Who we are

Initiative Africa is a membership based organization established by young professionals to work with people and organizations across Ethiopia to eradicate poverty and injustice. Our benchmarks are the Sustainable Development Goals, a set of seventeen ambitious anti-poverty and development targets adopted by world leaders to reduce poverty, hunger, as well as improve the general wellbeing of the people and other problems that plague the world by 2030.

As a partner based organization, our comparative advantage is our dedication to make use of the opportunities enabled by new technology as well as our capacity to develop strong long-term relationships with local private and public partners to create and enhance development opportunities.

Our vision

Ensure that today’s children, youth and women are adequately prepared to be tomorrow’s innovators and leaders.

Our Mid-Term Goals

IA has two mid-term [5 Years] goals: To better people’s lives and to seek fairness, which together define our work towards a more just Ethiopia.

Through our program, we translate these long term goals into action. The two strategic directions defined earlier will enable us to respond to the challenges and opportunities arising in the coming fifty years.

Together with our partners, IA will continue to contribute to the eradication of poverty and the establishment of justice and prosperity.
Areas we are engaged in
Here are some of the areas we were involved in

**Human Rights/Democracy/Governance**
Supporting over 55 NGOs and associations on issues concerning civil movements, democracy education, and human rights advocacy. [2004 – 2009/Grant primarily obtained from Sida, UNDP, and the EU]

**Conflict Prevention**
Focusing on training, mentorship and capacity building of youth organizations in Ethiopia with the potential for and/or the interest in a civil society leadership and conflict prevention role. [2007-2009/Grant primarily from the EU]

**Gender equality in schools**
Girls are less likely than boys to be held back in completing high school. IAs initiative, called Building Communities, aimed to empower young girls, focusing on improving educational attainment and employment prospects while reducing involvement in crime. [2009-2017/Sida Grant]

**Developing and promoting use of school violence index**
In collaboration with the Ethiopian Teachers Association, developed the first school violence measurement index. Index applied to over 90 schools to identify persistently dangerous schools each year. The index is a ratio of violent incidents to school enrolment and is determined by the number of incidents and the seriousness and type of incidents. [2009-2015/Sida Grant]

**Dropout and Youth Education**
IA worked on Environmental education training and long-term support to formal and non-formal education professionals across Ethiopia. IA regarded as crucial for creating the high-level skills that Ethiopia needs as well as for Ethiopia’s capacity to innovate and foster productivity and social justice. [2002-2017 / British Council Grant]

**Active Citizens Social Enterprise (ACSE)**
With the support of the British Council, IA with the regional partners works to promote social enterprise and create Social Enterapreneurs in the Ethiopian Community. Also, IA helps to promote community based community actions with the sub part of ACSE social Action program at every place IA cascades the training in. [2012-2019 / British Council Grant]

**Small and Medium sized Entrepreneurship Development**
Service expertise in screening and selecting real entrepreneurs, providing training, business development, funding, business ideas. [2007-2014- Grant primarily from the Centre for International Private Enterprise]

**Youth Leadership and Environmental Education (EE)**
IA in collaboration with the British Council developed and provided EE training and short-term support to formal and non-formal education professionals in Amhara, Oromya and SNNP regions, bolstering their ability effectively teach about environmental issues. [2012-2015 DFID Grant]

**Early Reading Program**
IA won the ALL Children Reading Project awarded by World Vision US to promote early grade reading in Amhara and Oromya regions. The initiative, which was based on introducing action research at classroom levels, increased the number of young children reading. [2013-2015/World Vision International]
IA Flagship Activities

NGO Capacity Benchmarking
IA provides capacity benchmarking service to NGOs working on basic education programs. The aim is to help organizations achieve best in the sector service delivery capability culture by adhering to and implementing best practices and globally accepted standards in good governance.

ADDIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (AIFF)
The Program centers around Documentary films with educational and social themes. Its primary objectives are to make audacious documentary films more accessible to more people and to help more people and organizations discover opportunities for participation in activism.

GO Green Afrique-Africa Fair and Conference
The Fair is designed to promote and increase the interest in and the use of environmentally friendly technologies and products. Its purpose is to bring together community groups, corporations, businesses, non-profit, government agencies and citizens to create and provide business-to-business opportunities in green technology and green purchasing.

Our Donors
- British Council
- CIPE
- ChildFund Ethiopia
- DFID
- Embassy of Sweden/Sida
- European Union
- Embassy of Czech Republic
- Embassy of the Netherlands
- Finland Embassy
- IOM
- LCD/USAID
- UNDP
- World Vision US
- World Bank
- US Embassy

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