ANPPCAN-Ethiopia

# ANNUAL REPORT OF ANPPCAN-ETHIOPIA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024


**March, 2024**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

# I. INTRODUCTION

The African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN)–Ethiopia is a national Civil Society Organization re-registered under registration number 0385. In the reporting year 2024, the organization operated in the Amhara regional state, specifically in Central Gondar, North Gondar, West Gondar, South Gondar, and North Wollo (Gidan, Raya, Kobo, and Gubalafto woredas).

ANPPCAN-Ethiopia implements various life-impacting programs aligned with its five-year strategic plan thematic areas, including Lobby and Child Rights Advocacy, Gender Transformation, Child Protection, Child Migration and Trafficking, Positive Parenting, Health/HIV/AIDS, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Family Planning, Food Security (Livelihood Support), Emergency Responses, Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution and Citizen Engagement (Social Accountability).

The organization operates with a structured governance system consisting of a General Assembly, a Management Board, and a Secretariat led by the Executive Director. In 2024, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia employed a total of 92 staff members, including 57 females and 35 males. Among them, 74 are professionals (BA and above), while the remaining 18 are semi-professionals (Diploma and below). Additionally, the organization engaged 480 volunteers. During the year, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia implemented five different projects with financial support from five international donors, all aligned with the organization's strategic priorities.

ANPPCAN-Ethiopia exerted significant efforts to mobilize resources from various international funders to sustain ongoing projects and secure new initiatives. The primary focus of projects implemented this year was the well-being of vulnerable communities, particularly children and women. Key intervention areas included child protection, emergency responses, adolescent sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, SBC peacebuilding and migration management. The organization closely collaborated with local structures such as faith-based organizations, community care coalitions (CCCs), Iddirs, women's associations, and youth associations, ensuring sustainable program implementation.

In implementing humanitarian projects, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia supported conflict-affected vulnerable groups in the Amhara region, particularly internally displaced people (IDPs)and host communities from North Wollo Zone, Gidan Woreda. The organization developed a crisis modifier concept note and successfully secured additional funding from Terre des Hommes Netherlands (TDH NL) through the Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA) to support flood-affected households (emergency response project). Through this initiative, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia provided Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) assistance to 826 flood-affected households in Gidan Woreda, benefiting approximately 5,782 individuals. The cash support enabled beneficiaries to address their urgent needs based on their priorities.

Throughout the year, the organization conducted quarterly reviews, monitoring visits, joint assessments, and joint monitoring activities with government partners and stakeholders to ensure program effectiveness. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) efforts played a crucial role in tracking project impact and informing adaptive strategies.

Despite notable achievements, project implementation faced significant challenges due to the security situation in Northern Ethiopia, particularly in Amhara (North Wollo, Gidan Woreda), where ongoing conflict led to activity disruptions, restricted movement, public service

interruptions, and staff displacement. Some intervention areas were inaccessible, and public gatherings were restricted under the state of emergency. ANPPCAN-Ethiopia mitigated these challenges through regular security assessments, SOPs, and collaboration with local authorities. Additionally, macroeconomic shifts, including exchange rate fluctuations and inflation, impacted financial planning and operational costs, delaying some project activities. Despite these hurdles, strong collaboration with government partners, donor support, and adaptive strategies enabled ANPPCAN-Ethiopia to successfully implement planned interventions, with government offices playing a crucial role in assessments, planning, monitoring, and evaluation.

In 2024, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia planned to directly and indirectly reach **78,837** project beneficiaries. By the end of the year, a total of **98,779** beneficiaries (125% of the target) were reached through the implementation of various projects.

The total budget plan for the year 2024 was **55,442,510.00** ETB, while the total expenditure amounted Birr ***82,599,416.68 (149%*** of the plan). Of this, ***68,742,502.50 ETB (83.22%)*** was allocated to program activities, and ***13,856,914.18 (16.78%)*** was spent on administration, aligning with the 80/20 program-to-administration budget ratio required by the new Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) proclamation.

The subsequent sections of this report detail the specific project achievements, key successes, strategies employed, challenges encountered, lessons learned, and opportunities identified during the implementation period.

## Physical and Budget Plan Vs. Achievements summary of the year 2024

| S/N | Name of Projects | Plan (Physical and Financial) | | | | Accomplishment | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Target | | | Budget | Target | | Budget | % | *Remar k* |
| | | Female | Male | Total | | No | % | | | |
| 1 | Family Focused HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment Services | 8,366 | 7,784 | 16,150 | 23,980,523 | 15,840 | 98 | 32,247,688.50 | 134 | Budget increased due to exchange rate gains |
| 2 | DRA Ethiopian Joint Response Project | 18,667 | 17,880 | 36,547 | 22,491,689 | 39,325 | 108 | 25,082,173.69 | 112 | |
| 3 | Better Migration Management III | 2,450 | 6,100 | 8,550 | 3,842,466 | 6,500 | 76 | 4,080,565.15 | 106 | |
| 4 | Promoting Safer Migration and Sustainable Reintegration of returnees in North Wollo Zone Amhara Region | 2,268 | 1,468 | 3,736 | 2,519,292 | 11,845 | 317 | 3,978,894.79 | 158 | Target increase because of school level interventions and budget increment is due to exchange rate gains |
| 5 | USAID Healthy Behaviors Activity | 7,240 | 6,614 | 13,854 | 2,608,560 | 19,487 | 141 | 3,772,857.68 | 145 | Budget increased due to exchange rate gains |
| 6 | Crisis Modifier Project for Flood-Affected households in Gidan Woreda, North Wollo Zone | | | | | 5,782 | - | 17,690,329.54 | - | New project implemented to respond to the flood happened in Gidan Woreda |
| 7 | Different costs Covered by ANPPCAN-Ethiopia including depreciation expense | | | | | | | 1,772,161.17 | | This is mainly the expense made for the procurement of vehicle using its own budget. |
| | **Total** | **38,991** | **39,846** | **78,837** | **55,442,510** | **98,779** | **125** | **88,624,670.52** | **160** | |

# 2. MAJOR ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE PROJECTS IN 2024

## 2.1. Family-focused HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment Services

The Family-Focused HIV Prevention, Care, and Treatment Services project was implemented in Gondar with the overarching goal of reducing HIV incidence within communities. The project focused on increasing adherence and retention in antiretroviral therapy (ART) through targeted community case management, including adherence counseling and support, disclosure and psychosocial services, and a community-based differentiated care model. It also enhanced gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response by strengthening referral pathways to health facilities for people living with HIV (PLHIV) exposed to GBV and mitigating risks for vulnerable children. The project successfully provided holistic services to vulnerable children and their guardians across Gondar, Metema, Metema Yohannes, Takusa, East Dembia, and Debark towns. Recognizing that HIV case finding remains a critical gap in treatment cohort growth, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia implemented targeted HIV testing and counseling services. In close collaboration with Woreda health offices, healthcare facilities, and community stakeholders, the organization utilized Index Case Testing to reach ART clients and their networks. In 2024, more than 15,840 vulnerable children and their guardians accessed essential health services, including psychosocial support for PLHIV, GBV services, and referrals to healthcare facilities. The organization also strengthened local health systems and community structures to ensure sustainable HIV prevention and treatment services, improved adherence and retention on ART through innovative approaches such as community-based support groups, and enhanced protection and care for children at risk, ensuring their holistic development and well-being. ANPPCAN-Ethiopia's commitment to addressing HIV prevention, care, and treatment continues to make a tangible impact on the lives of vulnerable populations, strengthening health systems and fostering community resilience.

Some of the key activities performed during the year are summarized as

- Conducted HIV testing and counseling services for 1,440 beneficiaries in close collaboration with Woreda health offices by using Index Case Test (ICT).
- An enrolled 879 Children & Adults Living with HIV had been provided with various counseling and referral services and 170 High VL clients provided with nutritional support for on a monthly basis
- Established 121 stable PLHIVs under Health Extension Professionals for close follow-up. and all newly diagnosed HIV positive clients
- 320 boys and girls (10-14 years old) reached through trained facilitators using **Synnoviyo** curriculum.

- 1,558 (10-14-year-old girls) were addressed through **IMpower training** to prevent them from HIV and sexual violence.
- 1,738 boys were addressed through the **CBIM curriculum** in schools on Sexual violence and HIV prevention.
- 408 clients addressed GBV screening referral. Of them, **8** GBV victims were identified and linked to psychosocial support
- 9629 at-risk children went through case management protocols and got access to various services.
- 980 of OVC caregivers were provided with better parenting training or other training.
- 30VSLA groups with 650 members (F =558-M=42) members also established with struggler households and are saving regularly.
- 352 (F=335, M=17) VSLA members were equipped with technical skills in business development and micro-enterprise management.

As part of the project**, a** Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) group has been established to support caregivers of children living with HIV/AIDS and People Living with HIV (PLHIVs) in achieving financial stability. This initiative is designed to empower vulnerable households by providing them with a structured savings and loan system to enhance their economic resilience.

Picture 1: VSLA discussion with members

Before forming the VSLA group, a Household Economic Vulnerability Assessment (HHEAVA) is conducted to identify households in need. From this assessment, those categorized as being in the middle economic tier with growth potential are selected and linked to the VSLA initiative. To ensure a strong foundation, these members receive initial capital for savings, as well as essential materials such as saving boxes, saving books, and other necessary equipment to facilitate their participation.

The group operates on a biweekly schedule**,** where members come together to save money, discuss financial matters, and share experiences**.** These regular meetings not only strengthen their financial discipline but also create a supportive environment where they can exchange ideas, seek advice, and

build a collective sense of responsibility. Through this system, caregivers and PLHIVs are equipped with the means to gradually improve their financial well-being while ensuring a stable and supportive future for their children.

A regular and crucial discussion was held with the Community Care Coalition (CCC) to develop a micro plan to enable them to take over the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) program in Gondar. The CCC is a government-led structure that brings together key community stakeholders, including kebele representatives, community resource persons, religious leaders, and government officials. Their primary role is to mobilize local resources and identify individuals in need of support, ensuring that vulnerable children and families receive the necessary assistance.

Picture 2: Discussion with CCC members

As part of the project's commitment to collaboration and accountability, a quarterly review meeting is conducted with government stakeholders to assess progress, address challenges, and strengthen coordination. These meetings serve as a platform for reflecting on achievements, identifying gaps, and planning for the next phase of implementation.

Key government representatives from relevant sectors participate, contributing insights based on their roles and expertise. Discussions focus on program performance, resource utilization, challenges encountered, and actionable solutions to enhance project impact. The meetings also reinforce partnerships between the project team and government structures, ensuring alignment with national policies and sustainability beyond the project timeline.

Through this structured engagement, the project maintains transparency, accountability, and shared ownership, fostering a collaborative approach to delivering meaningful support to vulnerable communities.

## 2.2 USAID- Health Behavior Activity Project

The USAID Healthy Behaviors Activity is another key health-related project implemented by ANPPCAN-Ethiopia. During the fiscal year 2024, the project carried out a range of activities across multiple administrative levels, including at Reginal, Zonal, Woreda, and Kebele levels. The project aimed to promote community-driven development and engagement through Social and Behavioral Change (SBC) initiatives. At the Kebele level, major interventions included timed household visits for pregnant women, group discussions for pregnant women and their husbands, discussions with mothers and fathers of children under five, adolescent group discussions, new baby fair events involving pregnant women, husbands, lactating mothers, and other family members, male engagement discussions, pregnant women conferences, and facility-based health education sessions. In addition to these community-level activities, various training sessions, meetings, and capacity-building initiatives were conducted at the Woreda and zonal levels to support implementation. Key activities included the establishment of technical working groups with monthly meetings, training for village health leaders, capacity-building for health extension workers and healthcare providers, review meetings with key government stakeholders, validation workshops for impactful action planning, male engagement training for facilitators, and supportive supervision by zonal and Woreda-level staff. These interventions were designed to strengthen community engagement, empower government stakeholders, and enhance the capacity of healthcare personnel and systems. Ultimately, the project contributed to promoting healthier behaviors and improving access to quality healthcare services, reinforcing ANPPCAN-Ethiopia's commitment to advancing public health outcomes and sustainable community development. A total of 19,487 target groups were benefited from this project directly and indirectly.

Key activities carried out during the year are listed below;

1.Health Extension Workers (HEWs), Health Center (HC) staff, and WHO officers received training to enhance their role in Social and Behavior Change (SBC) activities. The training covered GALIDRAA and ORPA methods, VHL implementation, and SBC interventions, equipping 120 participants (81 female). Additionally, 33 key government actors were trained in the IMPACTful SBC approach, leading to the development of localized SBC action plans.

2. A two-day training introduced 125 VHLs (80 female) to SBC activities, equipping them with communication and facilitation skills to promote maternal and adolescent health, family planning, and service uptake. Woreda promotion and maternal officers provided guidance on reporting and integration with Health Extension Programs (HEP).

3.Male engagement sessions were conducted in five kebeles of Tach Armachiho Woreda, targeting gender-equitable relationships. Facilitators received five-day training, followed by community discussions. A total of 243 participants (118 female) joined, fostering shared decision-making, workload distribution, and support for maternal and newborn health.

4.SBC-TWG was formed at zonal, woreda, and health center levels in Tach Armachiho, Tegede, and West Belesa. Monthly meetings focused on SBC implementation, health promotion, and mobilization

efforts. The TWG played a critical role in immunization campaigns, outbreak responses, and enhancing coordination across sectors.

5. Key stakeholders reviewed progress, identified strengths such as promotion officer assignments and TWG meetings, and addressed gaps in supervision, reporting, and documentation. Challenges like VHL dropout, SBC material shortages, and security concerns were highlighted.

6.VHLs, HEWs, and health officers assessed progress in home visits, community discussions, and health campaigns. The meeting helped identify gaps, improve collaboration, and enhance community engagement in SBC activities.

7.Facilitators reviewed weekly discussion progress, refining facilitation skills and documenting success stories. Fathers showed increased involvement in childcare, household chores, and antenatal care support. A total of 29 participants (16 female) joined the review.

8.The IMPACTful SBC action plan, implemented across intervention woredas, focused on social mobilization, SBC-TWG establishment, and key health activities like facility-based education, immunization, and malaria prevention.

### *2.2.1. Gender transformative male engagement facilitators training*

Male engagement sessions were conducted in five kebeles of Tach Armachiho Woreda, targeting gender-equitable relationships. Facilitators received five-day training, followed by community discussions. A total of 243 participants (118 female) joined, fostering shared decision-making, workload distribution, and support for maternal and newborn health.

Male engagement is one of the activities implemented at community level. Gender transformative approach that seeks to transform harmful social and gender norms and promote to gender-equitable
relationships between men and women show promising results in changing attitudes and behaviors of men and women and positively contribute to improved RMNCH outcomes.

Picture 3: Male engagement/male group discussion in Tach Armachiho

### *Zonal Bi-annual review meeting*

Bi-annual review meeting with key stakeholders has conducted at zonal level. During the meeting each woreda presented their progress report and discussion has conducted. The meeting has opened by zonal health department V/Head and the discussion lead by zonal promotion officer, HEW support officer and maternal officer.


Picture 4: Zonal Level review meetings facilitated by government representatives

Strength and area of improvement of each woreda identified and discussion were conducted. Areas of strength were each woreda assign promotion officer and focal at health center, technical working group establishment and monthly meeting and review the activity progress and good partnership. The areas of improvement were supportive supervision for community activity, collect report and provide feedback, documentation and integration of activities. Challenges were identified such as village health leader drop out, SBC material absence, some staff negligence and security.

### *Village Health Leader (VHL) Review meeting*

Picture 5: VHL review meeting at West Belesa

The Village Health Leader (VHL) Review meeting was held to assess the progress of community SBC activities, identify challenges, and find solutions. Village Health Leaders, Health Extension Workers, Health Center Staff, and Woreda Officers participated in the meeting. The activities discussed included home visits for pregnant women, community group discussions, and involvement in malaria and immunization campaigns. The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the activities, address obstacles, identify gaps, and ensure effective collaboration for improved health outcomes at the community level.

## 2.3 Promoting Safer Migration and Sustainable Reintegration of Returnees

A project titled "Promoting Safer Migration and Sustainable Reintegration of Returnees was implemented in North Wollo, Amhara Region" (PEMS-2) since July 2023. These projects were executed in three Woredas of the North Wollo zone: Gubalafto, Habru, and Raya Kobo.

To achieve the project's objectives, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia employed several key strategies, including system strengthening and capacity building and collaborating with school mini-medias to promote safe migration. Activities included training sessions, workshops, discussions, and information dissemination through school anti-trafficking clubs and community conversations. Support was also provided to returnees and victims of migration through legal assistance, counseling, economic support, vocational training, and startup capital to facilitate their engagement in income-generating activities (IGA).

The project's overarching goal is to enhance systems that promote safe migration and ensure sustainable reintegration for survivors and returnees. During the implementation period, a variety of activities were conducted, such as:

- Raised awareness among key enforcement bodies/government stakeholders regarding anti-human trafficking initiatives.
- Strengthened 12 antihuman trafficking school clubs through material and technical support.
- Established a Zonal Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition Committee to enhance collaboration.
- Conducted biannual monitoring visits to assess project progress and impact.
- Performed quarterly monitoring visits for ongoing evaluation and support.
- Provided training for anti-trafficking club members to empower grassroots advocacy.
- Delivered training for prosecutors, police, migrant workers, recruitment agencies, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Organized outreach events led by students in public settings to raise community awareness toward safer migration and the negative impact of illegal migration.
- Strengthened and established community conversation groups and school clubs focused on anti-trafficking efforts.
- Offered vocational skills training programs for returnees to support their sustainable reintegration.
- Provided seed money support to 50 returnees to facilitate their entrepreneurial endeavors.
- Conducted monitoring and periodic review meetings with key government stakeholders to ensure alignment and address challenges.

**Community Conversation over Coffee Ceremony Discussion**

Community conversation sessions conducted in 12 intervention kebeles engaged 220 participants, mainly women, discussing migration challenges, job scarcity, and conflict impacts. Limited job opportunities and past experiences with illegal migration continue to drive unsafe migration choices. However, awareness has improved, leading to three women migrating legally and four community groups integrating anti-human trafficking measures into their bylaws. Additionally, two groups in Jarota and Kule kebeles formed savings groups to support sustainable solutions. Armed conflicts, however, have hindered planned discussions on safe migration and domestic servitude prevention in the second year.


Picture 6: Community conversation through coffee ceremony

## *Strengthening School Anti-Trafficking Clubs*

The project has strengthened school anti-trafficking and mini-media clubs by addressing gaps, developing bylaws, and promoting safe migration awareness. Weekly sessions engaged 3,946 students (2,079 females), enhancing knowledge on the risks of irregular migration and fostering peer learning. The initiative contributed to a 10% decrease in dropout rates, with clubs actively preventing 10 children from trafficking and ensuring their safe return. By creating a supportive environment and advocating for safer migration practices, the program aims to reduce student dropout rates by 5% and improve overall protection efforts.

Picture 7: School Club members' training

### *Vocational Skill Training and Seed Money Provision*

During the reporting period, vocational skill training was provided to 25 returnees from Raya Kobo Woreda. The training lasted for 13 consecutive days and was tailored to meet the specific needs of the returnees, focusing on (business skill) animal production and financial management skills.

Picture 8: Vocational skill training for returnees at Rayya Kobo

Vocational skill training has been provided for 25 female returnees in Raya Kobo, and seed money support for 50 female returnees who completed their skill training and other preliminary activities, with a total of 923,650 Birr, which amounts to 18,472 Birr per individual. Additionally, a total of 153 goats, 21 sheep, 2 oxen, and 2 cows have been purchased and distributed for Raya kobo and Gubalafto project right holders.

Currently, those engaged in income-generating activities (IGA) are experiencing promising outcomes through offspring.

Picture 9: Livestock purchase and distribution for survivors and returnees

### *School-Level Outreach Events*

Awareness creation on safe migration was conducted through outreach events in three schools from Aradom in Raya Kobo, Jarota in Habru, and Gedober in Gubalafto districts, engaging 2,821 participants, including 1,431 females. The events involved students, parents, and community leaders, such as religious figures, Idir leaders, and kebele administrators, to highlight the risks of unsafe migration and promote safe practices. Activities included poetry performances, dramatic presentations, and Q&A contests organized by anti-human trafficking clubs. Discussions focused on the root causes and consequences of unsafe migration, legal migration pathways, and the role of brokers in facilitating unsafe migration, with a critical emphasis on the lack of accountability and commitment to address this issue.


Picture 10: School level anti-trafficking outreach programs

## 2.4 Better Migration Management (BMM) Project

One of the other migration management projects, the Better Migration Management (BMM) project, implemented by ANPPCAN-Ethiopia in partnership with the British Council, aims to promote safe and regular migration while reducing illegal migration. Building on the success of BMM Phases I and II in Metema Town, we are now implementing BMM III in both the North and West Gondar zones, including Debark and Metema. This year, we established migration platforms in both towns, engaged new members, and conducted training sessions, awareness-raising events, and consultations with stakeholders, including government officials, youth associations, and civil society organizations. We also facilitated bi-monthly platform dialogues and consultations to enhance collaboration on migration policies and implemented youth-designed Social Action Projects.

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Despite challenges, the project has made significant progress. Platform members have successfully assisted 33 irregular migrants in returning home, and nine anti-irregular migration clubs have been established in local schools. Our collaboration with stakeholders has strengthened ownership and transparency, ensuring effective implementation of the project. The overall work environment remains relatively safe, enabling continued awareness-raising and community engagement, although occasional conflicts in the region pose ongoing challenges.

The followings are the major activities delivered in 2024 under BMM III project;

1. ***Location Selection for Satellite Platforms:*** Debark selected for satellite platforms to address illegal migration, with key input from local partners.
2. ***Program Launch Workshop:*** A regional workshop in Gondar introduced BMM III, attended by 28 government representatives, focusing on stakeholder collaboration.
3. ***Platform Member Selection and Introduction***: 30 platform members selected, with 63% female participation, followed by orientation workshops in March 2024.
4. ***Bi-Monthly Platform Dialogues:*** Regular dialogues in Metema and Debark engaged 50 participants on illegal migration impacts and safe migration awareness.
5. ***Migration Training for Platform Members:*** A 3-day training for 30 new platform members and a refresher for 20 existing members focused on migration governance and the National Referral Mechanism (NRM).
6. ***Community Consultation Meetings:*** Bi-annual meetings with migration-affected communities promoted awareness on migration, human trafficking, and the NRM.
7. ***Training for Government Representatives:*** A one-day training for 20 officials in Metema and Debark focused on migration governance and youth employment.
8. ***Dialogue Between Sodo and Metema Migration Authorities:*** A workshop fostered collaboration between migration authorities to share best practices.

9. ***Bi-Annual Stakeholder Consultations:*** Regular consultations with BMM III partners and stakeholders promoted networking and migration governance strategies.

***10. Youth Engagement on Migration:***

- Selection & Training: 30 youth selected for citizenship skills and community research training, with a focus on migration governance.
- Community Research: Youth conducted research through 150 interviews and 18 focus groups, providing recommendations on migration governance.
- Proposal Development: Six project proposals were created based on research findings, with two selected for implementation.
- Social Action Projects: Focused on migration awareness and improving legal migration pathways.

***11. Awareness Campaigns:***

- Justice Office Campaign: Raised awareness on illegal migration, child marriage, and forest protection, reaching schools and communities.
- Anti-Irregular Migration Clubs: Nine clubs were established in schools to promote safe migration practices and empower students.

12. ***Improved Migration Governance:*** Strengthened coordination led to the identification of brokers, supported safe returnees, and assisted individuals in accessing legal migration paths. Awareness activities reached nearly 28,000 people, including 18,000 women.

### *Bi-monthly Platform Dialogues on the Implementation of Migration, Overseas Employment and Other Related Policies*

The bi-monthly platform dialogues, held regularly every two months in Debark and Metema, brought together 50 participants, including returnees, potential migrants, and members of the host community. These dialogues aimed to review progress, share experiences, and plan for future activities. Key discussions centered around the widespread impact of illegal migration, youth vulnerability, and the need for stronger stakeholder collaboration to address the root causes of irregular migration.


Picture 11: Dialogue among Platform members

### *Youth Engagement and Participants on Community Research focusing on Migration*

A group of 30 youth participants (16 female) from Debark and Metema conducted community research on migration-related issues, utilizing qualitative methods such as interviews and focus group discussions. Their findings informed six proposals to address migration challenges, including projects focused on migration awareness, improving legal migration systems, and reducing human trafficking.

After a thorough review by an advisory committee, two projects were selected for implementation: the Migration Awareness Creation and Education Center in Debark and the Legal Employer-Employee Agency Effectiveness Enhancement Project in Metema. These community-driven initiatives empower youth to take leadership in addressing migration issues and foster informed decision-making and community engagement.


Picture 12: Youth participation on research and SAP project proposal selection

### *Awareness Raising on Illegal and Unsafe Migration and Human Trafficking*

After conducting the consultation meeting with government stakeholders, the Debark Worda Justice office initiate the awareness raising on the impact of illegal and legal migration with the integration of other activities or service for the community with campaigning in different areas (School, church, and community) like child mirage, Forest protection decree and criminal liability. A significant number of people created awareness about human trafficking or illegal migration and legal migration with the integration of the impact of child trafficking and damage of forest. All the campaign services (child marriage and Forest protection) are directly related to illegal migration. If there is a high level of child marriage and damage to the forest, it leads to or aggravated the prevalence of illegal migration.

Picture 13: Awareness raining campaigns at community level

### *Establishment of Anti-Irregular Migration Clubs*

The Anti-Irregular Migration Club are established with the objective of raising awareness about the risks of irregular migration among students. Totally in this year 9 anti-Irregular migration Club are established and all school clubs are in secondary high school. Members organize awareness-raising events to educate their peers and the broader community, resulting in increased understanding of migration issues and the empowerment of students as advocates for safe migration practices. This initiative has also engaged community members in meaningful discussions, creating a sustainable model that can be replicated in other schools.

The project has led to several positive changes, including improved coordination and networking among stakeholders in the Zonal migration partnership coalition, which has enhanced migration governance. Efforts to combat illegal migration have resulted in the identification of two brokers, one of whom has been apprehended, and the safe return of six individuals involved in illegal migration. The platform has also facilitated the legal migration of four individuals who were previously intercepted. Regular bi-weekly meetings allow for ongoing evaluation and adjustments to activities, while Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) play an active role in raising awareness. Awareness-raising initiatives have reached 27,959 individuals, including 18,072 women, promoting safe and legal migration through community engagement across various settings.

## 2.4 Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA) Ethiopia Joint Response (EJR)

The Ethiopia Joint Response (EJR) Project supports conflict-affected children and communities in Gidan Woreda, North Wollo Zone, Amhara Region. Implemented across six kebeles, the project is a collaboration between ANPPCAN-Ethiopia, Terre des Hommes Netherlands (TDH NL), and partners like Tesfa Berhan and Cordaid. Launched in January 2024, the initiative focuses on child protection and multi-purpose cash (MPC) assistance, aiming to alleviate suffering and restore dignity for vulnerable households.

The child protection component provides direct support to at-risk children and families, ensuring their safety and well-being. Key activities include case management for children experiencing violence, neglect, or exploitation, as well as family tracing and reunification for unaccompanied children and alternative care arrangement service also one of the major activities. Local child protection systems are also strengthened through training for community volunteers and frontline workers, improving early identification and response to risks. To help children cope with the trauma of conflict and displacement, the project implements the Team Up initiative in schools. This structured recreational program provides psychosocial support, helping children build resilience and social connections.

Picture 14: Child participation in project implementation

Additionally, Child Protection Units (CPUs) have been established and equipped to offer case management, counseling, and referral services serving as safe spaces where children and families can access ongoing support. Recognizing the vital role of communities, the project actively engages traditional leaders, teachers, and volunteers in strengthening grassroots child protection mechanisms. Community awareness campaigns encourage early reporting of protection concerns and improve access to services. At the same time, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia works with government partners to enhance child protection policies and legal frameworks, ensuring long-term impact.


Picture 15: CPU contracted and furnished

Alongside protection services, the project provides Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPC) to financially vulnerable households. A feasibility assessment was conducted beforehand to evaluate financial institutions' capacity, market accessibility, and security conditions, ensuring safe and effective cash transfers. Regular post-distribution assessments monitored the impact and efficiency of the assistance. By integrating financial support with child protection services, the project offers a comprehensive response, addressing both immediate needs and long-term recovery for conflict-affected families.

300 (111 male and 189 female) vulnerable HHs in the 3 intervention kebeles have been supported by the MPC assistance, and also 826 (473 Male HHs and 353 Female HHs) flood affected HHs in ten kebeles of the Gidan woreda specially they were impacted by the flood disaster during the rainy season have been supported through crisis modifier intervention. Following the cash distribution, post-distribution monitoring has been undertaken to see how the cash intervention assisted the affected communities in alleviating human sufferings. Quarterly review meetings with partners, government front-line workers, and community structures conducted to ensure the quality of services that are implemented on targeted beneficiaries.

Recognizing that crises are unpredictable; the project includes a crisis modifier mechanism that enables ANPPCAN-Ethiopia to respond swiftly to emerging emergencies. This flexible funding, allocated by the prime partner, ensures that urgent humanitarian needs can be met beyond the project's primary intervention areas. Through this mechanism, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia has provided life-saving assistance to thousands of vulnerable households across multiple Woredas. Flood-Affected Households: Gidan

Woreda experienced severe flooding, which devastated homes and livelihoods, leaving many families in urgent need of assistance. Through the crisis modifier, 860 affected households received emergency cash support, enabling them to purchase food, household essentials, and other priority items based on their specific needs. This flexible approach empowered families to make choices that best suited their recovery process.


Picture 16: Crisis Modifier Project beneficiaries

The project is intended to benefit a total of 36,547 children and community groups and community-based child protection structures directly in 2024. As a result, 39,325 people were reached, achieving 108% of its target.

The followings are some of the major activities executed by the project in this reporting period;

- A joint project kick of workshop with the involvement of key project stake holders was carried out at Kombolcha town on April 13/2024.
- Comprehensive case management service has been provided for 70 (M=32 and F= 38) children under abuse, violence, exploitation and neglect through home-to-home visit or assessment in the collaboration of community structures. The children were vulnerable and have health, economic problem, who lost their parents and dropout from schools and they were exposed to psychosocial problems.

- 15 (M = 9 and 6 = 3) children whose case was initiated in the case management process and those who have high health problems and 7(M = 2 and F = 5) children's having high economic problem referred to service providers based on their need and best interest to ensure the well-being of children.
- Individual protection assistance has been distributed for 207 (M=101 and F=106) vulnerable children who were separated, unaccompanied minors, orphan and living with parents who are economically disadvantage. Follow-up action has been conducted for the most vulnerable children after the support given.
- Alternative care arrangement support has been given to 43 (M= 22 and F = 21) separated and unaccompanied children without protective and suitable care according to their rights, specific needs, wishes and best interests. NFI materials like bedsheet, blanket, and mattress supported for children who were under alternative care arrangement or living with kinship, foster parent and immediate families.
- A 5mx5m two class Child Protection Unit (CPU) which consists bath room and latrine for male and female children has been constructed in Gidan woreda justice office and strengthened by the provision of different materials like overlapping beds, blankets, bed sheets, chairs, television with all accessories, etc.
- Purchasing of different materials for the implementation of team up session facilitation to improve the psychosocial wellbeing of children through group-based activities is undertaken.
- Protection risk assessment has been conducted and the result is submitted to the Donor.
- Child protection committee or CCCs in 6 intervention kebeles with 54 (34 male and 20 female) committee members organized and the committee has conducted meetings in monthly basis in project targeted kebeles to strengthen community-based child protection system, child protection concern and how to prevent and response the risks which could happen on vulnerable children.
- Additionally, the CCCs in six intervention kebeles have been supported through the provision of stationary materials and trainings provided for 43 (M = 31 and F = 12) CCC committee members on child protection, referral system, reporting and GBV issues.
- Child rights clubs in 6 target schools with 186 (75 boys and 111 girls) club members organized and strengthen by stationary materials based on the identified gaps.

- Child right advocacy workshop conducted, and 74 (51 M and 23F) participants participated. Child protection concerns like GBV, child labor and psychosocial distress advocated.
- Consultation sessions were organized with children at woreda level by aligning with the African child day celebration programs of the woreda government and at school level with peer-to-peer discussion. A total of 246 children (130 boys and 116 girls) participated.
- Safeguarding training has been provided for 28 (20 male and 8 female) staffs, partner's staffs and stakeholders
- Community sensitization and awareness session on child protection issues, including how to identify and report child protection risks through mass awareness at local market places and public gatherings to address 11,914 individuals in Gidan intervention kebeles.
- Child protection and positive parenting training has been given for 40 (14 female and 26 male) community leaders such as elders, religious leaders, women association.
- Multi-Purpose Cash assistance has been provided to 300 (111 male & 189 female) highly vulnerable households and facing protection risks. A total of 21,000 birr/HHs is given within three rounds of distribution. Following the MPC distribution, Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) has been conducted for each round of distributions within 15 days of the cash distribution take place, and results analyzed to see whether the cash is used for the intended purpose or not. The results show that the HHs used the cash for their most unmet needs.
- Training provided for 73 (M = 34 and F = 39) care givers on child protection, reporting and referral systems and better parenting.
- Positive parenting training provided for 87 (F=54 and M= 33) care givers caring vulnerable children.
- Annual and quarter review meetings were conducted with 45 (38 male &7 female) and 57(39 M and 18 F) participants respectively to track the project's progress.
- Through the crisis modifier intervention, MPC assistance was provided to 826 (m=473 & f=353) flood affected households whose living houses were damaged and who were displaced from their residence areas, lost their harvest and livestock due to the summer flood incident to support them, and provided lifesaving assistance of 21,000 ETB per household.

## 3. Other Activities Performed in 2024

Apart from implementation projects as per their plan, the organization also did other activities at different levels and the following are some of them;

- The management board conducted various meetings to evaluate the performances of the organization and put some decisions to overcome the challenges of the secretariate.
- Project development activities/ proposal writing (in consortium and individually) (more than 8 proposal and concept notes)
- One project secured (Short term Crisis Modifier project from TdH NL and one project on pipeline focusing on improving the justice system project by UNODC
- Preparation and submission of narrative and financial reports to donor and government signatories
- Supporting the project offices by the finance and program team of the HO
- Project monitoring and evaluations (government and donors)
- Grant monitoring visits by our donors (ADA, FF, TdH, BC, FHI360)
- Management Board approval on salary adjustment and implementation.
- Retirement and recognition of our HR and GS Officer as per the guidance of the management board.
- Representing ANPPCAN-Ethiopia in different platforms
- Recruitment/Replacement of staff
- Draft Risk Sharing plan of ANPPCAN-Ethiopia developed and approval of board needed in some of the plans)
- The ED of the organization elected as am re-elected as LAG representative for EJR project for the year 2025
- Conduct all the routine activities of the organization.

**Certificate of Recognition:** In this reporting colander, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia received certificate of recognition from government actors for the contribution it made on both development and humanitarian interventions.


Picture 17: Certificate of recognitions

## 4. Key Strategies

ANPPCAN-Ethiopia employs a comprehensive and community-driven approach to ensure the protection and well-being of vulnerable children and families. The organization's key strategies include:

1. **Collaborative & Multi-Stakeholder Engagement**
   - Working closely with government agencies, NGOs, community-based organizations, and donors to ensure coordinated project planning, implementation, and decision-making.
   - Strengthening local structures such as child protection committees and community networks for long-term sustainability.
2. **Capacity Building & Empowerment**
   - Providing technical and material support to community structures, government officials, and frontline workers.
   - Conducting training and awareness sessions for key stakeholders, including women, youth, and marginalized groups, to enhance advocacy and protection mechanisms.
3. **Community Awareness Raising**
   - Using diverse communication channels (radio, mini media, brochures, and interpersonal dialogue) to educate communities on child rights, migration risks, and protection measures.

4. **Engagement and & Participation of Stakeholders**
    - Encouraging community-driven initiatives that involve government actors, informal structures, children, youth, and women in all stages of the project cycle.
5. **Economic Empowerment & Sustainability**
    - Integrating livelihood support and income-generating components into projects to enhance household resilience.
    - Strengthening the economic capacities of vulnerable groups to reduce risks associated with poverty and migration.
6. **Protection & Case Management**
    - Enhancing child protection systems at the grassroots level through early identification, referral, and response to cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
    - Supporting survivors of violence and migration-related risks through psychosocial assistance and legal support.
7. **Conflict Sensitivity Programming & Risk Management**
    - Ensuring all interventions are conflict-sensitive by continuously monitoring security dynamics and adapting approaches accordingly.
    - Strengthening coordination between local and regional actors to assess and mitigate potential risks.
8. **Monitoring, Accountability & Learning**
    - Establishing strong feedback and complaint mechanisms to ensure transparency and responsiveness to beneficiary needs.
    - Conducting regular Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and review meetings to assess project impact and take corrective actions.
    - Ensuring timely and quality reporting, documentation, and learning dissemination to enhance program effectiveness.

By integrating these strategies across its projects, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia remains committed to promoting child protection, sustainable development, and community resilience in its project intervention areas.

## 5. Major Successes and Achievements

To identify major successes and achievements within the projects, ANPPCAN-Ethiopia conducted periodic monitoring, evaluation, and data collection. This process was based on the nature of the project

and included quarterly and monthly reports prepared by project staff. These achievements reflect project implementations across different woredas, zones, and regions. The key successes and achievements and transformations are summarized below:

## 1. Institutional Strengthening/Capacity Building

- Strengthened the capacity of stakeholders that enables them to do protection activities in a more coordinated and effective manner
- Enhanced the commitment of community-based organizations (CBOs) and faith-based organizations (FBOs) in educating their followers on safer migration.
- Facilitated the establishment and strengthening of anti-human trafficking clubs that work against human trafficking.

## 2. Economic Empowerment and Livelihoods

- Established 30 Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups with 600 members (558 females, 42 males), enabling struggler households to save regularly.
- Provided vocational and technical skill training for vulnerable returnees to foster sustainable livelihoods.
- Supported female returnees with seed money and facilitated need-based income-generating activities (IGAs) to enhance their economic independence.

## 3. Migration Management and Safer Migration Efforts

- Government offices in Amhara began registering potential migrants and providing pre-departure training to ensure safer migration practices.
- Strengthened partnerships and coordination among stakeholders to promote sustainable migration programs.
- Conducted ongoing awareness campaigns to positively influence community attitudes and ensure program sustainability.

## 4. Health and Well-being Improvements

- Increased facility-based deliveries, ensuring safer childbirth experiences.
- Improved antenatal care (ANC) services, with more women starting ANC visits earlier (<12 weeks of pregnancy).
- Enhanced postnatal care (PNC) services, leading to better maternal and child health outcomes.
- Increased immunization coverage and reduced dropout rates.
- Boosted adolescent access to family planning and reproductive health (RH) services.
- Increased male engagement in reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH) services.
- The USAID Healthy Behaviors Activity interventions contributed significantly to improving maternal, child, and adolescent health.

### 5. Emergency Response and Humanitarian Assistance, Child Protection, and Social Welfare

- Successfully constructed and furnished a child protection unit which is strengthening the protection system. Organized consultation sessions and child rights advocacy activities with children at the woreda level, aligning with government programs and school-based peer-to-peer discussions.
- Provided individual protection assistance to 207 vulnerable children (101 males, 106 females), including separated, unaccompanied minors, orphans, and children living with economically disadvantaged parents.
- Referred 15 children (9 males, 6 females) with critical health issues and 7 children (2 males, 5 females) facing severe economic hardships to service providers based on their needs and best interests.
- Conducted a protection risk assessment and submitted the findings to the donor (Terre des Hommes Netherlands - TDH).
- Provided Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) assistance to 300 highly affected households (189 females, 111 males).
- Supported 826 households (473 males, 353 females) through crisis modifier interventions.
- Attached selected success stories demonstrating the impact of these interventions.

These achievements highlight ANPPCAN-Ethiopia's commitment to improving community resilience, promoting safer migration, strengthening child protection, and enhancing livelihoods despite ongoing economic challenges.

## 6. Opportunities

During the reporting period, the organization encountered several opportunities that contributed to the success of its projects and strengthened its operational capacity. These opportunities include:

- **Capacity Building Opportunities:** The organization benefitted from various capacity-building trainings funded by donor partners, which equipped staff with essential technical skills for improved project implementation.
- **Strong Reputation and Trust:** The organization has built a positive reputation with government and target communities, facilitating smooth project activities even during movement restrictions imposed by the state of emergency.
- **Existence of Local Structures:** The organization effectively engaged kebele-level structures, such as Health Extension Workers (HEWs) and Village Health Leaders, ensuring broad outreach and effective service delivery.
- **Commitment of Government Stakeholders:** The organization maintained strong partnerships with government entities at all levels, which facilitated coordination and resource mobilization. The willingness and commitment of government stakeholders at all levels strengthened the implementation of project activities.
- **Ownership and Indigenous Knowledge of Community:** Strong ownership feeling from the community helped the organization to execute the planned activities with the active and meaningful participation of the community partnerships, along with active and informed

community and partner participation, contributed to the success and sustainability of project activities.

- **Experienced, Cooperative and Active Staff:** The presence of experienced staff enabled the organization to achieve all project activities as planned. Motivated staff members were key to the smooth execution of the project and its activities.
- **Availabilities of More Funds for Humanitarian Responses:** Man-made and natural disasters brough more funds to respond to the crises and save the lives of affected communities. ANPPCAN-Ethiopia benefited from this opportunity as it is accessing funds for humanitarian intervention since 2022.

## 7. Challenges and Mitigation Measures

During this reporting period, the organization experienced various challenges that impacted the smooth implementation of activities. Below are some of the key challenges encountered and the mitigation measures undertaken:

### 1. Security Challenges

- The volatile and unpredictable security situation in intervention areas, particularly in the Amhara region posed significant challenges to project implementation. Access to kebele officials and beneficiaries was frequently disrupted.
- As the result of this, some intervention Woredas like Tegede and West Belesa were inaccessible due to security concerns.
- Public gatherings were restricted due to the state of emergency.

**Mitigation Measures:**

- Conducted regular security assessments and developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to guide safety measures before field visits.
- Maintained close collaboration with local authorities and community leaders to assess risks and implement security protocols.
- Adjusted activity schedules and locations to ensure the safety of staff and beneficiaries.
- Keep neutral and avoid siding of the conflicting parties all the time.

### 2. Macro-economic and Financial Challenges

- A significant policy change was observed in Ethiopia's macro-economic framework, particularly in the exchange rate policy. The government's economic reforms led to a substantial increase in foreign currency rates, causing market prices to rise and contributing to inflation.
- The rise in foreign currency values directly affected the project's financial planning and operational costs, creating challenges in maintaining the budget across various project activities.
- High market inflation and increased costs for goods and services impacted planned activities, especially Income Generating Activities (IGA).

**Mitigation Measures:**

- Necessary adjustments project budgets were made in consultation with and with permission of project donors to ensure financial stability and compliances with donor requirements.
- Bulk procurement of goods and services was undertaken in advance to mitigate price fluctuations and ensure cost-effectiveness.
- Planning with foreign currency and receiving foreign currency to retain the value of the local currency all the time.

## 3. Operational and Resource Constraints

- Frequent power outages disrupted activities such as training sessions, workshops, and operational processes.
- Shortages of essential materials, including training resources and campaign materials, affected mass mobilization efforts.
- RTK kit and HIVST kit shortages hindered planned interventions.
- Limited internet access in Gidan Woreda affected staff communication, virtual meetings, online training, and beneficiary data submission through Kobo Collect.
- Some suppliers and traders in intervention areas showed reluctance to participate in procurement processes due to economic uncertainty.

**Mitigation Measures:**

- Utilized Wi-Fi dongles and hotel internet services for connectivity, despite additional costs.
- Relying on generators to ensure continuity during power outages.
- Engaged with stakeholders to expedite the procurement and distribution of essential materials.
- Strengthened local procurement strategies to encourage supplier participation.

## 4. Humanitarian Needs Vs Response Imbalance

- The scale of humanitarian needs in intervention areas far exceeded the organization's financial capacity and this forces the organization to limit the number of beneficiaries reached.

**Mitigation Measures:**

- Continued advocacy and resource mobilization efforts to expand support and increase funding for affected populations.

## 5. Suspension and Termination of USG funded Projects

- Due to policy change of US project 1 project already terminated, 1 project status is yet not known and 1 project will continue with full scale.
- The funding landscape is totally changes as more than 50% of total funds are coming from USG.
- There is strong fear that EU and other funding agency will follow the same foot-steps.

### Mitigation Measures

- Held continuous discussion with donors on program and staff contract termination
- Terminating Contract agreements of staff as per the labor low
- Looking other source of funding to ensure the sustainability of the organization and its programs/diversifying donor bases
- Focusing on domestic resource mobilization to reduce donor dependency.

## 6. Stiff Completion and Lack of Funding Opportunity

- Resources are getting limited from time to time because of Global Crisis
- Strong completion with others including INGS with better systems and manpower
- Funding through influencing and networking instead of competition

### Mitigation Measures:

- Funding application consortium than individual (collaboration instead of competition)
- Sharing experiences through directly approaching donors
- Maintaining traditional donors as much as possible

Despite all these challenges, ANPPCAN remains committed to achieving its objectives by adapting strategies, ensuring staff and beneficiary safety, and maintaining continuity in project activities. Through proactive planning and collaboration with donors and stakeholders, the organization continues to navigate complex operational environments while delivering impactful interventions.

# 8. Lessons Learned

Among many others, the followings are the key lessons learnt in the year 2024;

1. The successful implementation of ANPPCAN-Ethiopia's projects has been largely driven by strong engagement from communities, government stakeholders, and partners. Their active participation has facilitated efficient decision-making, timely identification of needs, and improved coordination across different levels. The use of existing structures, such as joint selection and feedback committees, has enhanced transparency and accountability in project implementation. Maintaining neutrality and fostering positive relationships with stakeholders have proven essential, particularly in complex operational environments.

2. Collaboration with key partners has significantly improved efficiency and impact. Joint planning, assessments, and monitoring efforts have minimized duplication of resources, strengthened cooperation, and encouraged shared learning. The development of clear selection criteria and participatory decision-making processes has promoted fairness, inclusivity, and trust within the

communities served. The presence of experienced staff and the expansion of training opportunities have further strengthened institutional capacity and long-term sustainability.

3. Technological innovations, such as digital data collection tools, have played a vital role in improving efficiency and accuracy. By reducing bias and enabling real-time data access, these tools have streamlined decision-making and enhanced overall project effectiveness. Additionally, capacity-building initiatives—both internally for staff and externally for stakeholders—have contributed to stronger partnerships, improved coordination, and better service delivery.

Moving forward, these lessons will guide future programming and organizational growth by reinforcing stakeholder collaboration, leveraging technology for efficiency, and ensuring that planning processes remain inclusive, transparent, and adaptable to emerging challenges and opportunities.