

Helping Education Loretta Project

H.E.L.P.

3006, chemin des Révoires- 06320 La Turbie, France
www.helping-education-ethiopia.org email:helping.education@yahoo.fr
France mobile: +33.6.14100156 Ethiopia mobile: +251.913.562505



Activity Report: January to April 2018

Dear Friends,

We hope this first part of 2018 has been pleasant for you; it has been busy for us, following 2 new classroom block constructions as well as completed ones, 80 sponsored students and daily lunches to 200 students. Busy, but interesting and gratifying!

Completed classroom constructions

- Aleltu Kindergarten (55 kms north of Addis Ababa)

We completed this 3-block kindergarten in 2016 and have been following it since then. In January we donated 2 large trucks of gravel for the area in the middle of the 3 blocks to prevent mud during heavy rain (photo 1).

- Galo Primary School (a day and a half drive south of Addis Ababa)

In 2017 we completed a 4-classroom block. The school had a 10,000 water tanker that it was not using. We had a cement base made to hold the tanker and are having hoses connected from the roof gutters to the tanker (photo 2) to collect rain water, so important in this dry area. We donated a desk, chair and shelves for the Director's office to help him to work efficiently (photos 3,4).

New Classroom Constructions

- Aleltu Primary School (55 kms north of Addis Ababa)

As said in our last report, in November 2017 we began a third 4-classroom and small staff room block. Construction is well under way (photos 5,6,7) and we hope to finish by July 2018. **We are still looking for donors to complete financing in order to use our funds to furnish the block.**

- Shama Laka Primary School (a long day's drive south of Addis Ababa)

After having built 3 blocks to open a high school, in November 2017 we began building a laboratory/library block in traditional materials for this 55 year old primary school. We shall now also build a 4-classroom block to replace one of the others, very run down (photos 8,9,10).

New Classroom Constructions – Appeal for Donations

H.E.L.P. has been building classroom blocks since 2012 (20 constructions). We have found that a new classroom block motivates parents to send their children to school because they think their children will really be able to learn. Indeed, students learn better in a bright classroom, at a desk rather than sitting on the floor, in a class of 40 students instead of 90.

We have received new requests from Ethiopian schools to build classroom blocks, due to a shortage or to replace decrepit ones. H.E.L.P. would like to fulfill some of these requests, but we need your donations. We have good contractors with whom we have worked for several years, and a serious supervisor. Schools and communities cooperate and contribute with materials.

.../...

Helping Education Loretta Project

Activity Report Jan-April 2018, page 2

Today a 4-classroom block in traditional materials (for rural areas) costs approx. Euros 18,000; in cement blocks (required in towns or for high schools), with electricity, approx. Euros 45,000.

These total costs may seem considerable to you individually, but partial donations grouped together permit the construction of a complete block. Perhaps the company for which you work would also have the interest and means to donate...?

Most Ethiopians do not want to leave Ethiopia. They love their country, culture and customs. It is poverty that pushes them to emigrate. A good education allows them to remain in their country and to develop it.

I shall be in France/Monaco from July to mid-September, hoping you'll contact me to meet with you on this subject....

Student lunches

We are continuing to give hot, daily lunches to 200 students in 2 Addis Ababa schools. I personally buy all the supplies for one school, check all the accounts, and we have 2 ladies in each school who prepare and serve the meals. I am often present at the lunches.

Student sponsorship

In 2018 we are sponsoring 80 students from kindergarten to university levels. We cover school fees, some clothes and shoes, some household expenses, tutoring and basic medical expenses, if needed. From time to time we send sponsors news and photos of their students. We find that student sponsorship keeps students in school, encourages them to study and relieves families of some worries.

This year one of our graduate students found a job with a large national bank. Another student will graduate from university in June with a Bachelor's Degree in chemical engineering.

Ethiopia news

The really heavy rainy season in Ethiopia is usually from June to end September. This year, however, it has continued to rain regularly until now, promising a good harvest for 2018 (photo 11). This is very important for the country, whose main activity (about 80%) touches agriculture.

In March 2018 Ethiopia's Prime Minister resigned and a new one was appointed, giving people great hope for reforms.

The new train running from Addis Ababa to Djibouti, transporting passengers and freight, is in service. This should somewhat decongest the port of Djibouti and accelerate the arrival of merchandise in Addis Ababa.

Construction of Ethiopia's Great Renaissance Dam, on the Nile River, is proceeding well. This will be the largest hydroelectric dam in Africa.

We wish to thank so much Cardinal Philanthropies, the Monaco Red Cross, Moore Stephens Services, several members of The Propeller Club of Monaco and private donors for enabling H.E.L.P. to realize all our projects in 2018 so far. We are also very grateful to all of you sponsoring Ethiopian students, so that they may know a better life when they grow up.

With warm regards,
Loretta Cointe, President