



SEEDS OF AFRICA™

GreenPrint: A Space To Grow

When we look at the infrastructure of a given culture, we should consider which values that culture deems most important and how they are upheld through policy. It may be easy for us to assume that education takes precedence in the structuring of any nation, but in the case of Ethiopia what we must recognize first and foremost is that its people's basic needs are not being met. If 38%* of Ethiopian children under the age of five suffer from malnutrition, how can we expect Ethiopian policy makers to put education at the forefront of their development plans? The nucleus of the problem is poverty's cyclical nature.

The Seeds of Africa team sees education as the crucial wedge that can split this cycle by providing a new cultural space in which change can take root. Our GreenPrint mission is to create such a space that is dedicated to cultivating change. As education is a collaborative process between students and teachers, the building of a physical space - a Seeds community center - is essential for providing an environment for supportive and instructive interactions. Similar to other Third World countries, Ethiopia's children are unable to receive the kind of individualized focus that is the pillar of early cognitive development. Seeds plans to train teachers to encompass a holistic approach in their practices, thus encouraging sensitivity to the full diversity of learning styles that students possess. The goal is to develop Ethiopia's young citizens and inspire its future leaders. Our trip to Ethiopia in August will focus on the implementation of educational tools to best aid teachers in working with these diverse learners.

If you are interested in third world educational policy, and would like to know more about our Staff members trip as they prepare to open the Seeds center **TAKE ROOT.**

www.seedsof africa.org

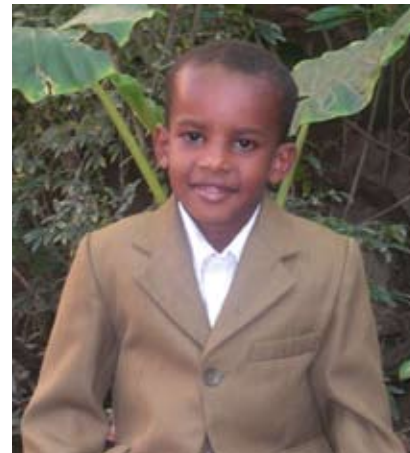
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The Seedling

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It gives me much joy to welcome you to the first issue of *The Seedling*. The last many of us met was April 22nd at the **GreenPrint** launch event at Gold Bar in New York. The event was a great success and we are using 100% of your donations for the opening of our first community center in Nazareth, Ethiopia this fall. This center will enable us to start a full operation of our **Seeding Education** program and expand the number of children we currently have enrolled. The impact of our center does not stop here; we will contribute to the local economy by hiring qualified individuals to help run and manage the program. Further, we are excited to announce that members of our staff and board will be travelling to Ethiopia in August to aid in all facets of opening of the Seeds Center; from deciding on what books should fill the library to meeting with the children and staff. Stay tuned and follow our team's stay in Ethiopia through our website, Facebook, and soon, the Seeds blog. Thank you for helping us bring hope to the lives of these exceptional children whom we believe will change the future of their community, country and continent.



STUDENT HIGHLIGHT Abel Mustafa Aman

Abel is a charming eight year old who has been with us from the beginning of the **Seeding Education** program. He lives with his Aunt and cousins in Nazareth and enjoys studying Amharic, math and playing soccer! He was invited to join our program because he had an overall high grade point average and his teachers said "he had amazing potential if he could somehow get one on one attention." He is receiving such attention and his tutors say his grades and home life are steadily improving. He says "I am really grateful for everything you are doing for me...I am working hard and I really like studying because you are helping me." Abel's dream is to become a doctor.