



Ethiopia ACT Theory of Change

Ethiopia ACT's theory of change is influenced by 20 years of experience working with the ultra-poor in Addis Ababa. Recently the Ford Foundation and CEGA have also produced evaluations supporting the type of Intensive Graduation Approach used by Ethiopia ACT.

The core problem of extreme poverty is that it is generational, multifactorial and self-perpetuating. Escaping from extreme poverty requires an intensive multifaceted approach with specific criteria determining advancement toward graduation. Narrowly focused large-scale interventions often fail to produce long term poverty alleviation because they do not address the complexity of extreme poverty, or the variability of individual households needs.

Robust, durable poverty alleviation is accomplished when households are enabled to manage chronic illnesses and avoid diseases of poverty; meet basic financial needs through a productive asset, small business, marketable job skill or completion of higher education; and develop safety nets through financial savings and healthy family and community relationships. A clear and tailored plan to address the household's unique issues must be created at the time of enrollment and expectations clearly communicated.

ACT's triple column, theory of change diagram includes activities at each of our three levels of progression to graduation as well as outside community resources that are mobilized to support achievement.

References

<https://www.fordfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/pdf1-english-final-24-oct-14h30.pdf>

<https://doi.org/10.26085/C34889>

