

CSF II Brief

The 2017 Good Practice Day of CCRDA member NGOs

The 15th Good Practices Day of members of the Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA) was successfully celebrated with the recognition of 12 best performing NGOs on December 28, 2017 in the presence of His Excellency Dr. Mulatu Teshome, President of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The selection committee picked two groups of best performers. The first one concerned the emerging Orphaned and Vulnerable Children support groups where six NGOs (2 local and 4 foreign) were recognised amongst the ten NGOs shortlisted. In the second and main category, six NGOs (4 local and 2 foreign) received medals and certificates from the guest of honour HE the President.

Dr Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CCRDA as part of his welcoming speech highlighted that the sector continues to learn and further improve quality and quantity of development services to the various segments of Ethiopian society. Furthermore, he pointed that the sector has collective capacity and expertise that could be mobilised to address some of the prevailing challenges, like conflicts. To this end, he stressed the need for a more enabling environment recognising the unfavourable impacts of the Charities and Societies Proclamation. HE Dr. Mulatu on his keynote address congratulated the winners and also acknowledged the 'significant contributions' of NGOs to the national efforts of 'defeating poverty'. Moreover, HE the president remarked that "the need for a more enabling environment is obvious", and that the government is open for dialogue on this and other matters as part of the deep transformation process.

The Ethiopia-EU Civil Society Fund II, as major contributor to the event, congratulates the winners and CCRDA for the excellent preparation and coordination of the event. The turnout of both member organisations and stakeholders was superb. The displays and presentation of the selected good practices was clearly demonstrating the results and impacts achieved for other NGOs and stakeholders to emulate and replicate. In general, the practices affirmed the statement of the CCRDA Executive Director who acknowledged that the sector is further learning and improving its contributions to the national development.



Partial view of the well attended session



HE Dr. Mulatu Teshome, President of FDRE conveying his keynote address

The fact that four of the six winners of the main category are local NGOs may be taken as indicator of the growing capabilities and innovations of local NGOs (recognising a likely support of foreign NGOs). On the other hand, the selection of four foreign NGOs out of the six focusing on OVCs might point on the need to further strengthen capacities of local NGOs to emerge more innovative and effective in the area where they have comparative advantage over their foreign peers.

In summary, CSF II remains appreciative of the practice of recognising best performers as it stimulates improved performance by all in the sector. Likewise, the demonstration effect on stakeholders is vital for further improving the image of the sector at large and facilitating scale-up.

The winners

OVC Group - Bethany Christian Global Service Society, Re-track Ethiopia Street Children Reintegration Programme, Christian Children Fund of Canada, Child Fund, Kulich Youth Reproductive Health and Development and Meseret Humanitarian Organisation.

Main Group - Bole Bible Baptist Church Child Care and Community Development, Association for Sustainable Development Alternatives (ASDA), Eth. Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), Agricultural Cooperatives Development International/Volunteer in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (ACDI/VOCA), Self-Help Africa.