

ETHIOPIA



THE NEED

Ethiopia has been facing a greater frequency and intensity of disasters due to long-term environmental degradation and shifting global weather patterns, which are further exacerbated by climate change. The result of two successive failed rainy seasons, Ethiopia's current drought has produced the worst food crisis in the country in 30 years. With no crops or rangeland to feed either themselves or their livestock, as many as 18 million people are at risk of hunger and disease. Hundreds of thousands of livestock have died from lack of food and water, leaving communities food insecure, malnourished and vulnerable.



REGIONAL FOCUS:
Afar, Oromia, SNNPR

OVERVIEW

Since 2005, PCI Ethiopia has built a strong reputation for community-based, integrated health and development programming, with programmatic expertise in food and nutrition security; water and sanitation; livelihoods strengthening; prevention of human trafficking; HIV/AIDS, with an emphasis on orphans and vulnerable children; women's empowerment; maternal, newborn and child health; reproductive health; disaster risk reduction/ response; and capacity building of local organizations. PCI has experience working in six of the country's nine regions and two administrative cities, with a significant presence in the highly vulnerable Afar region. PCI is dedicated to equipping communities with knowledge and resources to improve their own livelihoods, as reflected by innovative program platforms such as its social and economic empowerment model for women.

BUILDING RESILIENCE IN PASTORAL REGIONS

With funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), PCI recently embarked on a five-year initiative which seeks to build community resiliency to withstand and recover from climate and conflict-related shocks in some of Ethiopia's most vulnerable pastoral regions. Through project RIPA (Resilience In Pastoral Areas), PCI, in collaboration with implementing partners GOAL and iDE, is addressing many of the root causes of vulnerability for pastoral families, such as poor livestock and crop productivity, limited access to markets, poor nutrition, and limited options for livelihood diversification.

Key program strategies include:

- Building community-managed disaster risk management capacity through inclusive, community-led, and data-driven tools.
- Improving pastoralists' ability to locate green pastures to sustain their herds through PCI's AfriScout® social enterprise.
- Increasing access to livelihood opportunities for individuals transitioning out of pastoralism, with a focus on women and youth.
- Empowering young women and mothers through Women Empowered social and economic empowerment groups.
- Engaging the private sector to improve crop and livestock production and marketing.
- Improving health and nutrition outcomes for women and children by leveraging best practices from proven behavior change strategies.

AfriScout® is revolutionizing the way pastoralists in Africa find pasture and water for their animals using the power of satellite and mobile technology. *AfriScout* has mapped over 500,000 square kilometers of communal grazing lands in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Tanzania and has more than 10,000 registered app users.



EMERGENCY DROUGHT RESPONSE & RECOVERY

For over a decade, PCI has responded to drought emergencies throughout Ethiopia, focusing not only on mobilizing rapid responses to provide clean water and other basic necessities to affected communities, but also working at local, regional and national levels to build local capacity to withstand future shocks and stresses.

Most recently, PCI partnered with USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and Engineers Without Borders USA to provide assistance in four woredas in Afar that were most impacted by the El Niño and Indian Ocean Dipole drought. The ENDURE project (Ethiopia Emergency Drought Response and Rehabilitation) took a multi-faceted approach to responding to the crisis through interventions including: increasing access to clean water for human and animal consumption; providing animal feed and veterinary assistance to livestock; and reinforcing water, sanitation, and hygiene practices to prevent diseases common to drought, such as diarrhea. Among other project successes, over 170,000 beneficiaries benefitted from access to safe water supply points, and over 1,800 households received shoats (a sheep-goat hybrid), 92% of which reported an increase in milk consumption for their families.

ABOUT PCI

PCI (Project Concern International), a Global Communities Partner, is a global development organization that drives innovation from the ground up to enhance health, end hunger, overcome hardship, and advance women and girls — resulting in meaningful and measurable change in people's lives. Founded in 1961, PCI impacted more than 21 million lives in fiscal year 2019 through programs in 13 countries spanning Asia, Africa and the Americas.

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PAST PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Orphans & Vulnerable Children:** From 2004-2010, PCI's BELONG program strengthened over 500 local organizations in Zambia and Ethiopia and provided direct services to nearly 252,000 OVC and over 15,700 OVC caregivers.
- **Healthy & Empowered Women & Girls:** PCI's U.S. Department of State-funded Hope for Women project mobilized men, women, and religious leaders and engaged them in being part of the solution to shift norms. The project effectively increased girl's school attendance by over 20%, engaged over 600 women in income-generating activities, and made strides toward changing male domination in Ethiopia's Afar region.
- **Clean Water for Farming Communities:** Together with The Starbucks Foundation, PCI increased access to safe drinking water for 10,500 people and organized 2,069 women coffee farmers into 108 "Women Empowered" groups. To date these groups have collectively saved \$23,423 dollars and have initiated over 1,642 small businesses.
- **Building resilience to climate-related shocks:** PCI's four-year (2014-2018) USAID-funded project in Bale Zone, Oromia mobilized communities to build their long-term resilience to climate change and related shocks. Among other notable achievements, Project "REVIVE" regenerated over 18,000 hectares of land to protect natural resources and reduced by 60% the amount of time women and girls spend fetching water through the rehabilitation and construction of 84 water systems, which are benefiting over 83,000 new users.