

## A New Dawn for Nigisti Atsebha



Nigisti at the Adigemad well at Metsequo, Tigray

At the age of 55, Nigisti Atsebha's has found new hope. Nigisti lives in the village of Tahtay Adekisandid, Metsequo, within the Kilite Awlaelo district and she heads a family of eight. Nigisti's circumstances have been transformed by the establishment of a new water point - funded by WellWishers and constructed with the support of WellWishers long-term local partner the Relief Society of Tigray (REST). This key development is steering her household toward a more promising and modern way of life, with each passing day bringing a glimmer of hope.

Reflecting on the difficult years gone by, Nigisti recounts the struggles of survival in a community where families shared open water sources with livestock.

*"We all drank from the same muddy spots where dogs, goats, and humans crowded together, fostering an environment ripe for the rapid spread of disease. The dry season brought even greater challenges; as nearby rivers ran dry, the only option was a gruelling two-hour trek to another unprotected water source - exposed to dirt and danger".*

With access to clean water provided by REST and funded by WellWishers, life has taken a significant turn. Nigisti's burdens have begun to lift. She now fetches six or more jerry cans daily to meet her family's needs without fear of contamination. The availability of safe water has freed her time, allowing her to engage in social activities and income-generating projects such as poultry farming and sheep rearing.

*"Thank you, REST and WellWishers, for realizing my dream,"* she expresses with heartfelt gratitude. *"My hope is shining brighter than ever".*

Recognizing the importance of sustainability, Nigisti is committed to protecting this vital resource. She is working to influence her community to contribute sufficient monthly fees for maintenance, as well as participate in fencing and regular cleaning of the water point. "From now on, I will pay my share and encourage others to do the same," she asserts confidently.

As the current population of 165 relying on this water point continues to grow, Nigisti emphasizes the urgent need for additional water sources. "However, we are immensely grateful for the support from REST and WellWishers".

You can see Nigisti's community well on Google Maps at (13.848240, 39.572320). The well is a little circular dot! You may need to zoom in on the red marker.

You can watch Nigisti tell her story. Go to our website [www.wellwishersethiopia.com](http://www.wellwishersethiopia.com), News page.

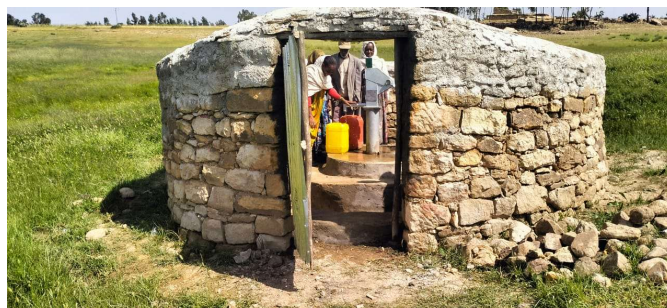
### Audited Finances

We are pleased that we have a clear audit once again for the Financial Year July 2024 – June 2025! Our thanks to Craig and the team at Forvis Mazars. We had an excellent year, raising \$423,937. This brings our total since we began 21 years ago to over \$6 million. An amazing effort from our community of donors – all done without any Government funds. You can see the report. Go to [www.wellwishersethiopia.com](http://www.wellwishersethiopia.com), News page, Audited Finances, article for a *link*.

Our ongoing support over the last two decades has funded village water supplies in 1162 villages for over 360,000 Ethiopians. A big Thank You from the WellWishers Trustees, our partner REST and from our supported communities in northern Ethiopia. Our finances leave us in a good position to make firm – and increased – commitments in 2026

Mark Harwood, Chair of WellWishers Trustees

## And another WellWishers well: Dazabioy



Clockwise from top left: The Wells Committee; The well, Signage

Again, you can spot the well on Google maps at (14.03837, 39.55092)

If you would like to fund a well in memory of a loved one, we can arrange for the sign to show their name or a one line message.

## 2025 in Summary

With ongoing peace in Tigray this year, the Relief Society of Tigray (REST) has continued its great work in water, distribution of emergency supplies, food security and income generation support. REST has an extraordinarily committed and well-trained team of hydrogeologists, technicians, community trainers and administration staff who work on water programs.

WellWishers funded 40 successfully completed wells in 40 villages for 8,450 people. People whose lives have been changed forever. It's a story we are happy to repeat year after year!

## Beads into Water

We are delighted that the recent African Trade Bead sale in Brunswick successfully raised over \$10,000 for WellWishers. Thank you to the 70 folk who turned up to buy some very special and unique Jewellery.

If anyone has a fundraising idea, contact us to see if we can help in any way.

## Seasons Greetings

Thank you for all your wonderful support in 2025.

WellWishers Trustees wish everyone the Compliments of the Season.

We hope for peace and progress worldwide, especially our communities in Ethiopia.

Mark, Janita, Guy and Graham

**All donations over \$2 to WellWishers are tax-deductible.**

**WellWishers: Bank of Queensland BSB 124048 or 124001 (either are OK) and Account no. 21658949**

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