



Founding Document of The Ethiopian merhav hashpa'a

Background

A “Merhav Hashpa’a” is an action framework for leaders of social organizations and activists designed to secure broad-based social impact in a shared social field in which they are involved. The impact sphere seeks to secure broad and holistic impact and to secure a goal that cannot be achieved through the separate activities of each of the member organizations or activists.

The current initiative seeks to advance a common social goal shared by organizations and activists in the community of Israelis of Ethiopian origin, based on their genuine involvement in the impact sphere. The choice of an impact sphere as the action framework reflects the tangible need identified by many leaders of organizations and activists involved in the social advancement of this community to encourage long-term planning of actions by the community to improve its future.

The current point in time enables us to identify clearly the extensive efforts that have been made so far to promote the community of Israelis of Ethiopian origin, as well as the need for a civil action framework that seeks to optimize these efforts while learning from past experience.

The impact sphere provides a long-term framework for reflection, coordination, and connection between different social organizations around a shared idea. The sphere’s activities are based on a broad sense of awareness, motivated by a personal choice to take part in the sphere, and grounded in respect and trust between the members of the sphere, as a key foundation enabling its existence.

The impact sphere for the community of Israelis of Ethiopian origin was established as a distinct and autonomous initiative of leaders of organizations and activists. In April 2014, the initiators of the sphere chose Sheatufim as the professional body responsible for facilitating the process.

The Purpose of the Impact Sphere for the Community of Israelis of Ethiopian Origin

To serve as an initiating and influential body on issues relating to the future of the community of Israelis of Ethiopian origin.

The Goal of the Impact Sphere for the Community of Israelis of Ethiopian Origin

To formulate a document presenting the community’s vision, drafted through a cooperative process involving activists, public leaders, and community organizations.

The 10 Principles for the Work of the Impact Sphere

1. Respect – the impact sphere’s activities are based on respect between the members of the sphere and respect for previous and parallel processes in the community.
2. Openness and representation – the sphere represents its members and permits the broadest possible involvement of bodies and individuals from the community. Actions on behalf of the impact sphere will be undertaken in a coordinated manner and documents will include the names of the sphere members.
3. Community involvement – the impact sphere seeks to promote its goal while ensuring the maximum possible involvement of the community.
4. Transparency – the sphere acts with maximum transparency toward the community, the stakeholders, and the general public.
5. Autonomy – the sphere’s activities are undertaken on a mutual basis and while maintaining the autonomy unique identity, and intellectual assets of each of the member organizations and activists. Aspiration to effectiveness – the sphere works professionally and strives constantly to realize its goals and meets its objectives. The sphere examines its effectiveness throughout the process and consistently draws conclusions from its experience.

6. Aspiration to consensus – decision making is based on broad consensus among the members through a process of participatory discourse.
7. Connectivity – the impact sphere serves as a platform for connections and networking between its members, thereby strengthening the social field. In addition, the sphere seeks to participate in platforms addressing broad issues of relevance to the community in Israel.
8. Consultation and coordination – full coordination and consultation are maintained between the impact sphere Sheatufim regarding all initiatives undertaken on the sphere's behalf in the social sphere, while maintaining the sphere's autonomy.
9. Infrastructures and capability – the impact sphere is based on the existing infrastructures and capabilities of its members and/or infrastructures the sphere decides to recruit by consensus, provided that this does not contradict the basic principles of the sphere members.

Membership of the Impact Sphere

Membership of the impact sphere is open to the representative of any organization and to any activist involved in issues relating to the community of Israelis of Ethiopian origin who undertakes:

- To participate regularly and actively in the sphere sessions.
- To contribute actively to advancing the sphere's tasks during and between the sessions.
- To accept the sphere's working principles.

List of Members of the Impact Sphere for the Community of Israelis of Ethiopian Origin Member Organizations of the Impact Sphere (in Hebrew alphabetical order)

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| • ירון יחיאס | • גדי יברקן | • אבי יאלו |
| • קובי אווקה זנה | • גדי מלאכו | • אבישי ברוך |
| • שגאו מנגיסטה | • גולן ג'מבר | • אמיר סבהט |
| • שלי וובו | • דוד גטה | • אמלקאלין אבכה |
| • תמר דסטה | • דני פנטהון | • אשר אליאס |
| | • טנה שטה | • אושרה פרידמן |



אלומה
שריה שאטו

איגוד הרבנים
הרב מברהטו סולומון,
הרב שגיאי קבדה



אחריי! נוער מוביל שינוי
שחר אלמו



אגודה ישראלית למען
יהודי אתיופיה
זיוה מקונן דגן, חנה אלעזר



הנוער העובד והלומד
גילה פקדן, חן אדרי



המרכז הישראלי
לחדשנות בחינוך
דן פוטרמן, מנברו שמעון



בני עקיבא - תכנית השחר
שולמית מנצח



ארגון צפון אמריקה למען
יהודי אתיופיה
שושנה בן דור



מתנס טבג'ה
משה שטה



מרכז ההיגוי של עולי
אתיופיה במערכת החינוך
דוד מהרט, דינה פטגו



טק קריירה
נפתלי אברהם



הנני
הרב משה סלומון,
הדר פנטהון, יעקב טלה



תנועת הצופים העבריים
אפרת קסה



עמותת גדעון - מקסם
יעל סלע, דוד זגייה



עולים ביחד
סיגל קנטופסקי,
שרונה בירו נגטו