



AMHARA REGION: ETHIOPIA



With a focus on "Champion Villages," local partners are installing small-scale water supply and sanitation infrastructure

**INTEGRATED HEALTH APPROACHES IN
 "CHAMPION VILLAGES"**

In the Amhara region of northwestern Ethiopia, the Water and Development Alliance (WADA) is making access to water and sanitation possible for thousands of poor rural residents. According to the UNDP Human Development Index, Ethiopia is among the five least developed countries in the world. Between 15 and 20 percent of the population experiences chronic food deficiency each year. Only 37 percent of Ethiopians have access to potable water and 18 percent to adequate sanitation. Water and sanitation-related diarrheal disease is among the top three causes of all deaths in Ethiopia, and Amhara is one of the regions that has faced this life threatening challenge for years.

To address these problems, WADA's local partners are constructing gravity-fed water supply systems and shallow, hand-dug water wells, protecting springs, and providing schools with boys' and girls' latrines. Three implementing organizations working in partnership with the Millennium Water Alliance – World Vision, Food for the Hungry, and Catholic Relief Services – will also provide education and trainings necessary for families and children to operate and maintain these systems in a sustainable manner, promoting a foundation for economic development.

The WADA project is working with USAID's "Champion Village Program," which is promoting a community-level integrated package of health interventions including household latrine construction, improved access to water supply services, handwashing at schools, immunization, HIV/AIDS awareness, family planning, and other health activities. This broad, cross-cutting approach helps communities find a balance among priorities that have a major public health impact and encourages input and decision-making from the village members themselves.

COUNTRY: Ethiopia
START DATE: February 2007

FUNDING: \$375,000 – WADA
 \$375,000 – USAID/Ethiopia

KEY PARTNERS:

- East Africa Bottling S.C. – local Coca-Cola bottler
- USAID/Ethiopia
- Millennium Water Alliance partners including:
 - Catholic Relief Services
 - Food for the Hungry
 - World Vision

ACTIVITIES SUMMARY:

- Community-based efforts in twelve *kokeb kebeles*, or "Champion Villages," for water, sanitation, and hygiene improvement

BENEFICIARIES:

- 45,050 rural residents benefiting from new access to improved water supply and sanitation services

ALLIANCE OBJECTIVES:

- *Watershed Management*
 - Training community leaders in watershed management
- *Water Supply and Sanitation Services*
 - Protecting 30 springs
 - Constructing or rehabilitating 45 shallow and hand-dug wells
 - Rehabilitating five water distribution schemes
 - Constructing five public showers
 - Constructing 18 washing basins
 - Constructing nine school latrines
 - Facilitating construction of household latrines
 - Establishing and training Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Committees for system sustainability
- *Hygiene and Sanitation Behavior*
 - Conducting hygiene and health education in all project locations



Young women like Tigete Molla benefit from improved drinking water in Achefer Woreda