



Newsletter 30, April 2020

UPDATES



TRS is **engaging with and through the Eritrean community** in the diaspora, Sudan and Ethiopia to raise awareness about COVID-19. Zeraï Abraham Kiro, TRS Diaspora supporter based in Germany and founder of Ubuntu Haus, shared with us a short video urging the diaspora to follow local guidelines in order to protect themselves from COVID-19. [Watch the video here](#)

Our upgraded website is live! You can watch all our testimonies in Tigrinya, Somali, Nigerian Pidgin and Arabic and follow our project activities. It is simpler, faster and easy to engage. [Click to visit the website](#)

ACTIVITIES

The activities below took place before the COVID-19 outbreak in the East Horn of Africa and Europe



Amid the COVID-19 outbreak, the youth are looking at **creative ways to communicate ideas**. In Addis Ababa, 22 year old Fatima Ahmed Hayuti is using her talent as an artist to produce child friendly images about preventative measures around COVID-19. Her art will soon be available on our website. In the art sphere, TRS holds joint refugee art therapy workshops and exhibitions with ZOA International in Addis Ababa. The sessions provide refugees with a space for tranquility and relief away from the day to day struggles and trauma.



Recreational activities are known to provide refugees with much needed **psychosocial benefits**. TRS promotes positive engagement through football and art in Ethiopia and Sudan. In Khartoum, weekly **football tournaments** were organized before the COVID-19 lock-down. The tournaments provided the youth with the opportunity to socialize and integrate vulnerable people into the community. In Eastern Sudan, **workshops on Forum Theatre**, a form of theatre that encourages audience interaction and explores different options for dealing with a problem, were conducted with a refugee theater group.



Awareness raising in school is an important component of TRS activities in Ethiopia and Sudan. These sessions serve to provide information on issues related to the difficulties that children who sought the help of smugglers may face. As part of the activities, the children watch TRS animated films available in [Arabic](#) and [Tigrinya](#) and have discussions about the TRS children book "[The Journey](#)"

Diaspora Engagements in Europe



TRS facilitated a meeting in Munich, Germany with the Eritrean diaspora to discuss the ongoing risk that persons face when moving to and through Libya. The community called for more visibility on information on a legal and complementary pathways. TRS has since included [family reunification contact details](#) on the website and would continue to share information on legal pathways when made available.

UPCOMING

- **Virtual Diaspora Engagement:** We are planning an Online Diaspora meeting. Details will be provided soon
- **Testimony gathering from Egypt:** New testimonies in Arabic and Tigrinya recorded in Egypt are coming out soon.

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MATERIALS

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