



# IRE'S BULLETIN

Islamic Relief Ethiopia's Quarterly Newsletter Issue: 01 ( Sept.- Nov., 2025)



## VISIT FROM ACSO

### Senior Officials from Authority of Civil Society Organizations Visit Islamic IRE's WASH project

A high-level delegation from the Authority of Civil Society Organizations (ACSO), accompanied by a member of the House of Peoples' Representatives, conducted a field visit to one of Islamic Relief Ethiopia's (IRE) integrated WaSH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) projects in the Afder Zone of the Somali Region.

The delegation, led by Ato Samson Biratu, Director General of ACSO; Ato Mesfin Muluneh, Deputy Director General; Ato Zakarias Erkola, Member of Parliament, and other high-level officials visited the integrated WaSH project worth £3.6 million (over half a billion ETB). The officials commended the scale, quality, and community impact of Islamic Relief's interventions. [Read more](#)

### SHEEP Program Holds Lesson-Learning Workshop in Adama

Islamic Relief Ethiopia (IRE) is hosting a two-day lesson-learning workshop on the Strengthening Community Resilience and Economic Empowerment Program (SHEEP) from 13-14 October in Adama, Ethiopia. The workshop brings together key stakeholders, including Ahmed Abajobir, Country Director of Islamic Relief Ethiopia, and Bushera Adem, Head of the Zonal Agriculture Sector, along with district officials, technical experts, and implementing partners. [Read more](#)



# RECOGNITION OF ISLAMIC RELIEF ETHIOPIA IN AFAR



On October 1, 2025, Islamic Relief Ethiopia (IRE) proudly received a Certificate of Excellence for ranking first among international NGOs in the WASH sector in Afar Region.

This recognition is based on the EFY 2017 NGOs Performance Evaluation conducted by the Regional Water and Energy Bureau. For more than a decade, Islamic Relief has been working...

alongside communities in Afar, improving access to clean water, promoting hygiene, and supporting resilience in one of Ethiopia's most climate- and conflict-affected regions. [Read more](#)

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**This award reflects the dedication of our staff, the trust of our partners, and the resilience of the communities we serve!**

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## Project Updates

## THE AFAR LIVELIHOODS RESTORATION AND RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (ALRRP) OFFICIALLY CLOSED

The Afar Livelihoods Restoration and Reconstruction Project (ALRRP) officially closed with a Lesson Learning and Closing workshop in Samara-Logia, Afar Region, on 25-26 September. This gathering brought together rightsholders, government representatives, and staff under a triple nexus approach, reaffirming a shared commitment to sustainability.



## PROJECT REVIEW WORKSHOP FOR THE OROMIA HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (OHIP)

This quarter, we held the Project Review Workshop for the Oromia Healthcare Improvement Project (OHIP). Key stakeholders joined us, including Country Director Ahmed Abajobir, Dr. Bokona Guta from the Oromia Health Bureau, and representatives from Haramaya University. The workshop reviewed progress and outlined next steps as OHIP continues to equip over 60 health facilities, train healthcare workers, and strengthen patient care across the region.



## Sitation Update

## FIRST MARBURG OUTBREAK STRAINS ETHIOPIA'S HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Ethiopia is facing an unprecedented health crisis after confirming its first-ever outbreak of Marburg virus disease (MVD) in the South and Sidama regions. As of early December 2025, the severe, Ebola-like viral hemorrhagic fever has resulted in 13 confirmed cases and eight deaths. This emergency places immense pressure on a health system already grappling with ongoing cholera and measles outbreaks. Simultaneously, communities are struggling with high rates of acute malnutrition and food insecurity due to persistent dry conditions in pastoralist areas and sustained population displacement. The urgent response by national authorities and international partners, including the deployment of investigational MVD vaccines and therapeutics, is crucial for containment. However, the humanitarian appeal remains critically underfunded, threatening the ability of NGOs to provide essential health and nutrition services to the 21.4 million people in need. [Read more](#)



## Success story

The Story of

# SHAFI ADAM



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*Previously, I could only harvest 3 quintals of sorghum. With the support from Islamic Relief, I produced 12 quintals!*

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## A case from IR USA funded Strengthening Community Resilience and Economic Empowerment Project (SHEEP)

Shafi Adam, a 40-year-old farmer in Kara Sodoma village, West Hararghe, knew the struggle of relying on traditional farming methods that often failed against persistent droughts. Before the project, his minimal returns left his family vulnerable to food insecurity. The intervention came in April 2024 through the Strengthening Community Resilience and Economic Empowerment Project (SHEEP), a \$3 million initiative funded by Islamic Relief USA.

Shafi was selected to receive comprehensive training on modern agricultural practices, covering land preparation and weed management. Critically, he was provided with essential farming tools and 12.5 kg of improved sorghum seed. By adopting these new, sustainable methods, Shafi achieved a remarkable result, increasing his sorghum yield fourfold. This harvest, valued at approximately 50,000 ETB,

...has been transformative, drastically improving his family's food security and financial stability. Shafi Adam's journey exemplifies how targeted technical support and sustainable agricultural practices can empower communities and build long-term resilience against Ethiopia's environmental challenges.



## Upcoming Events

### ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING

Islamic Relief will hold its annual review meeting during the first or second month of 2026 to assess overall operations, including project progress, capacity analysis, and organizational performance and portfolio.



### RAMADAN FOOD DISTRIBUTION 2026

This is one of our essential annual seasonal interventions coinciding with the holy month of Ramadan. This initiative ensures the provision of basic food items to Islamic Relief's (IRE's) rightsholders to support them throughout the period of fasting and devotion. For 2026, Ramadan is expected to begin around the evening of Tuesday, February 17th, or Wednesday, February 18th.



### STAFF WELLBEING AND GATHERINGS

As part of fostering a positive staff culture, team-building activities and staff retreats will be integrated into the agenda of the annual review meeting. This integration aims to enhance collaboration, internal communication, and organizational cohesion alongside the operational assessment.



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