

# Webinar on children and alternative care during the COVID-19 pandemic

24 April 2020

# Context

## Overview

- Ethiopia hosts around 750,000 refugees – 61% are children
- There are 24,000 refugees in Addis Ababa
- Of this **482** unaccompanied and **398** separated

## COVID-19 situation: anticipated child protection risks for urban refugees in Addis

- The current situation is semi-lock down
- Existing refugee CPC and schools are closed
- Partner's staff are working from home, but case works still have access to refugees/children
- No COVID case reported among refugees
- Potential increase of separation of children from their caregivers due to COVID-19
- Penitential increase of separation due to economic challenges of care givers, loss of income and remittances

# Ongoing and Planned adaptation related to Alternative care

- Scaling-up efforts to identify potential foster parents by increased engagement with refugee communities
- Strengthen monitoring of care arrangements (monitoring via phone by CP case workers and ROVs, counseling of caregivers and supporting in addressing immediate needs)
- Increasing of phone credits for RoVs to ensure continues monitoring of care arrangement and address identified protection issues
- Supervision of ROVs: Maintain regular one to one phone follow-up with ROVs
- CBI- to prevent separation resulted from financial difficulties, provision of two months assistance for vulnerable foster parents (already existing caseload); Ongoing identification of vulnerable foster families
- Individual Protection Assistance (IPA)- increasing (adjusting) the pull of emergency funding to respond to emergency cases including separation of a child
- Adjusting the CP planned activities to respond to COVID-19 situation in including addressing separation and strengthen alternative care arrangement
- Home visit for high risk cases maintaining social distancing