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Ethiopia: Investing in education, training and extension for improved implementation of agricultural research and technology.

In the United States, there has been a recent debt crisis and recession. People from those working in factories to large corporations have been laid off and have been put in the position to find work elsewhere. With an 8.2 percent unemployment rate, the United States and its people are upset with what is happening. People seem to think the world may end for them, but elsewhere around the world, the problems are ever growing. Here, a wage of \$7.50 an hour is known as awful, but imagine living on less than 50 cents in a single day. In Ethiopia, that is the reality for over half of the population. Ethiopia is a country in Africa where agriculture is the center for much of the economy, but they are still struggling every single day to put a meal on the table. Over 80 percent of the people living in Ethiopia are below the poverty line, and with a population of 84 million, that means almost 68 million people are living below that line. Ethiopia is a mix of land and soil and with that brings a large mix of crops and people. Most of the population lives in the rural areas and are scattered, which makes it extremely hard to get resources and services to everyone who needs them. Ethiopia is very diverse in the population with about 80 different languages, making it hard to educate a large group of people at any given time. Things in Ethiopia are not doing very good right now because of the lack of education and resources they have to help them out. Many family farmers are having a lot of issues trying to gain profit while selling their crops and still putting out food on the table. This issue is prevalent in many countries across the world and especially in Africa, but many don't understand how truly bad this can be for people. In a world with a growing population and changing climate, it is hard to properly educate those in order to drive up income as well as make a lasting impression and technique for them to use. The world needs to get working on this because if it doesn't, nothing will ever change and life will start going bad extremely fast. In order to do this, everyone needs to look at ways to help, whether that be donating or spending time, everything will make a difference. This problem can be solved and the world can help out these small landowners who don't know any better. It will take many people to work together but if the resources are put it, it will make a huge difference. Investing in education for improved implementation of agriculture research and technology is something that needs to be addressed right away and in order to do that the family life needs to be looked at as well as there needs to be a plan installed and a way to reach out to all of these people.

Ethiopia is located in Sub-Sahara Africa, and because of the location as well as other factors, the country's families regularly struggle to make a living. Ethiopia's population is made up of many people, who struggle, with over half of the people living on less than 50 cents a day. In comparison, if that rate was in the United States people couldn't even afford to buy a candy bar a day. Families are usually made up of extended relatives, usually from both sides and in some cases including close friends. Families are usually large because of all the added relatives. Family is the basis of many lives in Ethiopia, and it is always one of the most important things to Ethiopian people. If one person in the family struggles the other members are always there to help out no matter what the crisis may be. But even though the Ethiopian people love their family, sometimes those members are not enough to keep them going.

Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world. Many people in Ethiopia have very little access to health care and benefits from the government. Even though many of those in Ethiopia are proud of their country's history, many still struggle. The literacy rate is extremely low and education is many times not a regular part of someone's life. In the larger cities, around 58 percent of children get access to education, but elsewhere it's lower than 25 percent. The government has tried in the past, but there are barriers in

getting there. Many people simply learn by example, and when it comes to agriculture the ideas and practices are old fashioned. Their diet consists of a pancake-like food called engera and stew made from meat, beans and anything else they can find. Ethiopian's usually eat what they can and good drinking water is very hard to find, making what they have in agriculture all they can get.

Ethiopian's lives are based on agriculture, income and food wise. 80 percent of the people in Ethiopia survive because of small scale agriculture. Farms are usually family owned and many people only have enough to feed their family group. There is a huge variety of crops that are grown in Ethiopia. Cereal crops are the most important to the economy, and they include teff, corn, wheat and many others. They also grow a variety of fruits, vegetables, and pulses which include different varieties of beans. Another important crop to the country is their coffee crops, as well as cash crops. Generally the people grow out of their own land and bring the crops to markets to sell. Many of the people struggle to live with what they are able to grow, and it is extremely hard to get enough in order to continue to live. Water access is very scarce, with only about 20% of people having access to clean water, and even less have access to proper sanitation practices. There are many other barriers to improving agriculture as well.

There are many barriers in Ethiopia to improve agriculture and other areas. The government has a very hard time in keeping up on funding for education, especially in the rural areas. They have a problem getting wages up enough for people to make an adequate living and in many cases the very high up people are the ones who really get the money. It's hard for the individual family to get enough to have a good supply of food and water. They often have very little and have to share among quite a few people because that is all they can afford. One of the other biggest issues is communication in Ethiopia. There are many different languages and background in Ethiopia and it is very diverse. There is always the option of having translators, but many people prefer certain kinds. Some people prefer translators from the cultures, and women usually prefer women and men prefer men. This is a huge issue when trying to communicate on how to many things better for the people. Many practices are old because it's hard to communicate the newer practices that are available now. One of the other issues is that it's hard to control markets and get the resources for better water supply and nutrition. Education remains a huge barrier for improved agriculture, because many can't or choose not to understand the new ideas that are available for the people out there.

Investing in education to improve implementation of agriculture research and technology will make a huge impact on the life in Ethiopia. Many of the farm families in Ethiopia are doing agriculture practices that they have been doing for a very long time. The ideas of selling privately or to large companies make them extremely disadvantaged because the amounts that they sell are not very large at all. The idea of educating would impact the area because that is a key to what they need. Education at this point is very low, so when it comes to the issue of communicating it is very hard to do. Because communication is difficult, it makes changing the agriculture practices more difficult. If education were to be a priority, it would change the way that agriculture could be run in many of the families' lives. Right now, families are sticking to their classic ways instead of maybe trying a different crop that would grow better and they could sell more of and it would make a huge difference to teach them these many things. In Ethiopia, as said before, the literacy rate is very low and many people do not have proper access to water and health care. Without educating them, many more of the people in this country would die because they don't have the access to resources, which is why something needs to be done now.

Educating these people needs to be done very soon, because if it does not things are going to keep getting worse. Educating always needs improvement, but if education isn't done soon people are not going to be able to carry on with their lives. Without adequate water and satiation as well as agriculture practices, people will not be able to hold on At this point in time, there are some things that are starting to be done to improve education. Some programs have been created or are being created to help out the people. Women should be educated just as much as men, which is not how it is at this current point in time over there. Women are in the house working and are very uneducated, and sometimes they are left to fend for

themselves, so they also need an idea of how to do certain practices as well. It is going to take awhile to improve, but things are starting to already improve.

People in Ethiopia are being educated more on agriculture and it things are getting better. With organizations going out and trying to educate getting started, it is really helping people to understand and to really get what to do. In that perspective, things are improving over there, but not at a good enough rates for it to really have a large impact. With seeing the literacy rate increasing as well as seeing improved agriculture practices, the trend is improving. This trend is not improving everywhere though; it is mostly in areas where these organizations are at. In general, the situation for the family is getting a lot better, but only if you are lucky enough to live in an area where people are reaching out. Some people are not lucky enough to live in these areas, but at least things are improving for many of the areas and for a lot of the rural farmers that are over there.

As there is an increase in the amount of people educating in a number of different places, many good things will end up coming out of it. If more organizations were to reach out and to bring people over to help educate, it would have an enormous impact on the everyday people. Studies have also shown that the best way to really reach out to people is through either lectures or laboratory work and studying. By seeing that these are the best ways to really reach out to the people there, they should continue to be used as good as possible. Also, education the people would lead to a great increase of economic development as well as poverty reduction. The reason for this is if more people were to understand what the best way to do things is, the economy as a whole would improve. For example, if there is a better and more profitable crop that could grow on the land someone owns, it would not only benefit the person but also help stimulate the economy. It would benefit the rural farmers especially, because with more profit they would be able to buy more resources and the payoff would be quite large in the end.

Educating people is very important, but educating those people for their specific issue is even more important. Ethiopia's land is quite diverse in terms of how much rain they get and also location and soil type. One of the largest issues in educating is getting the farmers to understand what needs to be done for their specific location of land. Places differ so much that in order to get good enough stances on what needs to be truly done there needs to be research of the land first. Another large challenge is dealing with climate change in these areas. As drought places change, the type and techniques of farming will also change dramatically. Therefore, educating needs to be done in a matter where it stretches from periods of drought all the way to a very wet season. Climate change will have an impact because as the earth changes, the areas where drought or wet season is will change as well. If that does happen, the income of the family may very well be in grave danger. This kind of an issue and other ones, such as wet and dry seasons, can affect the income because what they learned did not help them in these situations.

Another thing that could affect these places long term would be that of the population growth. As the population of Ethiopia and the world grow, the farmers are going to have to supply enough food and water for all of the extra people. With that being said, it is very important that the education that is given to them is fitting to feed this kind of a world if possible. There could be a time in which due to family growth they can no longer supply the food for their family. As the population grows, educating the people for the future and part of that is going to have to be done in both short and long term.

In order to give people the right education for their area, there is going to have to be people literally educating the people out there. Due to the communication issue of only certain people liking certain translators, it will be quite hard to do. In order to start, building up the programs that are already there is going to take a lot of effort. There is already one project, called Farm Africa that focuses helping people understand different technologies and giving them the resources to benefit their smallholder farms that are there. This project could gain many more people and continue to help out more and more areas in Ethiopia as long as there are the people to really want to change things. This type of organization needs to be done more often because if it is not, people are not going to be able to understand how to fix this sort

of situation. Investments need to be made in bring people and resources out there in order to help those learn. Educating the next generation is also going to be very important, so increasing the amount of rural children that go to school as well as increasing the literacy rate is going to be very important. In order to do that, there will have to be programs that bring people to these places with the right kinds of translators and give lectures to really help the people understand what is happening and how they can improve what they are doing.

There will have to be a lot of effort in doing these kinds of things as well. There should be set goals on helping out the rural farmers, because those are the people that are going to stimulate the economy and help the country grow. People from those countries that are educated as well as others from all over the world will have to physically go in and teach the farmers the proper ways, one area at a time. This is something that is going to take a lot of time because there really are no other alternatives into educating the people in the long run.

This kind of education program is going to take a lot of people's time in order to do, but in the end it will be worth it. In order to put this kind of a program together, there are going to need to be a lot of organizations to help. The government of the country should try to put as much money into the education system as well as small holder agriculture as possible. There should be more representation of the farmers because even though they make up 80 percent of the population, they are often forgotten about. Organizations such as the United Nations should help keep people in line through this process. Another organization that should help out should be the Peace Corps, because when they go out they see this kind of life actually happening to the people around there. Research should continue to be done in order to keep things updated and make the best and cheapest alternatives for these kinds of farmers going. Ethiopia can be helped in this situation, and with the help of the farmers as well they would be even better. The farmers need to be completely willing to change the style if it for the better of their family or of anything that is. Every single person and organization will need to really help out because if they do not, they will be stuck for a very long time. Also the organizations need to really help with raising money and funding to help out the farmers and people even more than they already are.

Ethiopia is a country that struggles everyday with their lives. An extended family life in which it is very hard to have enough to have food and water makes life very difficult on them. In Ethiopia, the majority of the population is from small holder and family farms. Money is very tight with people living on less than 50 cents a day, which is such a small amount. Many of the people in Ethiopia have to provide for an extended family and more members than what America does. Family is also a very basic part of life in Ethiopia, even though in some cases having a family to help out doesn't do enough. There is very minimal access to health care and many people often come down with diseases such as malaria. Education is much better in the urban areas, but in rural areas less than 25 percent of people are educated. Diet usually consists of engera as well as a stew. The agriculture is diverse depending on the area that is in. Grain is the most important to the economy, but items such as coffee and fruits are also grown there. Even though the agriculture is huge, it does need a lot of help. Communication between people is one of the hardest things to do, because many don't accept the translators that are there due to their background or their gender. Education needs to be established in Ethiopia in order to help with not only the county's agriculture but to help the world with it. In many places, there is minimal access to clean water and proper sanitation, and that is another item that needs to be brought up to all of those in Ethiopia. Education needs to be done as soon as possible because if it is not, things will keep getting worse in Ethiopia. People in Ethiopia need to understand the correct and proper way to farm for their land along with the proper crops. In many cases, the people simply don't know any better than what they were taught, but with other factors going to be a large part of it, things are going to have to change extremely soon. Climate change will end up having an impact on the people as well as population growth, and the farmers need to be aware of this change. Things are starting to be done in Ethiopia, with organizations such as Farm Africa coming in and helping to educate the rural people on new techniques and new technologies. More should be done

though, which is why the country as well as other organizations need to step in and help all of those around it. Ethiopia is extremely different from the world that the United States has and it is the better off countries' duties to step in and help all of those who are less fortunate than what they are. But if the rest of the world invests in educating Ethiopia in agriculture, it will be ok. Ethiopia as well as many other countries has that chance to survive and solve the problems, it's just up to those who are doing fine to step in a help.

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