

CEO's Message for July



Greetings to you all.

The last half of 2023 has been a true roller coaster. Thank you for the continuous zeal and enthusiasm in ensuring that refugees, internally displaced people and their host communities feel safe and comfortable in the communities they live in.

As Dina Kayeri mentions, it is the obligation of every person born in a safer room to open the door when someone in danger knocks. Without your holistic hard work, these vulnerable groups would still be carrying the trauma that they are running away from.

From the funding perspective, we would like to congratulate our AIRD DRC Team for their efforts in donor diversification. They secured a three months agreement with UNDP (\$35,194.44) and UNICEF (\$105,645.08) for the training of staff on defensive Riding (motorbike) and the construction of six classrooms and two blocks of latrines with three stances each respectively. Their efforts have paid off. Well done!

We were also able to sign a Memorandum of understanding with CAPYEI, a youth empowerment institute based in Nairobi, Kenya. This partnership will promote the implementation of Basic Employable Skills Training and Empowerment for youth, women, Refugees, Internally displaced people, and their host communities in Uganda. This is in anticipation that best development practices from this project will be rolled out to our various AIRD Country Programs. We congratulate AIRD Uganda, the Head Office Team, and all those that were involved for all their efforts towards this great achievement.

On another note, it is a challenging period for both AIRD Liberia and Tanzania regarding their operations funding. I am hopeful that together, we shall go through the tough times and I encourage all those that are affected to keep in good cheer.

Besides that, watch out for the exciting inauguration event and opening of our \$1 million auto service and skilling center in Mbarara, Uganda soon. Attached is a picture of how the space will look like.

For more information regarding what the different country programs are doing and the impact that is being registered, please visit our website, www.airdinternational.org, our Twitter page, @AIRDInt. and our Facebook page, African Initiatives for Relief and Development-AIRD.

Stay Safe and Well.
Cheers




Fikru Abebe Abebe