

## Report from Ethiopië

### News from the eye medications



Dr. Aida during a break.  
For TTAF she operates  
20 patients a day!

One of the longest running projects of the TTAF Foundation are the Eye Medications. An eye medication is a screening for eye problems. The screening is for everyone. During eye medications, between 500 and 800 patients come to a clinic; together with their supervisors, at least 1,000 people often come to the clinic.

People with complaints are screened for eye problems. Common problems are trachoma, glaucoma, cataracts and eye problems due to diabetes. That is why the blood pressure of each visitor is also measured.

During the eye medications medicines and glasses are provided. Smaller trachoma surgeries are also performed. If there are larger operations, for example cataract operations, these patients are operated in the eye hospital in Ziway. In 2018/2019 more than 200 operations will have taken place. The operations will be performed by Dr Aida (see photo on the left).

In view of the current developments regarding the coronavirus, it has been decided to postpone the eye medications of 2020 from April to September 2020.



### Jan van het Veld

#### In memoriam

Our secretary, Jan van het Veld, died very suddenly on 1 January 2020. He was recovering from an operation on his hip and suffered a cardiac arrest on New Year's Eve and died in the early morning of January 1st. Jan turned 56 years old. He was involved in the TTAF foundation since 2015 and with his contribution he has achieved a nice quality improvement. He was also important for the 'Microfinance' project and was the driving force behind the collection of Duplo for the blind children.

Albert Fieret and Cathrien de Brauw were present during the mourning ceremony.

Ayano Burka brought play material to a shelter for children with autism in February. These children cannot participate well in regular education, because there is no space and attention for children with a disability. By using these toys, the supervisors have an extra opportunity to get in good contact with the children. It is always a feast to see how happy children are with new toys. Do you have any duplicates left? Send an email ([info@ttaf.org](mailto:info@ttaf.org))!

Nice!



## Mission with Revive to Metu

TTAF cooperates on a project basis with a Belgian foundation, Revive. These are Belgian teams of doctors who periodically work in African countries such as Madagascar and Ethiopia. In March, a team of 15 people went from Belgium to Metu (about 550 km. west of Addis Ababa). The team consisted mainly of gynaecologists. In 10 days time, 42 women aged 27 to 70 years were operated on for various nasty conditions. The TTAF Foundation contributed to the costs. The preparation, organisation and coordination of this mission was carried out by Zenebe and Ayano.



### Unique solution

Sometimes beautiful and unexpected things happen. We recently received the following email via our website: "Dear sur, originally I am from Ethiopia, i saw this afternoon this interview, and it touches me sooo much because of this I went to ask you if you can help me to find a blind school near to there place, or at list somewhere where they can lern may be for the 2 girls. Please please let us help this children. Thank you soo much in Advance." The email was accompanied by a link to a Youtube video. We contacted the sender, an Ethiopian lady currently living in Germany. When we heard her story, we put her in contact with Ayano. And yes, within two days Ayano had found a school for the blind for these children and they are now in training. Who could have thought of that beforehand?

### Greetings from Addis Ababa

In the past period we have been busy with the purchase of school desks and black boards. When Albert Fieret was here in January, we checked the first school desk. In addition, the preparations of the eye medications (which unfortunately have been postponed) and the mission to Metu cost a lot of time. Furthermore, we are in daily contact with the company that drills the well in Shashamene. To arrange everything properly, we often go to the site: it is important that the well is properly made. On March 13th they found water at a depth of over 300 meters! The picture above gives an impression of the work.

### From the board

Until recently you could donate via the website. However, Mollie, the payment service provider, decided not to support TTAF anymore, because Ethiopia does not meet the so-called WWFT standards. In the meantime we are looking for a new payment service provider, but so far we have not been able to do so. But of course you can always transfer your donation to our account NL61 RABO 0385 5978 19 t.n.v. Stichting TTAF.



Do you support us?