

UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES - 2017

ICDP trainer, Atnaf Berhanu Kebreab completed a series of ICDP workshops in Harar, in Eastern Ethiopia, in Awasa, located 285 km south of Addis Ababa and in the city of Addis Ababa.

HARAR

The training in Harar took place from 6th February to 13th February 2017. The 20 participants were recruited by the Regional Education Bureau and they included 9 preschool teachers, 9 principals and 2 people from a teacher training college.

The feedback from the participants was encouraging.

For example, one mother said that she used to discipline her daughter with the cane and it was always hanging on the wall; however, after receiving training in ICDP she declared: "From now on the cane will be removed."

Another mother said she used to shout frequently at her children. After two days of training her family commented that she changed and stopped shouting.

One principal commented that ICDP could be used in other contexts not only for parents, for example, he said that "ICDP could improve our relationship with the teachers".



ICDP received a positive reception by the Education Bureau and all the participants were enthusiastic.

After the workshop they will be recruiting teachers and parents to practice the ICDP guidelines with them and later on in June they will attend further workshops by the ICDP trainer.

AWASA

The training in Awasa was conducted from 1st to 6th of March, 2017. It was attended by 27 participants and they were recruited from 9 local Churches, 3 persons from each local church. This new group plans to join the work of the previously trained group of facilitators.



In addition to the ICDP 8 guidelines for good interaction, some of the key topics such as seeing the child as a person, redefining negative conceptions about children, opening the zone of empathy were practiced both at the workshop and as home tasks.

In Awasa too, there was positive feedback from those who participated in the ICDP training.

One mother of 3 children, aged 12, 10 and 3 years told her story. She explained how she was seeing the eldest daughter as a trouble maker and was unable to show her love. After attending the ICDP course she told the eldest daughter that she loved her, but the daughter replied: "You do not love me. You have never said that to me before". The mother then apologized to her daughter and took both her daughters in her arms telling them that she loved them both equally and her relationship with her elder daughter started to improve.

Another mother talked about how her relationship with her son had improved after attending ICDP. She said that she used to control her grown up son, a university student studying medicine. She said she would comment negatively about many things and always demanded that he returned home at 6 pm. After ICDP training she started to show interest in him, asking him questions to find out about how his day had been and what food he had eaten. At first her son was surprised to hear his mother expressing positive concern and had said: "Is there anything wrong with you today?"

ADDIS ABABA

"The Child Development Training Research Centre in Addis Ababa has expressed interest in ICDP training and this new group will start their facilitator level course from the 7th to 11th

of June 2017. The need of the ICDP program in Ethiopia is huge. We need to find funding organization that can sponsor ICDP training in order to respond to all the demands.” – Atnaf Berhanu Kebreab.



June update by Atnaf: I held a facilitator training at Sendafa about 50 km away from Addis Ababa. The training was coordinated by Child Development Training and Research Centre.



There were 27 participants, who had about 70 children of their own. The participants included staff from CDTRC and from other organizations who work with child protection, as well as several church leaders. The first training took place in early June and the second training took place from 26 to 28th of June. All felt that the ICDP program is unique and relevant to the community they are working with. Many expressed how it helped them to reflect on their relationship with their own children. Some participants talked about how ICDP had already improved their relationship with their children. This group is now starting to do their self-training practical work with parents, which will take around four months. We will meet again in November for the final workshop and certification