



*Helping People
Help Themselves*

**BUILDING
SOCIETAL
RESILIENCE**

**2016
Annual Report**



A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER



Dear Supporters,

Building societal resilience is complicated. It requires both new skills, systems, and resources—and the motivation to change centuries-old gender and cultural norms. The people, their land, and their livelihoods all need to adapt to changes in climate, changes in the available land, and changes in their economic and political conditions.

The indigenous peoples of South Omo Zone, Ethiopia, face challenges in all areas: grazing land is disappearing, access to water is more difficult, tensions between tribes is increasing, and political instability is increasing. After eight

years of working with six ethnic groups in South Omo (more than 102,000 people), we have been able to address all three key components of societal resilience: **the people**—by teaching new skills and increasing gender equality; **their land**—by replenishing the fragile environment through the planting of drought-resistant, highly nutritious moringa trees; and **their livelihood**—by establishing and empowering women cooperatives and mixed-gender producer associations.

During the past eight years, GTLI focused on *figuring things out*: how to motivate people to transition to healthy hygiene and sanitation behavior; how to help families discover that having fewer children who ate diversified diets was more important than having large families that were often sick; how to increase reliable food sources; and how to soften adverse gender norms so that women could participate in decision-making. This year we focused on increasing the communities' ability to sustain their new behaviors and manage their new resources.

The profound impact of our FY15 planting of 121,000 moringa trees was put to the test during FY16 when the severe drought devastated Ethiopia's ability to produce adequate crops. Moringa was the mainstay food source for most Dasenech people during this difficult year. Moringa leaflets, consumed fresh, dried or in powder form, also contain high amounts of essential amino acids and micronutrients, including vitamin A (10 x carrots), calcium (17 x milk), potassium (15 x bananas), iron (25 x spinach), and protein (9 x yogurt). In addition to providing life saving nutrition for people, the leaflets, pods, and seed cake increase milk production in dairy cows and stimulate weight gain in beef cattle, breeder chickens, and sheep.

The underlying stresses in South Omo Zone erupted into armed conflict between the Hamar tribe and the Government of Ethiopia this year. We had to evacuate our field coordination office several times and move operations to Jinka.

We are profoundly grateful for your support and understanding. Thank you for being a part of this work!

Warm regards,

Lori Pappas, Founder and Executive Director

Snapshots from the Field

GTLI's interventions are geographically focused, targeted, and finite, and they promote community responsibility and accountability. Here are few stories in the words of community participants.



Gueranerama, the leader of the women's cooperative, is named for her community, Gueranerama Dasenech. She and 24 other motivated women operate a trading center and grinding mill which serves 857 vulnerable households. Taking to heart the lessons they learned during a recent Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) initiative, the community built public latrines to make sure patrons of the trading center and grinding mill do not pollute their clean water. Gueranerama states, "This is very big for our life. This cooperative is LIFE for me. We want GTLI to grow and help other communities."



Shulgute, a member of the Selegn Dasenech community, shares how his people have benefited from GTLI's integrated projects: "We learned how to make Omo River water safe to drink. Our children don't moan and hold their stomachs anymore. Now we wash our hands and use pit latrines. We are so happy that we can grow moringa trees. It has saved our lives. Before our families were hungry and couldn't find food. Now we eat moringa every day and our stomachs feel much better."



Adoya says, "I learned that I should only let my baby drink milk from my breast for the first 6 moons. I learned that what I eat while my baby drinks my milk affects my baby. I never knew that what I eat can make my baby feel bad. Our men help us more now because they learned that if we do all the work when we are pregnant or when our babies are drinking our milk that we might die and the baby might die. We learned that we should not start another baby until the last baby can feed itself. We used to feed small children only sorghum. Now we feed them milk and eggs plus sorghum."



Lowmuya, an elder, is a member of the newly formed Community Empowerment Committee in Doshe/Akula. He says, "The project taught me how to mobilize the community. Our water is very good now. We know who planted the moringa and who is watering it. Even at an old age, we are trying to learn at school. I don't have to sign documents with my finger mark now because I can write my name. During school, we discover that women can learn, too! They even have some good ideas. Some men have started to listen to the women. I think that might be a good thing."

Impact

Since 2009, GTLI projects have directly benefited more than 132,000 people with projects that improve health, livelihood, education, women's empowerment, and child welfare.



2010

Woreda/Area

• Project type

Beneficiaries

Hamar

5,200

- Sustainable clean water
- Education & livelihood



2011

Hamar

- Sustainable clean water **1,000**
- Education & livelihood **1,850**
- Orphans & vulnerable children **12**



2012

Hamar

7,500

- Emergency clean water

BenaTsemay

5,000

- Sustainable clean water



2013

Dasenech

6,500

- Emergency clean water

Hamar

3,780

- Environment & livelihood



2014

Dasenech & Nyangatom **8,000**

- Emergency clean water

Dasenech & BenaTsemay **8,000**

- Sustainable clean water
- Family planning & reproductive health

Hamar & Dasenech **27,200**

- Environment & food security

Hamar **3,000**

- Economic empowerment of women



2015

&

2016

Hamar & Dasenech **40,800**

- Emergency clean water

Hamar, Dasenech, **16,000**

& BenaTsemay

- Extending existing projects to improve resilience, including family planning & reproductive health, empowerment of women, livelihood, & food security

132,000

people have directly benefited from GTLI programming

102,000

people have access to clean water and understand healthy hygiene and sanitation behavior

>50%

of targeted beneficiaries transition from open field defecation to using pit latrines

127

water schemes, refurbished or newly constructed

>500

community members have become leaders and teachers

6

tribes have adopted disease prevention behavior:

- Bena
- Dasenech
- Erbore
- Hamar
- Nyangatom
- Tsemay

Programming

We strive to ensure that the time and money invested in South Omo Pastoralists builds the resilience of the people, their livelihoods, and their land. Our aim is to equip the communities with the ability—the health, livelihood options, and leadership skills—to thrive.

Safe Water

Less than 30% of the people living in South Omo with whom we work have access to clean water. When a new well is constructed, it is often overused and quickly breaks down. For example, the new well constructed in Bandira this year, shown at right, is already used 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by everyone in the surrounding area. This well's catchment area needs an additional three new wells to provide clean water sustainably.

Since 2010 GTLI has constructed or refurbished 127 water schemes and provided access to safe water for more than 102,000 people in Dasenech, Hamer, BenaTsemay and Nyangatom woredas (like counties, dominated by the largest ethnic group). Access to clean water for everyone requires construction of more new wells, refurbishment of non-functioning wells, community-level skills and resources to perform preventative maintenance, and reliable government technical support.

Disease Prevention Behavior

In 2010 GTLI developed a grassroots behavioral change approach that begins the transformative process of motivating vulnerable people to change the variables they can control to enhance their well-being. It is a highly participatory, visual-discovery process that works within the context of the community, paying attention to the way people think, the influence of society, and the individual's choices and actions. Termed Community-Based Learning in Action (CBLA), our innovative approach is used to incite healthy hygiene and sanitation behavior, improve reproductive health and diversify family diets with nutritious foods.

Food Security

Malnutrition and the inability to access to food continues to plague South Omo pastoralists. In 2012 GTLI began introducing household-level chicken farming and vegetable gardens, and in 2014 we launched an agricultural project to help communities learn to plant, grow, eat, and sell moringa. Moringa trees are fast growing, native to the area, and highly nutritious. The people are enthusiastic and want to learn everything about the plant, including how to earn money selling their excess in local markets.



The new Bandira well, rated to provide water for 400 people, operates 24/7 to serve more than 2,000 people.

Women Empowerment

The lives of the women and girls in the communities where we work are determined by traditional standards, values, and rules of conduct. Women are valued only for bride-price, labor, and the number of offspring. Cultural practices that adversely affect females include genital cutting, whipping, early forced marriages, and no rights of inheritance.

Our Integrated Functional Vocational Literacy schools that target both male and female emergent leaders are the fastest, most effective way to start shifting norms in favor of gender equality. When traditional adult women and men learn together and practice joint problem-solving, they discover the benefit of collaboration.

Family Planning & Reproductive Health

Demand for family planning in South Omo Zone was one of the lowest in Ethiopia prior to our intervention in 2014–2016. Our CBLA model helps traditional people discover that in order to achieve their goal of having enough healthy children to help with the workload, they need to reduce family size and increase the space between births. More than 16,000 people are now considering the use of modern contraceptives.

Our Partners

Our diversified funding and implementing partners play a vital role in GTLI's growing ability to implement effective, sustainable initiatives.



United States Agency for International Development (USAID) supports GTLI projects through multiple funding mechanisms; as a prime grantee implementing WASH initiatives; via OFDA (Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance) as a sub-grantee of IRC implementing Emergency Rapid Response WASH programs; and as a sub-grantee of JSI through their Advancing Partners & Communities.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) partners with GTLI to provide Emergency Rapid Response for water-related humanitarian needs. The worsening drought and increasing conflict in South Omo Zone is accelerating the damage to existing water sources in this area that has less than 40% safe water coverage.

John Snow, Inc. (JSI), and their nonprofit JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc., is a public health management consulting and research organization dedicated to improving the health of individuals and communities through the world. JSI is GTLI's implementing partner, seeking to improve the overall health of communities and achieve other health-related impacts, especially in relationship to family planning.

Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Centre & Network (HoA-REC&N) focuses on the environment and sustainable development within the Horn of Africa. An autonomous institution under Addis Ababa University, it facilitates, strengthens and advocates for initiatives related to environmental conservation and natural resource management.

Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) is an intergovernmental organization focused on achieving food security for all. FAO is supporting GTLI through its Innovative Agriculture Solutions program funded by UK Department for International Development (DFID), which improves food security and better nutrition, and increases sustainable intensification of crop production.

Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship, in collaboration with USAID and Rotary Clubs, has facilitated clean water for 20,500 people and is currently improving economic empowerment and stability of the Hamar women in Wonga Bayno kebele.

Rotary—22 individual clubs, five Rotary Districts, and Rotary International—has supported initiatives in sustainable clean water, livelihood, education, and children since 2009.

Carleton College, Northfield MN, established a multi-year fellowship grant through their Initiative for Service Internships in International Development in 2013, funding student internships that provide impartial annual impact assessments of GTLI programs.

Financial Summary

For the fiscal years ending on June 30, 2016 and 2015

2015-2016 2014-2015

Support & Revenue

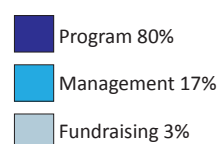
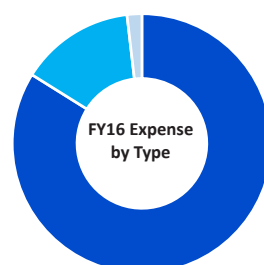
Contributions & grants	926,972	1,052,858
In kind contributions	64,090	155,124
Other income	3,847	2,709
Total Support & Revenue	994,909	1,210,691

Expenses

Program	830,433	1,012,945
Management	188,349	178,367
Fundraising	26,251	22,070
Total Expenses	1,045,033	1,213,382

Foreign currency adjustments (16,765) (3,958)

Change in Net Assets **(66,889)** **(6,649)**



Asset, Liability & Net Asset Summary

Cash, grants receivable, and prepaid expenses	126,345	231,521
Property and equipment	30,821	42,267
Total Assets	157,166	273,788

Current liabilities

Payables & accrued expenses	63,578	66,341
Deferred revenue	58,156	105,126
Total current liabilities	121,734	171,467

Net assets

Unrestricted	26,457	59,257
Temporarily restricted	8,975	43,064
Total net assets	35,432	102,231

Total Liabilities & Net Assets **157,166** **273,788**

Looking Ahead

In 2010, the government announced its goal to “transform” the country’s pastoral groups into sedentary agriculturalists and allowed blocks of prime grazing land to be granted to large commercial plantations. This land alienation policy has increased the stress on the people and the land exacerbating the tensions between neighboring tribes as traditional migratory pathways for livestock and access to water have been cut off. Pastoral conflicts are increasing between the Dasenech and Hamer, the Hamer and Erboore, the Ethiopian Dasenech and the Kenyan Dasenech, and the Nyangatom and Turkana from South Sudan as rangeland conditions deteriorate and access becomes more restrictive. Since November 2014, tensions between the Hamer and the government have increased resulting in deaths of Hamer, government workers, and the military.

Our Supporters

We are grateful for the grants and contributions from our supporters during this fiscal year, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Our Orphans & Vulnerable Children and our Women Cooperative programs are dependent on private donors for support. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this listing. Please accept our apology and alert us to any errors by emailing info@gtli.us or calling 612-201-9476.

Partner names and amounts: to be confirmed

\$300,000+
USAID

\$100,000–\$299,999
IRC (ECHO)
JSI (USAID/APC)

\$50,000–\$99,999
Boeing Global Corporate
Citizenship
FAO (DFID)
IRC (USAID/OFDA)

\$10,000–\$49,999
Anonymous

\$5,000–\$9,999
Anonymous
Margo Sprengeler

\$1,000–\$4,999
Faress Bhuyian & RheaFord
Echo Bodine
Cross Cultural Journeys
Shannon Himango
Allison Hoffman
Julie Krieger
Ann Stevens

\$500–\$999
Samantha Borinstein
Linda Hatfield
Margaret Hood
Rebecca Levasseur
Janet Rice
Mellen Tanamly
Bonnie Wolff

\$200–\$499
J Marie Fieger
John Lloyd
Shayla Loree
Robert Maule

\$100–\$199
Salvador Baldizon
Jenny Bourne
Janet Ethen
Virginia Fleming
Barbara Gehlen
Kristi Halvorson
Judith Johnson
Yu Lau
Roberta Nestaas
Christine Walsh

\$50–\$99
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