

**Combined 4th and 5th Periodic Reports of the Federal
Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the African Committee
of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC)
(2014 – 2019)**

**In pursuance of Article 43 (1) (b) of the Charter and based on the Guideline
on the Form and Content of Periodic State Reports.**

July 2020

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Acronyms

ABE	Alternative Basic Education
ACRWC	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
ACERWC	African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
AIR	Apparent Intake Rate
AITEC	Agricultural Innovation and Technology Centres
ARRA	Administration of Refugee and Returnee Affairs
CBCC	Community Based Correction Centres
CBHI	Community Based Health Insurance
CBN	Community Based Nutrition
CBNC	Community Based New-Born Care,
CBO	Community Based Organization
CBR	Community Based Rehabilitation
CCCs	Community Care Coalitions
CDP	Continuing Professional Development
CRBP	Child Rights and Business Principles
CRC	Convention on the Rights of Child
CRPF	Child Research and Practice Forum
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
CSA	Central Statistics Agency
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CTE	College of Teacher Education
DAC	Day of the African Child
DACA	Drug Administration and Control Authority
DAPE	Drug Abuse Prevention Education
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
EBC	Ethiopian Broadcast Corporation
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECDE	Early Childhood Development and Education
EDHS	Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey
EFA	Education for All
EIO	Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman
EHRC	Ethiopian Human Rights Commission
ENC	Essential Newborn Care
ESDP	Education Sector Development Program
ETB	Ethiopian Birr
FAG	Federal Attorney General
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FSC	Federal Supreme Court
FSCCJPO	Federal Supreme Court Child Justice Project Office
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEQIP	General Education Quality Improvement
GER	Gross Enrolment Rate
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GOs	Governmental Organizations
GPI	Gender Parity Index
GTP	Growth and Transformation Plan
HAD	Health Development Army
HC	Health Center
HCT	HIV Counseling and Testing
HEP	Health Extension Program
HEW	Health Extension Worker
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HoPR	House of People Representatives
HP	Health Post
HSDP	Health Sector Development Program
HTP	Harmful Traditional Practice
ICMNCI	Integrated Community Case Management of New-born & Childhood Illness
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IDA	International Development Assistance
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IFAE	Integrated Functional Adult Education
ILO	International Labor Organisation
IMNCI	Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses
INVEA	Immigration Nationality and Vital Events Agency
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MEDHS	Mini Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey
MHM	Menstrual Hygiene Management
MIS	Management Information System
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
MNTE	Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoCT	Ministry of Culture and Tourism
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance

MoFEC	Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MoP	Ministry of Peace
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCY	Ministry of Women, Children and Youth
NCAG	National Child Advisory Group
NER	Net Enrolment Ratio
NGIS	National Gender Information System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NIR	The Net Intake Rate
NISS	National Intelligence and Security Services
NNP	National Nutrition Program
NPA	National Plan of Action
OFAG	Office of the Attorney General
OVC	Orphaned and Vulnerable Children
PHEW	Pastoralist Health Extension Workers
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
PSNP	Rural Productive Safety Net Programme
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Program
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
RH	Reproductive Health
RHB	Regional Health Bureau
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SNE	Special Needs Education
SNNPR	Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples' Region
SOP	Standard Operational Procedure
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendants
TIP	Trafficking in Person
ToT	Training for Trainers
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
UCD	Universal Child Day
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNJP	United Nations Joint Program
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UPSNP	Urban Productive Safety Nets Programme
VoTs	Victims of Trafficking
WDA	Women Developmental Army

Forward

The fourth and fifth consolidated periodic report of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on the implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) is in pursuance of Article 43 (1) (b) of the Charter and based on the Guideline on the form and content of periodic State reports.

This report builds on the combined first, second and third periodic report and presents progress, challenges, as well as the way forward, in promoting and protecting children's rights guaranteed under the ACRWC. The report also seeks to highlight the general and specific measures adopted in the implementation of the Charter since the last report. While preparing the report, emphasis was mainly placed on the concluding recommendations of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child made during the consideration of the previous reports.

The report preparation was led by the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth (MOWCY) and involved consultation with key stakeholders, which include government organs, independent democratic institutions and non-governmental partners.

The MOWCY extends its gratitude to UNICEF and Save the Children for providing financial support during the preparation of this report.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

a. Background

Ethiopia has the second largest population in Africa with a projected population of 100,827,000 (50,572,000 male and 50,255 female) in 2020. (CSA Population Projection for Ethiopia (2007-2037)) The country's annual population growth rate is estimated at 2.85 per cent. Total fertility rates are much higher in rural areas than in urban areas (on average, 5.2 and 2.3 children per woman, respectively), and they are twice as high among the poorest women than among the richest women (on average, 5.6 and 2.6 children per woman, respectively) (CSA, EDHS 2016)

In recent years, Ethiopia has undergone through socio-political changes following unrest and conflict in many parts of the country. The transformative events have brought a new Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed in April 2018, and Ethiopia's first female President, Sahle-Work Zewde, in October 2018. Further, the ongoing socio-political, legal and economic reforms under the new era of governance will surely benefit children and improve the protection of the rights of children.

Parallel to the transformative events, emerging challenges such as recurrent violence and displacement has been recorded in some parts of the country. In October 2019, there were 1,089,856 conflict affected Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), 424,845 drought affected IDPs and 35,995 IDPs due to seasonal floods. (National Displacement Report, IOM 2019) The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) has been making tremendous efforts to return and reintegrate IDPs to their home and has significantly reduced the number of IDPs which stood at 3.04 million in March 2019. Ethiopia is also one of the largest refugees and asylum seekers hosting countries in Africa. As of 31 January 2020, Ethiopia accommodates more than 744,143 refugees and asylum seekers mostly from neighboring counties of South Sudan and Eritrea. (UNHCR January 2020)

Ethiopia's economic growth has outperformed many countries. Between 1999/2000 and 2016/2017, Ethiopia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capital increased from US\$ 129 to US\$ 863. Ethiopia's real GDP growth is projected at 9.7 per cent for 2019 and 9.9 per cent for 2020. Still Ethiopia's economic growth depends largely on agriculture, which accounted for 31 per cent of GDP in 2018.

The second Growth and Transformation Plan of Ethiopia (GTP II) (2015/2106-2019-2020) has been the overarching road map for Ethiopia's development, and its 10 national development priorities are aligned with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). (GTP II Vol I. main text) The country has put in place pro-poor policies, strategies, plans and programmes that can benefit women, children and adolescents, and there have been improvements in some SDG indicators. The GTP II outlines a transition from a primarily rural agricultural based economy to a more diversified economy. The country is on a trajectory of industrialization and there are signs of robust growth in the industrial and services sectors.

Despite Ethiopia's fast economic growth, poverty is one of the main challenges of the country. Although the share of the population living below the national poverty line halved between 1995/1996 (45.5 per cent) and 2015/2016 (23.5 per cent), still one out of every four individuals, which equates to roughly 24 million people, can be classified as absolute poor. Children bear a greater poverty burden than adults. (FDRE National Planning Commission 2017)

The GoE continues to dedicate increased amount of resources for the development of its people and children as demonstrated by its allocation of progressive budget over the past years. For instance, the annual budget of the Government has increased from Birr 154.9 Billion in 2013/14 to Birr 320.8 Billion in 2017/18. The GoE has approved 476 Billion ETB annual budget for the year 2020/21. The GoE has been allocating ever increasing budget on social services and infrastructures.

b. Methods used in the preparation of the report

This report is prepared in accordance with the Guideline on the form and content of periodic state party reports to be submitted pursuant to Article 43(1) (b) of the African Charter on the Right and Welfare of Children (ACRWC).

It builds on the combined initial, first, second and third report and presents progresses and challenges in promoting and protecting children's rights guaranteed under the Charter with emphasis on the measures taken to implement the concluding recommendations of the ACERWC in the previous report.

The Ministry of Women, Children and Youth (MOWCY), is mandated with the task of coordinating and implementing child rights in the country and has responsibility to prepare periodic reports on the implementation of ACRWC.

In preparation of this report, the MoWCY led a taskforce of experts drawn from the MOWCY, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MOLSA), Ministry of Education (MoE), Office of the Federal Attorney General (OFAG), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Federal Supreme Court Child Justice Project Office (FSCCJPO), the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC), Immigration, Nationality and Vital Events Agency (INVEA) and Agency for Refugees and Returns Affair (ARRA).

The MoWCY organized a series of consultation with line ministries to solicit pertinent information on the implementation of the Charter since the previous report. The draft report was presented to federal line ministries and regional sectoral bureaus, and local and international NGOs. Children's parliament members were consulted to ensure that their voices and interests are adequately reflected in the report.

II. GENERAL MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION (art 1(1))

Ethiopia has made extensive efforts to implement the concluding recommendations by the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child on Ethiopia's Report on the Status of the implementation of the ACRWC and the follow-up mission of the Committee in October 2018. These measures are as follows.

a. Legislative and policy measures

Ratification of international instruments

During the previous reporting period, Ethiopia has ratified most of the core international and regional conventions pertinent to children. In this reporting period, Ethiopia has ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) in February 2018

and the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention) in February 2020.

Ethiopia has also ratified fundamental international instruments relevant to children. In this regard, the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict was ratified on 14 May 2014. Moreover, Ethiopia also acceded to the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography on 25 March 2014.

Domestic law and policy measures

The Committee recommended for the adoption of comprehensive child law. (Concluding Recommendation para 5)

So far, Ethiopia's approach to harmonization of national laws with international and regional child rights standards has been through revising the existing laws, and while adopting new thematic specific laws incorporate provisions to ensure the protection of child rights and interests. In line with this approach, the Justice and Legal System Research Institute has already conducted a research on harmonization of Ethiopia's laws with regional and international instruments on the rights of the child in 2015. Moreover, harmonization workshop was conducted where a number of practical recommendations were forwarded by pertinent line ministries.

The MoWCY in collaboration with the FSCCJPO, the OFAG and pertinent line ministries organized consultative forum to vet the existing laws applicable to children, to identify the gaps and indicate ways to address such gaps. This year's consultative forum was held in December 2019 and discussed topics related to the minimum age of criminal responsibility, minimum marriageable age, maintenance order vis-à-vis international and regional standards. It was agreed to further explore the gaps and come up with ways to address them.

During this reporting period, several laws that have pertinence to the effective protection of children have been revised. Most of the revisions address the concerns expressed in the concluding recommendations of the Committee.

The following laws were adopted:

- The Hate Speech and Disinformation Prevention and Suppression Proclamation No. 1185/2020;
- Proclamation to Provide for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Person and Smuggling of Migrants No. 1178/2020 (repealed Proclamation No.909/2015);
- The Anti-terrorism Proclamation (1176/2020);
- Labour Proclamation No. 1156/2019;
- The Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman Establishment (Amendment) Proclamation No. 1142/2019;
- Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No.1112/2019;
- Refugees Proclamation No. 1110/2019;
- Proclamation on Organizations of Civil Societies' Proclamation No 1113/2018 (repealed the Proclamation No. 621/2009 Charities and Societies Proclamation);

- Proclamation on the Duties and Responsibilities of Executive Organs Proclamation No. 1097/2018;
- Family Code Amendment Proclamation No. 1070/2018;
- Vital Event Proclamation No. 1049/2017 on the Amendment of the Registration of Vital Events and National Identity Card;
- Federal Civil Servants Proclamation No. 1064/2017;
- Proclamation No. 970/2016 to Amend FDRE Financial Administration Proclamation;
- The Proclamation No. 943/2016 on the Establishment of the Office of the Attorney General of Ethiopia;
- Ethiopia's Overseas Employment Proclamation No 923/2016 - prohibits the recruitment of children to overseas employment.

Laws on press and broadcast services, social media and computer crimes are being drafted and they are expected to introduce mechanisms that will ensure the provision of appropriate information to children's mental, physiological, and moral development. Wide consultations have been taking place in course of drafting of these laws to ensure that the voices of all citizens are adequately reflected. The GoE is also committed to realize the freedom of expression of all citizens including children.

The realization of children's rights also requires the adoption of appropriate sectoral policies. The following policies, strategies and action plans were adopted during the reporting period.

- The National Child Policy (2017) and the National Child Policy Implementation Strategy (2019);
- Growth and Transformation Plan II (GTP II under development);
- National Social Protection Policy (2014), National Social Protection Strategy of Ethiopia (2016) and Social Protection Action Plan in (2016-2020) the Social Protection Action Plans (SPAPs) serve as the road map for the implementation of the National Social Protection Policy and Strategy;
- The Rural Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP 4) (2015-2020);
- Urban Productive Safety Nets Programme (USPNP) (2016);
- Urban Food Security and Job Creation Policy and Strategy (2016);
- Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategy (2019);
- Child Survival Strategy (2016-2020);
- Agriculture Specific Nutrition Strategy (2015);
- Seqota Declaration to Eradicate Stunting (2015- 2030);
- National Strategy for School Nutrition and Health (2018);
- National Child Protection Case Management Framework and Tools (2019);
- National Roadmap to End Child Marriage and FGM (2019-2025);
- National Community Care Coalition Guideline and Action Plan (2019);
- National Action Plan on Person with Disability (2012-21);
- Foster Care and Domestic Adoption Guideline (2019);
- National Human Rights Action Plan (2016-2020);
- Education Sector Development Program (ESDP-V) (2015-2020);

- Curriculum framework for National Policy Framework for Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) (2018);
- Master Plan for Special Needs Education (2016);
- School Inspection System (2015);
- Guideline for the Implementation of Day Care Program (2018/19);
- Gender Strategy in Education and Training Sector (2014-2015);
- Gender Responsive Pedagogy for Teacher Training (2016);
- Gender Sensitive School Improvement Framework (2019);
- Revised Pastoralist Education Strategy (2019);
- Health Sector Transformation Plan (HSTP) (2015-2020);
- National Reproductive Health Strategy (2016-2020);
- National Action Plan for Health Security (2019-2023);
- Strategy for Optimization of Health Extension Programs in Pastoralist Areas (2018);
- One stops Services Guideline (2017);
- National Adolescent and Youth Health Strategy (2016-2020);
- National Guideline on Adolescent, Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (2016);
- Guidelines for the Management of Acute Malnutrition (2016);
- Menstrual Hygiene Management in Ethiopia (2017);
- National Child Parliament Guideline (2017);
- Federal Supreme Court Sentencing Guideline (2012);
- National Employment Policy and Strategy (2016);
- Disaster Prevention and Risk Management Policy and Strategy;
- Peace Strategy (2019);
- Roadmap for the Implementation of the Ethiopian Government Pledges (2017) and National Comprehensive Refugee Response Strategy (2018-2027);
- National Refugee Child Protection Strategy (2017-19);
- National Refugee Education Strategy (2015-2018);
- Child Friendly Cities Guideline (2019).

During the reporting period, the final drafts of the following guidelines, frameworks, standards and programmes relevant to children have been handed down for final approval:

- Education and Training policy (draft) (2020);
- The National Policy for Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE)2019 (final draft);
- The Education Road Map (draft 2019);
- Child Maintenance Guideline (draft);
- Mobile Day Care Roadmap in PSNP (draft);
- The Draft Child Fund (2020);
- National Free Legal Aid Strategy (draft 2018).

b. Institutional framework

The Committee recommended to improve the implementation of laws and policies on children, through capacity building of the executive and strong monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. (Concluding Recommendation para 6)

In the dawn of the 2018 Ethiopian political transition, Prime Minister Dr Abiy Ahmed formed a new cabinet with equal gender composition and women taking key positions. The number of ministries was downsized from 28 to 19. The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs was restructured and incorporated Youth affairs, and became the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth (MoWCY) in accordance with Proclamation No. 1097/2018.

Partners' High-Level Forum, which is chaired by the Minister of the MoWCY and consisting of ten members from UN agencies and INGO's country representatives has also been established. Within this structure, there is the National Child Advisory Group (NCAG), comprising of senior thematic area experts that provide technical advice, chaired by the State Minister (UNICEF is the Co-chair and Save the Children is the Secretary).

In line with the recommendation of the Committee, the MoWCY put in place various monitoring and evaluation mechanism at all levels to improve the capacity of institutions to effectively implement laws and policies on children. The Ministry and regional bureaus have established joint planning, monitoring and evaluation platform. Moreover, the Ministry and regional bureaus hold a quarterly meeting to evaluate the implementation of planned activities. Parallel quarterly, evaluation meetings are held with line ministries to assess their progress with regarding to children related activities. (MoWCY, Child Rights and Wellbeing Department January 2020)

The MoWCY in collaboration with MoE, MoH, Federal Urban Job Creation and Food Security Agency, OFAG and FSCCJPO has also been undertaking integrated supportive supervision twice a year to enhance implementation capacity of the regional bureaus, Woreda and Kebele level offices. In 2015 and 2016, the Ministry in collaboration with the former Societies and Charities Agency (now the Civil Society Agency) conducted annual review meeting of CSOs working on children's issues, which was aimed at creating a platform to identify and address challenges, exchange lessons and best practices. Although the outcome of such initiative has been encouraging, it was temporarily discontinued due to the CSOs law reform process. (MoWCY, Child Rights and Wellbeing Department, January 2020)

Another fundamental monitoring modality has been the quarterly and yearly activity reports of the MoWCY to the Women, Youth and Social Affairs Standing Committee of the House of People Representatives (HoPR) and to the HoPR respectively. Regional bureaus report to Regional Standing Committees and Regional Councils in similar fashion. Further, members of the Women, Youth and Social Affairs Standing Committee have been undertaking at least one supervision visits on selected thematic areas and provide feedback to the MoWCY on ways to improve implementation. In the current reporting period, the Standing Committee has undertaken supervision visits to childcare institutions, day-care centers, child friendly courts and Ghandi one-stop-center. The trends of onsite supervisory visits are being strengthened since the political transition at both federal and regional levels.

The human resource of the MoWCY increased from 175 (96 female and 79 male) in 2015/16 to 268 (with 134 male and female). The budget of the Ministry has also increased from 34,506,344.39 ETB in 2015/16 to 81,837.000 in 2019/20. (see Annex Table 1& 2) Similarly, it's down structure's budget and human resources have also increased in a similar fashion. In the past 5 years, the capacity of 7,000 experts of the Ministry and regional bureau was improved through regular trainings on child rights frameworks and child protection. In addition, a total of 159,047 government experts have been trained on child rights and protection issues.

The Ministry in collaboration with Young Lives has been conducting Child Research and Practice Forum (CRPF) every month to promote research and learning on children's issues. The participants of CRPF are drawn from academia, government institutions, and CSOs. The Ministry has also established sector specific interface platforms with health, education, justice, and social protection sectors on major thematic areas such as nutrition, early childhood development (ECD), child abuse, trafficking, and children in street situations. Within each federal ministries, agencies, commissions, authorities and other government organs, Women, Children and Youth Directorates have been established to integrate child rights and protection issues in their plans and programs. Within these Directorates, child rights and protection experts are assigned, and budget is allocated to execute their planned activities on mainstreaming child rights and protection.

There are also multi-sectoral thematic or special group focused coordination structures that are aimed at ensuring the provision of appropriate services to children as well as extend protection to special groups of children that are susceptible to serious rights violations. The high level thematic specific coordination mechanisms are:

- National Committee on Children in Street Situations- to undertake prevention, reunification and reintegration (since 2017) chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister;
- Seqota Declaration Committees-established to give a multi sectoral response on nutrition and incorporates seven line-ministries (Since 2016) chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister;
- National Committee for better coordination of activities to prevent and protect persons from trafficking and smuggling, strengthen law enforcement and effectively rehabilitate victims (Since 2016) chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister;
- A National Coordinating Body on Comprehensive Prevention and Response to Violence against Women and Children, established under the auspices of the OFAG;
- Urban Job Creation and Food Security Committee to support disadvantage community in urban settings including children in street situation (Since 2017/18);
- Emergency Committees to provide integrated support to victims of natural disasters and conflict (since 2015);
- Board on special support for emerging regions which is currently coordinated by the Ministry of Peace; to improve social and economic infrastructures (education, health, WASH, and agriculture, civil service capacity building) in emerging and pastoralist regions.

c. Independent monitoring

The Committee recommended that the effectiveness and efficiency of the Human Rights Commission and Ombudsman should be strengthened. (Concluding Recommendation para 9)

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is going through a reform and recently completed a draft legislation that aligns EHRC's engagements with the Paris Principles. The draft law will ensure its independence, accountability and enhance its implementation capacity.

To ensure accessibility of the EHRC to the public at large in all regions of the country, the EHRC has opened eight regional branch offices and currently all of them are fully functional. The human and financial resource of the EHRC is increasing from time to time, which is expanding its reach to reach more people and regions. (EHRC Report 2019)

The EHRC is taking action to ensure the protection of children and other vulnerable groups by implementing the National Human Right Action Plan (NHRAP) from 2016-2020. Between 2016/17-2019/20 the EHRC has conducted human rights monitoring visits to 160 detention centers, where it also assessed the situations of children in conflict with the law, child offenders in rehabilitation centers and children staying with their imprisoned mothers. The outcomes of these visits indicate that in most of the detention centers, children are kept together with adults and this would have negative impact on the correctional and educational process. The findings of the monitoring visits have been presented to pertinent organs.

EHRC Monitoring Visits to Detention Centers Children's Data (2016/17-2019/2020)

Year	No. of Detention centers monitored	Children staying with their detainee mothers	Juvenile delinquents under 18 years of age
2016/17	60	240	360
2017/18	40	180	165
2018/19	40	200	160
2019/2020	20	80	100
TOTAL	160	700	785

During the reporting period, the EHRC has dealt with 1906 cases both at the head office and its branch offices, among which 38 complaints were child rights related. During any investigation priority and special attention is given for children's case. The EHRC in collaboration with UNICEF has developed independent monitoring tool to systematize child rights monitoring in the country.

In the past five years, the EHRC has conducted different trainings and awareness creation activities for more than 3,126,645 persons (1,723,205 Male & 1,403,440 Female) targeting a wide variety of members of the society including teachers, prison officials, police officers, media professionals, military personnel; women, children, community representatives, as well as federal and regional members of parliament on issues related with human right that also entails children's rights. During the reporting period, the EHRC provided

awareness creation trainings for 7,887 children (6000 male & 1887 female) on topics related to human rights and children's rights. The EHRC has established more than 242 human right clubs in primary and secondary schools in the country to promote children's engagement in human rights activities in schools and beyond. These interventions are expected to make a positive contribution to the advancement of children's rights.

The MoWCY and EHRC collaborate on technical areas. The MoWCY in collaboration with the EHRC has been providing awareness training on child rights and the CRC to heads and experts from regional bureaus. Further, the MoWCY and EHRC have been collaborating on the translation and popularization of the ACRWC and CRC concluding recommendations.

The Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman

The Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman (EIO) is going through an organizational reform based on its elaborated mandate under the Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman Establishment (Amendment) Proclamation No. 1142/2019. The EIO undertakes supervisions to ensure that the executive carries out its functions in accordance with the law and respects the rights of persons with special focus on children. During the reporting period, EIO inspected different sectors such as education, health, justice, labour and social, and women and children sectors as well as thematic areas such as child protection, children in street situations, trafficking, juvenile delinquency and child development in schools. During the quarterly monitoring meeting of the line ministries and other government organs, the EIO also presents its supervision reports regarding children.

There has been a structural shift in the establishment, coordination and supervision of children's parliament which was previously undertaken by the EIO. The revision of the child parliament guideline was undertaken jointly by the EIO and the MoWCY in 2017. Further, since 2017 the establishment of regional child parliaments in Afar, Amhara, Benshangul Gumuz, Gambella, Oromia, Tigray and Somali regional states, was undertaken jointly by the EIO, the MoWCY and the regional councils. In 2018, MoWCY and EIO jointly conducted awareness raising training on the new child parliament guideline to representatives of Regional Councils and Federal Parliament which was held in Adama. Since 2018, the MoWCY and EIO have been jointly organizing annual awareness raising trainings and experience sharing platforms to representatives of Regional Councils and Federal Parliament.

d. Allocation of resources for children

The Committee recommended to increase the budget for child rights issues. (Concluding Observation para 6)

The GoE continues to dedicate increased amount of resources for the development of its people and children as can be observed from its allocation of the budget over the past years. For instance, the annual budget of the Government has increased from ETB 154.9 Billion in 2013/14 to Birr 320.8 Billion in 2017/18 and reached up to 346.9 Billion ETB in 2018/19. The GoE has approved 476 Billion ETB for 2020/21 annual budget. The total federal budget for the 2018/19 represents about an 8.1 per cent increase compared with the previous fiscal year. More than 58 per cent of the federal budget was allocated to pro-poor and growth-enhancing sectors in 2018/19. Further, the Proclamation No. 970/2016 to Amend FDRE Financial Administration

Proclamation integrates a gender perspective into the preparation of the budget program. These prove GoE's attention to addressing the needs of poor and vulnerable groups, including access to services.

Sources of finance for federal budget (in billion ETB)

	Domestic Revenue	Domestic Loan	External Loan	External Assistance	Total
2013/14	105.9	16.6	16.5	15.9	154.9
2014/15	123.1	21.2	17.5	16.8	178.6
2015/16	157.1	27.6	24.6	14.1	223.4
2016/17	198.1	35.5	24.7	16.1	274.4
2017/18	221.2	53.9	28.6	17.1	320.8

Source: MoF (2018/19)

In line with its poverty reduction goals, the GoE has spent huge resources on health, education, water, energy, roads as well as agriculture and food security which are termed as pro-poor sectors. An average of 64 per cent of the total national expenditure over the past five years is spent on these sectors. As indicated in the table below expenditure in the education sector has increased steadily since 2012/13 to reach 27 per cent of total government expenditure in 2016/17 evidencing the strong commitment of the government.

Distribution of pro-poor expenditure (per cent of total expenditure)

	Education expenditure	Road construction expenditure	Agriculture and food security expenditure	Health and nutrition expenditure	Water, energy and electricity expenditure	Total expenditure for pro poor sectors
2012/13	22	21	11	8	7	69
2013/14	22	20	10	8	8	68
2014/15	24	18	9	9	6	66
2015/16	23	12	8	8	6	57
2016/17	27	10	19	8	7	62

Source: MoF (2017/18)

National education expenditure has increased by more than two-fold between 2012/13 and 2016/17. Overall spending grew from ETB 36.1 billion in 2012/13 to about ETB 88.6 billion in 2016/17, which amounts to an annual average growth rate of 25.5 per cent and 14.4 per cent in nominal and real terms, respectively. This is mainly due to growing recurrent costs resulting from system expansion in general and higher and secondary education expansion in particular. Besides the recent growth, the education sector receives the highest priority in the national budget. In 2016/17, education accounted for 27 per cent of total expenditure, which is significantly higher than the government's commitment to internationally agreed targets set out by the Education for All (EFA) (i.e. 20 per cent of the national budget for education). (UNICEF Budget Brief Education, Updated with national data for 2017/18)

In 2017/18, 344 million ETB was allocated for the school feeding programme which is the fourth focus area of the National Social Protection Policy on increasing access to basic social services, including health services and high-quality education among the poorest and most vulnerable individuals and households. The 2015/16 the GoE spent 596 million ETB, significantly more than the current allocation due to an emergency response to the drought, for which a federal contingency budget was used to fund school feeding in different regions.

Federal and regional governments’ spending on the school feeding programme (million ETB)

	Federal governments	Regional Governments	Total budget
2017/18	294.9	49.1	344
2016/17	199.3	42.6	241.9
2015/16	571.8	24.2	596

Source: MOE (2017/18)

During the reporting period, children through child parliament have been actively engaged in budget hearing. The Women, Youth and Social Affairs Standing Committee oversee budget expenditure to make sure that the budget for pro-poor polices and social infrastructures that also benefit children is properly spent.

e. Cooperation with civil society

The Committee recommended that the GoE should create a conducive environment for CSOs and foster collaboration. (Concluding recommendation para10)

Ethiopia has enacted a new law on Organizations of Civil Societies’ Proclamation No.1113/2018. The new law has made a fundamental shift from its predecessor (Charities and Societies Proclamation No. 621/2009) by giving operational freedom for CSOs to be engaged in any lawful activity which include child and human right advocacy, protection, policy formulation, implementation and monitoring activities.

The law has no restriction on the source of funding. The categorization of civil societies into three groups of ‘Ethiopian Charities, Ethiopian Resident Charities and Foreign’ in the previous law is replaced with two categories: local and foreign CSOs. Local CSOs can be established by Ethiopians or Ethiopian Resident foreigners and may be engaged in government policy formulation and implementation, advocacy on their areas establishment or related operations. They are also required to ensure that their activities contribute to sustainable development and democratic system of the country.

Intermediary INGOs can freely work either as implementers or as channels of technical and financial support. More importantly, INGOs are expected to work in partnership with local NGOs as much as possible. The new law provides that administrative cost of a CSO may not exceed 20 per cent of its total income which means that the 80 per cent of its income should directly benefit the general public.

High-level national strategic partnership and collaboration initiative i.e. Partners’ High Level Forum and NCAG composing of government entities/ministries, INGOs, CSOs UN agency, academic and research institutions have been established to enhance the partnership among state and non-state actors on child rights and

interests including ECD, nutrition, food security, and social protection. The Partners' High-Level Forum has high level representation of Ministers and INGOs and CSO country representatives (Chaired by MoWCY Minister) as well as technical level NCAG representing senior experts from which is chaired by the State Minister of MoWCY (UNICEF is the Co-Chair and the Save the Children is the Secretary).

Child Research and Practice Forum (CRPF) was established for learning and sharing platforms on child rights and protection in the country where government, CSOs and academic and research institutions get together to discuss researches on child rights issues, identify policy gaps and provide recommendations to enhance evidence-based decision making. This initiative has been undertaken jointly by the MoWCY and Young Lives.

f. Cooperation with the private sector

The MoWCY has also been actively working with the private sector to instill child rights in the business environment. Particularly, the MoWCY has been collaborating with the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce to advocate for and sensitize businesses to adopt child friendly standards. In 2018/19, a draft MoU was prepared to formalize the overall collaboration with Chamber of Commerce on mainstreaming child rights issues in business. During the reporting period, a total of 12 awareness raising trainings were delivered to representatives of the private sector on child rights and business principles (CRBP). Further, the MoWCY is actively working with the Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations to enable the private sector to develop child protection policies.

g. Data collection

The Committee recommended to collect disaggregated data and employ it to make an informed decision. (Concluding Recommendation para 8)

The data management system and capturing disaggregated data on children has improved since the last reporting period. The Central Statistics Authority (CSA) uses the Washington group checklist to collect disaggregated data on children with disabilities. Further, additional indicators are included by the EDHS to collect disaggregated data on Harmful Traditional Practices (HTPs) particularly child marriage and FGM, child nutrition, violence and abuse and women empowerment. Accordingly, the EDHS 2016 has improved in capturing data on children disaggregated by age, sex, socio-economic status, and by geographic location.

The vital events registration system has been put in places at the national level since August 2016 which has been providing comprehensive national information on vital events which include birth, marriage, divorce, death, adoption, and the acknowledgement and judicial declaration of paternity.

Further, different line ministries have improved their child data management systems. The MoWCY has operationalized child wellbeing management information system (MIS) across six regional states. Further, MoWCY has just launched a web based National Gender Information System (NGIS) which covers several domains and indicators disaggregated by age and other characters. The MoH and MoE has health and education MIS, which has been annually providing information to the health and education sectors as well as have been informing national plans and measures. The other sectoral data management platforms which have been established include road traffic MIS, refugee and returnees' MIS, justice MIS, and disaster

prevention and risk reduction MIS. Regional sector bureaus and local level offices have the responsibility to collect data at regional and local level.

The customization of MIS for refugee education began in 2016, which resulted in the first publication that comprises refugee data on the Annual Education Abstract for the 2016/2017 academic year and the following in 2018/19. (FDRE, MoE, Annual Education Abstract 2018/19)

The other pertinent tools and systems that are expected to improve the generation of disaggregated data on children include the hotline centers on child abuse and exploitation and the National Case Management Framework (is expected to be operational in 2020) on child protection and support services.

h. Dissemination and awareness raising

The Day of the African Child (DAC) which is regularly celebrated on June 16 at the national and regional levels has been the basic platform to popularize the ACRWC. Further, the MoWCY has provided several trainings on the child rights which also included topics on the ACRWC. The ACRWC was translated into five local languages and distributed across the respective regions. The ACRWC's concluding recommendations were translated into three local languages and distributed to all federal and regional government stakeholders using dissemination workshop.

In the past five years, the capacity of 7,000 experts of the MoWCY and regional bureau has been enhanced through trainings on child rights frameworks and child protection. In addition, over the past five years a total of 159,047 government experts have been trained on child rights and protection. Similarly, an average of about 33 million people per-year have been informed about child rights by using different medium such as community mobilization programs, community sensitization and the media from 2015/16-2019/20. Since 2017, 27,000 copies of the National Child Policy have been disseminated in all regions. The policy is also translated into three local languages. The National Child Policy is informed by the rights and core principle of the ACRWC and UNCRC. (MoWCY GTP II Implementation Report 2018/19/ MoWCY, Child Sector 10 Years Strategic Plan (2020-2030)).

During the reporting period, the OFAG has been providing awareness raising trainings on child rights protection to experts of federal ministries and other governmental and non-governmental organs, community-based organizations (CBOs), and school communities. During 2017-2019, awareness raising trainings were rendered to experts from the (former) Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation, the Federal Plan Commission, and the Ministry of Revenues, the Public Procurement and Property Administration Agency, the (former) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Ethiopian Family Planning Association. Similarly, capacity building training was given to experts drawn from the justice sector and stakeholders working on children in SNNPR. (Office of the Federal Attorney General (OFAG), Annual Activity Report (2017/18))

III. DEFINITION OF A CHILD (Art.2)

The Committee recommended for the revision of the provision of the Family Code which provides for conditions for reducing the age of marriage to 16 years as it contradicts with Articles 2 and 21 of the Charter. (Concluding Recommendation para 11)

The dispensation up to two years that may be granted by the OFAG (formerly Minister of Justice), is an exception to the general rule to be decided with utmost caution by considering the rights and interests of the child. The mandate for such decision is only given to the Federal Attorney General (FAG) to ensure that the rights and interest of the child will not be violated by such decision.

The Committee further recommended to increase of the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 12 years and the treatment of young offenders between the ages of 15-18 years as children. (Concluding Recommendation para 12) In this regard, there have been regular discussions between the MoWCY, the OFAG and the FSCCJPO on gaps in the law and ways to address such gaps to enhance protection of children. During the discussion held in December 2019, the minimum age of criminal responsibility and the dispensation of marriageable age were among the topics under discussion. It was reflected to explore further these gaps in the law that may hinder the effective protection of children's rights.

During the reporting period, several laws have been revised introducing several changes that will bestow better protection to children. The new Labour Proclamation No. 1156/2019 has increased the minimum employment age from 14 years to 15 years to harmonize it with the international law. The Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No. 1112/2019 increased the alcohol consumption age to 21 years. The Proclamation to Provide for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Person and Smuggling of Migrants No. 1178/2020, which gives specific protection to children from trafficking, adopts a definition for a child in line with child rights standards, particularly the ACRWC.

IV. GENERAL PRINCIPLES (arts 3, 4, 5 and 26)

a. Non-discrimination (art 3 and 26)

The Committee recommended that the disparity in education and health services available in urban and rural areas should be addressed. Further, it recommended for the fulfillment of the special needs of children with disabilities and intensify efforts to reduce discrimination on account of gender. (Concluding recommendation para 13 & 14)

The National Child Policy framework has taken non-discrimination as the basic principle of the policy, which also guides every measures and services to children. The GoE has also put in place sectoral strategies and frameworks to promote gender equity in education, to eradicate child marriage and FGM, to improve access to health and to take affirmative action to emerging regions in accessing education and health services to ensure that all children receive social services and enjoy their full spectrum of rights without discrimination. (See the list of policies and strategies under the sub-section on Domestic laws and policy measures). The National Action Plan on Person with Disability (2012-21) aims to mainstream disability issues in all sectors

and eradicate discrimination against persons with disabilities including children by addressing root causes and improve social services and infrastructures to the needs of persons with disabilities. The child parliament guideline further obliges that 10 per cent of children's parliament members should be children with special needs.

The GoE also put in place laws and policies that ensure access to refugee children to wide range of rights including right to access birth registration and documentation, education, health care services.

The increasing allocation of budget to pro-poor policies particularly to education and health services is one of the indicators for the GoE's focus to ensure access and improving the quality of health and education services in the country. The GoE allocates 5 per cent from the school grant for general education for emerging regions to ensure access to education to all children in the country.

During the reporting period, better social infrastructures were made available in rural areas to improve access to and quality of social services such as education and health. In 2018/19, the total number of primary and secondary schools have reached 37,039 and 3,739 respectively, which improved access to education for children in rural areas. The school facilities such as access to water, toilet, access to textbooks have also been improved. The 2018/19 data shows that nationally 27 per cent of primary schools have access to water supply. In addition, 36 per cent of schools have toilets accessible to children with special needs, whereas 49 per cent are accessible to young children. Nationally, 73 per cent of secondary schools have electricity (with a 5 percentage point's increment from 2017/18) and about 78.7 per cent of schools have computers. Nationally, internet availability in schools has reached 21.5 per cent of the total secondary schools. Moreover, 84 per cent of the schools reported to have water supply, and 66 per cent of schools reported that their water supply is easily accessible by students with special needs.

The education enrolment rate of children with disabilities has been increasing during the reporting period. In 2018/19 The Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) for children with disabilities has reached 1.3 per cent (more than double from the year 2017/18) of the total population children with disabilities in need of education. (See *Annex Table 8*) The total number of students with special education needs who were attending their primary school in 2017/18 was 316,271, showing an increment by 14 percentage points from the previous year (2016/17). At secondary level, a total of 37,468 students (42.5 per cent females) with special education needs were attending secondary school in 2018/19. This shows a 4.4 percentage point's increment from 2017/18. (*Annex: Table 9*)

The GoE has been strengthening school feeding programs and working to reach more children across the country to address barriers that hinder poor children from accessing schools.

During the reporting period, encouraging improvements have been made to close the gap in gender parity in schools especially in rural areas. The gender variation level of primary school to secondary school have been minimized in rural areas. In mostly agrarian societies where most people live in rural areas such as in Amhara, Tigray, Oromia, the gender variations have significantly decreased (1.05, 0.95, 0.76 GPI for grades 1-8 respectively). (*See Chart 4*)

In order to address challenges relating to distance between residence and schools, the GoE has developed guidelines on the provision of hostel services for female students. Similarly, through United Nations Joint Program (UNJP) Gender flagship, the MoE had provided financial assistance to girls from underprivileged families to attend school. This program that targeted reduction of dropout rates was operational in the four emerging regions of the country namely Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Afar and Somali Regional States.

In 2018/19 at pre-primary level, gender equity is approaching to a balance with a value of 0.95 showing an improvement from the previous year (2017/18). In order to achieve gender parity at higher levels of education, it is highly recommended that the gender equity should be successfully attained in pre-primary education.

For primary education, the national Gender Parity Index (GPI) was 0.90 in 2018/19, which also shows an improvement from previous years. The gender gap in secondary schools (Grades 9-12), has not made improvement compared with previous years (2013/14-2017/18), with a national point of 0.87 recorded in 2018/19. However, even some regions such as Addis Ababa and Amhara exceeded the target set by the ESDP V (GPI 0.98) and Tigray region nearly achieving it with 0.97. (*See Chart 4*)

Despite such improvements, ensuring access to primary education to all children especially in rural areas continues to be a challenge. Further, there is lack of basic school facilities in remote areas and ensuring equity in education in pastoralist and semi-pastoralist communities is still a serious challenge. Given the prevalence of HTPs especially child marriage and FGM in the country, it will continue to be hindrance for girls to enjoy their rights without discrimination. There are also limitations to ensure that infrastructures and facilities are acceptable to the needs of persons with disabilities, particularly to children, especially in education and health care facilities.

Since the last reporting period, in rural areas the general trend of health care services in both health facilities and community health care systems have improved. The total number of Health Posts (HPs) rose from 16,048 in 2012/13 to 18,816 in 2017/18. Similarly, the total number of Health Centers (HCs) have increased from 3,100 in 2012/13 to 3956 in 2017/18. Progress has also been made in increasing the number of hospitals from 127 in 2012/13 to 402 in 2017/18.

The number of rural women and children receiving health care services such as antenatal care (ANC), delivery care, postnatal care, child immunization and child health care and paediatrics have steadily increased. The number of rural women accessing ANC has increased to 70 per cent and among these, 37 per cent rural women had at least four ANC visits. In 2019, 43 per cent expecting mothers were assisted by a skilled provider of births in rural areas, which also shows a significant steady increment over the years. Similarly, 40 per cent in rural areas were delivered in a health facility.

Early childhood mortality has drastically decreased since the last reporting period, for instance under five mortality decreased from 88 per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 43 per 1,000 live births in 2019, infant mortality rate from 59 per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 43 in 2019 and neonatal mortality 37 per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 33 in 2019.

Although there is a gap between urban and rural areas in terms of equity and quality of health services, the progresses made in the maternal and child health are attributed to the improvements of access and quality of health services in rural areas.

b. Best interests of the child (art. 4)

The Committee recommended that the principle of the best interest of the child should be given due consideration in case of adoption and inter-country adoption. (Concluding recommendation para 15)

In line with the recommendation, the GoE revised the Family Law to prohibit inter-country adoption due to the reported multifaceted rights violation on adopted children, which are against their best interests. In order to protect the best interest of the child and provide permanent family environment, the Revised Family Code Amendment Proclamation No. 1070/18 banned inter-country adoption. This encourages all stakeholders to ensure that children live in a family setting in their communities.

Currently, local adoption is being promoted as it gives an opportunity for children to grow up in an environment that is conducive to their psychological and moral development in a country and culture familiar to them. Further, local adoption can be effectively, and adequately monitored, and appropriate measures could be rendered. Local adoption hearings in courts of law, shall be in the best interest of the child and by taking into consideration the opinions of the child as provided under article 194 of the Family Code. The practice is guided by such mandatory standard, and adoption cases have been guided by utmost consideration of the best interest of the child. Further, custody, and assignment of guardians and tutors have been decided by giving utmost consideration to the principle of the best interest of the child. The House of Federation (HoF) also gave guidance on how the principle of the best interest of the child as provided under Article 36(3) should be interpreted in two cases related to guardianship and proof of paternity.

Child maintenance guideline has been drafted to guide courts to make maintenance orders in the best interest of the child, appropriate for the proper up bring and development of the child and sufficient to fulfill the materials needs of the child.

All executive organs are required to mainstream the issues of children, women, and people with disabilities in their plans and programs in accordance with the Proclamation on the Duties and Responsibilities of Executive Organs· Proclamation No. 1097/18. This requirement is fundamental to prioritize and ensure the best interest of the child as well as ensure the protection of all the rights of children in all government initiatives.

The Civil Servant Proclamation No. 1064/2018 enforces the establishment of the Day Care Center in each government offices to ensure babies are breast-fed and get appropriate care from their mothers. The MoWCY has been mandated to oversee the establishment of day cares. Accordingly, 17 day cares at the federal level and 16-day care at regional levels, in total 33-day care centers have been established.

The new Refugee Proclamation No. 1110/19 particularly stipulates that when dealing with a child's case, primary consideration should be given to his/her best interest. The new law also provides a fundamental

right to child refugees such as family reunification, the right to access to primary education, and health care services.

Policies and strategies were reviewed by sector ministries based on the principle of the best interest of the child to ensure that child rights are mainstreamed in each sectoral ministry. Further, the GoE has been taking practical steps to implement its policies and strategies with ever increasing budget for pro poor sectors (health, education and protection) which directly impacts the realization of children's rights.

During the reporting period, the GoE established 100 child friendly courts across the country that specialized in handling child cases by giving due consideration to their rights and interests. Eight hotline services have been set up across the country, (5 are currently functional). Further, 34 one-stop-centers (four in Addis Ababa) for child victims of abuse have been expanded and strengthened since the last reporting period. These child friendly facilities are fundamental to ensuring the best interest of the child is given primary consideration in any measures affecting a child and improves the protection of child rights.

The MOWCY established inspection department responsible to ensure the best interest of the child during placement and care of children in foster care, reunification and institutions programs. The MOWCY in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNICEF has developed SOP on reunification of children which ensures the consideration of the best interest of the child in reunification processes. Further, SOPs for child case management for different refugee camps has been designed by the ARRA, the MoWCY, UNICEF, UNHCR and other actors to ensure that cases of refugee children are handled through child-friendly processes by giving due regard to their best interest.

c. The right to life, survival and development (art. 5)

The Committee recommended for the control of preventable diseases causing death, to provide with nutrition, increase access to health care services to lower mortality rate and access to health care for children in street situations. (Concluding recommendation para 16)

During the reporting period, encouraging achievements to ensure child survival and development were recorded. Since the last reporting period, under-five mortality rate has steadily decreased from 88 per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 48 per 1,000 live births in 2016 and to 43 per 1,000 live births in 2019. Infant mortality rate was reduced from 59 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 48 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016 up to 43 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2019. The neonatal mortality rate has reduced from 37 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 29 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016. Ethiopia has also been introducing additional new vaccines in addition to the basic ones. The child immunization rates have increased from 86 per cent in 2014/15 to 88 per cent in 2018/19. (MEDHS 2019 and EDHS 2016)

The GoE has been exerting maximum effort to improve the nutrition of children to ensure their proper growth and development. A high-level multi-sectoral committee has been put in place to implement the Seqota Declaration to eradicate stunting by 2030. Currently, the GoE is implementing the first phase of the Declaration by putting in place innovative way to improve agricultural productivity. The national stunted rate of 44 per cent in 2011 has decreased to 38 per cent and 37 per cent in 2016 and 2019 respectively. There is

also general reduction of underweight children from the 29 and 24 per cent rates reported in 2011 and 2016 EDHS respectively. (Annual Health Sector Performance Report (2018/19) & MEDHS 2019)

During the reporting period, exclusive breastfeeding among children under age 6 months has increased from 52 per cent in 2011 to 58 per cent in 2016 and up to 59 per cent in MEDHS 2019. The current legislative reform of the employment laws of the country, which increased the duration of maternity leave from 90 days to 120 days and the required establishment of day care centers in each government offices as provided by the Civil Servant Proclamation No 1064/2018 plays a pivotal role in ensuring that children are exclusively breastfed in their first six months and properly cared for by their mothers in their early child development.

The rural and urban social safety net programs (PSNP 4 and UPSNP) that are benefiting 2.5 million and 600,000 very poor households respectively also contribute to providing the means for parents to care for their children. The non-PSNP social protection programs specific to health and education such as Community Based Health Insurance (CBHI), Indigent Health Fee Waiver System, Education Fee Waiver scheme and a National School Feeding Programme (2016-2020) proved to be successful in ensuring that children including those in street situations access to nutrition, health care, and education.

The expansion and strengthening of structures such as hotline services, toll free human rights reporting hotline, community police stations contribute to the protection of children from abuse, violence, exploitation that endanger their life, physical, psychological and mental wellbeing and development.

d. Respect for the views of the child (art. 4)

The Committee recommended for the development of action plan to ensure and encourage the involvement of children in general and children's parliaments in particular in formal decision making at all levels that have a bearing on their interest, and to participate in treaty reporting. (Concluding recommendation para 17)

In order to ensure the active and meaningful participation of children in decision-making, National Child Parliament Establishment Guideline was revised and endorsed in 2017 and disseminated to all regions. The child friendly version of the guideline is being prepared. Further, the MOWCY has planned to develop a national child participation strategy.

During the consultation held to ensure the participation of children in the current periodic report, members of children's parliament from Addis Ababa stated that there have been progresses on child participation, child protection, access to education, school feeding program and provision of school uniforms in public schools, and access to health care service. However, they stated that children face multifaceted challenges which include limitation of quality of education, children in street situations, limitations of adequacy and appropriateness of play grounds for all children particularly for children with disabilities, limitations of school facilities for children with disabilities, limited awareness of families about child rights, increasing unemployment rate which is discourages students from focusing on their education, and violence against girls.

So far 8, 428 child parliaments have been established in all regional states. More than 308,000 children have been actively participating in matters affecting their rights. During the DAC and Universal Child Day (UCD)

celebrations held in the reporting period, where awareness raising programs on the CRC and ACRCW were carried out, more than 625,000 children participated and expressed their views. (MoWCY GTP II Implementation Report 2018/19/ MoWCY, Child Sector 10 Years Strategic Plan (2020-2030)).

During the reporting period, there have been efforts to involve children (girls and boys) in the development and implementation of child focused policies and programs, and budget hearings. For instance, there have been encouraging efforts to invite members of children's parliament to parliamentary discussions, children provided inputs during the development of national child policy and education roadmap, and children have been invited to budget hearing at regional and district levels for instance in Harrari Region, SNNPR, Amhara and Dire Dawa City Administration. The development of playgrounds for children in government led housing construction (condominium) is also the product of children's expression of their views on the matter. SNNPR has also allocated budget as part of the regional government's formal activity to ensure the proper operation of children's parliament. Children's parliament in the SNNPR has taken the issue of children in street situations, one of the most pressing problems in the region, to the regional decision-making bodies. (Institute of the Ombudsman Inspection Report on the Services Provided by Executive Organs for Persons in Street Situations February 2019)

To build the capacity of children's parliament to make meaningful participation in affairs that affect their lives, the MoWCY has been organizing capacity building trainings and experience sharing platforms to child parliament members across the country. This annual capacity building training and experience sharing programs is undertaken during school semester break so that it does not interfere with their education as well as rest and leisure activities. The capacity building trainings have been given to all levels of the child children's parliament structures from the federal level up to the local Kebele level. In general, the MoWCY, the Regional Councils at different levels, and Ethiopian Institution of Ombudsman have been working together to ensure the views of children are incorporated in decision-making process affecting their rights and wellbeing.

During the reporting period, school-based child participation platforms have been established and strengthened such as CRC clubs, girls' clubs and environmental club. So far, 55, 511 functional schools clubs have been established across the nation. Students are represented in Parent-Teachers Associations and they have engaged in promoting their rights and advocate for their views are incorporated in school plans and budgets (school governance). (MoWCY GTP II Implementation Report 2018/19/ MoWCY, Child Sector 10 Years Strategic Plan (2020-2030)

During the reporting period, capacity building trainings, experience sharing, and material assistances were given to 63,939 child participation structures. During events and festivals organized to strengthen child participation platforms, a total of 5,206,293 children have participated and informed about their rights. Sensitizing the community about the duty to respect and protect child rights has been part of these events. (MoWCY GTP II Implementation Report 2018/19) / MoWCY, Child Sector 10 Years Strategic Plan (2020-2030)

The Committee further recommended to educate the community so that children make meaningful participation. During the reporting period, there has been awareness raising programs targeting the

community at large on meaningful child participation using national, community and private radios. Further, child parliament representatives have been engaged in dialogue with government representatives on issues of their concern such as on education, play and leisure and health on Walta TV Live transmission. In such dialogue, community members are also given the chance to engage in the debate and forward questions via phone call. Children are also encouraged to participate at the community level, through Community Care Coalitions (CCCs). Further, most television transmissions have a special program for children that are led by children themselves. Particularly, 'Ye Ethiopia Lijoch' television (Ethiopian Kids TV), a special television program entirely dedicated to children, has been operational in the reporting period.

In addition, better parenting trainings incorporate exercises to foster child participation in the family setting. The MoWCY in collaboration with the MoE and SoS Children's Village is preparing a module on better parenting skills that also incorporates lessons on child participation. All these efforts are gradually changing the deeply entrenched societal perceptions and practices that give very limited space to the opinions and views of children.

The Committee further recommended to ensure child participation in judicial hearings and to fully implement the African Guidelines on Child Friendly Justice (2011). In this regard, to ensure that children actively participate in judicial hearings a Social Work Unit has been expanded to regions within courts. This has promoted the best interest of the child through effective child participation in court proceedings involving children. To sustain the Social Work Unit, curricula have been developed and approved for commencing tailored social work training with technical and vocational education and training (TVET) level 4.

Care options for children deprived of family environment such as foster care and domestic adoption are guided by giving due consideration for the views of the child. The foster care and domestic adoption directive also give specific guidance on child participation. Further, several SOPs on child case management has been designed, which also ensure the effective participation of children in refugee determination process.

V. CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS (arts 6-10 and 16)

a. The right to name, nationality and birth registration (art 6)

Birth registration

The Committee recommended for the enforcement of birth registration within 90 days after birth and sensitize the community and ensure access to birth registration in rural areas where illiteracy and poverty are prevalent. (Concluding recommendation para 19)

In accordance with the vital events and national identify card registration, Proclamation No. 760/2012, childbirth should be mandatorily registered within 90 days after birth unless there is a sufficient ground for delayed registration. The officer of civil status is also duty bound to ensure that a child to be registered is or will be given a name.

The Proclamation No. 760/2012 was amended in 2017 by Proclamation No. 1049/2017, which accords the right to birth registration to Ethiopian citizens residing abroad, births occurred in Ethiopian ships as well as

refugees. The amendment Proclamation No. 1049/2017 also gives responsibility to health institutions at all levels to prepare notification paper and facilitate birth registration. The National Child Policy provides that the establishment of vital events for children should be ensured and strengthened in the country.

To ensure the registration of children born out of health centers, especially in rural areas, health extension workers trace and notify births to the nearest administrative office within 90 days. As one of the major challenges has been ensuring the registration of birth due to lack of awareness, extensive awareness creation programs have been carried out through mass media (radio, TV, magazines, and brochures). Moreover, women development army (WDA), health extension workers (HEW), traditional birth attendants (TBA) have been delivering sensitization programs in rural areas that generally have very low birth registration records.

The Vital Event Registration Agency (recently the Immigration Nationality and Vital Events Agency (INVEA)) was established with the responsibility of executing vital events registration and documentation in the country. The Agency has structures at the federal level and in all regions with offices at district (Woreda) and Kebele levels. Currently, the birth registration system has been established and functional in all regions including Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa. The INVEA has been conducting regular bi-annual implementation assessment, supportive supervision and follow up at all levels of the registration cycle. It also collaborates with different non-governmental partners, to strengthen the human and technical capacity of the vital events registration system in the country.

Despite all these initiatives and efforts, the rate of birth registration is very low mostly attributed to societal awareness on the duty to register a child immediately after birth or within the mandatory 90 days timeline provided under the law. The registration fee of 50 ETB as well as the requirement of both parents to be present are also among the challenges. Although, GTP II targeted 50% of newborn children to be registered from 2016-2020, only a fraction of the target has been achieved during the GTP II period. In 2016, the rate of children under the age of 5 who had their birth registered was 3 per cent (12 per cent urban and 2 per cent rural). Of these, 2 per cent have a birth certificate. The urban –rural variations are very high, 24 per cent of births in the urban centre of Addis Ababa and 19 per cent of births in the urban centre of Dire Dawa are registered. In contrast, the rate of birth registration was only 2 per cent in rural areas. (EDHS 2016) The very low rate of birth registration recorded under the 2016 EDHS was because the birth registration system was only established after the survey in August 2016.

According to administrative data from the INVEA, (2016/17-2018/19) 922,715 (63 per cent of the plan) births were registered within 90 days and 521,909 (36 per cent of the plan) were late birth registration (within 91-365 days). (see Annex Table 12 &13) This shows substantial progression of the rate of birth registration in the country compared with previous years. Further, from 2017/18-2018/19, in eight refugee birth registration centers, a total of 10,379 births (36 per cent of the plan) were registered. (See Annex Table 14)

The Committee also recommended to grant nationality to abandoned children whose nationality is not known. The Nationality Law of Ethiopia (Proclamation No. 378/2003) accords Ethiopian nationality to abandoned children found in the territory unless it is proved that such children have foreign nationalities.

b. Freedom of expression (art 7)

During the reporting period, in line with the recommendations of the Committee (Concluding recommendation para 20) children has been freely expressing their views through school and out of school platforms such as children's parliament, and child schools' clubs. Children have been involved during the development of child policy, the education roadmap and national and regional budget hearings. They have regularly participating during national and regional parliamentary sessions.

The Committee further recommended to encourage children especially in rural areas to access information particularly about child rights and the Charter in their own language. One of the requirements to issue a broadcasting license for television and radio (public, private and community) is having programs that address social needs which includes a specific program dedicated to children. In accordance with the requirements of the law, the Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporate (EBC) and other TV broadcasters have airtime dedicated to specifically to child wellbeing, development and ethics. In view of this, there are 55 community radio programs, which transmit information on child rights and protection issues to the society. On average, 55 community radios programs are expected to reach about 70,000 community members in one program.

In line with the recommendations of the Committee, information about children rights have been disseminated through translation and distribution of the ACRWC, concluding recommendations of the Committees as well as the CRC. Ensuring freedom of expression necessarily entails receiving appropriate information. To ensure that children receive appropriate information on areas that have bearing on their interest, different line ministries have been providing age-appropriate health, education and justice related information.

Accessing appropriate information is fundamental to the proper mental, psychological development of children. In this regard, the Ethiopian Broadcasting Services Proclamation No. 533/2007 prohibits Radio or TV transmission programs that may corrupt the outlook of children or harm their feelings and thinking or encourage undesirable behavior during hours which children normally watch or listen to such programs. The recently adopted Hate Speech and Disinformation Prevention and Suppression Proclamation No. 1185/2020 further protects children from receiving hate, false and misleading information.

c. Freedom of association (art 8)

Children of all ages practices and demonstrates talents and freedom of speech by participating in different associations in schools and out of schools. As reported under child participation and freedom of expression section, children's parliaments have been established in all regions. Such structures exist up to local/district level. Further, children of all ages, from primary schools up to high schools participate in different school clubs such as CRC club, girls clubs, human rights clubs, anti-HIV/AIDS Club, and environmental club. So far 8, 428 child parliaments and 55, 511 schools clubs have been established across the county. (MoWCY GTP II Implementation Report 2018/19/ MoWCY, Child Sector 10 Years Strategic Plan (2020-2030)

According to the Ethiopian Youth Policy, youth age group starts from 15 years. During the reporting period, the existing youth association forums have been expanded and strengthened. The National scouts'

association composed of regional representatives currently have more than 70,000 youth members. The National Ethiopian Youth Federation which comprises of regional youth federations and youth associations have been strengthened to facilitate adolescent's and youth's active and free engagement in the social, political and economic matters and to influence measures impacting their lives. Moreover, adolescent and youth centers have been expanded to provide life skill training, recreational, information, reproductive health, and other services. Currently, 2,854 youth centers have been constructed, among which 1545 are operational. (MoWCY, Youth Directorate December 2019)

d. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion (art 9)

The FDRE Constitution promotes the freedom of thought, conscience and religion for every person under article 27. The Constitution further proclaims that there shall be no interference with the exercise of such rights except such limitation provided by law.

The MOE adopts a common standard for curriculum development to be followed by all schools across the country. The ECDE guidelines adopted jointly by the MoWCY, MoH, and MoE, which should be used as a guideline for early childhood care and education, also promotes freedom of thought and conscience of children from early age thought out their growth and development.

e. Protection of privacy (art 10)

During the reporting period, various guidelines were adopted to ensure that children's privacy is protected in all sectors. The health ethical guideline provides that children's privacy should be protected in health care services. More than 100 child friendly courts are established across the country, which allows for close circuit court proceedings and keeps all information confidential through the entire court proceedings. The Guideline for investigating and prosecuting crimes committed against children and women and for providing psychological counselling (2013) also ensures that the privacy of child victims of crimes thought out the investigation and prosecution process. Moreover, one of the major guiding principles for rehabilitation/correctional centers and childcare institutions is the protection of the privacy of a child.

Food, Medicine and Health Care Administration and Control Proclamation No. 661/2009 protects nursing and pregnant mothers and children of all ages from conducting a clinical trial.

The National Research Ethics Review Guideline issued by the Ministry of Science and Technology in September 2014, obligates researches to seek informed consent from their research participants. In case of children who cannot give informed consent as to their age, parents or legal guardians may give the consent by giving due regard to their best interest.

f. The right not to be subjected to torture (art 16)

The GoE is undertaking justice reform which addresses issues of torture and degrading treatment of persons including children. The Criminal Procedure Code is under revision and is expected to improve the investigation procedures related to children and will provide alternative mechanisms in handing such cases.

As part of the political reform that has been undertaken since 2018, the GoE has been taking concrete steps to ensure that everyone including children are protected from torture, degrading treatment and punishment. Federal and regional detention centers with track records of torture and inhumane treatment of suspects such as the Ma'ekelawi detention center and Jigjiga Central Prison in Somali Regional State have been closed. Further, a Justice Reform Council whose members are Federal Supreme Court (FSC), OFAG, Federal Police Commission and the Federal Prison Commission has been established with the objective of inspecting the treatment of prisoners. (CAT/C/ETH/2nd and 3rd, October 2019)

Federal and regional police as well as prison commissions have incorporated the right to human dignity and prohibition against torture and inhuman treatment in the curricula of their respective training institutions and provide on job trainings to their members to ensure that they do not commit violations and are able to prevent violations by third parties. The Federal Police Commission and National Defence Force have also put in place mechanisms to ensure accountability for violations of individuals' right and human dignity, particularly the right to be protected against bodily harm and inhuman treatment in the course of officer's active duty. (CAT/C/ETH/2nd and 3rd, October 2019)

The EHRC has established mechanisms to monitor the situation children and adults in detention centers based on the international human rights and child rights standards. The findings of the monitoring reports and recommendations are shared with relevant authorities and measures are taken regularly to improve the conditions of detentions with available resources.

There are two functional rehabilitation centers for child offenders in Addis Ababa and Adama. Currently a child rehabilitation center is being constructed in Addis Ababa, which will be able to provide comprehensive rehabilitation program for children such as conventional education, skills training, sports, and psychosocial support. Moreover, model community-based correction centers (CBCCs) have been established and providing community-based child behavioural correction services for young offenders in their community settings. This helps children and adolescents to develop positive behaviours in dignified and humane manner through the intervention of their parents and communities.

During the reporting period, various training on human rights, child rights and protection have been given to prosecutors, judges, police members and prison administration officers at the federal level, regional and local levels by the MoWCY and HRC.

Corporal punishment

The Committee recommended to take measures to prohibit corporal punishment at the family/home, schools and alternative care institution and create awareness on positive parenting and disciplinary methods. The GoE has been exerting efforts to eliminate corporal punishment in family settings as well as schools and institutions by taking both legal and non-legal measures. Different mechanisms have been put in place for children and others to report cases of violence and abuse including corporal punishment committed at home, schools or care institutions. There have been efforts to use the community policing structure to protect children from corporal punishment. When children are at risk or experiencing corporal punishment, the

children or any other concerned person can report such cases to the community police because it is easily accessible to children at schools and community settings.

The MoE has issued a directive that prohibits corporal punishment in schools. The MoE has put in place follow-up mechanisms such as parent-teacher associations. There have been disciplinary measures against teachers who administer corporal punishment. However, there is a lot to be done to protect children from corporal punishment at schools and care institutions in the country.

To prevent the practice of corporal punishment as method of disciplining in family and other settings, different awareness raising programs and campaigns on positive parenting practices were conducted targeting families, schools and communities. The draft ECDE (2019) has also incorporated approaches to equip teachers and parents with skills on better disciplinary techniques. The MoWCY in collaboration with the MoE and SoS Children's Village is preparing a module on better parenting skills. These frameworks and modules will complement the existing Manual on Positive Child Disciplining (2009) and the Standard Service Delivery Guidelines, which promote various types of behaviour modifying techniques.

Despite such efforts to instill positive disciplinary methods targeting parents, communities, schools and care institutions, the practice of corporal punishment is widespread in all settings especially in the home setting.

VI. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (arts 11-12 and 14)

a. Education (art 11)

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee under concluding recommendations paragraph 31 and 32, several activities have been undertaken and concrete improvement have been made.

The GoE has a strong commitment to realize the right to education to its citizens and all children found in its territory. Since the adoption of the Constitution, the GoE has been committed to ensuring the country's educational objectives through the adoption of policies and strategies and allocation of the necessary human, monetary and material resources.

During the reporting period, the Fifth Education Sector Development Program (ESDP V) (2015/16-2019/2020) was issued in August 2015. While the main educational goals of the country remain access, equity and relevance in education; attention to disadvantaged groups, delivery of quality education, upbringing competent citizens through creating and transferring of knowledge and technology and excelling in educational planning and management are at the centerpiece of the ESDP V.

The MoE is in the process of finalizing the Ethiopian Education Development Roadmap (Education Roadmap) (2019-30). The Education Roadmap focuses on improving access, equity and quality in six thematic areas namely pre-primary and primary education, secondary and preparatory education, teacher education and development, higher education, TVET, and policy, governance and leadership. Further, the draft ECDE and the draft Education and Training Policies are also being finalized.

Enrolment in Schools

The objectives of the ESDP V as well as the Education Roadmap include ensuring access and equity in education. Primary education is free to all citizens, and all children of school age are strongly encouraged to attend school. In addition, there is a policy direction towards making primary education compulsory through the Education Roadmap and draft education policy.

To eliminate regional disparities in terms of attendance and enrolment rates, by paying particular attention to the pre-primary school level, 5 per cent subsidiary budget is allocated for emerging regions from the General Education Quality Improvement Program for Equity (GEQIP-E). The program supports girl children to increase their enrollment at primary and secondary education. During the reporting period, general rate of enrollment of girls, children with special needs, children from emerging regions and refugee children at all levels of education has shown increment.

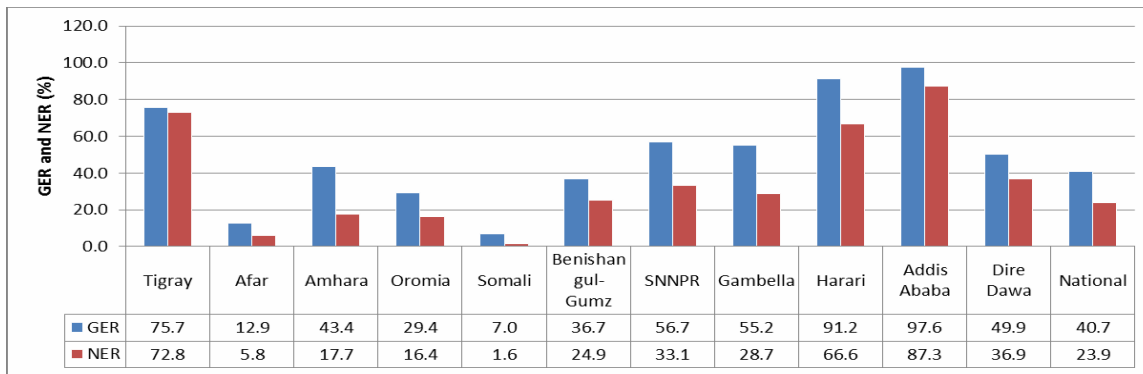
Early childhood development and education

The period of early childhood is the foundation for the overall development of the child. During this stage of development, children should be provided with a secure and safe environment, appropriate health services, sufficient and balanced nutrition, early learning/pre-primary education opportunity, and responsive caregiving. Fulfilling these needs require the collaboration of multiple sectors and stakeholders. Cognizant of such facts, the GoE has started multisectoral collaboration in order to implement the ECDE interventions which incorporates all components of nurturing care, namely health, nutrition, safety and security, responsive caregiving and opportunity for early learning.

Opportunity for early learning plays a crucial role in preparing children for primary education and has the potential to increase levels of enrolment and reduced incidences of drop out and grade repetition, particularly for girls. In order to achieve the ECDE objectives, the GoE has developed a curriculum, trained teachers and provided supervisory support. As a result, pre -primary enrolment is increasing every year.

In 2018/19, the national GER of pre-primary, which combines the data of Kindergarten, Child to Child and "O" Class enrolments, has reached 40.7 per cent (39.7 female and 41.8 male). Compared with the 2017/18 GER of 44.2 per cent, the current figure shows a 3.5 per cent decrease. On the other hand, results of the Net Enrolment Ratio (NER), which refers to the number of students enrolled in pre-primary who are within the official school age for that level (4-6 years old), are far from the GER results, with 23.3 per cent Female and 24.5 per cent Male respectively. Nationally the difference between NER and GER at pre-primary level is much higher than the year 2017/18. This implies that there is significant number of over aged children enrolled at pre-primary level. (See Annex Table 4: Pre-Primary School Age Population (ages 4-6), NER by Region, 2011 E.C. (2018/19))

Chart 1 Comparison of GER and NER at pre-primary by region (2018/19)



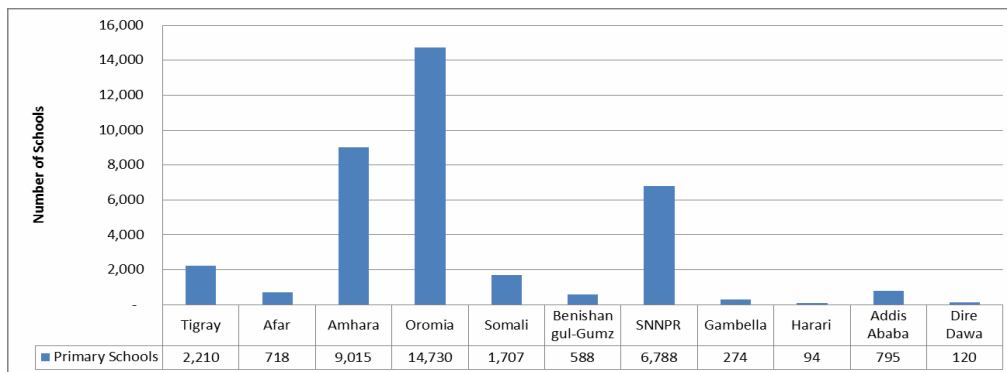
Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Although the pre-primary level ESDP V target of achieving 0.99 per cent of gender equity is not met, gender equity is approaching to be balanced with a value of 0.95 showing an improvement from 2017/18. To achieve gender parity at higher levels of education, it is highly recommended that the gender equity should be successfully attained in pre-primary education. (FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19) & (2017/18))

Primary education

Primary education in Ethiopia has two cycles: grades 1-4 and grades 5-8. Primary education is free to all citizens. Further, the GoE is exerting efforts to eliminate indirect costs, for instance with the provision of free school uniforms. Although not compulsory yet, all children of school age are strongly encouraged to attend school. As of 2017/18, primary education has been provided in more than 51 mother tongue languages compared to 49 in 2014/2015. In 2017/18, 628 primary schools were built across the country. In 2018/19, the total number of primary schools reached 37,039, with an increase from 36,466 schools reported in the 2017/18, 35,838 reported in 2016/17 and 30,495 schools reported in 2012/13. Across the country, 93 per cent of primary schools are government owned. There are also cluster schools which share facilities. Schools are usually grouped into clusters of 5 or more in Woredas. In 2018/19, there were 9,601 clusters, showing an increase from 7,532 in 2017/18. In general, access to primary education has seen considerable improvements through the construction of new schools in many localities and remote areas. ((FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19) & (2017/18))

Chart 2: Numbers of primary schools by region (2018/19)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

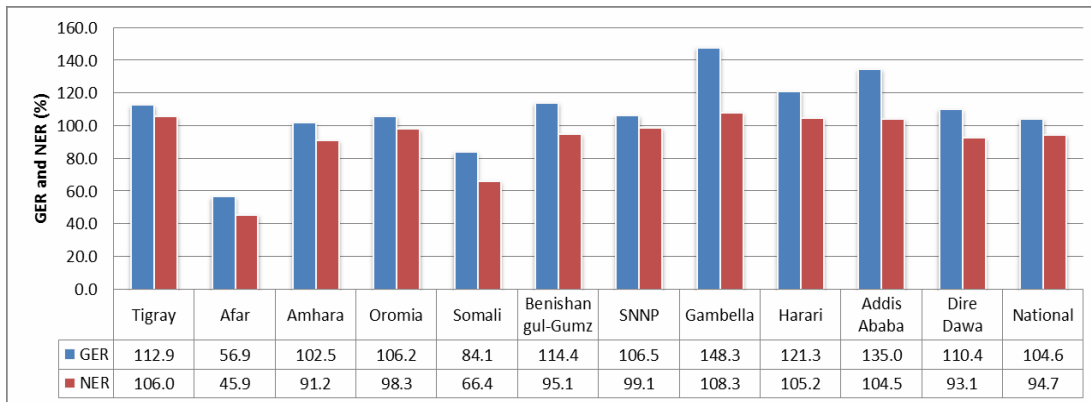
Apparent Intake Rate (AIR) refer to the percentage of new entrants to grade 1 (irrespective of age) compared against the population age of 7. The national AIR is 136.6 per cent. This indicates that children, regardless of official school age, which is over and under age seven, are enrolling grade one, and there is a high demand for grade 1 primary classes across the country. AIR has been consistently been above 100 per cent since 2004/2005, which implies that more children have been enrolling into grade 1 than the National population of age 7 for the last 16 years.

The Net Intake Rate (NIR), which refers to those children who are of the correct age of 7 to enter grade 1, is 92.4 per cent in 2018/19 (female 88.2 and male 96.5 per cent). The NIR target of 100 per cent for males and 99 per cent for females that was set by ESPD V is not met. The gap between male and female NIR has also started to decrease, with the gap closing 8.3 percentage points in 2018/19.

The GER in grades 1-8, both in Alternative Basic Education (ABE) centers and formal primary schools is 104.6 per cent (female 99.2 and male 109.9 male per cent). The comparison between GER for grades 1-4 and grades 5-8 shows that there is a notable gap in enrolment between the two cycles. Nationally, the GER for the first cycle is 127.5 per cent compared to 79.8 per cent for second cycle, indicating that many students are not progressing to the second cycle of primary education, either because they are repeating grades, or dropping out completely. The GER trend for grades 1-8 shows a slight incremental pattern. However, the gender gap has increased from 5 in 2005 to 10.7 percentage points in 2018/19. (Annex Table 5: GER Disaggregated by Region and Sex, Grades 1-8 (2018/19))

The NER is a measure of student enrolment of those who are of the official age group for the given level of education, i.e. in Ethiopia context; it only looks at the 7 to 14 years old that are enrolled in primary education. The national NER is 94.7 per cent (female 90.5 and male 98.9 per cent) in 2018/19, which shows decreased from the 2017/18 NER of 100.05 per cent but a significant increase from 85.9 percent reported in 2012/13. There is a wide regional variation, with Afar and Somali having a much lower NER than other regions. (Annex Table 6: Primary NER (including ABE) Disaggregated by Region and Sex (2018/19))

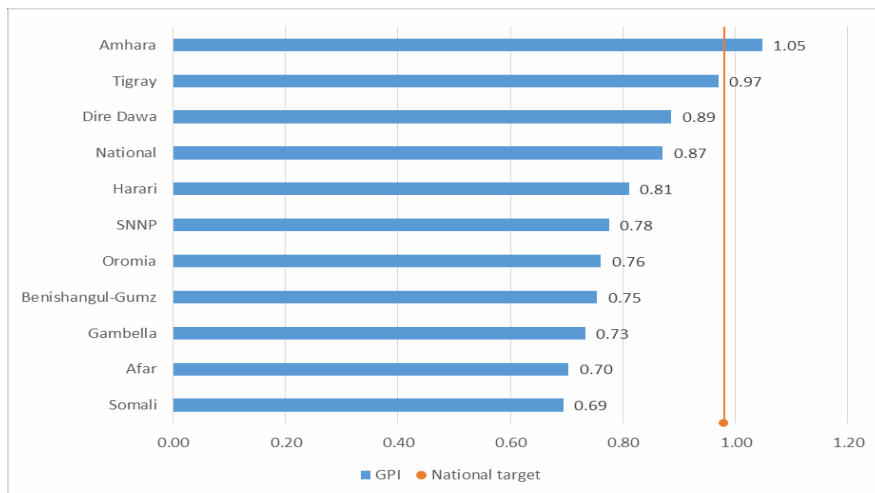
Chart 3: Comparisons of GER and NER for grade 1-8 by region (2018/19)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

In 2018/19, the national GPI for primary education was 0.90. Such point has missed the ESDP V of 0.98 target as well as decreased compared to ESDP V baseline at 0.93. The GoE acknowledges that more work is needed in all regions if ambitions of gender parity are to be achieved by the end of ESDP V. The current figures are influenced by the high result in Addis Ababa of 1.15, which shows that more females are attending school than males. The lowest regional GPI is Somali at 0.77.

Chart 4: Gender parity index for grades 1-8 by region (2018/19)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Alternative basic education

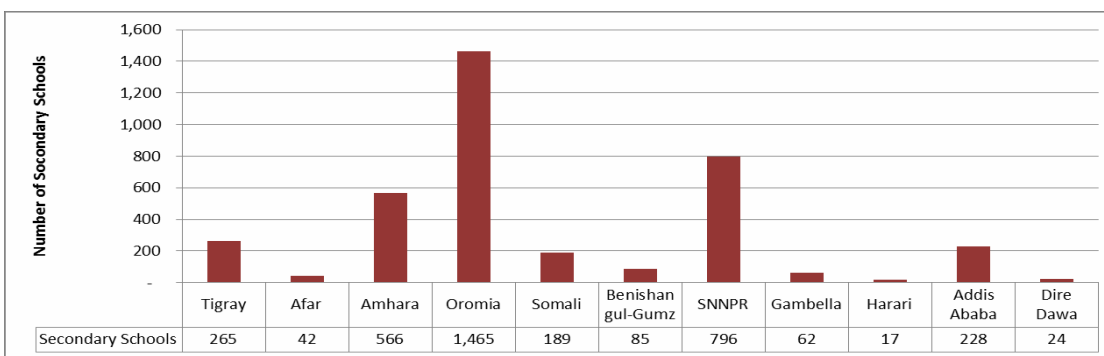
The National Alternative Basic Education (ABE) strategy which was developed in 2006 aimed to establish new ABE centers, and transform existing centers into regular schools. Alternative education provision responds to differing needs and contexts, improving the enrolment of disadvantaged and under-served ethnic groups (ESDP V, 2015). A Manual to Upgrade Alternative Basic Education Centers (ABE Level (1-4)-Level (1-6)) was

adopted in 2018. In Somali, Afar and Benishangule Gumuz this program is well implemented and brought results. The data presented above under primary education is a combination of the ABE and formal education.

Secondary education

Secondary education has two cycles: the first cycle covers grades 9-10 and the second cycle covers grades 11-12. Students take a national exam at the end of both cycles to move to either preparatory level or University level education. Those who do not fulfil the criteria for the preparatory level can be enrolled in Colleges of Teachers’ Education (CTE) and TVET institutes. Nationally, in 2018/19 the total number of secondary schools has reached 3,739.

Chart 5: Numbers of secondary schools by region, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

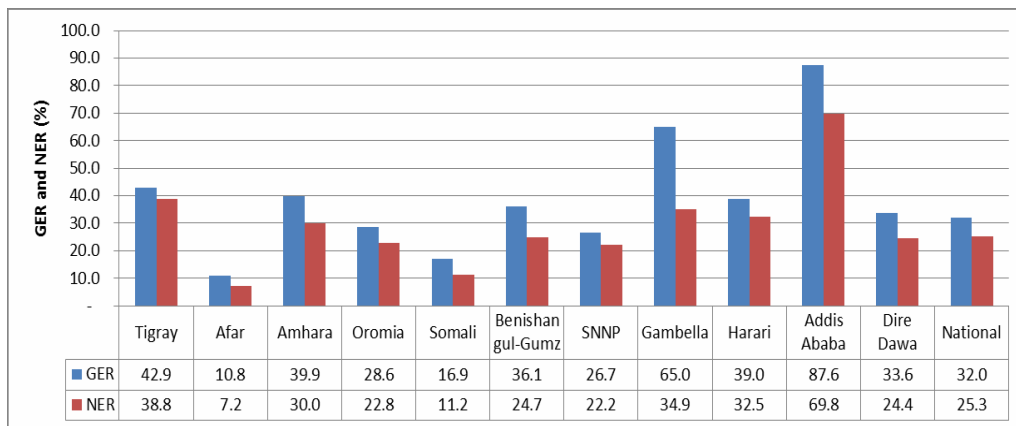


Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Secondary school enrolment has expanded rapidly, with an average annual growth rate of 7.6 per cent in the last five consecutive years. The national GER of secondary grades (Grade 9-12) is 32.0 per cent in 2018/19, which shows a 1.5 percentage points from 2017/18. The low percentage GRE indicates that transition from primary to secondary education is low. Regional differences are notable, with Addis Ababa having the highest GER at 87.6 per cent, followed by Gambella and Tigray with 65.0 per cent and 42.9 per cent respectively. Nationally the GER for males is higher compared to females, however in Amhara and Addis Ababa more females are attending secondary education than males. Afar and Somali regions have the lowest enrolment rate in secondary education. (Annex Table 7: GER for Grades 9-12 by Region, 2011 E.C. (2018/19) & (2017/18))

In 2018/19, the national NER for Grades 9-12 is 25.3 per cent, which indicated a 9 percentage increment compared with the year 2017/18. In general, the NER indicates a small increase over the last five years from 2012/13 for both grades 9-10 and grades 11-12. Addis Ababa has the highest NER at 69.8 per cent, showing that most students in this region enrolled at the official school age, and Afar with the lowest NER at 7.2 per cent. Nationally the gap between GER and NER is smaller than seen at primary level, indicating that if a student has enrolled in secondary level, they are more likely to be the correct age. (Annex: Table 8 NER for Grades 9-12, 2011 E.C. (2018/19))

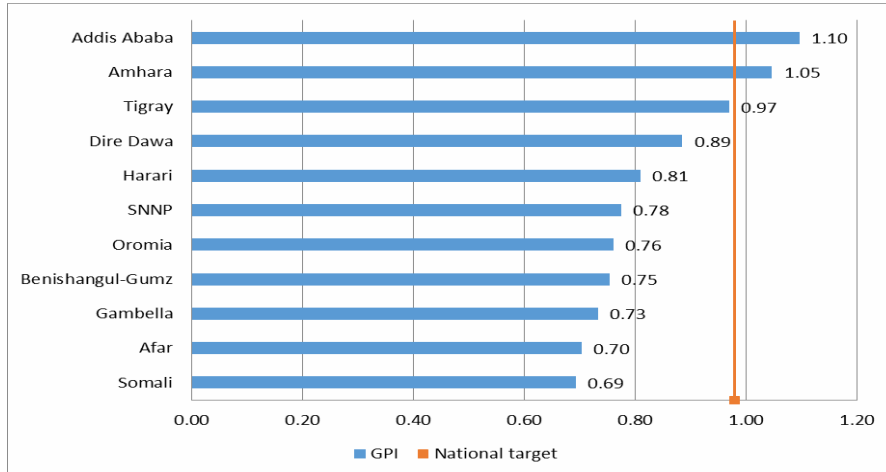
Chart 6: Comparisons between GER and NER for grades 9-12 by region (2018/19)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

The gender gap in secondary schools (Grades 9-12) has been reduced (0.87 nationally) and even some regions such as Addis Ababa and Amhara exceeded the target set by the ESDP V (0.98) and Tigray region nearly missing it just by 0.1 per cent (0.97). Since the year 2011/12, female NER for grades 9-10 became higher than male NER and it has remained higher ever since. GPI is higher for Grades 11-12 in Addis Ababa, followed by Harari, Amhara and Dire Dawa showing that more females in these regions continue to second cycle secondary grades compared to males than other regions.

Chart 7: GPI for secondary schools by region (2018/19)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Adult and non-formal education

During this reporting period, the MoE developed and published the National Adult and Non-Formal Education Strategy which focuses on Integrated Functional Adult Education (IFAE), and contains the IFAE Curriculum Framework, IFAE Implementation guidelines and IFAE Facilitators' Training Manual. The Education Roadmap also has given emphasis on adult and non-formal education.

In 2018/19, 3,270,402 adults participated in IFAE programs, which is less by 34 percentage points (4,941,062) compared to 2017/18. Nationally there are more males enrolled in IFAE, with 53.4 per cent of the total share. Since 2010/11, IFAE enrolment have been increased as the program has been rolled out across the country, however it has decreased from 2015/16 up to now.

Regionally, Amhara has the highest number of enrolled adults in IFAE program with 38 per cent of the national figure. In Tigray, Somali, Benishangul-Gumuz, SNNP, Gambella and Addis Ababa regions there are more females enrolled than males. In all regions, there are more adults enrolled in year one compared to year two except in Oromia region.

Technical and vocational educational training

In the ESDP V, one of the priority agenda for the Ethiopian government was the production of lower and middle level manpower that are competent, motivated, adaptable and innovative. TVET is one of the critical in poverty reduction and in areas to transform the economic, social, and technological life of the nation (MoE, 2016)

To develop and promote high-quality vocational training programmes for all children and adolescents, the instructors of TVET has been promoted to PHD level education. The new Education Roadmap has given much attention to vocational education and put in place modalities to improve its quality.

According to the 2017/18 Educational Statistical Abstract, about 80 per cent of students from the first cycle secondary school are expected to join TVET, CTE and other training centers. The number of students enrolled in TVET in 2018/19 was 292,378 (50.8 per cent women), which shows a decrease from 302,083 reported in 2016/17. In 2017/18, it was reported that there were 19,236 trainers in 2017/18. (20 per cent women). The general trend in TVET shows a decrease since 2013/14, which is attributed to underreporting in several regions.

Tertiary education

Ethiopia has also greatly expanded higher education over the reporting period. The number of government owned higher education institutions stands at 45 in 2018 compared to 33 in 2014 while accredited non-governmental higher education institutions have reached 128.

Public expenditure on education

The Government has given high priority to education for which it is allocating ever-increasing resources to the sector with the view to realizing the right to education. The primary strategic direction of the education sector is to ensure equitable access to quality education at all levels.

As indicated in the table under Section II (d) resource allocation and Annex Table 3, expenditure in the education sector has increased steadily since 2012/13 to reach 27 per cent of total government expenditure in 2016/17 evidencing the strong commitment of the government. Among the general budget allocation for children, emerging regions have 5 per cent from the school grant for general education.

The education sector received 25 per cent of on-budget total national expenditure in 2017/18, meeting the global benchmark of 20 per cent of the national budget. This is a clear signal of GoE’s commitment to invest on human capital. The GoE is committed to continue allocating increasing share its budget to education and ensure its appropriate expenditure.

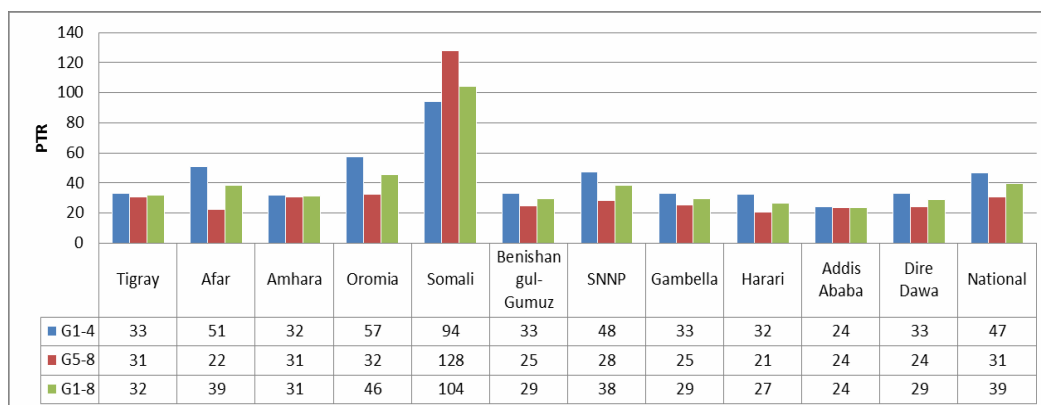
As a future direction, the GoE is planning to develop an independent education policy framework with clear accountability and budget across all levels from Federal to Woreda. It aims to guarantee stronger collaboration and coordination among sector ministries to effectively implement the full package of its education program.

Teacher distribution and capacity of teachers

There is a total of 688,536 teachers across all levels. Out of this, 42,225 teachers are deployed in kindergarten, 27,228 in O-Class, 502,738 in primary schools and 116,345 in secondary schools. Across primary and secondary levels, the majority of teachers are male accounting for 63.4 per cent, whereas in kindergarten schools 79.5 per cent of teachers are females. In 2018/19, the total number of teachers has increased by 8.7 percentage points from 2017/18.

The national Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) in 2018/19 is 39 for grades 1-8 (47 for first cycle and 31 for the second cycle), which indicates a decrease from 43 in 2017/18. PTR is highest in Somali with 104 for Grade 1-8. Except for Somali, all regions achieved a primary PTR of below 50.

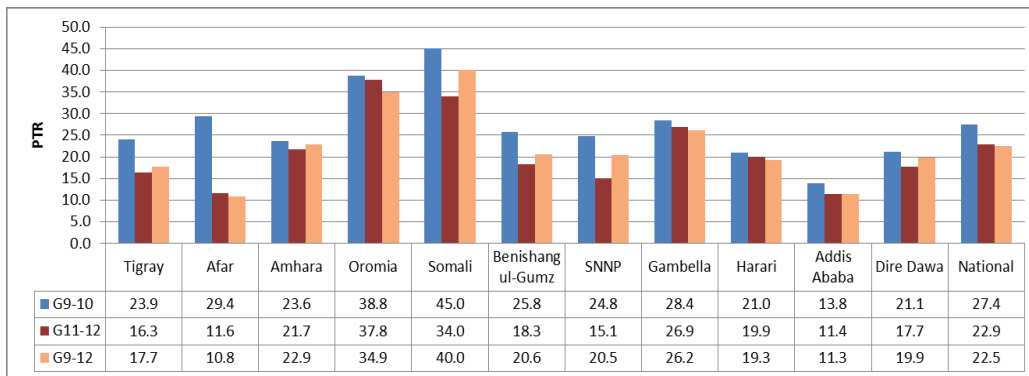
Chart 8: Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) in primary schools by region and cycle. (2018/19)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

The PTR in secondary grades is 22.5 in 2018/19. Like the previous year’s result; the PTR in first cycle of secondary is higher compared to the PTR in second cycle. The trend in PTR shows that it has been decreasing since 2009/2010, which shows better distribution of teachers with respect to students in secondary schools. (Annex Table 9: Trends in PTR Grades 9-12 by Region by 2011(2018/19))

Chart 9: Secondary school PTR by region, (2018/18)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

The qualification level of teachers is an important aspect of improving the quality of education in a country. Nationally, all teachers who are teaching in primary 1-8 are appropriately qualified for the level as per the standard. For secondary schools, out of the total number of teachers teaching in (Grades 9-12), those who fulfill the standard qualification for the level are 94 per cent in the first cycle and 96.2 per cent in the second cycle.

Schools and facilities

The total number of primary schools has increased from 36,466 reported in the 2017/18 to 37,039 in 2018/19, among which 93 per cent are owned by the government. More than 10,090 primary schools have electricity (i.e. represents about 27 per cent of all primary schools). The 2018/19 data shows that nationally 27 per cent of primary schools have access to water supply. Water access is highest in Addis Ababa followed by Dire Dawa and Harari with 87 per cent, 77 per cent and 64 per cent respectively. Somali has the lowest access at 7 per cent. Moreover, in the same year, 79 per cent of primary schools have toilets. 36 per cent of schools have toilets accessible to children with special needs, whereas 49 per cent are accessible to young children. At regional level, Gambella has the lowest proportion of toilets accessible for students with special needs, and accessible for young children, both stood at 14 per cent.

The number of secondary schools has reached 3,739 in 2018/19. This is an increase of 142 (4 per cent) schools nationally from 2017/18. Among these, 89.6 per cent are government owned schools. Nationally, 73 per cent of secondary schools (with a five percentage point's increment from 2017/18) have electricity available. Dire Dawa, Addis Ababa and Harari have higher proportions of schools with electricity. Concerning the availability of multimedia teaching, about 78.7 per cent of schools have computers available, but around 23 per cent of the computers are not functional. Secondary schools in Addis Ababa are the most connected to the internet (76 per cent), followed by Harari and Dire Dawa, whereas internet availability nationally covers 21.5 per cent of the total secondary schools.

Nationally, 84 per cent of the schools reported to have water supply, and 66 per cent of schools reported that their water supply is easily accessible by students with special needs. On the other hand, 96 per cent of

secondary schools have access to toilets, with the majority being improved toilets. (FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19))

In Ethiopia in one grade there may be more than one section so that class sizes could be smaller. Nationally Pupil to Section Ration (PSR) is at 53 for grades 1-8 and it is higher in the second cycle compared to the first cycle. Somali has the highest PSR at 92 for primary and 109 for first cycles. The PSR in secondary grades (9-12) has reached 56.8 nationally in 2018/19 (0.8 point decrement from last year). PSR is lowest in Addis Ababa, followed by Afar and Benishangul-Gumuz, indicating that students in these regions have better access to classroom facilities.

The total number of textbooks in primary schools is over 80 million, with 32 per cent of these textbooks being classed as language textbooks. The pupil/textbook ratio (PTxR) is an assessment of how much learning materials children access when they go to school. Nationally, the PTxR for primary schools is four, i.e. on average children have access to four textbooks when they go to school. There is wide regional variation with Tigray having the highest PTxR at nine. Somali have the lowest PTxR where there is less than one textbook per child.

The total number of textbooks for secondary schools 2018/19 is 30.8 million, which is less than by 1.1 million from 2017/18. The national PTxR in 2018/19 is 10.9, i.e. on average children have accesses to about 11 textbooks in school. Compared with the 2017/18, the PTxR has decreased by 1.1 points. However, there is wide regional variation with Dire Dawa having the highest pupil/textbook ratio at 14.5, followed by Addis Ababa and Harari. Gambella has the lowest ratio with six textbook per student. (FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19))

Despite improvements in the provision of school facilities such as clean running water, and toilets, the adequacy of clean and separate sanitation facilities for girls and boys and children with special needs has been identified as a challenge and will continue to be a challenge in few years to come. The GoE commits to allocate increasing funds to provide better school facilities including safe and friendly sanitary amenities.

Improving quality of education

As ensuring the quality of education is an ongoing process, the Education Roadmap also takes guaranteeing quality of education as one of its main objectives. Moreover, the MoE is implementing the Second Phase of GEQIP-E, which aims to improve learning conditions in primary and secondary schools and strengthen institutions at different levels of educational administrations.

Despite all the successes registered in improving access and equity in education, ensuring quality of education has remained a challenge. Ensuring quality of education depends on a set of aggregate factors such as mode of delivery, commitment, qualification of teachers, the supply of educational materials, and others. During the reporting period, a number of improvements have been in the education sector that directly contributes to improving the quality of education. The improvements of PSR and PTxR across the country contributes to improvement of quality education with better supervision of students and more education amenities reaching students. The qualifications of teachers have been enhanced with all teachers in primary schools

fully achieved the required qualification in the ESDP V target and a significant improvement has been achieved on the qualifications of secondary school teachers. As reported above, the improvements in access to computers and internet in secondary schools across the country also contributes to ensure the quality of education.

The MoE has a performance-based award mechanism to provide incentives to highly performer schools in all regions. The program has allocated 40,000 ETB for each award. Among the existing primary and secondary schools including preprimary education, 10 per cent were awarded to encourage quality education.

Addressing school dropping out

At the national level, the female and male students in Grades 1-8 dropout rate (DR) in 2018/19 is 17.3 per cent and 17.7 per cent respectively. The dropout rates have increased over the 2017/18 period but remain much lower than ten years ago. SNNPR has the highest DR following by Somali, Oromia and Afar. DR is highest in grade 1, at 25 per cent. This means that many children join in grade 1 and then leave the education system within the next year. Dropout in the rest of the grades is around 10 per cent.

Chart 10: Trends in dropout rates for grades 1-8, 2001 E.C - 2010 E.C. (2008/2009-2017/18 G.C)

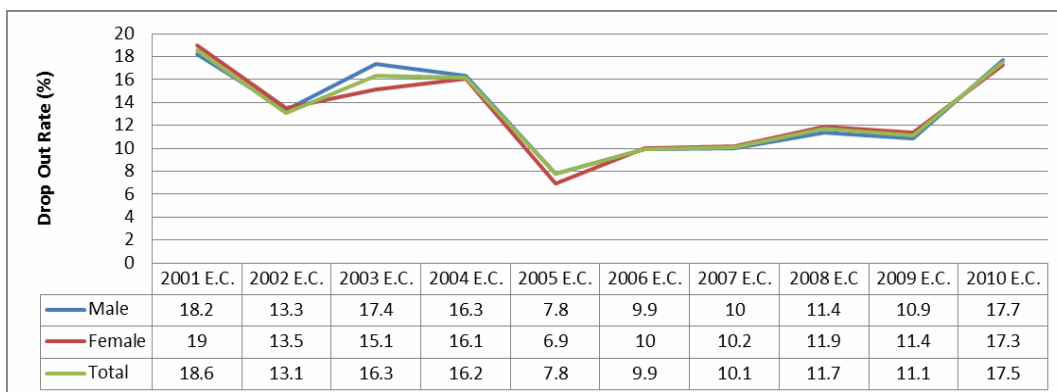
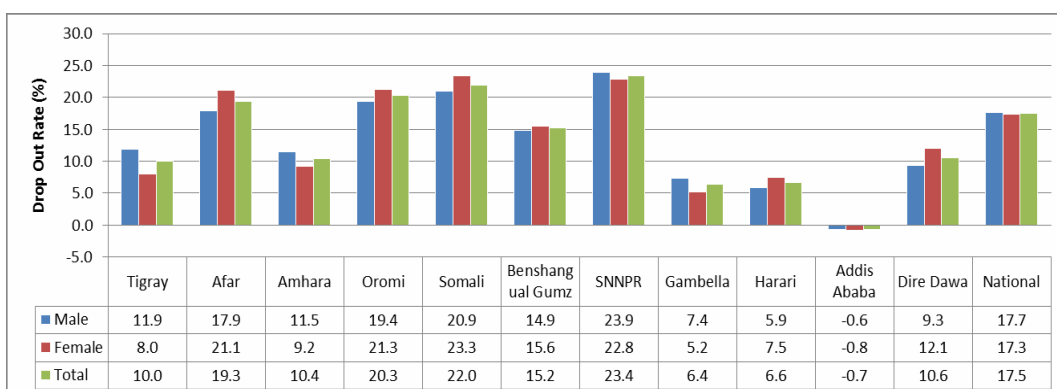


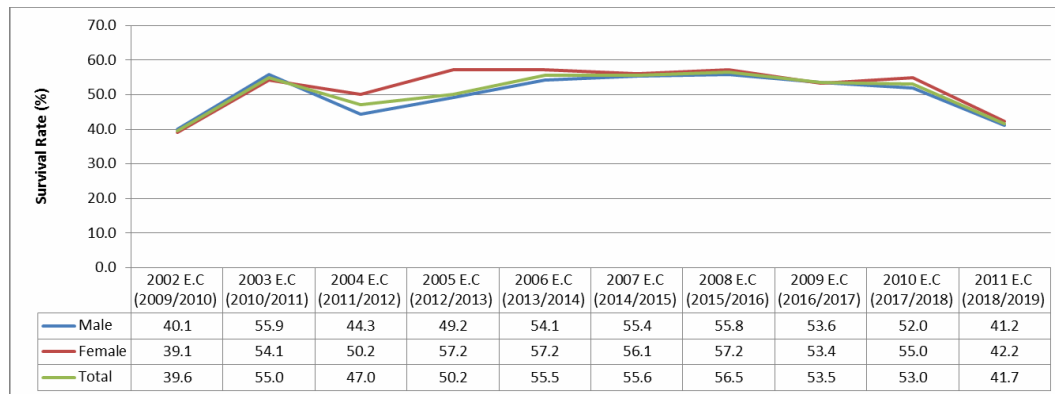
Chart 10: Dropout rates for grades 1-8 by region and sex (2017/18)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

The survival rates to Grade 5 /passing to the second cycle/ in 2018/19 for females and males were 42 and 41 per cent respectively. The trend in survival rate to Grade 5 shows a very slight increase in the last three years since 2016/17. Moreover, the completion rate for Grade 5 has increased from 76.1 per cent in 2012/13 to 88.6 per cent in 2018/19 and the completion rate for Grade 8 has increased from 52.5 per cent to 62.1 per cent.

Chart 11: Survival rate to grade 5 (2009/2010-2018/19)



Source: FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

During this reporting period, in order to address the challenges relating to distance between residence and schools, the GoE has developed guidelines on the provision of hostel services for female students. Similarly, through UNJP Gender flagship, the MoE had provided financial assistance to girls from underprivileged families to attend school. This program targeted reduction of dropout rates was operational in the four emerging regions of the country namely Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Afar and Somali Regional States. The MoE has a directive on sexual harassment in schools which applies to secondary and tertiary education institution, which also contribute to reducing school dropping out as the result of sexual harassment and violence.

The GoE has adopted Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Policy and Implementation Guideline (2016) to enable girls and women, lead dignified, productive and healthy lives by addressing lack awareness of the society, improve the provision of sanitary materials and other facilities, and foster cross-sectoral collaboration to create a system of MHM. Through the implementation of MHM policy, encouraging results have been recorded including decreasing adolescent girls' school dropping out associated with menstrual hygiene.

Women developmental army (WDA) has been working to identify children out of school and support families to send their children to school. MoE in collaboration with local CSOs has been supporting families in all regions to engage in income generating activities to enable their children to continue their education.

Special needs and inclusive education

Nationally, the GER of children with disabilities for pre-primary in 2018/19 was 1.3 per cent (1.5 male & 1.2 female) of the total population of children with special needs, which is more than double compared with 2017/18 (0.6 per cent). The national figure of 1.3 per cent shows that thousands of children with disabilities are not yet attending pre-primary education. The total number of students with special education needs who are attending their primary school in 2017/18 is 316,271, showing an increment by 14 percentage points from 2016/17. (Annex Table 10: Pre-primary GER for Students with Disabilities, 2011 E.C. (2018/19) & (2017/18))

The GER of students with special needs education (SNE) in primary schools is 11.01 per cent in 2018/19, with a 1.2 percentage increment from 2017/18 and further increment from national average 8 per cent (9 per cent male and female 7 per cent) in 2015/16/. (MoE Education Statistics 2015/16). However, this is much lower rate than the 61 per cent target that set in ESDP V. At secondary level, a total of 37,468 students (42.5 per cent females) with SNE were attending secondary school in 2018/19 (GER 2.84 per cent of the total children with special need), showing an increment from 1.5 per cent (1.7 per cent male and 1.3 per cent female) in 2015/16 and further showing a 4.4 percentage point's increment from 2017/18. However, this is also much lower rate than the 37 per cent target that stated in ESDP V. (Annex: Table 11: GER of Secondary Schools for Students with Disability, 2011 E.C. (2018/19))

Currently there are 628 inclusive education resource centers (IERC) established in the country to facilitate the education of children with special needs. In 2013/14 the total number of IERCs were 113, and Afar, Somali, Gambella regions did not have any IERCs. IERCs establishment steadily increased over the years and available in all regions in 2019/20. (Special Needs Education Directorate, February 2020).

Ensuring access to education to displaced Children

To support children during the IDP influx in 2018/19, the federal government allocated 2.7 Million ETB to support displaced children to go to school; materials supports were provided to children. A total of 44,285 students have got support to resume their education. However, 5,657 students quitted their education. The GoE has managed to return majority of IDPs to their place of origins and is also in the process of returning the remaining IDPs. Education in emergency cluster comprising of government sectoral ministries and development and humanitarian partners has been actively engaged in supporting displaced children to access education.

Education for refugee children

The customization of EMIS for refugee education, with the collaborative efforts of the ARRA, MoE and the UNHCR began in 2016, and resulted in the first and the second publications that comprises refugee data on the Annual Education Abstracts in 2016/2017 and 2018/19 respectively. Further, the MoE has been supporting the refugee education program through administration of placement examination and assessment of core learning competency for those without education certificates. The Regional Education Bureaus in refugee-hosting regions have extended key quality enhancing initiatives to refugee schools

including national standards assessments, supportive inspection and supervision, and capacity development of refugee schools to develop school improvement plans. CTE have included refugee teachers into accelerated training and upgrading programmers.

As of June 2019, the number of school-age refugee children in Ethiopia was 383,653. Among them, 208,525 (54.3 per cent) were enrolled in 169 schools in or around five refugee camps. (FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19) Currently, in 98 pre-primary schools, 49,715 children are enrolled and in 63 primary schools 147,630 children are attending their education. Further, 6,558 children are attending their secondary education in 15 secondary schools. (ARRA, Nov 2019) Despite increasing the share of students enrolled, a still a significant number of school-age children are still out of school; classrooms and teachers as well as education materials are in short supply and the majority of the refugee schools still don't fulfil the minimum standards of a safe learning environment.

b. Leisure, recreation and cultural activities (art 12)

The National Child Policy clearly stipulates children's rights to play, leisure, recreation, and cultural and artistic activities as a major policy direction. The draft ECDE policy (2019) also promotes children's right to leisure and cultural activities. The child friendly cities guideline (2019) aims at creating conducive environment for children to learn, play and entertain themselves with sports, artistic and cultural activities, among other things. The child friendly cities guideline further aims to promote children's participation in decisions that affect their lives and create spaces to ensure all the rights of children are respected and protected. The guideline also promotes the establishment of spaces conducive for children with special needs and vulnerable children. During the reporting period, different activities and festivals such as celebration of culture day, Ethiopian nations and nationalities day, and mass sport activities have been organized where children were active participants. Moreover, adolescent and youth centers have been expanded to provide life skill training, recreational, information, reproductive health, and other services. The MoH has started initiatives to build a child friendly space at hospital in Addis Ababa as part of the ECDE initiative. Child personality building and recreational centres manual was developed to establish child centres to create a space for all children in selected cities in the country.

The Addis Ababa City Administration has been allocating budget to establish public parks with children playing grounds. Moreover, playgrounds for children in government led housing construction (condominium) especially in Addis Ababa are being constructed. Children play, recreational and cultural center has also been established in the Unity Park, at the National Palace, which shows the GoE's commitment and priority to ensuring respect for children's rights and interests in Ethiopia.

c. Health and welfare (art 14)

In accordance with the Committee's concluding recommendations (para 29 and 30), the GoE has been taking concrete measures in terms of availing children with accessible and affordable health services. This section describes key updates in the provision of health and welfare services for children in Ethiopia.

Health services

After successfully implementing the 20-years Health Sector Development Program (HSDP), the GoE has launched the five years Health Sector Transformation Plan (HSTP) (2016-2020), which is part of the country's GTP-II. The highest priority areas in the HSTP are maternal and newborn care, child health, and the halting and reversing of the spread of major communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The GoE has developed Child Survival Strategy (2016-2020) and Roadmap for Child Health, Growth and Development Envisioning (2030) (final draft) to foster coordinated services to newborn and child health care service.

The Government also developed the National Reproductive Health Strategy (2016–2020) in order to reduce maternal mortality and promote reproductive health. The Strategy provided the means for reducing mortality and morbidity and improving the health of mothers and new-borns. It also incorporates initiatives in response to emerging reproductive health issues. Furthermore, facilities that provide family planning services have expanded both in terms of number and outreach. Currently, 97 per cent of government health institutions across the country provide family planning services five days a week.

The Government has strengthened the implementation of the Health Extension Program (HEP), which deploys 38,000 (98 per cent female) health extension workers (HEW) in rural and urban areas. Extension workers provide door-to-door services in order to facilitate access to quality and affordable health care. The program gives special attention to mothers and children in rural areas. At the community level, in the past four years, considerable progress has been made in the provision of health services through community-level volunteers who were trained by the HEW on local behaviour changes.

During the second GTP implementation period, to improve health care services in rural areas and in emerging regions, the MOH further strengthened the Special Support Directorate by establishing the Equity Case Team in 2015/16. The Strategy for Optimization of Health Extension Programs in Pastoralist Areas has been implemented since 2018 to improve health extension services in pastoralist areas especially in Afar and Somali regions.

There has been a linear increase in Health Posts (HP) and Health Centers (HC). The total number of HPs rose from 16,048 in 2012/13 to 18,816 in 2017/18. Expansion of HCs also plays a pivotal role for the achievement of universal primary health coverage. Through the joint efforts of Federal Government and the regional states, the total number of HCs increased from 3,100 in 2012/13 to 3956 in 2017/18. Progress has also been made in increasing the number of hospitals from 127 in 2012/13 to 402 in 2017/18.

Health sector expenditure

National health care expenditure had a nominal increase of 14 per cent between 2015/16 and 2016/17, while in real terms it grew by 4 per cent. Allocation of budget for health care remained flat or declined during the period 2012/13 to 2016/17. Per capita health spending increased nominally by 10 per cent between 2015/16 and 2016/17, reached to ETB 274 in 2016/17. Per capita health spending declined in real terms from ETB 216

in 2015/16 to ETB 212 in 2016/17, which emphasizes the need to increase the share of the budget allocated to the health sector. (Annex Table 3 FDRE General Government Capital Expenditure (2011/12-2017/18))

Early childhood mortality

Since 2011, Ethiopia has made notable improvement in the overall child survival, with a reduction in the under-five mortality rate, from 88 per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 48 per 1,000 live births in 2016 and to 43 per 1,000 live births in 2019. Similarly, infant mortality rate was reduced from 59 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 48 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016 up to 43 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2019. The neonatal mortality rate was reduced from 37 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 29 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016. However, there has been no significant improvement in neonatal survival in recent years, with 33 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2019. (MEDHS 2019)

Indicator	EDHS 2011	EDHS 2016	MEDHS 2019
Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	88	67	55
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	59	48	43
Neonatal mortality (rate per 1,000 live births)	37	29	33

Maternal health services

Antenatal care (ANC)

Antenatal care (ANC) from a skilled health professional reduces morbidity and mortality risks for the mother and child during pregnancy, delivery, and postnatal period. Access to ANC steadily increased during the reporting period with 74 per cent of women received antenatal care from a skilled provider at least once for their last pregnancy in 2019. Such increase is achieved from 62 and 34 per cent of women accessing ANC in 2016 and 2011 respectively. Although urban women (85 per cent) were more likely than rural women to have received ANC from a skilled provider, the number of rural women accessing ANC has increased with 70 per cent. In 2019, nationally four in 10 women (43 per cent) had four or more ANC visits for their most recent live birth; with 59 per cent urban women and 37 per cent rural women had at least four ANC visits. (EDHS 2016 & MEDHS 2019)

Delivery care

During the reporting period, a significant progress has been made in ensuring that expecting mothers are delivered by skilled provider or in health facilities. In 2019, the number of women who were delivered by a skilled provider reached 50 per cent, whereas those delivered in health facility reached 48 per cent. In 2016, the percentage of those delivered by skilled providers were 32 per cent, which also shows increment from 19 per cent in 2011.

The percentage of live births delivered by a skilled provider increased from 11 per cent in the 2011 EDHS, to 28 per cent in the 2016 EDHS, and up to 50 per cent in the 2019 MEDHS. In 2019, 72 per cent of urban births

were assisted by a skilled provider, whereas 43 per cent of births in rural areas, which also shows a significant steady increment over the years. Similarly, 70 per cent of urban births were delivered in a health facility, compared with 40 per cent in rural areas. Somali Region has the lowest percentage of births delivered by a skilled provider or delivered in a health facility (26 per cent and 23 per cent, respectively), while Addis Ababa has the highest percentages for both indicators (96 per cent and 95 per cent, respectively). (EDHS 2016 & MEDHS 2019)

According to MoH Annual Report, in 2018/19, a total of 2,070,293 (62 per cent) pregnant women received delivery service by a skilled birth attendant. This year's performance, however, is less than the 2017/18 performance by 4 per cent.

Postnatal care

According to the 2019 MEDHS, 34 per cent of women reported receiving a PNC check-up in the first 2 days after birth. The proportion of women receiving a postnatal check-up within 2 days of delivery is higher in urban areas (48 per cent) than in rural areas (29 per cent). According to MoH 2019 report, in the year 2018/19 2,596,425 (78 per cent) women received PNC within 7 days after delivery. The MoH has developed a 24hours stay guideline and implementation is underway to increase early PNC uptake.

Child health care

The child health care services are given at facility and community levels. The health care facilities that include the health centers and hospitals provide services such as Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Essential Newborn care (ENC) Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) and Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV (PMCTC). The community level health services are provided in Health Posts, and include services such as health education, promotion, prevention and treatment for major causes of childhood illnesses (pneumonia, diarrheal, malaria, and malnutrition) and management of new-born diseases and local bacterial infection when referral is not feasible. Child immunization is given at health facilities and community health services.

The key indicators used to show the progress in the reporting period including vaccinations of young children, nutritional status as assessed by anthropometry, and infant feeding practices and HIV/AIDS prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT).

Child immunization

In addition to the six common universal vaccinations, other childhood vaccines are given in Ethiopia to protect children against hepatitis B, and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib). The GoE introduced the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV 13) and monovalent human rotavirus vaccine (RV1) into the nation's infant immunization programme in November 2011 and October 2012 respectively. Further, two vaccines (HPV and MCV2) are introduced into the routine immunization system in December 2018 and February 2019 respectively. MCV2 vaccination targets children aged 15 months and is provided in two doses (i.e. MCV 1 and 2). (MEDHS 2019 & FDRE, MoH Annual Health Sector Performance Report 2011 EFY (2018/19))

The percentage of children age 12-23 months who received all basic vaccinations increased from 24 per cent in 2011, to 39 per cent in 2016 reached up to 43 per cent in 2019. The proportion of children age 12-23 months with no vaccination decreased from 24 per cent in 2005 to 16 per cent in 2016. Close to 2 in 10 children (19 per cent) in this age group have not received any vaccinations at all. (2019 MEDHS and 2016 EDHS) 73 per cent of children received BCG, 76 per cent received the first dose of pentavalent, 78 per cent received the first dose of polio, 74 per cent received the first dose of PCV, and 73 per cent received the first dose of rotavirus vaccine. 59 per cent of children received a measles vaccination (MCV1). Coverage rates decline for subsequent doses of these vaccines, with 61 per cent of children receiving the recommended three doses of the pentavalent, 60 per cent all three doses of polio, 60 per cent all three doses of PCV, and 67 per cent the two doses of the rotavirus vaccine. 9 per cent of children age 24-35 months received the second dose of the measles vaccine (MCV2). In general, 57 per cent of children living in urban areas have received all basic vaccinations compared with 37 per cent of children in rural areas. (2019 MEDHS)

The general trend in the rate of immunization since the last reporting period, shows slight improvements in ensuring that children receive the standard vaccinations. (2019 MEDHS and 2016 EDHS) Despite such improvement, there are a significant number of unimmunized children in the country. (Annex Table 15)

In 2017/18, several capacity building trainings and sensitization programs were rendered to health professionals to introduce the new HPV and MCV2 vaccination through multimedia and with printed materials translated into three local languages. (FDRE, MoH Annual Health Sector Performance Report 2011 EFY (2018/19))

Poliomyelitis and neonatal tetanus

Since the launch of the national immunization program in Ethiopia in 1980, there has been remarkable achievements in reducing morbidity and mortality from vaccine preventable diseases. Ethiopia has maintained wild polio virus free status following the African Regional Certification Commission (ARCC) approval in 2017. The country had also achieved national Elimination of Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus (MNTE) in the same year.

Nutrition and breastfeeding

The second National Nutrition Programme (NNP II 2016-2020) is the current five-year roadmap for nutrition improvement in the country. Ethiopia also designed National Food and Nutrition Policy (2019).

The 2019 MEDHS show that 37 per cent of children under five are stunted and 12 per cent are severely stunted. The prevalence of stunting generally increases steadily with age, from 22 per cent among children 6-8 months up to 44 per cent of children 48-59 months (4-5 years). Notably, the highest proportion of stunting of children (45 per cent) was observed at age 24-35 months (2-3 years), and it is also slightly higher among male than female children (40 per cent versus 33 per cent). In addition, stunting among children is greater in rural areas (41 per cent) than in urban areas (26 per cent). The 37 per cent stunted rate in 2019, shows progress from the 44 per cent of in 2011. However, compared with the 38 per cent rate of stunted growth of children in 2016 EDHS, the improvement is trivial.

Regarding wasted, a condition reflecting acute or recent nutritional deficits, 7 per cent of children in Ethiopia are wasted, and 1 per cent, are severely wasted. Since 2011, there has not been a major improvement in reducing the number of wasted children with 10 per cent wasted children in the 2011 and the 2016 EDHSs. However, in 2019 there is a slight decrease in the prevalence of wasted children by 3 per cent.

Weight-for-age is an overall indicator of a population’s nutritional health. According to the 2019 MEDHS, 21 per cent children are underweight for their age and 6 per cent are severely underweight. Children in rural areas are more likely than those in urban areas to be underweight (23 per cent and 14 per cent respectively). There is a general reduction of underweight children from the 29 and 24 per cent rates reported in 2011 and 2016 EDHS respectively.

Reductions in children malnutrition rate (MEDHS 2019)

Indicator	EDHS 2011	EDHS 2016	MEDHS 2019
Stunting (%)	44	38	37
Wasting (%)	10	10	7
Underweight	29	24	21

Since 2016, the GoE has been implementing the Seqota Declaration, high-level commitment to end stunting. The 15 years’ commitment is to be implemented in three phases each consisting of five years: Innovation, Expansion and scale-up phases. Now the GoE is implementing the “Innovation Phase” (2016 – 2020). One of the innovations prioritized by the Seqota Declaration is the establishment of Agricultural Innovation and Technology Centres (AITEC). It is government owned 20-hectare demonstration farms and being established in Tanqua Abergele and West Belesa Woredas. The farm will include modern pressurized micro-irrigation (drip and sprinklers), water storage technologies, modern nurseries, protected agriculture, postharvest plant, fruit tree cultivation, research and development sites, goats for milk production and an egg production unit. Currently, the localities selected for the implementation of the Seqota Declaration have increased from 29 to 41 Woredas.

Breastfeeding practice

In Ethiopia, 59 per cent of infants under six months are exclusively breastfed as recommended by the WHO. On the other hand, 14 per cent of infants 0-5 months also consume plain water, 1 per cent of them consume non-milk liquids, 8 per cent consume other milk, and 13 per cent consume complementary foods in addition to breast milk. Notably, 6 per cent of infants under age 6 months are not breastfed at all. The percentage of breastfeeding practice for exclusive and combination with other liquids and solid foods in general decreases sharply with age. During the reporting period, exclusive breastfeeding among children under age six months has increased from 52 per cent in 2011 to 58 per cent in 2016 and up to 59 per cent in MEDHS 2019.

The GoE has taken fundamental legislative steps to ensure that mothers get enough time to care for their newborns and exclusively breastfed their children. Civil Servant Proclamation No. 1064/2017 as well as the Labour Proclamation No. 1196/2019, has raised the maternity leave from 90 days to 120 days. Further, the Civil Servant Proclamation No. 1064/2018 enforces the establishment of the day care centers in each government offices to ensure that babies are breast fed and get appropriate care from their mothers. In

accordance with the mandate of MoWCY to oversee the establishment of day cares, a total of 33 daycare facilities (17 at the federal level and 16 at regional levels) have been established.

Prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV/AIDS

Identification of a pregnant woman's HIV status is the key entry point to PMTCT and other HIV care and treatment services. According to the 2016 EDHS, 20 per cent of women had tested for HIV in the 12 months before the survey and received the last test results. According to MoH administrative data, in 2018/19, a total of 2,760,809 (84 per cent) pregnant women were tested for HIV and knew their status.

According to the EDHS 2016, one in five women (23 per cent) received counselling on HIV during an ANC visit. One in three women (34 per cent) had an HIV test during an ANC visit or labour and received the test results. 22 per cent of women were tested for HIV during an ANC visit and received the test results and post-test counselling, 11 per cent were tested and received the results but no post-test counselling, and 3 per cent were tested but did not receive the test results. Overall, 19 per cent of women received counselling on HIV, an HIV test during an antenatal care (ANC) visit, and the test results. (EDHS 2016)

According to the recent HIV Related Estimates and Projections for Ethiopia, there are an estimated 21,561 HIV positive pregnant and lactating women. In 2018/19, a total of 17,516 (81 per cent) (among this 8,157 or 47 per cent were newly identified) pregnant and lactating women received ART for the PMCTC of HIV, which indicates 21 per cent increment than the 2017/18 performance. There is still a 19 per cent gap in linking HIV positive pregnant and lactating women to PMTCT. In addition, there is a huge disparity among regions, with a performance as low as 16 per cent in Somali region and as high as 100 per cent in Tigray, Afar and Addis Ababa regions. Though this performance is better than the previous years' (2017/18) performance linkage of more HIV positive pregnant and lactating women to PMTCT remains to be done.

In 2018/19, four awareness creation workshops were conducted. Further, training for trainers (ToTs) on comprehensive PMTCT/MNCH including PMTCT cohort monitoring was given to 54 health professionals as well as a total of 608 mentors were trained. Further, advocacy initiatives have been undertaken in Dire Dawa, Somali, Oromia and SNNPR to popularize the PMTCT strategic plan (2017 - 2020) among the four regional health bureaus. (FDRE, MoH Annual Health Sector Performance Report 2011 EFY (2018/19))

Adolescent health services

The MoH developed a national strategy with a minimum service package for scaling up adolescent and youth reproductive health services. Further, within the MoH, Adolescent Health Case Team is established since 2020. In Ethiopia, generally the coverage and quality of adolescent-friendly health services is extremely limited. The use of modern contraceptive use among sexually active 15 to 19-year-old women is 7.4 per cent in 2016. (EDHS 2016) Among currently married 15 to 19-year-olds, modern family planning use increased from 31.8 per cent in 2016 to 36.5 per cent in 2019. (MEDHS 2019 & EDHS 2016)

The 2016 EDHS highlighted that there is still a knowledge gap among adolescents around HIV prevention. Only 25 per cent of females aged 15-19 and slightly about 34 per cent males aged 15-19 have comprehensive

knowledge about HIV. Vulnerable girls such as rural girls, and domestic workers are least knowledgeable. (EDHS 2016)

Access to child health services at the community level

At the community level, different initiatives to improve the health status of newborns, neonates and children have been implemented in 2018/19. The major initiatives that have been implemented are expansion and strengthening of Community Based New-Born Care (CBNC), and implementation of Integrated Community Case Management of New-born & Childhood Illness (ICMNCI).

Nationally, the proportion of health posts providing CBNC and ICMNCI services reached 87 per cent and 95 per cent, respectively. The proportion of CBNC providing health posts increased from 86 per cent in 2017/18 to 87 per cent in 2018/19. Similarly, ICMNCI providing health posts has increased from 94 per cent in 2017/18 to 95 per cent 2018/19. (FDRE, MoH Annual Health Sector Performance Report 2011 EFY (2018/19))

In 2018/19, CBNC is scale up in 20 woredas of Benishangul Gumuz, 13 Woredas of Afar and 6 Woredas of Gambella regions. In these regions, a total of 646 health posts have started CBNC service. Further, 1,872 health workers (1,307 HEW and 565 other health professionals) were trained using their local languages.

Similarly, in 2018/19, a total of 15,400 ICMNCI training materials were printed and distributed to all regions. Further, contextualized ICMNCI implementation guide for pastoralist areas were distributed and 62 health workers were trained in Somali region. Moreover, pre-service ICMNCI training to 721 HEWs and ToT on the revised ICMNCI to 44 health workers and rollout training to 240 health workers in the four agrarian regions have been provided. (FDRE, MoH Annual Health Sector Performance Report 2011 EFY (2018/19))

VII. FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVE CARE (arts 18-20 and 24)

This cluster addresses the progress related to protection of the family, recovery of maintenance, parental care and protection, parental responsibilities, and children deprived of family environment, and adoption.

a. Protection of the family (art 18)

The Committee recommended to take measure to practically and effectively protect the family since it is the basic unit in which children can be protected. (Concluding recommendation para 24)

The GoE is committed to the protection of the family as it plays a pivotal role in the proper upbringing and development of children, in providing for child's needs and interests, and to realize child rights. During the reporting period, the MoWCY is granted an additional mandate to work on family empowerment programs including empowering parents on positive parenting practices. Various capacity building trainings targeting families and communities have been conducted based the positive parenting module which also incorporates the roles and responsibilities of parents. Up to district levels, social workers were trained to provide community-based education to parents on positive parenting.

The GoE continues to consider that the development of children is best addressed in family environment. To ensure that children are raised in an environment that protects and preserves their identity and culture; there have been legal reforms to ensure that children deprived of family environment receive the appropriate care and upbringing. In this regard, the HoPR passed Amendment Proclamation No. 1070/2018 the Family Code to ban international adoption in January 2018. As a result, alternative childcare programs including foster care and local adoption have been implemented for children with inadequate parental care.

During the reporting period, the Civil Servant Proclamation No. 1064/2017 as well as the Labour Proclamation No. 1196/2019, has raised the maternity leave from 90 days to 120 days; paternity leave from five days to 10 days.

One of the major challenges to ensure common responsibilities especially for working parents is lack of childcare facilities around the work areas. In accordance with the mandate given by the Civil Servant Proclamation No. 1064/2017, the MoWCY, has established day care centers to ensure that children are being properly cared by parents.

b. Recovery of maintenance for the child

During separation of parents/dissolution of marriage, children should get adequate maintenance for their upbringing. The Committee recommend for fast track the court proceeding for maintenance orders and to increase the amount granted by taking into account the basic needs of the child. (Concluding recommendation para 24)

The FSCCJPO has drafted child maintenance guideline and the document is currently being reviewed by all concerned government organs. Family benches are handling child maintenance court proceedings guided by the best interest of child. Depending on the urgency of the case, child maintenance orders are given in accelerated court proceedings. During the reporting period, continuous capacity building programs on child maintenance have been given to judges so that child maintenance orders will be guided by child rights principles, particularly the best interest of the child. Since 2015, 500 federal judges were trained on child maintenance.

The OFAG has been providing free legal aid services for those children who are in need of maintenance support from their parents. Since the last reporting period, the pro bono services on maintenance recovery taken to federal court have increased from 20 cases in 2013/14 to 57 cases in 2018/19. This number doesn't include the maintenance cases negotiated by public prosecutors and police officer as well as those handled by the EHRC and public university legal aid centers.

Recovery of child maintenance by pro bono legal services through the Lawyers Administration Directorate of the Office of the Federal Attorney General (2013/14-2018/19)

Year	2018/19	2017/18	2017/16	2016/15	2014/15	2013/14
Child maintenance cases	57	38	38	37	n/a	20

c. Parental care and protection (art 19)

In case where parents or legal guardians are not discharging their obligations regarding the upbringing of the child or have a negative impact on the child's physical, mental or psychological wellbeing, the task of carrying out preventive, protective and rehabilitative work is assigned to pertinent government institutions. Within the justice system, social workers assess the situation of the children's families, take the views of children, and provides recommendations to find alternative placement for the vulnerable/child victims. Based on the recommendations of the social workers, children who are sexually abused by their parents (especially their fathers/stepfathers), would be separated from their parents to live with her relatives in accordance with courts decisions. The court ensures that the relationship of the child victim with her family is maintained unless there is suspicion of further abuse by the perpetrator.

d. Parental responsibilities (art 20)

Poverty is one of the fundamental reasons that makes families unable to properly care for their child as well as ensure their proper upbringing. Poverty reduction is the principal development agenda of the GoE. The primary objective of the GTP II is reducing poverty through broad based, inclusive, accelerated and sustainable economic growth. In line with this, Ethiopia is investing heavily to reduce poverty and promote social development. This is demonstrated by the significant proportion of public spending on pro-poor sectors.

The current social protection schemes of Ethiopia which also serves, as child social protection schemes are the Rural Productive Safety Net Programme (2015-2020) (PSNP 4) and the Urban Productive Safety Net Programme (UPSNP), which was launched in 2016.

The PSNP 4 is operational in Afar, Amhara, Dire Dawa, Harar, Oromia, SNNP, Somali and Tigray regions. This programme provides regular cash and food transfers in exchange for services in public projects to approximately eight million chronically food-insecure people (2.5 million households) across 350 Woredas. Approximately 10 per cent of beneficiaries receive direct cash transfer without the requirement to do public work. Moreover, pregnant and lactating women are exempted from public work until one year after birth. The PSNP 4 makes explicit links between various social services (health and nutrition, WASH, education, child protection, social protection), with the express aim of improving child nutritional status.

The UPSNP on the other hand, benefits 11 cities and approximately 600,000 households. The programme incorporates safety net cash transfers, livelihood services and institutional strengthening. The households that are benefiting from UPSNP's are still limited.

There are non-PSNP social protection programs specific to health and education. In the health sector, the government introduced Community Based Health Insurance (CBHI) in 375 Woredas in 2017/2018, covering 15 per cent of all households in the same year, with an 80 per cent target for 2019/2020. In non-CBHI Woredas, the government is implementing an Indigent Health Fee Waiver System that waives user fees at

public-sector facilities for the very poor and for people with medical emergencies who cannot pay medical expenses. In 2017/2018, regional and Woreda governments financed the coverage of 7.7 per cent of households through this mechanism, however there is a need for better links between the fee-waiver system and PSNP to extend the benefits to more people. (MoH, 2018 HSTP 2015/16- 2019/20. Mid-Term Review (VOL. I))

The social protection programs specific to education includes Education Fee Waiver scheme and a National School Feeding Programme (2016-2020) that focuses on primary school children. There are also education programs that aim at ensuring enrolment of children from disadvantaged, pastoralist or semi-pastoralist communities through boarding schools, mobile schools/alternative basic education and provide scholarship for poor and disadvantage children to support their promotion to the second cycle of primary education.

During the reporting period, the child sponsorship programme has been strengthened with the active engagement of government institutions, private sector, community-based organizations, and religious institutions. Such program provides direct support (in kind and in cash) to destitute households so that they will be able to fulfil the basic needs of their family members including children.

e. Children deprived of a family environment (art 25(2) (b))

The Committee recommended for the implementation of the NPA on Orphans and Vulnerable Children to protect orphans and further strengthen family reunification program as a priority and when it is not possible to provide them with the necessary care until alternative family environment is found.

One out of 10 children in Ethiopia do not live with their biological parent, and 7 per cent of these children are orphans, with one or both parents dead. Adolescents are most likely to be orphans (10 per cent among 10 to 14-year-olds and 17 per cent among 15 to 17-year-olds, compared with 2 per cent to 6 per cent of children under age 9. (EDHS 2016)

During the reporting period, the GoE has undertaken legislative reform to ensure that children deprived of family environment receive appropriate care and upbringing in their country with the preservation of their identity and culture. In this regard, inter-country adoption is banned under the Revised Family Code Amendment Proclamation No. 1070/18 in January 2018. As a result, other alternative childcare programs including foster care, community care and local adoption have been implemented for children with inadequate parental care.

In line with its mandate, the MoWCY has developed and endorsed a national directive to facilitate the implementation of foster care and domestic adoption programs at all levels. There are encouraging efforts by the government in expanding community based alternative care, foster care, and domestic adoptions; and strengthening reunification and reintegration programs. There is a functional structure within the MoWCY at federal and regional levels, engaged in monitoring the proper implementation of the alternative childcare programmes.

Since the last reporting period, as of May 2019, the number of CCCs has reached 13, 403 with 77 per cent of kebele coverage. The number of children in community-based care increased from 669,800 in 2014/15 to 713,812 in 2018/19 and reached a total of 3,597,615 during 2014/15-2018/19. The number of children in the foster care families has increased from 3,099 in 2014/15 to 7,990 in the year 2018/19 and a total of 23,535 from 2014/15- 2018/19. Children in domestic adoption was 1,314 in the year 2014/15 and reached 8311.1 children in total 2018/19. In 2018/19 alone, a total of 17,833 children were reunified and reintegrated. From the 2014/15- 2018/19 a total of 57,833 children have been reunified and reintegrated.

Alternative childcare programs for OVCs (2014/15-2018/19)

N o.	Alternative Care Options	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total
1	Domestic adoption	1,314	1,546	1,932	1,968	1,551	8311
2	Child sponsorship programme	12,998	15,295	19,883	25,847	728,860	802,883
3	Community based care	669,800	708,001	738,001	768,001	713,812	3,597,615
4	Foster care families	3099	3,646	4,000	4,800	7,990	23,535
5	Reunification and reintegration	13,112	15,427	5,853	5,608	17,833	57,833
6	Inter-country adoption	600	457	335	198	-----	1,590
7	Kinship care	-	-	-	-	23,808	23,808
8	Childcare institutions	9,000	9,000	8,000	3,963	3,963	-----
Total		709,923.1	753,372	774,004	810,383	1,497,817	4,481,649

Source: Child Protection Services Directorate of MoWCY (2018/19)

The trend in alternative care shows that institutional care is declining whereas community, kinship and other forms of care within the family and community are increasing.

In 2017, the MoLSA and the MoWCY have conducted an assessment on the effectiveness of the alternative childcare programs and the CCCs respectively in line with their mandate. The MoLSA's assessment found out that CCCs have strong community support and have been contributing to improving the socio-economic wellbeing of communities. To improve the services of the CCCs, it was recommended to improve management systems, infrastructures, and upscale the service delivery.

In accordance with such recommendations, the MoLSA has developed a strategy, implementation guideline and an action plan for the implementation of the CCCs to support OVCs children in Ethiopia. Further, four Regional States (Amhara, Harrar, Tigray, and SNNPR) have endorsed a Proclamation on the establishment and strengthening of CCCs.

f. Adoptions (art 24)

The Committee recommended that domestic adoption should be facilitated; monitoring mechanism should be adopted to ensure that adoption is in the child's best interest and reduce inter-country adoption and take the necessary steps to combat illicit practice in inter-country adoption. (Concluding recommendation para 25)

In line with the recommendation of the Committee, Ethiopia, guided by the National Child Policy, has recently amended the adoption law putting an indefinite moratorium on inter-country adoption through Proclamation No. 1070/2018.

To ensure that children deprived of the care of their parents are raised in a family environment, the MoWCY has developed and endorsed a national directive to facilitate the implementation of foster care and domestic adoption programs at all levels.

The government encourages local adoption to create a conducive environment for the upbringing of the child in his/her social context. Several measures have been undertaken by the government to ensure compliance with the ACRWC and the CRC and to make sure that adoption procedures are conducted in the best interests of children. These include comprehensive assessment of adopting families by social workers, ensuring the involvement of the community in the assessment procedures, and final decisions are made by the courts.

In the last reporting period, a total of 20,663 children were adopted by foreigners from 2008/9-2012/13. Since the last reporting period, a mammoth reduction of inter-country adoption has been recorded and in 2018/19, as the result of its prohibition by law, there has been no inter-country adoption. On the other hand, domestic adoption shows steady increase since 2011 (730 children locally adopted in 2011) as seen in the table below.

No.		2014/ 15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total
1	Domestic Adoption	1,314	1,546	1,932	1,968	1,551	8311
2	Inter-country Adoption	600	457	335	198	-----	1,590

Source: Child Protection Services Directorate of MoWCY (2018/19)

VIII. PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN MOST VULNERABLE SITUATIONS (art 13, 22-23 and 25)

a. Children with disability (art 13)

The GoE recognizes and commits to take special measures to ensure that children with disabilities enjoy their full spectrum of rights as provided under the ACRWC and the CRC.

To this end, a National Action Plan on Disability (2012-2021) was developed by MoLSA and is being implemented. The Physical Rehabilitation Strategy was revised in 2019, which guides the implementation of programs for persons with disabilities.

To effectively coordinate and implement programs and actions for persons with disabilities including children, a separate directorate within the MoLSA is established since 2018/19 and such structure is being replicated at the regional level. The responsibility of managing the physical rehabilitation centers is transferred from MoLSA to the MoH in order to increase accessibility of the rehabilitation centers to persons with disabilities in health institutions.

The MoLSA together with the MoE has developed a teaching guide for children with intellectual disabilities, and currently it is being used by primary and secondary schools. In 2018, a National Road Map on Special Needs Education is developed and is being reviewed; which sets out strategic direction for government and all partners in planning, implementing and monitoring programs for persons (including children) with disabilities. The MoLSA in collaboration with the MoH developed a Disability Inclusion Manual for the health sector and disseminated to all relevant federal, regional and local government organs and stakeholders. Sectoral ministries have started mainstreaming issues of persons with disabilities in their plans and programs.

According to the MoLSA and the MoE 2015 annual report, a total of 4,129 KG children, 70,477 primary school children and 7,268 secondary school level children with disabilities had received education, health and other rehabilitation services. In 2018/19 a total of 316,271 (178,535 male and 137,736 female) children with disabilities were enrolled in primary schools. At secondary level, a total of 37,468 students (42.5 per cent females) with special education needs were attending secondary school in 2018/19. This shows a 4.4 percentage point's increment from 2017/18. However, the enrolment at both levels is much lower than the target that stated in ESDP V. (FDRE, MOE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract 2011 E.C. (2018/19)) (Annex Table 10 & 11)

In 2018/19, nationally, 84 per cent of schools reported to have water supply, and 66 per cent of schools reported that their water supply is easily accessible by students with special needs. Similarly, 96 per cent of secondary schools have access to toilets, with the majority being improved toilets. Moreover, in the same year, 79 per cent of primary schools have toilets, among which 36 per cent of schools have toilets accessible to children with special needs, whereas 49 per cent are accessible to young children. At regional level, Gambella has the lowest proportion of toilets accessible for students with special needs, and accessible for young children with 14 per cent, for both. (FDRE, MoE, Education Statistics Annual Abstract, 2011 E.C. (2018/19))

Currently there are 628 inclusive education resource centers (IERC) established in the country to facilitate the education of children with special needs. In 2013/14 the total number of IERCs were 113 and Afar, Somali, Gambella regions did not have IERCs. IERCs establishment steadily increased over the years and exist in all regions reaching in 2019/20 (Special Needs Education Directorate February 2020).

Higher educational institutions have started special needs education focused program at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Since 2015/16, additional ten CTEs and three Universities have launched special needs education programs. Currently 18 CTEs and 8 Universities have education programs related with special needs education. (MoE, CRPD Implementation Report 2020) Between 2014/15- 2018/19, a total of 4,828 (2,590 male & 2,238 female) experts were trained from diploma to Ph.D levels in special needs education related fields of study. (See Annex 16) Further, short term special needs education training programs have

been given to teachers. In 2018/19, a total of 290 prospective teachers with special needs education are enrolled nationally, from which the majority (45.9 per cent) are with physical disability.

Between 2014-2019, a total of 238,618 persons (including children) with disabilities received physical rehabilitation services in the 26 governmental and non-governmental rehabilitation centers. In addition, 731,631 children in difficult circumstances and their families (including children with disabilities) were provided with direct support (material and financial) to fulfil their basic necessities and to access to social services. Children with disabilities are given special opportunities to have access to basic services in rural and urban safety nets and CCCs which is implemented in all regions. (MoLSA December 2019)

During the reporting period, public awareness programs using different medium were organized to change the wrong perceptions of the society about persons with disabilities including children. Six media forums are established and led by persons with disabilities (five in regions and one in Addis Ababa) and have been undertaking different awareness raising programs to the public on the rights and wellbeing of persons with disabilities. Further, community awareness raising and sensitization programs on the rights and protection of persons with disabilities has been undertaken. For instance, during the 2018 International Day of Disabled Persons, which was commemorated in Dire Dawa by the OFAG in collaboration with Dire Dawa sub-city administrations, sensitization programs targeting 1500 community members were undertaken on the rights of persons with disabilities. (Office of the Federal Attorney General (OFAG), Annual Activity Report (2018/19).

The International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) has been translated into five local languages and distributed to the public. Further, educational and other printed information and promotional materials on the rights and needs of persons with disabilities were produced and disseminated.

There is progress in documenting national data on persons with disabilities. For example, the 2016 EDHS captured disaggregated data (by age, sex, rural and urban) and the Education Statistics Annual Abstract captures data on the enrolment of children with disabilities in the education program. In addition, the Washington group checklist is adopted by CSA to collect disaggregated data on children with disabilities.

The allocation of resources to structures that work on disability issues is fundamental to bring about change on the perception of the society about persons with disabilities, and how their rights and interests are respected. In this regard, the MoLSA allocated 1,000,000 (ETB) for Disability Federation to enhance the implementation capacity of the federation and associations. Moreover, in 2019, 7,100,000 ETB is allocated for nine disability national association and one elders association to address their financial limitations and fill their capacity gaps.

Despite all the efforts, accessibility of social services to children with disabilities is still a challenge. Further, negative perception among families and the society, hinders children with disabilities to enjoy their rights.

b. Children in situation of exploitation (art 15)

According to the 2015 National Child Labour Survey, 24.2 per cent of children aged 5-17 years (29.1 per cent among males, 18.9 per cent among females) are engaged in child labour. Further, 71 per cent of children

(79.3 per cent girls and 63.5 per cent boys) aged 5-17 years were engaged in household chores. One out of every two 5 to 17-year-olds (51 per cent) engage in economic activities. Boys (67.8 per cent) are more engaged in economic activities than girls (46.5 per cent).

Different measures are being taken to prevent children from labour exploitation. The Labour Law Proclamation No. 1156/2019 has increased the minimum age of employment from 14 to 15 year to align it with international standards. The National Action Plan on the Worst Form of Child Labour Prevention and Protection (2016-2020) is being implemented to protect economic exploitation and child labour. The MoLSA also adopted the National Action Plan on Child Labour (2011-2017) to prevent child labour exploitation. It also formulated a directive to implement the labour proclamation to protect the rights and welfare of children.

The MoLSA's inspection manual clearly stipulates indicators and checklists for child labour exploitation. For example, in 2019, inspection was undertaken in 45,104 private sectors, among which 4,394 organizations were given warning letters and legal action was taken on five organizations. Various organizations and worker's association have started including child labour issues in their internal policies and manuals. There is a separate department that is responsible for inspecting the work condition in the private sector. During the reporting period, 116 inspection experts and media experts were trained on child labour and related issues. Further, 77,596 people drawn from private sectors, government officers and community members were trained on child labour issues.

The MoLSA is engaged in extensive sensitization of the public on child labour and trafficking. It works with grassroot associations and utilizes traditional gatherings to advocate for the education of children and prevention of child labour. Awareness creation programs were conducted through the media and local FM radios and a documentary on the negative impacts of child labour was produced and aired on a national TV. Information and education materials were disseminated to 686 private sectors on child labour issues. More than 4,641 children who were exposed to child labour have received financial and materials support to continue their education.

c. Refugee children, children seeking asylum and internally displaced children (art 23)

The Committee recommended for protection of refugee children and provide with social services. Further, it was recommended to ensure the birth registration of children and grant nationality to those children without one. (Concluding recommendation 33)

Following the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants in 2016 Ethiopia co-hosted a leader's summit where it made nine pledges to improve the lives of refugees. The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) was officially launched in Ethiopia in November 2017.

Ethiopia has made progress in implementing the CRRF. First, civil registration of refugees, including birth, marriage, divorce and death, started in October 2017 in accordance with Vital Event Proclamation No. 1049/2017 on the Amendment of the Registration of Vital Events and National Identity Card. From 2017/18-2018/19, in eight refugee birth registration centers, a total of 10,379 births (36 per cent of the plan) were

registered. (See Annex Table 14). Secondly, the Biometric MIS, a countrywide refugee registration infrastructure, was initiated in 2017. The system records information on refugees' education and professional skills as well as profiles of their family members. Both civil registration and the new biometric system will enable refugees to access CRRF opportunities. Thirdly, the Government has been working towards a mechanism to allow refugees to access work.

Ethiopia is host to the largest refugee population in Africa, the majority of whom come from South Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea. As of 31 January 2020, there were more than 744,143 refugees and asylum seekers. In January 2019, Ethiopia adopted a new Refugee Proclamation (Refugees Proclamation No. 1110/2019) which allows refugees to obtain work permits and freely choose their livelihood, access to primary education, health care facilities, obtain driver's licenses, legally register life events such as births and marriages and access national financial services such as banking. The new law has been recognized as one of the most progressive in Africa.

The rights provided under the Refugee Proclamation No. 1110/2019 ensure refugee or asylum-seeking children's rights to survival and development. The New Refugee Proclamation specifically stipulates that primary consideration should be given to his/her best interest when dealing with a child's cases. The new law allows for family unity by allowing a family member of an asylum seeker to enter the country and enjoy all the rights and privileges provided under the law. Unaccompanied or separated children are allowed to submit asylum application by themselves or through a guardian. The new law further guarantees the enjoyment of all rights in relevant laws for refugee and asylum-seeking children. Further, the law extends explicit protection of child refugees from abuse, neglect, exploitation and trafficking.

There are child rights committees in all refugee camps to promote children's rights and protection. Awareness raising trainings on refugee rights and child rights have been regularly delivered to refugees, child refugees and camp officers and law enforcement officers.

As of January 2020, there were about 459,244 refugee children, among which 40,494 are unaccompanied and separated refugee children. (ARRA 2020) The ARRA has already started family tracing for unaccompanied children. Within the ARRA, women and children desk has been established to handle unaccompanied and separated refugee children's family tracing, reunification and reintegration in collaboration with different CSOs. SOP is developed to guide the ARRA in the reunification and reintegration of unaccompanied children. The ARRA together with other partners is also facilitating local adoption for unaccompanied refugee children.

d. Children in armed conflict (art 22)

Ethiopia has ratified the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict in 2014. This reinforced the existing laws that set 18 years as the minimum age of recruitment to the armed forces. The armed forces have internal regulations that have clear criteria for recruitment in accordance with international standards. The recruitment processes in the National Defense Force, Federal Police, Regional and City Police forces are undertaken with high sense of responsibility in order to avoid the recruitment of children even if they volunteer. Although the rate of registration is still low, the establishment of birth registration system in the country, and improvement of the society's awareness on the need to register birth

contributes to ensuring that children will not be recruited into the armed force as well as the police forces by providing accurate age information.

Since 2016, the Ministry of National Defense, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has provided a series of trainings to military court judges, prosecutors, public defence counsels and military police as well as members of the defence force on international humanitarian and human rights laws. Similarly, the Federal Police Commission has also provided trainings on human rights to 6,500 recruits and police officers in 2017/18.

Recent political reforms reinvigorated GoE’s commitment towards respect for human rights. This begins with the public admittance by the country’s Prime Minister of the commission of numerous atrocities by state actors and sincere apology to victims and their families. Following this, criminal investigations were commenced against senior leadership and members of the former National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS), the National Defense Forces, police and prison officials suspected of extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, torture and arbitrary detention.

In the reporting period, several conflicts occurred across the country, which led to the loss of life and body injury and prevented children from accessing schools and health care facilities. The GoE has been taking measures to prevent conflicts before they happen by addressing underlining reasons. The Prime Minster has been engaged in dialogue with the community, academicians and political actors to bring about unity, peace and tolerance. The Ministry of Peace has been engaging in similar discussions across the country on conflict prevention, conflict mitigation, and the protection people from injury and loss of life.

e. Children of imprisoned mothers (art 30)

The Committee recommended that children imprisoned with their mothers should be protected and provided with appropriate services, guided by General Comment No. 1 as well as to popularize it among duty bearers. (Concluding recommendation para 35)

During the reporting period, the FSCCJPO has signed MoU with all relevant partners to explore and implement different mechanisms for children whose parents are going to prisons. According to the EHRC monitoring report, in 20 detention centers monitored in 2019/2020, there were 80 children staying with their imprisoned mothers.

EHRC Monitoring Visits to Detention Centers Children’s Data (2016/17-2019/2020)

Year	Detention centers monitored	Children staying with their detainee mothers
2016/17	60	240
2017/18	40	180
2018/19	40	200
2019/2020	20	80
TOTAL	160	700

In 2017/18, the OFAG in collaboration with Women Affairs Section of the Federal Prison Administration

have undertaken follow up activities on children imprisoned with their mothers, and until the children attain two years of age their nutritional expenses are fully covered. Further, the Prison Administration Commission in collaboration with the Addis Ababa Women and Children Bureau have signed an agreement with Hana Orphans and Abebech Gobena to shelter, to provide for their basic needs and school the children until their parents are released. (Office of the Federal Attorney General (OFAG), Annual Activity Report (2017/18))

f. Children in situations of sexual exploitation (art 27)

The Committee recommended that perpetrators of child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation in the family should be effectively prosecuted. Further, laws and policies should be adopted and effectively implemented to combat sex tourism, employing children for begging and strengthen the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of sexual and other forms of abuse. (Concluding recommendation para 28 &36)

According to the 2016 EDHS, more than one out of every four females aged 15-49 years (26 per cent) reported repeatedly experiencing physical or sexual violence. Among these age groups, 12 per cent of adolescents aged between 15-17 years and 17 per cent of 18-19-year-olds have experienced violence.

During the reporting period, Ethiopia acceded to the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography in 25 March 2014. Further, the GTP II unlike its predecessor included ending violence against women as a priority and envisaged the establishment of structures to protect and rehabilitate victims of violence, abuse and exploitation.

A National Steering Committee has been established to give strategic direction on child sexual violence, child labour exploitation and the rehabilitation of victims of sexual violence and labour exploitation.

During the reporting period, 100 child friendly courts, eight hotline services, 34 one-stops-centers and 16 safe houses were established throughout the country. The hotline services through which children are able to report cases of child abuse and violence have been set up and currently five of them are operational (in Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa, Benshangul Gumuz, Harari and Oromia). The hotline services provide easy to use and accessible reporting mechanisms whereby children and adults can report incidents of abuse and neglect, violence, exploitation to concerned government authorities and facilitate comprehensive services for child victims. (MoWCY 2019)

The child friendly benches across the country have been providing child-sensitive proceedings involving children based on the norms and principles of child rights particularly the best interest of the child. Child protection units have been established and strengthened. The safe houses have been providing safety and rehabilitation services to victims of abuse, violence and exploitation.

Among the 34 one-stop centers across the country, as of November 2018 four are operational in Addis Ababa at Gandhi Hospital, Tirunesh Beijing Hospital, Menelik Hospital, St. Paul Hospital. A joint action plan to address challenges and improve the delivery of the service have been adopted by Addis Ababa Police Commission, Addis Ababa Health Bureau and Administration of the Hospitals. (Office of the Federal Attorney General (OFAG), Annual Activity Report (2018/19))

From July 2018-July 2019, a total of 1,726 (1,665 female and 61 male) victims had received services at one-stop centers across Addis Ababa. Among the cases referred to the police, 770 of the victims pursued their cases, with 156 pending cases and 30 cases have got final decisions.

Victims who received services (July 2018-July 2019)

One-stop Center	Female	Male	Total
Gandhi Hospital	1,168	42	1,210
Tirunesh Beijing	72	7	79
Menelik Hospital	276	6	282
St. Paul Hospital	149	6	155
Total	1,665	61	1,726

Source: Office of the Federal Attorney General (OFAG) Annual Activity Report (2018/19)

The Status of cases referred to the Police from one-stop center

Status of Cases	No. of cases
Pending cases	156
Court non-appearance of accusers / victims	156
Cases closed by prosecutors	129
Cases under investigation	125
Suspects not found	60
Final decision delivered	30
Referral of suspects below 18 years (young offenders)	21

Source: Office of the Federal Attorney General (OFAG) Annual Activity Report (2018/19)

The new National Women’s Development and Change Strategy, and the revised package for the implementation of the strategy have put in place a clear direction on the protection, prevention, and provision of services for women survivors of violence. Furthermore, the MOWCY is committed to ending violence against women by including indicators on violence reduction in its 5-years sectoral plan (2016-2020).

The MoE adopted Gender Equality and Girls Education Strategy that provides for detailed approaches to address sexual harassment and other forms of violence in educational institutions. Further, anti-sexual harassment code of conduct has been prepared and rolled out for implementation at all levels of schools. School clubs particularly girls’ clubs are established to promote safe school environment. Further, SOP on Elimination of all forms of Gender Based Violence (GBV) is developed. The SOP is planned to standardize and integrate national preventive, protective and service provision services and ensure multi-sectoral coordination in support of women and children.

Data management system is being established under OFAG to record disaggregated data on child abuse and sexual abuse. Regions will also have their own data management system to record cases up to the local level. The national child wellbeing database system also collects and record data on child abuse and exploitation.

Coordination mechanisms such as the national coordination body on violence against women and children, justice forum at federal level, an online child sexual exploitation committee and case management team at federal level are established to address GBV, sexual exploitation and abuse against children. The government has planned to undertake a national assessment on online sexual exploitation. The Addis Ababa City Administration has also drafted a law which prohibits public space sexual activities.

g. Children in situation of drug abuse (art 28)

The Criminal Code proscribe involving children in producing, making, trafficking in or using poisonous or narcotic and psychotropic substances and prescribes a rigorous imprisonment of 10 years and a fine of 200,000 ETB. The National Child Policy also provides direction on the protection of children from the production and use of poisonous drugs.

Data on substance abuse among children and adolescents is limited. However, according to the 2016 EDHS, tobacco smoking and use of alcohol are practiced among adolescents. For instance, nationally, 3 out of 10 females aged 15-19 and almost 4 out of 10 males aged 15-19 reported ever drinking alcohol.

Due to the prevalence of adolescents' use of alcohol and tobacco, the GoE through the Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No. 1112/2019 bans any advertisement of alcohol in public areas and through broadcasting medias. Further, the permissible alcohol consumption age was increased from 18 years to 21 years. The GoE has also adopted a new Excise Tax Proclamation No. 1186/2020, which imposes substantial additional tax on cigarettes and alcohols to discourage children and others from consuming these products.

During the reporting period, the police in Addis Ababa have undertaken several operations to close premises where substances such as *Khat* and *Shisha* are distributed and used. Although such measures contribute to the reduction of use of illicit substances by children, serious challenges exist especially due to the opening of new private spaces to chew *Khat* and use other controlled substances around schools, and the use of controlled substances by children in street situations.

The Drug Abuse Prevention Education (DAPE) program which has been implemented in secondary schools and proved to be effective has been strengthened during this reporting period. Different media outlets have been working to create awareness on the adverse effects of the use of drugs and other substances using different languages.

h. Children in situations of sale, trafficking and abduction (art 29)

The GoE is committed to combat trafficking in person (TIP). Measures that have been taken include enactment of a new law on human trafficking and smuggling of migrants, enhance the prosecution of perpetrators, setting out the conditions for legal migration, the conclusion of law enforcement cooperation agreements with neighbouring countries such as Djibouti and Sudan, continuous awareness creation efforts

using several methods of communication, victim rehabilitation, and job creation which addresses the root causes of human trafficking and smuggling.

Ethiopia acceded to the Optional Protocol on Sale of Children and Child Pornography on 25 March 2014. Most importantly, the main content of the Optional Protocol is included in the National Child Policy. Recently, the Proclamation to Provide for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Person and Smuggling of Migrants No. 1178/2020 was adopted (which repealed Proclamation No.909/2015). The new anti-trafficking Proclamation No. 1178/2020 provides comprehensive legal framework by addressing the lack of clarity and inconsistencies witnessed in its predecessor. The new law provides clear definition for the elements of exploitation including for child labour exploitation, clear definition for trafficking in children, and prescribes serious punishment for perpetrators of child trafficking. The new law will improve crime prevention, effectiveness of law enforcement by holding perpetrators accountable, and rehabilitation of victims by providing comprehensive and clear provisions.

Since the promulgation of the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Proclamation No. 909/2015, 2,686 persons have been indicted at both federal and regional levels out of which 1178 have so far been convicted.

During the reporting period, a high-level national committee consisted of the OFAG, the MoFA, the Ministry of Peace (MoP), the MoLSA, the MoE, the MoWCY, and Regional States was established to combat TIP. The Deputy Prime Minister leads such national committee as well as advises the government on TIP. At the technical level, a task force on anti-human trafficking and smuggling of migrants was established for prevention, control and rehabilitation of victims, which led by Attorney General.

The Directive for victim's referral/reintegration was adopted in September 2018. The National Anti-Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants Taskforce in collaboration with the IOM has also developed a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and SOPs, which is instrumental to address the existing scattered approach in assisting Victims of Trafficking (VoTs). (Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Taskforce National Plan of Action, December 2018)

The MOLSA formulated a National Plan of Action for Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour (2016-2020). The action plan is translated into local languages and disseminated to all regions. During the reporting period, The MOLSA has undertaken awareness raising campaign to combat human trafficking and worst forms of child labour. Moreover, 325 Community Conversation Centres are set up in four regional states. More than 18 million people across the country have engaged in community conversations on human trafficking, smuggling and irregular migration and exploitation. Furthermore, the Anti-Human Trafficking Taskforce Secretariat at the OFAG also works to raise the awareness of the general public on the dangers of human trafficking. Since its establishment in 2016, the Secretariat has provided awareness raising trainings to 41,635 persons by using different medium.

Although limited, there are encouraging efforts to establish school anti-human trafficking clubs. In this regard, the SNNPR, Dire Dawa City Administration and Harari regions reported supporting the establishment of anti-human trafficking clubs. During the reported period, specialized and need-based services for child

victims of trafficking was reported as a major challenge to extend adequate protection for children. (Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Taskforce National Plan of Action, December 2018)

i. Children in street situations

According to a study commissioned by MoLSA in 2017/18 targeting 11 cities across the country, about 88,690 persons in street situations were identified. Among these, 50,820 were found in Addis Ababa. Further, in major cities across the country, identification and registration of children in street situations have been conducted since 2014/15 with the view to provide appropriate services and to reunify them with their families. For instance, in 2016/17, in four major towns in Oromia region (Adama, Shashemene, Nekemt and Jimma), family tracing and reunification, and other appropriate services have been rendered to 826 children in street situations (813 boys and 13 girls), among them 614 children in street situations were below 15 years of age. Similarly, in SNNPR, between 2015/16 - 2017/18, 3,858 children in street situations (3760 boys and 98 girls) were identified, and 2,611 of them (19 girls) were reunited with their families. Further, in 2018/19, in the first six months implementation, 667 children in street situations (19 girls) were reunited with their families. (Institute of the Ombudsman Inspection Report on the Services Provided by Executive Organs for Persons in Street Situations February 2019)

In 2018/19, more than 4,495 children in street situation were reintegrated and supported to continue their education. Further, in 2018, special educational support was provided to 38,476 children in street situations. (MoWCY 2018/19) In 2019, 966 children including adult on street situation have taken vocational trainings and will be integrated into the community in Addis Ababa. The Addis Ababa City Municipality initiated a project to provide holistic support to all children and adults in street situations in Addis Ababa by mobilizing the community and private sector. Between 2014/15-2018/19, the MoWCY had reunited and reintegrated 57,833 vulnerable children, among which children in street situations are the majority. (Child Protection Services Directorate of MoWCY (2018/19)

The Social Policy Implementation Strategy and National Action Plan for Social Protection were developed to address social issues of children including those in street situations. The rural and urban social safety net programs that have been benefiting 2.5 million and 600,000 very poor households respectively also contributes to reducing number of children in street situations by addressing the root cause i.e. poverty. There have been encouraging efforts to improve the social services provided to children in street situations by integrating it with the PSNP. The provision of social services and materials to children in street situations by the community through CCCs is also proven to be successful. A national taskforce comprised of the MoLSA, the MoWCY, and CSOs has been established at federal and regional levels to mobilize resources for reintegration of children in street situations. The Social Protection Trust Fund in Addis Ababa is established to mobilize resources and so far, 200 million ETB has been mobilized to benefit 25,000 children on street situations. (MOLSA 2018/19)

The GoE has had limitations to provide comprehensive social and psychological services to children in street situations. To fill such gaps, the GoE has been collaborating with UNICEF to improve coordination efforts,

community practices and enhance implementation capabilities. Moreover, CSOs such as Center of Concern, Family Health International, Mother Teresa, and Elshaday have been rendering social services to children in street situations in different parts of the country. Limitations of comprehensive and disaggregated data on children in street situations, lack of permanent address or location, unwillingness to provide correct personal information and limitations of availability and accessibility of facilities have been major challenges to provide appropriate services to children in street situations. (Institute of the Ombudsman Inspection Report on the Services Provided by Executive Organs for Persons in Street Situations February 2019)

IX. HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES (arts 1(3) and 21)

The Committee recommended that measures to combat the prevalence of Harmful traditional practices (HTPs), particularly child marriage and FGM should be taken. (Concluding recommendation para 38)

The GoE has been taking concrete steps to combat the prevalence of child marriage and FGM. Following Ethiopia's refreshed commitment to end FGM and child marriage by 2025 at the London Global Girls' Summit, the GoE adopted a National Road Map to End Child Marriage and FGM (2019-2025) which provides an overarching framework to eliminate child marriage and FGM by 2025 in Ethiopia. The Roadmap is a continuation of GoE's commitment to eradicate HTP, particularly child marriage and FGM that has been underway through the National Strategy and Action Plan on HTPs against Women and Children in Ethiopia (2013- 2014) and GTP II (2015/16–2019/20).

The Roadmap identified hotspot localities and provide key strategies, approaches and evidence-based interventions to end child marriage and FGM. The GoE commits to take measures such as design and implement comprehensive policies and strategies, enforce laws and improve data management and enhance coordination, and allocate budget to end child marriage and FGM or decrease it by 10 per cent.

According to EDHS 2016, 65 per cent of Ethiopian women aged 15-49 are victims of FGM. Somali and Afar regional states have the highest FGM rates with 99 per cent and 91 per cent of women aged 15-49 having been circumcised respectively. Tigray and Gambella have the lowest prevalence rates with 24 per cent and 33 per cent respectively. The FGM prevalence has decreased from 74 per cent in 2005 with a notable decline among younger women (aged 15-19) which stood at 47 per cent in 2016, showing a 24 per cent decline over ten years. The prevalence of FGM among girls aged 0-14 is 16 per cent. Among girls who are aged 14, 38 per cent have been circumcised. (EDHS 2016)

The level of awareness of FGM among women aged 15-49 years has remained about the same over the past decade (92 per cent in 2005 to 93 per cent in 2016). (EDHS 2016) The knowledge level increased to 100 per cent in high spot areas such as (Afar, Somali), 99 per cent in Harar and Addis Ababa, and 97 per cent in Dire Dawa. The lowest level of awareness is recorded in Gambella with 71 per cent.

In January 2017, the MoH issued a circular banning medicalization of FGM in all public and private medical facilities and any form of FGM in medical facilities will be subjected to legal actions. This goes hand in hand with the criminalization of FGM under the Criminal Code of 2005.

Between 2016 and 2018, around 10 million people were reached through awareness creation and mobilization campaigns on GBV, HTPs and trafficking in women and children. These sensitization programs were organized by closely working with religious and tribal leaders, community elders and women's and other grassroots associations to influence community attitudes and foster actions against HTPs. The MoWCY and the EHRC demonstrated their active engagement in organizing targeted consultative forums, capacity building trainings and awareness events. It's reported that, as a result of the awareness creation and community mobilization campaigns, incidences of child marriage and FGM have been reduced to 16 per cent and 6 per cent respectively at the national level.

According to the 2011 EDHS, the median age at which women marry in Ethiopia is 16.5 years and 63 per cent of all women married before they attain 18 years. In the same period, 8 per cent of girls married before they attained 15 years. These figures at which women marry show improvement in 2016, with an average age of 17.1 years, and 58 per cent of women marry before they reach 18 years. Similarly, the percentage of women who married before reaching 15 years has also decreased to 6 per cent in 2016. (EDHS 2016) Despite such improvements, the practice of child marriage is still prevalent in most rural areas across the country.

The MoWCY has been implementing a programme to end FGM and child marriage in hotspot localities, and between 2016/17-2019/20 more than 4450 kebeles were confirmed to have stopped the practices of child marriage and FGM.

Alliance on Child Marriage is established to coordinate the efforts of state and non-state actors. The community-based and faith-based organizations play a key role in mobilizing communities against HTPs, including FGM and child marriage. In this regard, Inter Religious Council of Ethiopia joined the initiative in abolishing FGM in the country.

The existence of a legal and policy framework, and a high level of political support to end FGM and child marriage have contributed to the decline of such practices. However, FGM and child marriage are still practiced in many localities.

X. CHILD JUSTICE (art 17)

In accordance with the Committee's concluding recommendations under paragraph 34, the following measures have been taken regarding juvenile justice.

The Criminal Code gives recognition to the special situations of children in conflict with the law. While detention is used as a last resort and for the shortest period, the law puts stronger emphasis on the conditions of children being detained with corresponding duties to set separate detention facilities. Moreover, a special section of the Criminal Procedure Code provides rules of procedures that are exclusively designed to deal with juvenile offenders.

Ethiopia has taken organizational measures to facilitate the effective implementation of the laws and procedures that deal with the respect of rights and protection of the special needs of children in conflict with the law. Special investigation units, prosecutors and child friendly benches are established at different levels.

In Addis Ababa, a separate child protection structure is established, which provides psychological and legal counselling to children in conflict with the law and services related to their rehabilitation and reintegration. Under OFAG there is a special investigation unit consisting of police office, prosecutor, social workers who are responsible for providing a psychosocial support to young offenders. These special structures work towards giving primary consideration to the protection of the child's right and has been advancing a prompt and effective judicial procedure which minimizes arbitrary and prolonged detention of children. A committee composed of the OFAG, the MoWCY, the FSCCJPO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Action Aid and UNICEF was established to develop a national child justice strategy. The drafting of the strategy is underway, and it is expected to improve the child justice framework from investigation to rehabilitation by introducing new child-friendly mechanisms.

The EHRC also works with all branches of the government to raise awareness on human rights. In 2017/18, the EHRC provided human right awareness trainings and workshops to more than 32,088 members of the police, prison officers, the National Defense Forces, community elders, school children, women, persons with disabilities, and others. Similarly, the Federal Police Commission has also provided trainings on human rights to 6,500 recruits and police officers in 2017/18.

Children deprived of their liberty

Currently, federal and regional correctional centers have a separate detention facility for juvenile offenders who are above the age of 15 years. Similarly, there is a separate rehabilitation center for children in conflict with the law aged between 9-15 years. The child rehabilitation centers also give services for drug addiction based on the free and full consent of the beneficiaries. Currently there are four rehabilitation center for children in conflict with the law across the country. Moreover, a large child rehabilitation center is being constructed in Addis Ababa that will provide comprehensive program such as conventional education, skills training, sports, and psychosocial support.

Moreover, model community-based correction centers (CBCCs) have been established and are providing community-based child behavioural correction services for young offenders in their community settings. This helps parents and other community members shape children and adolescents to develop positive behaviours in dignified and humane manner.

The CBCCs Manual is being developed by MoWCY to provide community correction and counselling service. Model Four Correction centres are established in Dire Dawa and there is a plan to expand this program in other regions and city administrations. Such arrangement enables parents and other community members, with the assistance of volunteer tutors and social workers, shape positive behaviours of children and adolescents through the provision of educational, counselling and recreational services. Follow ups are undertaken by community elders, volunteers and community workers.

The EHRC has regular and unrestricted access to all places of detention. During the reporting period, between 2016/17-2019/20 the EHRC has conducted human rights monitoring visits to 160 detention centers to ensure that the human rights of accused persons in police custody, and the rights of prisoners including children are adequately protected. During such monitoring period, there were 785 juvenile delinquents

under 18 years of age. During these visits it was found that in most of the detention centers, children are kept together with adults and this would have negative impact on the correctional and educational process. Further, the EHRC delivered capacity building trainings to improve the humane handling of persons in custody and prison based on human rights principles.

XI. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILD (art 31)

The Committee recommended to assist children become responsible citizens who work to safeguard the integrity of their nation and they should be educated about their responsibility in the family and their community –so that they develop the spirit of accountability. (Concluding recommendation 39)

The National Child Policy recognizes the responsibilities of the child, in similar terms as the ACRWC. The Policy provides that children have an obligation towards their family, elders, community, fellow citizens, their country and State, to other children.

There have been initiatives that feeds into ensuring children realize and discharge their responsibilities. In this regard, the Civic and Ethical Education in schools have been informing students about their rights and duties as per the Constitution and other subsidiary laws of the country. Further, the school-based clubs such as the CRC clubs, environment clubs, gender clubs, anti-corruption clubs, know your country club have been informing children about topical national, regional and international issues, and their current and future roles and duties.

Every year, Nations, Nationalities and People’s Day, Flag’s/National Day, Culture Day are celebrated at the national and regional levels as well as in schools, which have been giving better understanding to children about their country, to be accommodative of diversity, and invigorate their commitment to their country and people. Moreover, schools in collaboration with federal and regional government organs commemorate anti-corruption and peace days, which also contributes to creating ethical, responsible and democratic citizens.

Annex: List of Figures and Tables

Table 1. The Human Resource of the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth (MoWCY)(2015/16-2019/20)

Year	Female	Male	Total
2015/16	96	79	175
2016/17	107	101	208
2017/18	126	125	251
2018/19	136	138	274
2019/20	134	134	268

Source: The MoWCY (February 2020)

Table 2: Annual Budget of the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth (MoWCY) (2015/16-2019/20)

Year	MoWCY Annual Budget in ETB	Child Rights Promotion and Enhancement Directorate	Child Support Services and Inspection Directorate
2015/16	34,506,344.39	4,087,170	-
2016/17	44,170.290	4,090,000	-
2017/18	47,608.270	4,413,250	2,169,310
2018/19	80,877.538	4,638,490	2,355,000
2019/20	81,837.000	4,638,000	2,359,000

Source: The MoWCY (February 2020)

Table 3. FDRE General Government Capital Expenditure (2011/12-2017/18)

Total Capital Expenditure								
	Year							
	2003 E.C.	2004 E.C.	2005 E.C.	2006 E.C.	2007 E.C.	2008 E.C.	2009 E.C.	2010 E.C.
	2011/12 G.C.	2011/12 G.C.	2012/13 G.C.	2013/14 G.C.	2014/15 G.C.	2015/16 G.C.	2016/17 G.C.	2017/18 G.C.
(In millions of Birr)								
Education								
Total Capital Expenditure	9345.1	12932.6	15322.8	15440.136	18714.219	24391.8	29803.5	23346.9
Total Recurrent expenditure	12910.4	16857.0	20717.0	24206.9	36181.183	41922.7	58574.4	65313.7
Total Expenditure	22255.5	29789.6	36039.8	39647.036	54895.402	66314.5	88377.9	88660.6
Health								

Total Capital Expenditure	4814.1	6185.0	7154.2	9254.524	10860.685	10543.2	8708.0	11126.7
Total Recurrent expenditure	3010.1	4160.5	5332.5	6616.0	10276.745	12908.1	16884.9	20702.5
Total Expenditure	7824.2	10345.5	12486.7	15870.5	21137.43	23451.3	25592.9	31829.2
Agriculture								
Total Capital Expenditure	7554.4	11189.2	14624.0	15367.4	14379.9	15291.2	22536.2	16487.9
Total Recurrent expenditure	13.5	14.3	15.0	13.5	12.1	11.6	14.9	11.5
Total Expenditure	7567.9	11203.5	14639	15380.9	14392	15302.8	22551.1	16499.4
Social								
Total Capital Expenditure	53.9	295.9	390.0	373.632	693.434	423.9	536.7	706.2
Total Recurrent expenditure	188.0	376.4	460.7	555.9	808.963	914.4	1134.3	993.0
Total Expenditure	241.9	672.3	850.7	929.532	1502.397	1338.3	1671	1699.2
Urban development and housing								
Total Capital Expenditure	1934.2	2045.7	3767.9	3826.986	4586.285	5630.7	6548.1	7762.6
Total Recurrent expenditure	603.7	704.3	935.2	1184.7	1588.0	2122.0	3053.8	3256.5
Total Expenditure	2537.9	2750	4703.1	5011.686	6174.285	7752.7	9601.9	11019.1
Total Capital Expenditure	55818.6	78406.4	97723.8	113812.4	118859.2	132288.9	151367.0	143735.1
Total Recurrent Expenditure	41584.6	55620.2	65789.0	78288.7	109528.4	149864.2	178046.2	210470.2
Total expenditures	97403.2	134026.6	163512.8	192101.1	228387.6	282153.1	329413.2	354205.3

Source: Ministry of Finance (MoF)

Table 4. Pre-Primary School Age Population (ages 4-6), Enrolment and NER by Region (2018/19)

Region	Net Enrollment (Ages 4-6)			Population Age (4-6)			NER(%)		
	Male	Femle	Total	Male	Femle	Total	Male	Femle	Total
Tigray	148,110	141,248	289,358	201,873	195,784	397,657	73.4	72.1	72.8
Afar	4,204	3,699	7,903	69,780	66,109	135,889	6.0	5.6	5.8
Amhara	156,010	145,872	301,882	870,106	837,227	1,707,333	17.9	17.4	17.7
Oromia	268,964	242,788	511,752	1,585,452	1,543,490	3,128,942	17.0	15.7	16.4
Somali	4,723	3,943	8,666	267,496	261,198	528,694	1.8	1.5	1.6
Benishangul-Gumz	11,672	10,637	22,309	45,576	43,933	89,509	25.6	24.2	24.9
SNNPR	281,335	257,547	538,882	821,935	804,328	1,626,263	34.2	32.0	33.1
Gambella	4,812	4,425	9,237	16,318	15,826	32,144	29.5	28.0	28.7
Harari	5,824	5,090	10,914	8,379	8,010	16,389	69.5	63.5	66.6
Addis Ababa	91,022	87,102	178,124	102,334	101,715	204,049	88.9	85.6	87.3
Dire Dawa	5,419	5,028	10,447	14,391	13,901	28,292	37.7	36.2	36.9
National	982,095	907,379	1,889,474	4,003,640	3,891,521	7,895,161	24.5	23.3	23.9

Table 5: Gross Enrolment Ratio Disaggregated by Region and Sex, Grades 1-8, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Region	Population Age (7-14)			Gross Enrolment (G1-8)			GER(%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tigray	508,760	495,197	1,003,957	583,612	550,226	1,133,838	114.71	111.11	112.94
Afar	169,078	154,568	323,646	102,829	81,340	184,169	60.82	52.62	56.90
Amhara	2,122,582	2,066,853	4,189,435	2,225,054	2,067,370	4,292,424	104.83	100.03	102.46
Oromia	3,874,084	3,790,641	7,664,725	4,416,565	3,724,268	8,140,833	114.00	98.25	106.21
Somali	571,235	538,463	1,109,698	541,588	391,971	933,559	94.81	72.79	84.13
Benishangul-Gumz	112,362	108,467	220,829	137,682	114,937	252,619	122.53	105.96	114.40
SNNP	2,028,592	2,003,103	4,031,695	2,253,810	2,039,902	4,293,712	111.10	101.84	106.50
Gambella	41,309	38,972	80,281	62,973	56,059	119,032	152.44	143.84	148.27
Harari	21,569	20,759	42,328	28,680	22,665	51,345	132.97	109.18	121.30
Addis Ababa	205,981	212,275	418,256	258,563	306,159	564,722	125.53	144.23	135.02
Dire Dawa	36,635	35,902	72,537	42,995	37,109	80,104	117.36	103.36	110.43
National	9,692,187	9,465,200	19,157,387	10,654,351	9,392,006	20,046,357	109.93	99.23	104.64

Table 6: Primary NER (including ABE) Disaggregated by Region and Sex, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Region	Population Age (7-14)			Net Enrolment G1-8 (Age Specific)			NER%		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tigray	508,760	495,197	1,003,957	539,414	524,718	1,064,132	106.0	106.0	106.0
Afar	169,078	154,568	323,646	81,737	66,920	148,657	48.3	43.3	45.9
Amhara	2,122,582	2,066,853	4,189,435	1,966,082	1,856,641	3,822,723	92.6	89.8	91.2
Oromia	3,874,084	3,790,641	7,664,725	4,055,025	3,477,556	7,532,581	104.7	91.7	98.3

Somali	571,235	538,463	1,109,698	426,814	310,244	737,058	74.7	57.6	66.4
Benishangul-Gumz	112,362	108,467	220,829	111,770	98,343	210,113	99.5	90.7	95.1
SNNP	2,028,592	2,003,103	4,031,695	2,087,786	1,908,089	3,995,875	102.9	95.3	99.1
Gambella	41,309	38,972	80,281	45,841	41,129	86,970	111.0	105.5	108.3
Harari	21,569	20,759	42,328	24,561	19,973	44,534	113.9	96.2	105.2
Addis Ababa	205,981	212,275	418,256	208,259	228,805	437,064	101.1	107.8	104.5
Dire Dawa	36,635	35,902	72,537	36,037	31,513	67,550	98.4	87.8	93.1
National	9,692,187	9,465,200	19,157,387	9,583,326	8,563,931	18,147,257	98.9	90.5	94.7

Table 7: GER for Grades 9-12 by Region, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Region	Population Age (15-18)			Gross Enrolment (G9-12)			GER %		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tigray	246,909	240,692	487,601	107,650	101,755	209,405	43.6	42.3	42.9
Afar	79,128	65,388	144,516	9,900	5,754	15,654	12.5	8.8	10.8
Amhara	940,072	922,573	1,862,645	366,737	377,016	743,753	39.0	40.9	39.9
Oromia	1,803,696	1,767,767	3,571,463	584,333	435,794	1,020,127	32.4	24.7	28.6
Somali	230,099	187,986	418,085	45,216	25,637	70,853	19.7	13.6	16.9
Benishangul-Gumz	52,704	51,143	103,847	21,660	15,855	37,515	41.1	31.0	36.1
SNNP	972,469	965,327	1,937,796	292,456	225,087	517,543	30.1	23.3	26.7
Gambella	20,726	18,795	39,521	15,434	10,260	25,694	74.5	54.6	65.0
Harari	10,520	10,409	20,929	4,525	3,629	8,154	43.0	34.9	39.0
Addis Ababa	86,248	94,663	180,911	71,902	86,548	158,450	83.4	91.4	87.6
Dire Dawa	19,180	19,463	38,643	6,840	6,147	12,987	35.7	31.6	33.6
National	4,461,751	4,344,206	8,805,957	1,526,653	1,293,482	2,820,135	34.2	29.8	32.0

Table 8: NER for Grades 9-12, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Region	Population Age (15-18)			Net Enrolment G9-12 (Age Specific)			NER %		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tigray	246,909	240,692	487,601	94,578	94,527	189,105	38.3	39.3	38.8
Afar	79,128	65,388	144,516	6,275	4,082	10,357	7.9	6.2	7.2
Amhara	940,072	922,573	1,862,645	262,427	295,611	558,038	27.9	32.0	30.0
Oromia	1,803,696	1,767,767	3,571,463	451,277	362,933	814,210	25.0	20.5	22.8
Somali	230,099	187,986	418,085	29,450	17,370	46,820	12.8	9.2	11.2
Benishangul-Gumz	52,704	51,143	103,847	13,260	12,440	25,700	25.2	24.3	24.7
SNNP	972,469	965,327	1,937,796	236,292	193,058	429,350	24.3	20.0	22.2
Gambella	20,726	18,795	39,521	7,673	6,138	13,811	37.0	32.7	34.9
Harari	10,520	10,409	20,929	3,642	3,156	6,798	34.6	30.3	32.5
Addis Ababa	86,248	94,663	180,911	56,807	69,458	126,265	65.9	73.4	69.8
Dire Dawa	19,180	19,463	38,643	4,548	4,891	9,439	23.7	25.1	24.4
National	4,461,751	4,344,206	8,805,957	1,166,229	1,063,664	2,229,893	26.1	24.5	25.3

Table 9: Trends in PTR Grades 9-12 by Region by 2011(2018/19)

	2002 E.C.	2003 E.C.	2004 E.C.	2005 E.C.	2006 E.C.	2007 E.C.	2008 E.C.	2009 E.C.	2010 E.C.	2011 E.C.
Tigray	41.0	33.0	34.0	31.3	32.5	29.6	29.8	27.0	25.0	17.7
Afar	32.0	0.0	26.0	19.8	20.7	50.8	60.6	37.0	34.0	10.8
Amhara	36.0	29.0	27.0	27.8	26.5	23.1	24.6	23.0	22.0	22.9
Oromiya	39.0	33.0	31.0	29.9	27.4	25.8	25.7	25.0	25.0	34.9
Somali	34.0	21.0	34.0	47.4	42.7	44.0	52.3	40.0	40.0	40.0
Benishangul-Gumz	31.0	26.0	29.0	19.9	23.8	28.4	24.2	24.0	20.0	20.6
SNNP	42.0	35.0	34.0	30.2	31.4	22.9	29.8	29.0	32.0	20.5

Gambella	24.0	23.0	30.0	25.6	29.4	30.4	32.9	29.0	23.0	26.2
Harari	26.0	24.0	23.0	26.3	21.3	17.8	18.4	24.0	18.0	19.3
Addis Ababa	22.0	26.0	20.0	21.5	21.1	20.2	20.0	22.0	23.0	11.3
Dire Dawa	24.0	22.0	21.0	18.9	18.1	20.5	23.7	21.0	20.0	19.9
National	36.0	31.0	29.0	28.7	27.8	26.4	26.5	26.0	26.0	22.5

Table 10: Pre-primary GER for Students with Disabilities, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Region	Population with SNE, Ages 4-6			Students with SNE			GER (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tigray	30,281	29,368	59,649	58	49	107	0.2	0.2	0.2
Afar	10,467	9,916	20,383	9	7	16	0.1	0.1	0.1
Amhara	130,516	125,584	256,100	59	52	111	0.0	0.0	0.0
Oromia	237,818	231,524	469,341	344	248	592	0.1	0.1	0.1
Somali	40,124	39,180	79,304	-	-	-	0.0	0.0	0.0
Benishangul-Gumz	6,836	6,590	13,426	10	8	18	0.1	0.1	0.1
SNNP	123,290	120,649	243,939	5,232	4,443	9,675	4.2	3.7	4.0
Gambella	2,448	2,374	4,822	-	-	-	0.0	0.0	0.0
Harari	1,257	1,202	2,458	121	100	221	9.6	8.3	9.0
Addis Ababa	15,350	15,257	30,607	3,216	1,934	5,150	21.0	12.7	16.8
Dire Dawa	2,159	2,085	4,244	32	22	54	1.5		
National	600,546	583,728	1,184,274	9,081	6,863	15,944	1.5		

1.1 1.3

1.2 1.3

(Note: Population with SNE has been calculated by taking 15% of the total population based on the World Health Organization estimate)

Table 11: GER of Secondary Schools for Students with Disability, 2011 E.C. (2018/19)

Region	Population with SNE, Ages 15-18			Students with SNE			GER (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tigray	37,036	36,104	73,140	2,082	1,719	3,801	5.6	4.8	5.2
Afar	11,869	9,808	21,677	21	7	28	0.2	0.1	0.1
Amhara	141,011	138,386	279,397	2,146	1,519	3,665	1.5	1.1	1.3
Oromia	270,554	265,165	535,719	3,040	1,850	4,890	1.1	0.7	0.9
Somali	34,515	28,198	62,713			-	0.0	0.0	0.0
Benishangul-Gumz	7,906	7,671	15,577	362	159	521	4.6	2.1	3.3
SNNP	145,870	144,799	290,669	13,266	10,129	23,395	9.1	7.0	8.0
Gambella	3,109	2,819	5,928	3		3	0.1	0.0	0.1
Harari	1,578	1,561	3,139	29	14	43	1.8	0.9	1.4
Addis Ababa	12,937	14,199	27,137	528	463	991	4.1	3.3	3.7
Dire Dawa	2,877	2,919	5,796	68	63	131	2.4	2.2	
National	669,263	651,631	1,320,894	21,545	15,923	37,468	3.2	2.4	

2.3

2.8

Table 12: On-time and late birth Registration Aggregated Data (2016/17—2018/19)

Region	On time birth registration from (2009-2011)	%	Late birth registration from (2009—2011)	%	Total
Tigray	65,557	47	72,519	52	138,076
Afar	11,083	86	1,727	13	12,810
Amhara	405,667	67	196,559	32	602,226
Oromiya	223,844	57	164,917	42	388,761
Somali	413	16	2,021	82	2,434
SNNP	173,993	77	50,379	22	224,372
Gambella	3,524	74	1,228	25	4,752
Harari	1,019	64	571	35	1,590
Bgumuz	18,526	80	4,378	19	22,904
Dire Dawa	1,291	65	694	35	1,985
Addis Ababa	17,798	39	26,913	60	44,711
Total	922,715	63	521,909	36	1,444,622

Source: The Immigration Nationality and Vital Events Agency (INVEA) (2020)

Table13: On Time and Late Birth Registration by Region (2016/17—2018/19)

Region	2009				2010				2011				Total
	On time	%	late	%	Ontime	%	Late	%	On time	%	late	%	
Tigray	9,130	55.7	7,235	44.	23,665	44	29,982	55.8	32,764	48	35,302	51	138,076
Afar	2020	88	259	11	4379	84	775	15	4,684	70	693	10	12,810
Amhara	82,293	73	29,252	26	156,451	65	80,973	43	166,923	57	86,334	29	602,226
Oromiya	51,913	60	33,497	39	70,584	56	55,096	43.8	101,347	57	76,324	42	388,762
Somali	29	10	255	89	---	---	1,262	100	384	43	504	56	2,434
SNNP	40,744	82	8,374	17	64,095	74	21,895	25	69,154	77	20,110	22	224,372
Gambella	1,347	92	114	7	700	59	480	40	1477	69	634	30	4,752
Harari	102	33	207	66	706	71	284	28	211	72	80	27	1,590
B Gumuz	4,601	87	655	12	8,995	89	1,012	10	4,930	64	2,711	35	22,904
Dire Dawa	204	59	139	40	366	63	214	36	721	67	341	32	1,985
Addis Ababa	3,105	38	4,994	25	7,298	37	12,397	62	7,395	43	9,522	56	44,711
Total	195,488		85,011		337,239		204,373		389,990		232,555		1,444,622

Source: The Immigration Nationality and Vital Events Agency (INVEA) (2020)

Table 14: Refugees Vital Events Registration (2017/18—2018/19)

No	Registration Center	Birth Registration 2017/18		Birth Registration 2018/19		Total register	%
		Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation		
1.	Dollo Ado	3752	775	2582	669	1444	
2.	Jigjiga	666	367	600	167	534	
3.	Assosa	2400	569	2700	1005	1574	
4.	Gambella	4880	1762	6200	2115	3877	
5.	Semera	469	248	490	440	688	

6.	Shire	800	353	1030	579	932	
7.	Addis Ababa	80	688	830	496	1184	
8.	Mizan (Aukugu)	344	86	332	60	146	
	Total	13391	4848	14764	5531	10,379	36%

Source: The Immigration Nationality and Vital Events Agency (INVEA) (2020)

Table 15: WHO and UNICEF Estimate of National Immunization Coverage (WUENIC) for Ethiopia 2014-2018 and expected number of unimmunized children for Penta3 and Measles

Year	# of surviving infants	Penta3 coverage WUNENIC	MCV1 coverage WUENIC	Penta3 Unimmunized	Measles Unimmunized
2014	2,735,526	61%	54%	1,066,855	1,258,342
2015	2,803,915	73%	65%	757,057	981,370
2016	2,874,012	73%	66%	775,983	977,164
2017	2,945,863	73%	65%	795,383	1,031,052
2018	3,019,509	72%	61%	845,463	1,177,609

Table 16: The Number of Graduates in Special Needs Education Related Fields of Study in Higher Education Institutions (2014/15- 2018/19)

Level	Male	Female	Total
Diploma	1,685	1,465	3,150
Bachelor's Degree	736	630	1,366
Master's Degree	160	140	300
Ph.D Degree	9	3	12
Total	2,590	2,238	4,828

Source: MoE, CRPD Implementation Report 2020