits by caseworkers.

3. Beyond Numbers: Towards Gender Transformation (CSSP2)

3.1. Program Description

Civil Society support program (CSSP2) designed a project known as “*Beyond Numbers: Towards Gender Transformation*” with financial support of the British Council as part of the *Civil Society Support Program Phase 2* strategic grant. Progynist along with Pro-Pride, Forum for African Women Educationalists-FAWE, and Support for Sustainable Development-SSD launched this program in

This program was designed to increase participation of Women in politics and other decision-making processes, to enhance the response of community members to violation of women and girls’ rights, and to enhance coordination and collaborative engagement of women rights organizations with law enforcement bodies particularly in response to gender-based violence.

To meet these objectives, a range of activities including conducting community conversation sessions, providing trainings and other technical supports to women and their organizations, organizing community wide events, producing and airing tailored radio programs were planned and are being carried out in Addis Ababa Yeka sub-city and Butajira towns. A total of 1,364,625 women, girls and other community members are intended to benefit from the project directly and indirectly.

3.2. Objectives

- To increase women's participation in politics and decision-making
 - To enhance the response of communities to violations of rights of women and girls specifically addressing GBV
 - To Improve implementation of existing laws around gender-based violence
 - To engage in the national advocacy for revision of policy instruments ensuring protection of the rights of women and girls
 - To enhance coordination and engagement of women rights organizations/CSOs for violence free and gender transformed society.

3.3. Implementation Strategies

1. **Right-based Approach:** an important strategy to help ensure empowerment and autonomy of women and the improvement of their political, social and economic and health status as an important end.
2. **Gender Transformative Approach:** to create opportunities for individuals to actively challenge gender norms, attitudes and social systems that are underlying causes of gender inequality.
3. **Engagement:** enhancing state citizen engagement through continuous dialogue and consultation among community members and institutions such as CSOs, WROs, and pertinent local Government bodies.
4. **Women Empowerment:** recognizes that lack of women's empowerment is a critical aspect of gender inequality. Barriers to women empowerment, which exists in many forms, thus, make women and girls vulnerable to deprivations of services as well as denial of entitlements
5. **Capacity Building:** capacity building support will be provided to enhance the institutional and technical capacities of WROs or other initiatives involved in the promotion of the rights of women and girls.
6. **Linkage and Collaborative Relationships Among Stakeholders:** The project will establish and strengthen collaborative relationship with Women, Children and Youth Affairs offices and other concerned government offices, women associations and groups including WROs, public and private facilities and organizations in the intervention areas to facilitate their engagement in addressing the problems faced by women and girls in the intervention area.

7. **Media:** radio programs are carefully designed, produced and aired on at least three local stations weekly for 30 minutes over a period of one year.

3.4. Project Performance

Capacity building trainings were given to government stakeholders and WROs were sensitized on the sub-themes of gender balance on political participation and decision making as well as the need for a coordinated fight against GBV. The Local communities learned about COVID-19 as a threat to Public Health and how they protect themselves against the pandemic. Tailored messages on the implications of the pandemic on GBV was also transmitted Information about ‘Safeguarding marginalized groups’ was provided so as to community to give due attention to the issue. Street public awareness campaign using sound systems & banners to disseminate information.

The campaign was conducted in the main streets, market place, around schools and health centres. Motivating and educational messages were provided and people were observed listening and paying due attention. Different posters and banners were disseminated to raise awareness to the local community.

Community Conversation Facilitators’ (CCFs) training was provided for women volunteers. The CC Group formations are finalized and the dialogue sessions will be started on these two weeks. Radio programs are broadcast as per schedule which is every week from the beginning of project implementation. In Addis Ababa the radio program is transmitted on FM 97.1 every Monday from 1:30pm - 8:00pm.

Outcome 1: Women rights organizations in selected Woredas and regions actively promote women’s participation in politics and decision-making positions

- Safeguarding training was provided to program staff. Staff were equipped with necessary skills and knowledge that they require to facilitate timely implementation, understand and uphold safeguard standards and ensure realization of project objectives.
- Snap survey to understand the local context of women political participation and to identify challenges and limitation in implementation of existing laws. Women’s right organizations, political parties and law enforcement bodies from Addis Ababa, Yeka sub-city and Butajira town participated in the survey. Analysis shows the state women’s political participation, women’s engagement in leadership and decision-making roles, the level of support from GOs/NGOs, common cases of Gender-based violence, the level of community participation in preventing gender-based violence and existing reporting mechanisms for GBV cases.



Description: Training to Law enforcement bodies on on gender, gender-based violence, the implications of Covid-19 on GBV at Addis Ababa (on the left) and Butajira (on the right)

Outcome 2: Enhanced and sustained response of communities to violations of rights of women and girls especially in addressing GBV.

- ✿ Training for 10 media professionals and radio program staff was provided on gender issues and gender sensitive reporting as well as the implication of COVID-19 on GBV and women political participation. Due to COVID-19 participant numbers were limited.
- ✿ A total of 52 radio programs were produced and successfully transmitted to target beneficiaries in addition to the broader audience living in and around project target areas on promoting women's political participation and other related issues such as prevention and response information about COVID-19 and its implications on women's political participation.

Outcome 3: Improved implementation of existing laws and engagement in the national advocacy for revision of policy instruments ensuring protection of the rights of women and girls

- ✿ Capacity building training to 36 law enforcement personnel (from the woreda, women and children's office, police, and justice, and the prosecutor's office – total 18, 8 men and 10 women) on gender, gender-based violence, the implications of Covid-19 on GBV and pertinent laws and practice was provided at Addis Ababa and Butajira.

- * Awareness creation on Gender, gender-based violence and COVID-19 was done by using banners and posters at all target towns. The materials were also communicated by announcers using montarbo speakers and a vehicle around Yeka Sub-city woreda 8,9,10 and 12 as well as at Butajira town.



Description: Training to WROs on gender-based violence, impact of COVID-19 and enhancing the political participation of Women; with Prognist's founder and Executive Director W/o Netsanet Mengistu, September 2020



Description: Training for 10 media professionals and radio program staff on gender issues and gender sensitive reporting as well as the implication of COVID-19 on GBV and women political participation

4. Improving the social and economic situation of vulnerable women in Addis Ababa

4.1. Program Description

This program focused on the social, psychological and economic wellbeing of Women and Children by giving Special attention for those who are disadvantaged and marginalized. It is a three years project (2018-2020) which is funded by a German organization named Misereor with a total of ETB 3,468,716.30. The project targets to benefit a total of 450 direct and 3,600 indirect beneficiaries living in Addis Ababa Nifas Silk Lafto and Yeka Sub Cities.

4.2. Objective

- ★ **General objective:** To improve the social and economic situation of disadvantaged women and girls so that they can realize and utilize their potential.
- ★ **Specific objective:** To contribute to the improvement of the socio-economic situation of disadvantaged women and young girls so that they can realize and utilize their potential.

4.3. Implementation Strategies

- Fund is generated from two sources. First, internally generated through regular savings of the members who save at their individual pace and according to their capacity. Once they reach a certain level of savings and got to know each other well, loan service will start along a matching fund from external donors.
- Series of business development services and training will be provided to each group who are eligible for the Saving and Credit scheme. Each group is expected to draft its own bylaws. According to their bylaws, each member is encouraged to borrow and engage in micro enterprise. Once they start the micro business, continuous technical assistance and support is provided by Progynist.
- The project will facilitate networking among the micro entrepreneurs themselves and linkage with raw materials suppliers or/and potential purchasers of their products and services. The project will encourage linkage with Micro and Small Enterprises Agency for establishment of legality and other supports the Agency may provide.
- Experience sharing programs will be organized for the various women groups in the different regions implementing this project.

4.4. Program Performance

Objective 1: To improve the economic Situation of 350 disadvantaged and marginalized women

- ✿ Provision of training for 40 saving mothers on basic Business skill, financial management, and loan management with additional orientation on COVID-19 safety.
- ✿ Training was given to 52 saving mothers with additional orientation on COVID-19 safety.
- ✿ Asset distribution based on defined needs for 70 women (flour, Oil and pasta)
- ✿ Work materials were purchased and distributed for 60 women (work materials like chips fryer, refrigerator, onion chopper, coffee grinder, oven, block machine, thermos, juicer, sealer singer, hair dryer)

Objective 2: Discriminatory behavior and exclusion of women and young girls has decreased

- ✿ Counseling and psychosocial service was provided for survivors of gender-based violence (one mother and her child received service)
- ✿ 23 school students and 2 school teachers working as gender club facilitators, were given menstrual hygiene management and sexual reproductive health training.
- ✿ Adult education was provided to 110 mothers organized in to 3 saving and loan associations

5. Leveraging Women's Potential for Maintaining and Sustaining Peace

5.1. Program Description

This two-year project intends to bring women to the forefront in the realization of peace by paying special attention to the different experiences of women and men as critical in maintaining and sustaining peace efforts. This project wants to focus on women as important partners to a peacebuilding process because, they constitute half of every community and yet are not consulted about the issues that create conflict. The irony is, they themselves are victims of the consequences of the conflict. Women are also the central caretakers of families that are displaced and who feel the atrocities resulting from the conflicts. They are in charge of orphans, the sick and elderly and in providing psychosocial support to the grieving and traumatized families. They also engage in businesses in unfamiliar and insecure environment to maintain basic levels of food and water for their families. Therefore, the fact that women bear the burden of conflict and violence, they are uniquely placed to engage in advocacy for peace, if trained can become peacekeepers, relief workers and mediators.

Progynist is designing this project in order to encourage women become part of a peace process when peace looks fragile, and if conflict arises or after it subsides to maintain and stabilize it.

This project is intended to be implemented in the Bete Guraghe woredas of Meskan (east and west), Dobbi and Soddo of the Guraghe zone, SNNPR and two woredas of Nifas Silk Lafto subcity in Addis Ababa.

5.2. Objectives

- (1) To build the capacities of women/girls and male youth from religious institutions, traditional structures and government offices with due attention to the disabled persons, to become Peace Promoters.
- (2) To bring visibility to women's issues and concerns on gender equality, peace and security so that their voices are heard.
- (3) To popularize and advocate for the effective implementation of UNSCR 1325 Resolution, an international law that calls for women's inclusion in peace processes and decision making.
- (4) To build the capacity of Progynist's governance structure, head office and field staff on the important role of women in peace building, protection from GBV and how they could practically share the vision of Gender equality in Ethiopia.
- (5) Build the organizational capacity of Progynist by way of training its essential staff, putting the required Policies and guidelines in place, publish its experiences on gender equality and also ensure that it has a dependable logistical equipment.

5.3. Implementation Strategies

- **Gender Transformative Approach:** the shared control of resources and decision-making—and women's empowerment are central to the project, it will create opportunities for individuals to actively challenge gender norms, attitudes and social systems that are underlying causes of gender inequality.
- **Women Empowerment:** recognizes that lack of women's empowerment is a critical aspect of gender inequality. Barriers to women empowerment, which exists in many forms, thus, make women and girls vulnerable to deprivations of services as well as denial of entitlements
- **Capacity Building:** capacity building support will be provided to enhance the institutional and technical capacities of WROs or other initiatives involved in the promotion of the rights of women and girls.
- **Linkage and Collaborative Relationships Among Stakeholders:** The project will establish and strengthen collaborative relationship with Women, Children and Youth Affairs offices and other concerned government offices, women associations and groups including WROs, public and private

facilities and organizations in the intervention areas to facilitate their engagement in addressing the problems faced by women and girls in the intervention area.

5.4. Program Performance (*up to January, 2021*)

Objective 1: To build the capacities of women/girls and male youth from religious institutions, traditional structures and government offices with due attention to the disabled persons, to become Peace Promoters.

- Agreement in the process of being signed with Government stakeholders
- Project Launching at Butajira was conducted;
- Consultative meetings about the program with stakeholders and
- Training on Management and Resolution on Peace and conflict was conducted; a total of 102 participants (48 male and 54 females) attended. Women and Girls from religious organizations, government bodies from Peace and Security Office, volunteers, women association leaders, and students working in School clubs attended the event.

6. Annex

- 6.1. An overview of activity and financial achievements during the year 2020
- 6.2. Financial Audit Report for the year 2020