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## **ETHIOPIAN CHURCH LEADERS HOPE TO INSPIRE LOCAL TEARFUND SUPPORTERS AND CHURCH COMMUNITIES**

Tearfund are inviting Pembrokeshire supporters to a South Wales Baptist Church who will host Ethiopian church representatives on the 25th January when they visit the UK. The Ethiopian Leaders will be bringing a message of community transformation, a vision they share with Tearfund. The Christian relief agency works along side churches worldwide to fight poverty through joint community development initiatives.

There is so much to Tearfund's vision that is being rolled out and accelerated through Ethiopian churches, who have been at the forefront of this vital work, helping to reduce the dependency on relief aid in times of crisis and food insecurity.

Tearfund supporters, including Tearfund's Vice President in Wales and National Director Evangelical Alliance Wales, Elfed Godding, are excited about the visit because the local church, whether in East Africa or (South) Wales, is what is central to a community. In difficult times it is often the church, already rooted in a community that can identify the needs, knowing where the poor and vulnerable families are. Tearfund hope their global vision can rub off on local churches, recognising that many are already doing fantastic things to support local communities.

On Wednesday 25th January leaders from the Kale Heywet Church, Ethiopia, will join church representatives in Cardiff at Rhiwbina Baptist Church, and talk about the significance of community transformation through Tearfund's Church and Community Mobilization programme.

In Ethiopia 19 local churches are involved so far, working with over 68,000 people involved in 4,000 self-help groups through the work of over 100 local churches. More than 200,000 children well fed and clothed, have access to health care and are going to school.

"We can learn from each other about community and developing further this partnership," say Hywel Meredydd, Director of Tearfund Wales. "What Kale

Heywet church communities have achieved with support from Tearfund is truly inspirational. We hope Welsh church leaders will join us and be equally inspired.”

Tearfund is inviting supporters to a lunch event at Rhiwbina Baptist Church on Wednesday 25 January from 12pm. For more details contact Fiona Michael on 07977 215 340, alternatively email [fiona.michael@tearfund.org](mailto:fiona.michael@tearfund.org) .

[www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org)