

Project: CAFOR's Street Children in Africa Project



CAFOR is initiating a continental project in Africa to provide protection, access to appropriate primary healthcare, food, nutrition and skills development to the children living on the streets in African cities. This project emphasises providing Africa's street children with basic education, clean water, hygiene and sanitation, especially in the aftermath of the COVID -19 pandemic. The project will allow children to enrol in institutions, provide them with the necessary technical and vocational skills, become a part of the African labour force and strive to live a happy life. The project would also be a continental model supporting Africa's street children. This model would enhance the integration of global and continental policy agendas, particularly the continental strategy for technical and vocational education and training and impart self-health care initiatives and advocacy around the effects of the COVID -19 pandemic. CAFOR's street children programme calls for a collective effort involving a multi-sectoral approach involving donors, local and government authorities, the community, teachers, civil society, private organisations, religious and women and child development organisations.



CAFOR's effective response to the phenomenon of street children would require a robust and holistic approach to make a meaningful impact on the present situation of street children. The programme would mainly address issues of shelter, primary education with associated skills training, water, sanitation and hygiene facilities. The programme would also provide them with ample self and reproductive healthcare knowledge. Through this project, CAFOR would give this vulnerable group of children the following:

- Heart warmth and a smile by addressing their basic life needs.
- Improve their health, nutrition and psychological and social behaviour as consistent with The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and their general primary means of survival.
- Stimulate self-awareness and self-confidence.
- Washing facilities.
- Reintegrate them into the community and improve their quality of life.
- Restore African children's dignity and support the promotion of SDGs related to back street children in African cities.



Source: <https://www.cambridge.org/>

CAFOR would develop an advocacy and communication strategy for street children and work closely with the National Technical and Vocational Education and Academic Award programmes at the country level to create a skills certification programme for trained children taken off the streets.

The total project budget is estimated at **USD 18.8 million**. The project will start in Addis Ababa and replicate in other member states of the African Union, where this phenomenon is rampant.

CAFOR is urging all partners and stakeholders to invest more and better in education.

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