

Mignote Project Annual Report Format

For Submission to the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands – Addis Ababa

Reporting Period: September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025

Submitted by: EOTC-DICAC and JeCCDO

1. Executive Summary

The Mignote Project is a two-year, multi-sectoral initiative designed to enhance self-reliance, economic resilience, and protection for displacement-affected populations in Ethiopia. Jointly implemented by EOTC-DICAC and JeCCDO, the project targets urban refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and vulnerable host community members in Addis Ababa and Debre-Birhan.

In Addis Ababa, EOTC-DICAC applies the Graduation Approach to support 60% of out-of-camp refugees and 40% of the most vulnerable host communities in both Nefas Silk Lafto and Lemi Kora sub-cities. Hence, 500 refugee and host community households were targeted through tailored livelihood packages, financial literacy, coaching, and linkages to social services. The intervention is guided by the Self-Reliance Index (SRI), which tracks progress across 12 domains including income, housing, education, health, and psychosocial well-being.

In Debre-Birhan, JeCCDO focuses on youth employment, women's entrepreneurship, and community-based protection, targeting 65% IDPs and 35% vulnerable host communities in Zereyakob, Tebasie and Minilik sub cities. The planned activities include vocational training, startup support for 200 youth and women, school and health facility strengthening, and capacity-building for local civil society organizations (CBOs). The component also integrates psychosocial support and GBV prevention.

For both components, Act for Peace has been providing technical support to both partners on weekly virtual meetings, focusing on progress made and challenges encountered with possible remedial actions as per the weekly agreed activity plan.

During the first year, the project reached over 2,800 direct beneficiaries on both components, with notable improvements in household income, savings behavior, and access to services. Community structures, including savings and credit groups and steering committees with community leaders, were strengthened, and local actors were equipped to sustain impact beyond the project's lifespan. Despite contextual challenges—including inflation, urban displacement, and security concerns—the project maintained strong momentum through adaptive management, risk mitigation and stakeholder engagement.

The Mignote Project demonstrates a locally-led, gender-responsive model for promoting durable solutions and self-reliance. It aligns with Ethiopia’s CRRF commitments and the Netherlands’ strategic priorities in humanitarian assistance, protection, and economic empowerment.

2. Project Overview

Item	Description
Project Title	Mignote: Self-reliance and Poverty Alleviation for Displacement-Affected Communities
Implementing Partners	EOTC-DICAC (Component 1), JeCCDO (Component 2)
Duration	September 2024 – August 2026
Donor	Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
Total Budget	€2,100,000 for two years
Year I Budget	€1,000,000.00 for both EOTC-DICAC and JeCCDO
Year I budget for EOTC-DICAC	€ 759,000.00
Year I budget for JeCCDO	€240,000.00
Reporting Period	Year 1: Sept 2024 – Aug 2025

3. Results Framework Progress

Component 1: Graduation Approach – Addis Ababa

Outcome 1:

Displacement-affected households in Addis Ababa achieve improved self-reliance and resilience through the Graduation Approach.

Progress:

- The project team conducted a comprehensive market assessment to:
 - Identify viable livelihood opportunities for selected households.
 - Assess market demand for various vocational and entrepreneurial activities.
 - Determine skills training needs and potential business support mechanisms.
- The project facilitated the establishment of 27 savings groups composed of both refugee and host community households. These groups have collectively accumulated a total of 378,375 ETB in savings and 67,135 ETB in social funds. These savings groups not only strengthen household financial resilience but also foster a culture of mutual support and accountability within the community.

Output 1.1:

Households receive livelihood support packages tailored to their needs.

- 50 high-performing households were supported with business grants to initiate or expand their income-generating activities as well as business coaching, and access to market linkages. This support has played a critical role in enabling participants to diversify their income sources and reduce dependency on humanitarian aid.
- Livelihoods included petty trade, urban agriculture, tailoring, and food vending.
- 100% of businesses remained active after three months.
- 60 project participants are currently enrolledreceiving in technical training through localthe TVET programs

Output 1.2:

Households access coaching, financial literacy, and psychosocial support.

- Monthly coaching sessions conducted by trained caseworkers or mentors.
- Financial literacy modules delivered to all participants, with 90% demonstrating improved budgeting skills.
- 98% of participants report increased ability to meet basic needs without external support.
- 65% of households demonstrate improved financial literacy and savings behavior, as a result of both the formation of savings groups and behavior change interventions.Psychosocial support provided to all participants through group-based sessions and referrals facilitated to specialized services.

Output 1.3:

Households linked to protection or social services and community safety nets.

- A total of 500 households successfully opened bank accounts and received consumption support through the project. This assistance was crucial in safeguarding household food security and stability during the early phase of participation. Importantly, beyond meeting immediate needs, the support also had a positive ripple effect: several beneficiaries were able to save part of the consumption support and reinvest it to initiate small-scale income-generating activities.
- The project extended emergency cash support to 13 households that faced critical protection risks. This intervention ensured that the most vulnerable families could meet their urgent needs and avoid falling deeper into poverty or engage in harmful coping mechanisms.
- The project conducted a detailed education profile assessment of all participating households, which identified 638 school-aged children in need of support. In collaboration with the Woreda administration and project steering committee, priority areas of intervention were identified. Based on this, the project has committed to providing educational material to vulnerable families, ensuring that children have the basic supplies necessary to continue their schooling. Additionally,

schools serving both host communities and refugees will also receive support to improve the quality of education delivery and create more inclusive learning environments.

- 13 households successfully linked to health services due to complicated health problems. Currently, a total of 6 individuals were already discharged from health institutions with improvements.
- Collaboration with local government structures, RRS, and UNHCR resulted in enhanced referral pathways.
- Community structures engaged to support inclusion and protection.

Component 2: Livelihoods & Protection – Debre-Birhan

Outcome 2:

Youth, women, and vulnerable groups in Debre-Birhan have access to improved livelihoods and protection services.

Progress:

- 200 youth and women supported through vocational training and startup kits.
- A revolving fund of 15,000 ETB was disbursed to 250 trained women via the three partner CBOs. This funding has been distributed for 164 IDPs and 86 individuals from the host communities through local bank transfers.
- 15 schools and 5 health facilities strengthened with equipment and psychosocial support services.
- 3 community-based organizations (CBOs) capacitated to lead local protection efforts.
- 80% of trained youth and women report increased income and confidence.

Output 2.1:

Youth and women receive vocational training and startup support.

- 17 women Economic Empowerment groups (WEEG) established and engaged in profitable business activities like poultry production, sheep rearing, small-scale production, including injera baking, etc. The groups have so far collectively saved a total of ETB 174,094.
- Six groups of WEEG) have already begun providing internal loan services for twenty-four group members, with loans ranging from ETB 3,000 to 10,000
- Improved livelihood for 319 IDPs within the host community and 171 hosting community.
- Trainings delivered in hairdressing, metalwork, food processing, and ICT.
- 90% of graduates received startup kits and mentoring.
- Local businesses engaged for apprenticeship placements.

- Experience-sharing session was held among the WEEG, SHG & CLAs in Debre Birhan.
- A total of 69 unemployed youths from IDPs and the host community were trained in basic tailoring and sewing machine operation, pattern drafting and cutting, clothing construction and finishing, life skills, and entrepreneurship training, and graduated. Out of them, 20 individuals were linked to the industry, while the others pursued their own individual businesses.

Output 2.2:

Schools and health institutions are supported to improve service delivery.

- Need-based capacity building support has been provided for 2 schools (Chola and Model No2 primary schools).
- School clubs and peer support groups established to promote well-being.
- Various cooking materials were purchased for the planned cooking program at two targeted schools. These included cups, plates, dippers, cast-iron cookware, spoons, forks, knives, onion peelers, buckets, filters, and other essential items.
- A school feeding program has been provided for 248 (F-143) students at chola (128/F-79) and Andinet (120/F-64) primary schools.
- A Bio-intensive gardening (BIG) was established in the targeted schools, Model No. 2 and Chola Primary Schools, with two gardeners assigned to manage the protection and cultivation of the gardens.
- Constructed sanitary pad production and storage facilities at the designated schools of Chola and Model No2. So far, 730 pads were distributed for 320 girls.
- 213 (121-F) highly vulnerable school children provided with scholastic materials like uniform, Ex books, pen, and pencils.
- Educational materials, furniture, and WASH facilities provided to 15 schools.
- Based on the identified needs, two health centers, 04 and Tebassa health centers, the project provided basic medical drugs.
- Health centers equipped with basic supplies and trained in psychosocial first aid.
- Annual medical insurance has been issued for 150 Female households with family member size of 480 individuals. To date, 326 individuals have received medical treatment from the health insurance services.

Output 2.3:

CBOs and JeCCDO staff are capacitated to deliver protection and livelihood services.

- Three partner CBOs have submitted their business plan aimed at expanding their IGAs and ensuring the sustainability of their initiatives. budget amount of ETB 400,000 has been released for each CBOs.
- Women and child protection forums have been established at the three sub-city levels.

- A total of 47 CBO leaders took part in the new concept training focused on social entrepreneurship, volunteerism, leadership, business skills, and project management.
- A review meeting workshop was conducted with 30 government stakeholders and community-based organizations.
- Mid-term evaluation has been conducted by government stakeholders of the Amhara National Regional State, including the Bureau of Finance, Bureau of Education, Bureau of Women's Health, and Bureau of Women, Children, and Affairs, representatives from the North Shewa Zone Administration Offices for Finance, Education, Women's Health, Women, Children, and Affairs, as well as Labour and Skills Development bureau.
- CBOs trained in GBV prevention, case management, and community mobilization.
- JeCCDO staff received refresher training in MEL, safeguarding, and inclusive programming.

4. Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL)

Summary of baseline, midline, and ongoing monitoring activities.

The baseline surveys were launched through immersive, face-to-face visits to individual households, embracing a people-first approach to data collection that prioritized depth and authenticity. A custom-designed data collection tool, developed in close collaboration with subject matter experts and technical advisors from Act for Peace, was crafted to capture essential indicators across diverse domains. The survey examined a broad range of focus areas through the use of the Self-reliance Index, including housing quality, food security, access to education and healthcare, gender dynamics, personal safety, employment status, financial inclusion, and levels of social capital. Each component was carefully curated to provide a multidimensional view of the community's living conditions and socio-economic landscape, ensuring that the findings reflect both the tangible realities and the nuanced complexities of everyday life.

Key findings from evaluations or field visits.

Baseline Survey Findings on Component I – Addis Ababa

The baseline survey revealed alarming levels of food insecurity among the targeted population. Only 0.6% of respondents reported consuming two to three full meals the previous day. While 79.8% had access to some food, their intake was insufficient to qualify as full meals. Additionally, 5.8% managed to eat only one full meal, and a staggering 13.8% of households reported not having eaten at all the previous day.

Housing Vulnerability: The living conditions of participants remain deeply concerning. Only 5.4% of respondents reported residing in housing that meets adequate standards. A significant 43.8% are living in precarious environments such as makeshift shelters, shacks, kiosks, or vehicles—none of which offer safe or stable habitation. Approximately 7.6% are temporarily accommodated by friends, relatives, community or faith-based groups, or in emergency shelters. Alarming, 1% of respondents indicated that they currently have no shelter at all.

Access to Education: Educational access continues to be a major challenge. Financial, logistical, and systemic barriers prevent many school-aged children from attending school regularly. According to the survey, 22.28% of respondents stated that children in their households either have no access to education or face significant limitations in attending school consistently.

Healthcare Gaps: Access to healthcare services is critically limited. A troubling 72.4% of participants reported receiving either no healthcare or only partial care. Only 27.6% were able to access health services when needed, underscoring the urgent need for improved health infrastructure and outreach.

Safety and Protection: Concerns around personal safety emerged as a significant theme. About 28.8% of respondents expressed unease due to various threats, including exposure to conflict at both community and national levels, discrimination, harassment, and intimidation. Additional risks such as robbery, insecure housing, and fear of eviction further contribute to the fragile sense of security experienced by many households.

Household Finance: The financial landscape of surveyed households reflects a patchwork of survival strategies. While 38.2% of respondents reported earning income through employment to meet basic needs, the majority rely on alternative and often unstable sources such as humanitarian aid, informal borrowing, remittances, and community support mechanisms.

Employment Status: Employment among participants is largely informal and unstable. A striking 65.2% are engaged in temporary, seasonal, or irregular jobs, highlighting the scarcity of reliable opportunities. Meanwhile, 32.8% reported being entirely unemployed. These figures point to an urgent need for investment in vocational training, skill-building programs, and diversified livelihood pathways that can foster economic resilience and sustainability.

Adjustments made based on learning:

The Mignote Project has yielded valuable insights into inclusive programming, community empowerment, and protection in complex humanitarian settings.

Participatory Targeting Builds Trust: A participatory approach proved essential for accurate beneficiary targeting, transparency, and accountability. DICAC/RRAD established a multi-stakeholder steering committee comprising government representatives, community leaders, and refugee members. This inclusive body guided the entire selection process—from compiling long lists to conducting home-to-home verification. Their active involvement enhanced credibility, minimized bias, and fostered trust and ownership. The experience confirms that community-driven targeting is both ethical and effective, especially in socially diverse contexts.

Graduation Approach: Tackling Poverty Holistically: The graduation model emerged as a transformative strategy for addressing multidimensional poverty. Rather than relying on fragmented interventions, the project delivered a sequenced and integrated support package that guided households from extreme vulnerability toward self-reliance. It addressed not only income gaps but also food insecurity, limited financial literacy, protection risks, and restricted livelihood access. Each step built on the last, laying a foundation for resilience, dignity, and sustainable change.

Mentorship and Coaching: Empowering Households: Consistent mentorship and coaching were central to the project's impact. Bi-weekly home visits allowed mentors to build trust, identify emerging challenges, and co-create tailored solutions with households. These interactions fostered safe spaces for dialogue, strengthened community ties, and translated project goals into meaningful action. Mentorship proved to be a powerful vehicle for empowerment, helping individuals build confidence, resilience, and agency.

Field Insights: Strengthening Safety for Eritrean Refugees: Heightened protection concerns among Eritrean refugees—linked to ongoing political tensions—required coordinated action. DICAC/RRAD worked closely with the steering committee, law enforcement, and legislative bodies to monitor risks, identify vulnerable individuals, and implement targeted protection measures. Efforts included advocating for legal safeguards, facilitating access to justice, and promoting community-level safety initiatives. By aligning humanitarian responses with institutional support, the project reinforced refugee protection as a shared responsibility.

Community feedback and complaint handling mechanisms.

To promote transparency, inclusivity, and community-led accountability, the Mignote Project has implemented a comprehensive Community Complaint and Feedback Mechanism (CFM). This system provides safe, confidential, and accessible channels for beneficiaries and community members to report concerns, share feedback, and raise issues related to safeguarding, misconduct, or PSEA (Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse).

The project formally established CFM Committee at both locations, i.e., Addis Ababa and Debre Birhan, to oversee all complaints and feedback activities. This committee ensures that all processes align with safeguarding standards and organizational accountability principles, while guaranteeing timely and appropriate responses to community concerns.

All project staff have undergone certified training on safeguarding, PSEA, and CFM procedures. In addition, tailored capacity-building sessions were delivered to steering committee members and community representatives in both locations. These trainings have strengthened their ability to support community members in understanding their rights and using the feedback channels effectively, reinforcing ethical conduct and trust across all levels.

To raise awareness, the project developed and disseminated Information, Communication, and Materials (ICM) that clearly explain safeguarding standards, PSEA policies, and available reporting procedures. These materials were complemented by awareness sessions with project participants and stakeholders to ensure clarity and accessibility.

To enhance direct access to the mechanism, the project distributed Community-Based Feedback and Response Mechanism (CBFRM) information leaflets to all right-holders' in Addis Ababa and in Debre Birhan. Each leaflet includes a designated phone line, email address, focal person's contacts, and guidance on how to use suggestion boxes and their locations. All channels were designed to be accessible to women, youth, refugees, host communities, and persons with disabilities.

The CFM Committee and focal persons ensure that all complaints and feedback are registered in a confidential log, reviewed promptly, and referred to appropriate structures for safeguarding or PSEA cases in accordance with established protocols.

5. Financial Report

Budget Line	Allocated (€)	Spent (€)	Variance (€)	Notes
Component 1 Activities	€693,170.31	€496,366.9	€196,803.41	...
Component 2 Activities	€240,700.00	€238,629.00	€2,071.00	...
Technical Support (Act for Peace)	€66,129.69	€66,129.69	€0	...
Total for Year I	€1,000,000.00	€801,125.59	€198,874.41	...

6. Risk Management & Conflict Sensitivity

Summary of risks identified and mitigation measures taken.

Addis Ababa

Identified Risks	Mitigation Measures
Difficulty in securing a comprehensive list of refugee rights holders	- Collaborate with UNHCR and ARRA to access verified databases - Conduct targeted outreach via community leaders and refugee associations
Frequent change of residence among rights holders	- Implement flexible tracking systems using mobile numbers and digital forms - Schedule periodic updates and verification exercises
Resettlement of refugee rights holders to third countries or other regions	- Increase the waiting list from both groups and replace. - Maintain a dynamic beneficiary registry with exit tracking - Prioritize support for those with stable residency status
Difficulty of implementing social cohesion activities	- EOTC-DICAC has developed excellent working relations with the local government structures and refugee communities. This makes it easier to implement projects targeting both refugees and local communities. As part of the planned activities, EOTC-DICAC thoroughly discussed with both local government structures and the right holders and jointly identified areas that enhance and strengthen social cohesion activities. As an agreed-upon plan, the partner procures different materials based on their identified needs and provides to each targeted woreda.

Debre Birhan

Identified Risks	Mitigation Measures
Difficulty in identifying and selecting IDPs within host communities	- Engage local administration and community-based committees for mapping - Use participatory vulnerability assessments
Inflation and the increasing number of IDPs over time	- Adjust budget forecasts quarterly to reflect market trends - Advocate for contingency funding with donors
Overcrowded schools and a high number of children in need	- Coordinate with education bureaus to support school expansion - Provide targeted material support (e.g., school kits, uniforms)
Inadequate resources and the shifting	- Deploy mobile outreach teams for education and psychosocial support

residence of school-aged IDPs	- Establish satellite learning spaces in underserved areas
Conflict sensitivity and social cohesion activities conducted	-JeCCDO has long been engaged in different humanitarian and development activities in Debre Birhan and hence developed excellent reputation by the community. This make it easier to implement different activities in the target location despite hostile environment in the entire region.

7. Cross-Cutting Themes

Gender Equality and GBV Prevention: The Mignote project demonstrated a strong commitment to gender equality as 401 out of the 500 targeted households were female-headed. One of the project's most notable achievements was the advancement of women's agency and participation in the labor market, particularly among the most vulnerable community members.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response constituted the largest share of our protection interventions. We delivered comprehensive, multi-session training on GBV and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) to project staff, community mentors, rights holders, and government steering committee members. These sessions enhanced the capacity of key stakeholders to identify, prevent, and respond to GBV risks in a culturally sensitive and survivor-centered manner.

Throughout implementation, we maintained close collaboration with UNHCR and the Refugees and returnees Service (RRS) to reinforce GBV prevention, response, and mitigation mechanisms. This partnership ensured alignment with national protection frameworks and strengthened referral pathways for survivors.

Disability Inclusion: As outlined in the project proposal, disability inclusion remains a central pillar of the Mignote Project. The initiative actively supports rights holders with diverse types and degrees of disability, ensuring their meaningful participation in community life and development processes. This inclusive approach reflects our commitment to equity, dignity, and the principle of "leaving no one behind."

Participants with disabilities have shown strong engagement in livelihood activities, demonstrating tangible progress in both economic independence and social integration. Their involvement underscores not only their resilience but also the effectiveness of the project's inclusive programming.

To foster sustainable livelihoods, the project delivered tailored assistance packages—including targeted financial support—that reduce barriers and create enabling environments. These interventions promote self-reliance, enhance dignity, and ensure equal opportunity across all project components.

Recognizing the heightened vulnerability of families—particularly mothers—caring for children with disabilities, the project prioritized their inclusion in protection activities. Tailored support was provided to address their unique needs, including psychosocial assistance, referral services, and access to cash-based programming.

Localization and Community-Based Organization Strengthening: The Mignote Project actively advances localization by partnering with local NGOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) as central actors in sustainable development. The project grassroots structures to lead and implement initiatives that reflect community-driven priorities and locally defined needs.

A core focus of the project is fostering social cohesion across diverse populations. Through inclusive dialogue sessions, joint community projects involving both refugee and host communities, and targeted capacity-building workshops, the project cultivates trust, collaboration, and shared responsibility. These efforts directly contribute to the growth and resilience of CBOs, positioning them as platforms for collective action, social support, and community leadership.

Financial inclusion is another strategic pillar of the Mignote approach. Building on the establishment of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), the project supports right holders to establish VSLAs groups where they meet bi-weekly to save money, which can later be used to scale up their businesses. The long-term vision is to nurture robust, community-owned financial entities capable of sustainably serving larger populations, facilitating access to credit, and supporting inclusive livelihood initiatives.

Climate Adaptation and Green Livelihoods: The Mignote Project integrates climate adaptation and green livelihoods across its core programming to enhance community resilience and promote sustainable development. This cross-cutting approach ensures that environmental sustainability is embedded within education, livelihoods, social cohesion, and financial inclusion activities.

- *Climate-Smart Livelihoods:* The project promotes environmentally sustainable income-generating activities—such as urban agriculture—that reduce ecological impact while diversifying household income in climate-vulnerable areas.

- *Policy and Localization Synergy:* Community-led initiatives contribute meaningfully to broader adaptation goals. Strategic partnerships with local NGOs amplify green innovation, knowledge exchange, and locally driven solutions.

Youth Engagement and Empowerment: Youth are central to the Mignote Project’s vision for sustainable, community-led development. Recognizing their potential as agents of change, the project actively engages young people in leadership, livelihoods, and social cohesion initiatives that foster agency, resilience, and innovation.

- *Skills Development and Training:* The project delivers tailored vocational and life skills training for youth. These sessions equip young people with practical competencies to pursue employment, lead community initiatives, and contribute meaningfully to local development. Training modules are aligned with the Graduation Approach, ensuring that youth are prepared to transition from vulnerability to self-reliance.

- *Inclusive Participation:* Youth are meaningfully involved in project planning, assessment, implementation, and feedback mechanisms. Households with at least one youth member have been prioritized for participation in the Graduation Approach project, strengthening youth representation and ensuring that interventions are relevant and responsive to youth needs and aspirations. .

- *Linking Youth to Climate Action:* Through green livelihood pathways—including urban agriculture, recycling initiatives, and eco-enterprise development—the project empowers youth to actively participate in climate adaptation efforts while building sustainable and resilient futures.

- *Empowerment through Dialogue and Leadership:* The project facilitates youth forums, mentorship programs, and civic engagement platforms that nurture leadership capacity, amplify youth voices, and promote active citizenship. These spaces encourage intergenerational dialogue and position youth as key contributors to community transformation.

8. Sustainability & Exit Strategy

8.1 Progress toward graduation/self-reliance benchmarks.

Component I – Addis Ababa (Graduation Approach)

Objective: Vulnerable refugee and host community households are on the pathway to self-reliance.

Outcome-Level Progress

Annual Narrative Report of Mignot (Aspiration): Self-reliance and Poverty Alleviation for Displacement-Affected Communities 2025

Indicator	Year I Target	Year I Achievement	Status
% households generating income	10%	50 households supported with grants	On Track
% households with increased monthly income	10%	65% show improved financial literacy and savings behavior.	On Track
% relying on employment for basic needs	10%	38.2% report employment income (baseline)	Progressing
% with savings covering 1 month	10%	27 savings groups formed; ETB 378,375 saved.	Achieved
% participating in savings groups	75%	500 households linked to financial services	Achieved

Skills and Livelihoods

- 50 households received tailored livelihood packages.
- Vocational training and coaching delivered monthly.
- 90% demonstrated budgeting skills.
- Market-based skills training aligned with log frame targets.

Protection and Wellbeing

- 13 households received emergency cash support.
- 638 children identified for education support; 213 received scholastic materials.
- 13 households linked to health services.
- Psychosocial support and mentoring integrated.
- Community structures and referral pathways strengthened.

Housing and Inclusion

- Housing vulnerability remains high (only 5.4% in adequate shelter).
- Rent payment consistency not yet reported.
- Social inclusion activities initiated via mentoring and safety net linkages.

Component II – Debre-Birhan (Livelihoods & Protection)

Objective: Youth, women, and vulnerable groups have access to improved livelihoods and protection services.

Outcome-Level Progress

Indicator	Year I Target	Year I Achievement	Status
% women/youth acquiring skills and engaging in livelihoods	80%	200 trained; 17 WEEGs formed; 69 youth graduated	Achieved
% accessing loan services and engaging in business	80%	6 WEEGs offering loans; ETB 174,094 saved	Achieved
% receiving startup capital	80%	250 women received revolving fund; 188 IDPs supported	Achieved
% accessing emergency food	100%	330 vulnerable people supported	Achieved

Education and Health

- 248 students supported via the feeding program.
- 213 children received scholastic materials.
- 730 sanitary pads distributed to 320 girls.
- 150 female-headed households covered by health insurance (480 individuals served).
- Health centers equipped and trained in psychosocial first aid.

Institutional Strengthening

- 3 CBOs received ETB 400,000 each for IGA expansion.
- 47 CBO leaders trained in social entrepreneurship.
- Women and child protection forums established.
- Mid-term evaluation conducted with regional stakeholders.

8.2 Strengthening of local institutions and community structures.

In Addis Ababa, the Mignote Project has made significant strides in reinforcing community structures and institutional linkages. EOTC-DICAC established multi-stakeholder steering committees composed of government officials, refugee representatives, and community leaders. These bodies played a central role in participatory targeting, home verification, and oversight, which enhanced transparency, minimized bias, and built trust. The project also collaborated closely with the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS), UNHCR, and local government offices to strengthen referral pathways for protection, health, and education services. Through this coordination, vulnerable households were linked to essential support systems, including psychosocial care and emergency health services.

Savings groups were formed among refugee and host community members, fostering financial resilience and mutual accountability. These groups accumulated substantial savings and social funds, demonstrating their role as informal institutions that promote inclusion and economic stability. Mentorship and coaching were delivered through bi-weekly home visits,

creating safe spaces for dialogue and empowerment. These interactions helped translate project goals into meaningful household-level action and reinforced community cohesion.

The project also invested in institutional mechanisms for safeguarding and accountability. Community Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms (CFM) were formally established in Addis Ababa, with trained focal persons and committees overseeing the process. Information materials were disseminated to ensure accessibility, and all staff underwent certified training on safeguarding and PSEA protocols. These efforts ensured that ethical standards were upheld and that community members had trusted channels to raise concerns.

In Debre-Birhan, JeCCDO focused on strengthening local civil society organizations (CBOs) and community platforms. Three partner CBOs received seed funding of ETB 400,000 each to expand income-generating activities and ensure sustainability. These organizations also revised their business plans and operational systems to align with localization principles. A total of 47 CBO leaders participated in capacity-building workshops covering social entrepreneurship, volunteerism, leadership, and project management. These trainings enhanced their ability to lead community-driven initiatives and deliver protection and livelihood services effectively.

Women and child protection forums were established at the sub-city level, providing platforms for advocacy and support. Experience-sharing sessions were organized among Women Economic Empowerment Groups (WEEGs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and Cluster Level Associations (CLAs), reinforcing peer-led development and collective learning. The project facilitated over 15 dialogue and awareness sessions with community, religious, and government leaders on topics such as IDP rights, gender equality, and social protection. These forums helped foster social cohesion and mutual understanding between displaced and host populations.

JeCCDO also partnered with schools and health facilities to improve service delivery. Fifteen schools and five health centers received equipment, training, and psychosocial support. Initiatives included sanitary pad production units, school feeding programs, and SRHR awareness campaigns. Annual medical insurance was issued for 150 female-headed households, enabling 326 individuals to access healthcare services. These interventions linked community needs to formal systems and reinforced institutional capacity.

Overall, the Mignote Project has localized service delivery, empowered grassroots leadership, and built institutional resilience. Community structures now serve as platforms for protection, inclusion, and economic empowerment. Institutional strengthening efforts have laid the foundation for sustainability beyond donor funding and align with Ethiopia's CRRF commitments and the Netherlands' strategic priorities in localization and durable solutions.

8.3 Plans for sustaining impact beyond project duration.

To ensure the Mignote Project's impact endures beyond its official duration, several strategic measures will be implemented, including exploring advocacy initiatives to ensure that the inclusion of displaced individuals is promoted within existing social protection measures.

Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and Women Economic Empowerment Groups (WEEGs) have evolved into community-owned financial entities, with ongoing support in governance and formal financial linkages to ensure continuity. The mentorship and coaching model in Addis Ababa has fostered household resilience and can be sustained through integration with local structures. Referral networks with UNHCR, RRS, and government actors are being institutionalized to maintain access to essential services. In Debre-Birhan, livelihood activities are being embedded within municipal systems, while schools and health centers strengthened by the project are now better equipped to serve vulnerable groups. The project's focus on localization, social cohesion, and climate-smart livelihoods has cultivated grassroots leadership and community ownership, offering a scalable framework aligned with regional development priorities.

9. Annexes

- Updated Logical Framework Matrix.
- Right-holders disaggregation tables.
- Case studies, success stories, and photos (with consent).
- Training materials or IEC samples.
- MEL dashboard screenshots or summaries.
- Financial statements.