



CONFERENCE ON ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with partners, organized a conference on 9 and 10 October in Asmara focusing on the expansion of the adult education program across the country.

Mr. Petros Hailemariam, representative of the Minister of Education, indicated that since the days of the armed struggle for independence, the EPLF has been working to eradicate illiteracy, realizing its significance in expediting social change. Mr. Petros went on to say that since independence, the Government has been earnestly working to expand the program.

Noting that it is impossible to achieve reliable and sustainable

development without eradicating illiteracy, Mr. Petros expressed his expectation that the conference will significantly contribute to designing a roadmap for the program's development.

The participants conducted extensive discussions on the progress of adult education at the Ministry of Defense and schools, the current situation of the adult education program, the experience gained from the 2008 study on the program, the role of the Ministry of Education's mass media in the effort, as well as the implementation of extension education programs.

Mr. Gebrezgi Dmam, Director General of Adult Education

and Media at the Ministry of Education, said that efforts will be exerted to expand educational access and training in remote areas of the country, enhance the culture of reading, revive the productivity and creativity of citizens, and further develop the basic education program through mass media.

TRAINING ON FILM AND DRAMA PRODUCTION FOR YOUTH IN THE SOUTHERN REGION

Theoretical and practical training on film and drama production has been provided to 37 youth in the Southern Region. The trainees were selected from the 12 sub-zones of the region.

The training, organized in Dekemhare, covered topics including the similarities and differences between film and drama, the role of directors in drama and casting, directing in both film and drama, film production processes, the importance of storytelling, and scriptwriting.

Mr. Abraham Yohannes, Director General of Culture and Sports in the region, stated that the objective of the training was to develop the creative capacity of the youth and enable them to play their part in promoting and advancing cultural activities in the region.

Mr. Habteab Tesfatsion, Governor of the Southern Region, on his part, expressed the readiness of the regional administration to continue organizing similar training programs

to build the skills of young people.

Similarly, vocational training in various fields has been provided to 208 youth, including 57% female participants, in the Dekemhare sub-zone. The trainees were drawn from five administrative areas of the sub-zone.

The vocational training covered beauty salon management, electronics, painting, and drama directing.

Mr. Filmon Mesfun, head of the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS) branch in the sub-zone, highlighted the significance of the training in developing the youth's capacity and called on them to apply the knowledge and skills they gained to improve their livelihoods.

Mr. Yemane Abera, administrator of the sub-zone, urged the trainees to transform their acquired skills into income-generating activities and to work toward enhancing their economic well-being.

HENOK MULUBRHAN WINS STAGE 3 OF TOUR DE KYUSHU IN JAPAN

Eritrean professional cyclist Henok Mulubrhan, member of Kazakhstan's Astana Team, won the third and final stage of the Tour de Kyushu held in Japan on Monday.

The race covered 119.25 kilometers, and Henok completed

it in 2 hours, 36 minutes, and 6 seconds.

Henok stood third in the second stage and first in the third stage, winning the Red Jersey for the points classification with a total of 58 points.



POTABLE WATER PROJECT IN BELEZA ADMINISTRATIVE AREA

A potable water project, which includes the renovation of old pipelines and the construction of a reservoir, was inaugurated on 11 October in the Beleza administrative area, Serejeka sub-zone, Central Region.

Mr. Aron Kiflemicael, Administrator of the Beleza administrative area, indicated that the project was implemented in collaboration with the concerned Government institutions and the residents.

Noting that the project was part of the ongoing effort to ensure potable water supply to the public

across the country, Mr. Misgina Gebreselasie, Director of Water Development at the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment, commended the contribution of the residents to the project.

Mr. Misgina also stated that 95% of the residents of the administrative area have already become beneficiaries of the project, while the remaining 5% are expected to benefit in the near future.

Mr. Kiflemariam Gebremeskel, Administrator of the Serejeka sub-zone, said that the project, beyond creating satisfaction among the

residents, is expected to ease the burden on women who used to travel long distances to fetch water for their households. He also called for regular follow-up to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Mr. Zerit Tewoldebrhan, Managing Director of the Central Region, called on other administrative areas to emulate the commendable initiative of the residents of Beleza in implementing potable water projects in their localities.

Beleza administrative area is located 12 km northeast of Asmara and is home to over 910 families.



Development

Investing in People: Health Facilities, Societal Wellbeing, and Eritrea's Holistic Path to Development

By Mussie Efrim

National development is not merely measured by economic metrics; it is fundamentally defined by the well-being and resilience of its people. Ensuring a healthy society is the cornerstone of holistic growth, where progress in one sector—such as health—amplifies success across education, economic stability, and social cohesion.

In the context of Eritrea, a nation that has demonstrated remarkable progress in key health indicators—including reductions in maternal and child mortality—the strategic distribution of health facilities within its three-tiered system (Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary) remains crucial to maintaining and accelerating this momentum toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC).



Community-Based Foundations of the Health System

The backbone of Eritrea's health infrastructure is built upon a decentralized Primary Health Care (PHC) model that emphasizes community participation and ownership as core principles. This model ensures equitable access

Eritrea's Community-Based Health Provision (CBHP) framework reinforces the nation's commitment to "leaving no one behind." The policy mandates that basic health services must be accessible within a 10-kilometer radius for all citizens. This proximity is made effective through the deployment of trained Community Health Facilitators and "barefoot doctors" (Village Health Workers) who provide preventive and curative care, promote health education, and monitor public health at the grassroots level.

Particular emphasis is placed on maternal and child care, supported by village-level focal persons responsible for tracking community health trends and connecting households to formal healthcare facilities. This local health surveillance mechanism translates national policies into tangible, community-based actions that directly impact daily life.

The Ministry of Health's policy dictates that approximately 70% of the disease burden be managed at the primary healthcare level (Health Posts, Stations, and Community Hospitals). In comparison, only 20% of cases are referred to secondary-level facilities (Regional Referral Hospitals). This structure forms the foundation of Eritrea's "Down-to-Top" Referral Model, a key mechanism ensuring that nearly 90% of all curable diseases are treated within a patient's own region.

This approach guarantees both equity and accessibility by keeping essential healthcare close to the people. It also optimizes resources by reducing unnecessary referrals to tertiary hospitals, preserving advanced medical facilities for complex cases. By strengthening local healthcare capacity and prioritizing primary care, Eritrea's system proves that sustainable healthcare is best achieved through strong, community-based foundations rather than over-centralized, specialized centers.

The effectiveness of Eritrea's community-centered health policy is reflected in measurable improvements across public health indicators. Nationwide campaigns

immunization coverage rates—often exceeding 90–95% for core vaccines such as DPT3 and measles—leading to the elimination of polio and neonatal tetanus. The combined outcome of these initiatives has been a dramatic decline in maternal and child mortality: the under-five mortality rate has dropped by more than two-thirds since independence, while access to antenatal care and supervised deliveries continues to expand.

These achievements allowed Eritrea to meet several Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) ahead of schedule—an impressive feat for a young nation that has made health equity a defining feature of its national identity.

Eritrea's development strategy is grounded in the conviction that a healthy population is the foundation of social and economic progress. Despite its modest resources, the nation has made deliberate and far-reaching investments in health equity through its Basic Health Care Package (BHCP), which is provided either free of charge or at a nominal cost.

Crucial to this success is the



targeting communicable diseases have drastically reduced the incidence of malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS, pushing the country toward elimination benchmarks.

Moreover, Eritrea consistently maintains one of Africa's highest

ongoing promotion of community awareness and responsibility. Through public health education and the engagement of local health agents, citizens are encouraged to take active roles in sustaining their facilities and improving health outcomes. This participatory ethos not only drives measurable health improvements but also reinforces broader national values of peace, social justice, and self-reliance.

Eritrea's experience demonstrates that sustainable national development is not merely a matter of infrastructure or policy—it is, at its core, an investment in people. By prioritizing community health, equity, and participation, Eritrea continues to build a resilient society capable of sustaining its progress across generations.



**ERITREA
PROFILE**

**Published Every
Wednesday & Saturday**

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Advertisement: 12-50-13

**Layout
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to healthcare, particularly in rural areas, through a hierarchical structure that ranges from basic Health Posts at the community level to national referral hospitals.

While the Ministry of Health oversees the national distribution strategy, the involvement of local communities is indispensable in bringing health services to the remotest areas. Residents actively participate by contributing labor and regional materials to build and maintain Health Posts and Stations. This collaboration is institutionalized through Village Health Committees (VHCs), which empower communities to take part in operational decisions, facility maintenance, and local cost-sharing initiatives. This joint government-community partnership cultivates a strong sense of ownership, responsibility, and sustainability that ensures the long-term success of the country's health infrastructure.

Health Access for All

Bana Negusse

Empowering Citizens Through Learning: Adult Education in Eritrea

The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with national and international partners, organized a conference on 9–10 October in Asmara to discuss the expansion of adult education programs across Eritrea.

Speaking on behalf of the Minister of Education, Mr. Petros Hailemariam highlighted that the country's efforts to eradicate illiteracy date back to the armed struggle for independence, when the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) – the leading movement in the struggle – recognized education as a cornerstone of social transformation. Unlike many other revolutionary movements across the continent and the wider

ranging discussions on the progress of literacy programs within the Ministry of Defense and community schools, the findings of previous national studies on adult education, the role of mass media in supporting literacy, and the implementation of extension education programs.

Mr. Gebrezgi Dmam, Director General of Adult Education and Media at the Ministry of Education, reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to expanding access to learning opportunities in remote areas, promoting a culture of reading, enhancing citizens'



proclaims:

"Education is the foundation of development in Eritrea. To provide equal educational opportunity means to provide equal opportunity for development. We must widely expand education so that our people can be free from ignorance, acquire knowledge and skills through various means, and enhance their productive capacity to build their country. Education is a fundamental right to which every Eritrean is entitled" (pp. 23–24).

Adult basic education and literacy programs continue to extend learning opportunities to those who may have been missed by the formal education system. These programs typically enroll around 30,000 to 35,000 adults annually. While participation has gradually declined in recent years – partly due to increasing enrolment in younger cohorts, which is positive – the share of women has continued to grow. Many graduates go on to pursue further education or gain improved employment opportunities.

Eritrea's progress in literacy is a clear reflection of these efforts. In 1990, the country's adult literacy rate stood at 46 percent (59 percent for men and 35 percent

for women). By 2018, it had risen to about 77 percent overall, with male literacy reaching 84 percent and female literacy increasing to 69 percent. These steady gains reflect the expansion and effectiveness of the national adult literacy and outreach program, which has particularly benefited women and historically marginalized groups. Across communities, the initiative continues to promote literacy and lifelong learning among those previously left behind.

Adult education also embodies Eritrea's commitment to social justice and equality, which remain foundational principles of its national development vision. The program is not only expanding literacy but also widening access for those historically excluded from the formal education system. A large proportion of participants are women and learners from remote and underserved regions, representing Eritrea's diverse ethnic and linguistic communities. By reaching these groups, the program helps reduce gender disparities, promote inclusion, and foster social cohesion. This approach aligns closely with the principles articulated in the National Charter, which, inter alia, emphasizes the need for:

"Equitable distribution of wealth, services, and opportunities, and special attention to be paid to the most disadvantaged sections of society."

Equally important, adult education initiatives in Eritrea contribute to the expansion of human capital, understood as the collective stock of knowledge, skills, health, and capabilities that drive national growth. Human capital development is a lifelong process that begins before birth and continues through adulthood, encompassing formal, non-formal, and informal learning. Global evidence consistently shows that investment in human capital is one of the strongest determinants of economic competitiveness, productivity, and sustainable development. Eritrea's continued promotion of adult education, therefore, represents a strategic investment in its people, both strengthening individual potential while laying the foundation for robust, sustainable national progress.

Overall, Eritrea's experience demonstrates that adult education is not simply an auxiliary component of the education system but a central pillar of national development. By expanding access to literacy and lifelong learning, particularly among women and citizens in remote areas, the country continues to strengthen its human capital and uphold its principles of equity and social justice. As the program grows, it reinforces a culture of learning and empowerment that benefits individuals, families, and communities alike. Adult education in Eritrea thus remains both a practical tool for development and a powerful expression of the nation's enduring belief in education as a universal right and shared responsibility.



Global South, Eritrea's struggle sought a broad transformation of society rather than merely assuming political power. Since independence, he noted, the government has continued to prioritize education, including adult learning, as a means of fostering inclusive and sustainable development.

Emphasizing that reliable and lasting progress cannot be achieved without eliminating illiteracy, Mr. Petros expressed confidence that the conference would provide valuable insights for developing a comprehensive roadmap to advance adult education nationwide.

Participants engaged in wide-

creativity and productivity, and strengthening the use of mass media to advance basic education across the country.

The recent conference in Asmara, beyond being an informative gathering, also serves as a timely springboard for a broader look at adult education in Eritrea – its aims, ongoing efforts, and the vital role it continues to play in national development.

Adult education in Eritrea stands as a clear expression of the nation's enduring commitment to education as both a fundamental right and a foundation for broad-based, sustainable development. This principle is firmly rooted in the 1994 National Charter, which



OPINION

Eritrea's Independence Was Earned, Not Granted

By Weldu Gebreslasie



When Fenqil, the 2015 anthology published by Hidri Publishers, appeared in print, it offered not just a collection of wartime stories, but a living archive of courage. Its pages pulse with heroism, sacrifice, and the quiet dignity of those who gave everything for Eritrea's liberation. Among its most stirring accounts is the tale of Tank-795 — and of the fighter known simply as Magula (Gebrehiwet Kesete), whose story captures the soul of an entire generation.

Before the 1990 Battle of Massawa — Operation Fenqil — Magula and his comrades underwent grueling training for the decisive assault to liberate the port city. In those final days, Magula approached his company leader, Yemane Fesehatsion (Qufirah), with a rare and human request: permission to see his young son one last time.

It was an uncharacteristic appeal. Fighters of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front had long accepted that personal affection must yield to the demands of the revolution.

Their devotion to the cause was itself an expression of love — not only for family, but for humanity's right to live free. Yet Magula, sensing a shadow over his fate, yearned to embrace his son once more before the storm.

Yemane hesitated, reminding him of the impending offensive. But the plea would not fade. Moved by empathy, Yemane referred the request up the chain of command. The mechanized division leadership, recognizing both Magula's devotion and his humanity, granted him ten days' leave. Magula made the journey, saw his child, and returned — ready, as always, to give his life to the cause.

February 10, 1990. Sigalet Qetan, the causeway leading to Massawa, became the crucible of Eritrea's modern history. Flanked by advancing infantry, Tank-795 — Magula's tank — was among the first to cross the narrow strip under a storm of machine-gun fire and anti-tank missiles.

Shells fell before, behind, and beside the tank. Fighter jets screamed overhead. Infantrymen collapsed in its wake. Yet Tank-795 pressed on, its cannon and anti-aircraft guns roaring defiance. The crew fired relentlessly at entrenched enemy positions, even as the sky rained steel.

Then came the fatal strike. An anti-tank missile slammed into the vehicle, engulfing it in flame. The crew leapt from the inferno, seized their rifles, and continued fighting alongside the infantry until all were martyred.

Their valor — Magula's among them — was not a lone act. It was emblematic of thousands who transformed impossible odds into triumph. Their message to history was unmistakable: Eritrea's independence was not received as a gift; it was wrested from empire through blood, endurance, and genius.

The story of Tank-795 represents only a fraction of the unrecorded heroism that defined Eritrea's thirty-year struggle. Behind every operation — Nakfa, Afabet, Massawa, Dekemhare — lay a mosaic of selflessness: young men and women who carried the weight of a people's dream on their shoulders.

Their enemy was not only the colonial army of Ethiopia, but the array of world powers that supplied it. Their victory, therefore, was not merely military. It was moral, spiritual, and civilizational — the triumph of truth over betrayal, and of a people's will over global indifference.

Since 1991, however, remnants of the defeated colonial army, political elites, and their admirers have tried to rewrite history. They claim — astonishingly — that Eritrea's independence was granted by the Ethiopian government, not earned through sacrifice. Such distortion springs from ignorance and arrogance alike.

Many ordinary Ethiopians, insulated from the realities of the war, were never told of the decades of destruction unleashed upon Eritrea. For them, history begins in 1991, not 1961. As Charles Péguy once observed, "Short of genius, a rich man cannot imagine poverty." Likewise, those who never tasted oppression cannot imagine what liberation costs.

This cultivated ignorance is reinforced by Ethiopia's



intellectual and media establishment, whose chronic denial of Eritrean agency reflects not misunderstanding but deliberate erasure. For them, to admit that the Dergue was defeated — not collapsed naturally — would puncture the myth of Ethiopian invincibility. Pride thus becomes a prison, ensuring that the lessons of defeat are never learned.

Modern communication research reminds us that representation and media are inseparable: whoever controls the narrative controls reality. Ethiopian media — both old state broadcasters and the new digital echo chambers — continue to amplify the illusion that Eritrea's independence was a political bargain rather than a battlefield reckoning.

Such propaganda may cloud the airwaves, but it cannot alter the record. The historical ledger is clear: Eritrea prevailed through unmatched discipline, sacrifice, and strategic brilliance. In 1991 it stood free; in 1993, under UN supervision, 99.81 percent of Eritreans reaffirmed that freedom in a referendum that remains one of the most decisive votes in modern history.

Disinformation is thunder without rain. It rumbles, then fades. The deafening noise that seeks to drown Eritrea's truth

will, like all storms, pass with the dawn. What remains is the light — the record of a people who refused to surrender.

True peace and stability in the Horn of Africa can emerge only from respect: respect for sovereignty, for territorial integrity, and for the sacrifices that forged them. No nation can build harmony by denying its neighbor's right to exist, to dream, and to flourish in its own space beneath the sun.

Ethiopian elites would do well to remember: words, however inflated, cannot rewrite maps traced in blood. To persist in expansionist fantasy is to walk barefoot on the shards of history. The wiser path lies in humility, restraint, and truth.

From Massawa's burning causeways to the highlands of Nakfa, the promise remains unbroken: Eritreans will never bargain away the land or the sea bought with their children's lives. Every grain of Red Sea sand, every inch of soil, was consecrated by tens of thousands of Magulas whose courage shattered the foundations of two successive empires, Haile Selassie's and the Dergue's, both sustained by global powers.

Their memory is not an artifact of the past. It is the foundation of Eritrea's present and the compass of its future.



OPINION & ANALYSIS

Blame without Shame: Prosperity Party – Accusing Eritrea to Hide Failures

From the African Views Website

On October 2, 2025, #Ethiopia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted its second letter of complaint to #UN Secretary-General António Guterres @antonioguterres. The letter echoes a familiar chorus: accusations that #Eritrea is preparing a massive attack, allegedly in coordination with the #TPLF and #FANO forces.

One would expect Eritrea to take legal action, now that the Prosperity Party has resurrected old territorial ambitions long settled by history and cloaked them in incendiary rhetoric aimed at reclaiming Eritrea's ports. The gesture is as provocative as it is perplexing. After all, Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter explicitly prohibits "the use or threat of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity,

or political independence of any member state."

By reviving defunct claims through the language of aggression, Ethiopia's ruling party flouts not only international norms but also the fragile peace painstakingly achieved in the Horn of Africa.

By waging a campaign of hostility and irredentism over the past two years, Ethiopia's ruling party has brazenly defied the core principles of international law — principles designed to prevent war — choosing instead aggression disguised as grievance and ambition cloaked in diplomacy

Moreover, the Prosperity Party (PP) leadership and its generals continue to issue statements that flagrantly insult Eritrea's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Their rhetoric, amplified daily through

social media surrogates, amounts to a coordinated campaign of provocation and distortion.

One need only recall the chorus of reckless declarations by the Prime Minister and his Military Generals, amongst others — stating:

"We have devised a two-water strategy. The GERD and Red Sea" "We will soon have a port." "We will celebrate Irreecha on the coast." "We established a navy because we want the sea." "Ethiopia's loss of the sea is unacceptable." "Eritrea's referendum was illegal." "Our army is on the border — we will flood and swallow you."

These are not slips of the tongue; they reflect a deep-seated desperation — a yearning of sovereign coastal territory that belongs to neighboring countries.

But the Eritrean people are not easily shaken. Having endured colonizers, conflicts, and decades of external pressure, they are not new to noise and threats. Eritrea's silence is not a sign of weakness but that of restraint — a deliberate cultural and diplomatic choice.

In his July 2025 interview, President Isaias Afwerki articulated this clearly: "We have no appetite for war. We have no hunger for territory over our neighbours. But if we are attacked, we know how to defend ourselves. Only those who do not know history would think otherwise."

The Ethiopian public, seasoned by its own long and turbulent history, seems equally unmoved by the Prosperity Party's rhetoric. The "sea-mania" that the Prosperity Party tried to ignite has failed to catch fire among ordinary citizens. The people know empty talk when they hear it.

As the Arabic proverb roughly translates: "He who hits me cries first, and cries louder." The Prosperity Party's latest complaint to the UN, blaming Eritrea and the TPLF for the FANO uprising in Woldia and elsewhere, is a classic example. The arsonist who started the fire — and then cries that he is being burned.

Accusing Eritrea has become a recycled political ritual in Ethiopian politics — a convenient distraction whenever domestic crises deepen. Successive regimes have done it to mask internal failures. History, it seems, is repeating itself.

The truth remains: Ethiopia's instability is homegrown. No amount of finger-pointing across the border will conceal the cracks within. And no volume of propaganda can transform political recklessness into national strategy.

Message on World Standards Day from Eritrea

'Shared vision for a better world' is the theme of this year's World Standards Day. The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Stand together to celebrate the event with the same motto. World Standards is being celebrated for the 56th time worldwide; and for the 22nd time here in Eritrea through its agency, the Eritrean Standards Institution (ESI).

On the occasion of World Standards Day, October 14th, Eritrea, through the Eritrean

Standards Institution (ESI), reaffirms its commitment to the importance of international and national standards.

Standards are essential tools for economic growth, public health, and environmental protection. They provide a vital framework for quality, safety, and competitiveness in our industries and commerce.

We honor the experts worldwide who develop these crucial voluntary agreements and pledge to continue our efforts in promoting, implementing, and enforcing standards for a safer and

more prosperous Eritrea.

Happy World Standards Day!

Message on World Standards Day from ISO, IEC & ITU

"Shared vision for a better world"

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which project to address social imbalances, develop a sustainable economy, and slow the rate of climate change, are highly ambitious. To reach them will require the cooperation of many public and private partners, and the use of all available tools, including international standards

and conformity assessment.

The intense battle against a persistent global pandemic revealed the absolute necessity of addressing the SDGs in an inclusive way, to strengthen our societies, making them more resilient and more equitable. Today, we are asking you to join us on a mission that affirms the importance of the SDGs to build back better. In this pursuit, standards are more relevant than ever.

The entire standards system is built on collaboration. It is testament to the power of

cooperation and the belief that we are stronger than the sum of our parts. By working together, we are empowering people with real-world solutions to face sustainability challenges head-on.

It is in this spirit that we are engaging in a multi-year World Standards Day journey that showcases the many ways in which international standards contribute to the success of the SDGs.

We stand united to work together to accelerate the 2030 Agenda, with standards for the SDGs, and our 'Shared vision for a better world'.

Continued from page 8

The message I want to convey is that this is something that can be replicated elsewhere in the world. The results are astonishing. I was also very struck by the warm welcome we received in several villages. So thank you for the warm welcome, and keep up the same pace.

Paolo Toselli, European Union Cooperation Programme.

I was absolutely amazed by the knowledge that people have about the FGM here. And I think it's a program that is doing very well and is successful, as I could at least see visibly that people are

informed and fighting for the total eradication of FGM.

The European Union, among other countries, is a supporter not only here in Eritrea but also all over the world and in Africa. We are delighted to participate and look forward to continuing. We believe that in these kinds of programs, continuity is the most important thing, and thus it's not something that you start and leave. At our headquarters in Brussels, they are reviewing this program, trying to find resources around the world. But we believe this is one of

the programs that should continue in Eritrea and Africa in general. Thanks to the communities, I had a wonderful day with the young people. I thought it was perfect for us to come out and see what really happens on the ground.

Dr. Wisal Ahmed, Global Coordinator for the UNFPA–UNICEF Joint Programme, described Eritrea's achievements as "evidence-based and inspiring."

Tell us a bit more about the partnership program, please. This is a joint partnership between

UNFPA and UNICEF since 2008. We cover 18 countries directly, but we have a global influence beyond them. FGM affects over 94 countries, so it is a worldwide problem. We are very pleased to be hosted by the Eritrean government. We've learnt a lot from the trip. We have met with the government, the community members, community leaders, religious leaders, and youth. We have been inspired by all the work they have been doing, and what we have seen aligns with international evidence. We know that community engagement, health education, and collaboration

with influencers like religious leaders are effective. Eritrea has got it right, and we know that through the tremendous results. We know that under 5-year-olds, 2.4% are affected, and we think it's reducing and that Eritrea might be the first country globally to end FGM. So this is a significant achievement for the government, and we've learned a lot of lessons that we will take away to share globally.

Ending FGM is not a distant dream—it is happening, here and now, in Eritrea.

... Track to Become First Nation to Eradicate FGM



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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Kerkebet Mining Share Company is inviting qualified and competitive applicants for the following positions:

1. Position: Heavy Equipment Maintenance Technician
Number required: one (1)
Place of Work: Asmara/Kerkebet
Type of Contract: Definite period of one year
Salary: As per the company salary Scale

Primary Purpose:
Mechanical Maintenance, Mechatronics, Engineering Machinery, Automotive Repair, Mining Machinery, Electrical Automation, or related majors preferred.

Main Function:

- Expertise in Mechanical Systems: Deep understanding and proven repair capabilities for engines, transmission systems (gearboxes, drive axles), hydraulic systems, braking systems, steering systems, and undercarriage/wheel systems (tracks/tires).
- Electrical Knowledge: Proficient in reading basic electrical schematics and troubleshooting common electrical faults (starting, charging, lighting, sensors, etc.).
- Advanced Troubleshooting: Ability to use logical reasoning and diagnostic tools to quickly and accurately pinpoint equipment failures.
- Strong Hands-On Skills: Proficient in using various hand tools, power tools, and specialized maintenance equipment (e.g., jacks, lifting gear, hydraulic torque wrenches, pneumatic tools). Basic welding (arc welding, gas welding) and cutting skills preferred.
- Proficiency with Diagnostic Tools: Skilled in using testing instruments such as multimeters, hydraulic testers, engine diagnostic scanners, etc.

Technical skills:

- Strong Safety Awareness & Responsibility: Deep understanding of mining operational hazards. Strict adherence to safety protocols and commitment to work quality.
- Physically Resilient & Adaptable: Capable of working in potentially challenging mining environments (may involve noise, dust, outdoor conditions, shift rotations, remote locations). Requires good physical fitness and stamina.
- Quick Learner: Ability and willingness to continuously learn about new technologies and equipment.
- Team Player & Good Communicator: Excellent collaboration and communication English skills to work effectively with operators, fellow maintenance personnel, and management.

Requirements:

- Technical secondary school, vocational school, or high school diploma and above. • Possession of valid Special Operations Certificates (e.g., Electrician Operation Certificate, Welding & Hot Work Operation Certificate, as required for the specific role) preferred.
- Minimum 3 years of hands-on maintenance experience with engineering machinery, heavy-duty vehicles, or mining equipment.
- Experience maintaining equipment in large open-pit mines highly preferred.
- Familiarity with the structure, operating principles, and maintenance requirements of common mining equipment brands (e.g., Caterpillar, XCMG, SANY) highly preferred.

2. Position: Construction Supervisor
Number required: one (1)
Place of Work: Asmara/Kerkebet
Type of Contract: Definite period of one year
Salary: As per the company salary Scale

Primary Purpose:
Responsible for the construction and management of basic civil engineering works for exploration or mining laboratories, sample storage, warehouse facilities, as well as the installation, maintenance, and support of electrical wiring and plumbing systems in camp facilities.

Main Function:

- Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Plumbing Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Building Services Engineering, Facilities Management, or related fields preferred.
- Familiar with basic civil construction procedures, materials, and standards.
- Capable of overseeing or executing minor civil modifications (e.g., foundations, flooring, walls) for laboratories/warehouses.
- Knowledgeable about specialized requirements for sample storage (e.g., environmental controls, racking systems, safety compliance).
- Experienced in warehouse layout planning, facility setup, or retrofitting.
- Proficient in low-voltage electrical wiring installation, routing, and maintenance.
- Familiar with common electrical components, distribution boards/panels, and lighting systems.
- Skilled in circuit troubleshooting, fault resolution, and safe operations (valid electrician's license required).
- Proficient in installing, connecting, and maintaining plumbing systems (e.g., water supply, drainage, compressed air).
- Knowledgeable in pipe/fitting selection, valve applications, and leak detection/repair.

Technical skills:

- Able to perform routine inspections, preventive maintenance, and emergency repairs for electrical/plumbing systems.
- Capable of managing construction sites, coordinating resources, and ensuring quality/timeline compliance.
- Strong hands-on skills: Able to independently execute or guide installation/repair tasks.
- Problem-solving: Quickly diagnose facility failures and implement effective solutions.
- Safety awareness: Strictly adhere to safety protocols (especially electrical/construction safety); strong safety mindset.
- Blueprint literacy: Interpret basic architectural, electrical, and plumbing drawings/schematics.
- Communication & coordination: Collaborate effectively with lab personnel, warehouse staff, camp teams, and cross-functional departments.
- Strong sense of responsibility: Meticulous, resilient under pressure, committed to facility uptime.

Requirements:

- Technical secondary school, vocational school, or high school diploma and above.
- Experience in facility construction/maintenance for laboratories or similarly demanding environments (e.g., cleanrooms, pharmaceutical warehouses).
- Experience in constructing, maintaining, or managing field/temporary camp facilities.
- Dual proficiency in electrical and plumbing systems.
- Basic knowledge of automation control or BMS (Building Management Systems).
- Able to work on-site and perform physical tasks (e.g., material handling, working at heights).

3. Position: Senior Exploration Geologist
Number required: Two (1)
Place of Work: Asmara/Kerkebet
Type of Contract: Definite period of one year
Salary: As per the company salary Scale

Primary Purpose:
To comprehensively oversee the integrated study of geological data for the Shukula, Satta, and Locotat regions; lead soil/rock anomaly verification programs; design and supervise the implementation of trenching and drilling plans.

Main Function:

- Expertise in geological mapping, interpretation of geochemical/geophysical data, and regional metallogenic modelling.
- Proficient in GIS (Mapinfo/ArcGIS/QGIS/Mapgis), geological modeling software (Leapfrog, Surpac, etc.), and statistical analysis tools.
- Ability to conduct rapid on-site assessment of soil/rock anomalies and design scientific verification workflows.

Continued on page 7



Continued from page 6

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Kerkebet Mining Share Company is inviting qualified and competitive applicants for the following positions:

- Independently design trenching/drilling grids (including sampling protocols) to optimize cost and efficiency.
- Full-cycle supervision of trench excavation, drill core logging, and sampling quality control.
- Identify critical geological phenomena and adjust exploration strategies in real-time.

Technical skills:

- Technical Leadership: Ability to coordinate cross-functional teams (geology, geophysics, drilling, etc.) and define technical standards.
- Reporting: Prepare phase exploration reports compliant with Chinese/JORC/NI 43-101 standards.
- Problem-Solving: Innovate solutions for complex geological challenges (e.g., thick overburden, structural fracture zones).
- Adaptability to long-term fieldwork (rotational shifts in remote areas) and excellent physical stamina.
- Strong safety awareness with familiarity of HSE management systems in exploration operations.

Requirements:

- Education: Bachelor’s degree or higher in Geology, Mineral Exploration, or a related field (Ph.D. preferred).
 - 5+ years in solid mineral exploration (experience with gold, copper, or polymetallic deposits preferred).
 - Ph.D. holders require 1+ year of solid mineral exploration experience.
 - Proven experience in independently managing exploration projects.
- Language: Fluent English (proficiency in handling international technical reports essential). And preferable with if they can speak Chinese
- Proven leadership in end-to-end projects from target verification to resource estimation.
- Hands-on 3D geological modelling experience.

4. Position: Laboratory Equipment Technical Specialist

Number required: Two (1)
Place of Work: Asmara/Kerkebet
Type of Contract: Definite period of one year
Salary: As per the company salary Scale

Primary Purpose:

Lead calibration, performance verification, and compliance management of laboratory instruments (including precision analytical equipment).

Main Function:

- Oversee installation, commissioning, acceptance testing, and technical documentation preparation for newly procured lab equipment.
- Develop and implement scheduled maintenance/preventive upkeep plans to ensure continuous operational stability.
- Perform physical/chemical and biochemical testing of company samples according to SOPs, with accurate data recording.
- Independently resolve abnormal data discrepancies, prepare test reports, and ensure full traceability of results.
- Monitor laboratory environmental parameters (temperature, humidity, cleanliness, etc.) and maintain infrastructure (ventilation, electrical, gas supply systems).
- Strictly enforce safety protocols, including hazardous chemical management and waste disposal procedures.

Requirements:

- Education: Bachelor’s degree or higher in Chemical Analysis, Biotechnology, Instrumentation Science, Mechatronics, or related STEM fields.
- 2+ years in lab equipment management or testing analysis (fresh graduates require key laboratory internship experience).
- Proficient operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of ≥3 instrument types (e.g., GC/HPLC, spectrometers, centrifuges).

- Metrology/calibration qualifications (experience with CMA/CNAS certification systems preferred).
- Advanced proficiency in equipment management software (e.g., LIMS) and data analysis tools (Excel/Minitab).
- Certificates such as Electrician License or Pressure Vessel Operation License are advantageous.
- Expertise in mechanical/electrical principles of equipment, with ability to independently perform complex instrument disassembly/repairs.
- Thorough knowledge of lab quality management systems (e.g., ISO 17025, GMP).
- Rigorous data analysis skills and professional report-writing capability.
- High accountability (availability for emergency troubleshooting outside regular hours).
- Systems-thinking mindset with aptitude for optimizing equipment management workflows.
- Strong cross-departmental communication skills (coordinating with Procurement, R&D, and Production teams).
- Background in third-party testing laboratories or pharmaceutical companies.
- Participation in laboratory setup or equipment selection projects.
- Understanding of IoT applications in equipment monitoring.

Additional requirement for nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense
- Present clearance paper from current/last employer
- Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card etc.).
- Only shortlisted applicants will be considered as potential candidates for an interview
- Application documents will not be returned to sender
- All applications should be sent through the post office
- Deadline for application: 5 days from the day of publication in the newspaper

Address: please mail your application to:
Kerkebet Mining Share Company,
P. O. BOX 9258
Asmara, Eritrea

Note to Eritrean applicants:
Please send a copy of your application to:
1. Aliens Employment Permits Affair
P. O. BOX 7940
Asmara, Eritrea
2. Mineral Resources Management
P. O. BOX 272
Asmara, Eritrea

NOTICE

The Shareholders of TESFAY-MILAN SEE THE SEA plc. In the extraordinary meeting they held on September 15, 2025 have resolved.

- To increase the capital of the company from Nakfa 10,500.00 to Nakfa 13,100.00 and
- To Issue 260 new shares in the name of Tesfay Tekeste Berhe.
- Accordingly, Articles 1&5 Of the Memorandum of Association of the Company is amended to read as follows;

Article 1. Shareholders and the Shares

	Name of Shareholder	Nationality	Address	Shares
1	Tesfay Tekeste Berhe	Eritrean	Asmara	1036
2	Mrs. Ghenet Tesfahiwet	Eritrean	Milano	137
3	Mrs. Freweyni Tesfay	Eritrean	Milano	137
	Total			1310

Article 5 Capital

The capital of the Company is Nakfa 13,100.00 (Thirteen Million one hundred thousand Nakfa). All capital is issued, subscribed and paid in kind & cash.

TESFY-MILAN THE SEA plc



Eritrea on Track to Become First Nation to Eradicate FGM

Sabrin Solomon

Julia Bunting, Director of the Programme Division at UNFPA and Co-Chair of the Global Steering Committee

Tell us more about your mission here in Eritrea.

Every year, the steering committee visits one of the countries that are part of the program. We were incredibly privileged to be here in Eritrea this year, and it has been an absolutely inspiring visit. What we've witnessed is an unbelievable commitment from the government, ministers, religious leaders, and the community. We met with many young people, and their knowledge, understanding, and shared experiences have been truly transformative. We are very hopeful that by 2030, Eritrea will be on track to end FGM and could be one of the first countries in the world to eliminate the practice.

Is there perhaps one or two experiences you've seen here that could help other countries?

What has inspired me the most is the commitment from the whole of society, from the government down to the community and the young people. That's a real sign of the progress we've seen here.

We had the privilege of meeting with the National Technical Committee, which brings together the Ministries of Labor and Social Welfare, Health, and the National Statistics Office. They meet regularly to analyze the data, assess progress, and identify gaps, allowing them to target their interventions where the needs are greatest. I think using that data-driven approach with a whole-of-government response is what's making the most significant difference here.

A high-level delegation from the UNFPA–UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) visited Eritrea from September 29 to October 3, 2025, to celebrate the country's remarkable progress in ending the harmful practice.

Eritrea has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to women's empowerment, formalized through the National Strategic Plan on FGM (2020–2025) and in partnership with the UN since 2018. Over 1.4 million people have been reached through campaigns, and 14 sub-zones are now officially free from FGM. This progress is reflected in the FGM prevalence rate among women aged 15–49, which dropped from 95% in 1995 to 83% in 2010, while opposition to the practice rose dramatically to 82% in the same period.

The five-day mission, which included UN and partner government representatives, marked a milestone in Eritrea's journey toward eliminating FGM by 2030. The delegation met with officials, religious and community leaders, and survivors, visiting areas known for pioneering community-driven action.

Is donor support contributing significantly to the program's success?

This is a joint program to end FGM, with crucial support from many governments worldwide, including European partners like Sweden, France, Germany, the European Union, the UK, the US, and others. We must share this story—not just globally, but by highlighting the specific work happening here in Eritrea. There is a powerful partnership between the government and the UN agencies, supported by these funders, to ensure we can truly and surely end FGM, just as the Eritrean government is committed to doing.

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

I would like to personally reflect on what an incredible country Eritrea is. It wasn't a country I knew much about before I arrived, but it is a wonderful place with stunning landscapes and friendly, supportive people. Everybody has been incredibly welcoming. We are grateful for the privilege and opportunity to visit, and I hope that more people will learn about the beauty and progress of Eritrea moving forward.

Jérôme Cauchard, Ambassador of France to Eritrea:

How was the field trip, Mr.



Ambassador?

We went on a field trip and confirmed that Eritrea is doing very well in fighting against FGM, which was impressive, and I was thrilled to be part of the trip. More and more zones and sub-zones are becoming FGM-free. What a success for Eritrea.

David, UK Chief of Mission in Eritrea

What can you tell us about your tour in the Anseba region?

Well, the UK is proud to support efforts to tackle female genital mutilation and other harmful practices, including underage marriage. It is a privilege to

see the progress that the local communities have been making here in Eritrea. And I want to congratulate the communities for the progress they've made in eliminating this practice and other harmful ones. And we are here to support the UNICEF and UNFPA programs as well. It was a pleasure to meet the visitors as part of the steering group and to collaborate with them in engaging with local communities and learning lessons that can be applied elsewhere.

Toralf Piltz, Chargé d'Affaires of the German Embassy

Mr. Ambassador, you accompanied the others on the field trip. What is your general opinion on this?

It has been a great privilege to be part of the field trip; it was very informative and enlightening. We want to thank the organizers, the government of Eritrea, and UNFPA for this endeavor. I'm very proud that we in Germany are part of this project, which encompasses government agencies, international organizations, and local communities.

What I've seen and learned here is how crucial it is to have local commitment and to take the people along on the journey. Everything I have witnessed so far has been

eye-opening and could serve as an example in other countries.

Meanwhile, I would like to thank the local communities. I was particularly impressed by the commitment and the engagement of the students at the high school. That was really fantastic to see how they have corrected this issue of FGM and also the issue of underage marriage and related problems. I think it is really commendable, and I take this impression with me and share it with my own kids. The attitude they have shown here is something kids in Europe can learn from. Thank you.

Alfonso Di Riso, Italy's Ambassador

How was the trip, in your opinion, Mr. Ambassador?

Italy is a strong supporter of the program. We have been supporting it since 2008. During our presidency of the G7 in 2024, we will have doubled our contribution. I'm thrilled to be on the trip to see the results and happy to experience the sense of unity among different layers of the population, including religious leaders, communities, and local authorities.

Continued on page 5

