

A photograph of a classroom setting. In the foreground, the back of a person's head with dark, braided hair is visible. In the background, several young children are sitting at a desk, looking towards the camera. They are wearing purple school uniforms. The background wall is a plain, light-colored surface.

ETHIOPIAN SATELLITE PRESCHOOLS

SCHOOLS IN HIDDI AND DILLU

in collaboration with:



INTRODUCTION: ABAY ETHIOPIA

Archstorming is launching a new competition where we will look for designs for the future schools of the NGO Abay Ethiopia, an organization founded in Spain in 2009 that operates in Walmara, Ethiopia, with the aim of fighting against poverty and promoting equal opportunities, mainly through the development of Education, Health and Community support projects in general.

Over the years they have managed to build several centers and develop different programs, mainly aimed at children and women. More than 800 children in the community have benefited directly from the actions undertaken by Abay.

Among these programs, the construction of a preschool in Gaba Kemisa stands out. It is a place that provides education, food and health to 260 boys and girls between 3 and 6 years old distributed in 8 classrooms, one of them with special needs.

The preschool in Gaba Kemisa functions as a reference school for a wide area of influence, it is attended by children from the town, but also children and adults from distant towns, a situation that makes **many of them have to walk several kilometers each day to get to the center. It is for this reason that Abay wants to build satellite schools that facilitate access to education for all those children from more distant towns. This contest will seek solutions for the design of these satellite schools.**



CONTEXT: ETHIOPIA

Abay chose to work in Ethiopia, **the second-most populous country in Africa after Nigeria with a population of 105 million**. It's also one of the least developed countries (LDCs) in the world, ranked 173rd among 189 countries on the United Nations' Human Development Index. Like other low-income countries in Africa, Ethiopia presently faces the enormous challenge of creating a more inclusive and efficient education system amid rapid population growth. Compared with other sub-Saharan African countries, **Ethiopia has been successful in slowing population growth and now has a relatively low fertility rate by African standards**, but its population will nevertheless swell to an estimated 191 million people by 2050.

Despite Ethiopia's booming economy, **the country's education system remains underdeveloped and plagued by low participation rates and quality problems**—a situation partially owed to Ethiopia having been deprived of economic development for decades. As the World Bank has noted, Ethiopia was "one of the most educationally disadvantaged countries in the world" for much of the 20th century, because of armed conflict, famines, and humanitarian crises.

The Ethiopian school system consists of **eight years of elementary education**, divided into two cycles of four years, and **four years of secondary education**, divided into two stages of two years (4+4+2+2). Education is technically compulsory for all children until grade eight, but actual participation in elementary education is far from universal. Low enrollment rates, particularly in rural areas, and widespread attrition are two reasons why. According to government statistics from 2011, **20 percent of children dropped out as early as grade two, and only about 50 percent of pupils remained in school until grade eight**.

Prior to entering elementary education, **pupils can attend kindergartens, which are mostly run by non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations, and other private providers**. However, the availability of preschool programs varies considerably by region and is **extremely limited in some areas**. The number of children attending kindergarten is still small, but growing quickly—the nationwide GER in preschool education was 39 percent in 2015 (up from 5.2 percent in 2011). **Most pupils enter elementary education at the age of seven**, although there are a sizable number of overaged children in Ethiopia's schools.

<https://wenr.wes.org/2018/11/education-in-ethiopia>





PRESCHOOL IN GABA KEMISA

ABAY has been working in Walmara for more than 10 years with projects related to the education and health of its inhabitants, concentrating most of its projects in that area. Their first action was in 2009, when they asked the Government to provide them with the location of a school that needed help. The government took them to **Gaba Kemisa, a town in the Walmara district (Oromia state)**. What they found there was the Bacho Walmara School, built with adobe buildings, no tables or blackboards, and in a very bad condition.



Conditions in which ABAY found the Bacho Walmara school

Since then, they have worked ceaselessly to improve the lives of the inhabitants of the area, with the **installation of water wells or the construction of a Multifunctional Center that includes a library, volunteer house or multipurpose classrooms.**

In addition, they detected that **the age at which children began to go to school (7 years) was too late**, since infant mortality occurs in the first 5 years of life. They also found that girls went to school for only the first two years, and then dropped out as they had to take care of their little siblings. For these reasons, **in 2012 they decided to expand the Center with the preschool, which today has 8 classrooms and provides education, food and health to 313 boys and girls between 3 and 6 years old.**



Aspect of the Abay Polyfunctional Center, which includes the nursery school



Coord. 8°56'03.4"N 38°26'11.8"E

PRESCHOOL IN GABA KEMISA

The Preschool within the Abay Polyfunctional Center, **given its strategic location near the Bacho Walmara School, aims to be a place of reference for minors in the area**, especially for the most vulnerable: orphaned minors, sick children, with problematic families or single parent, etc.

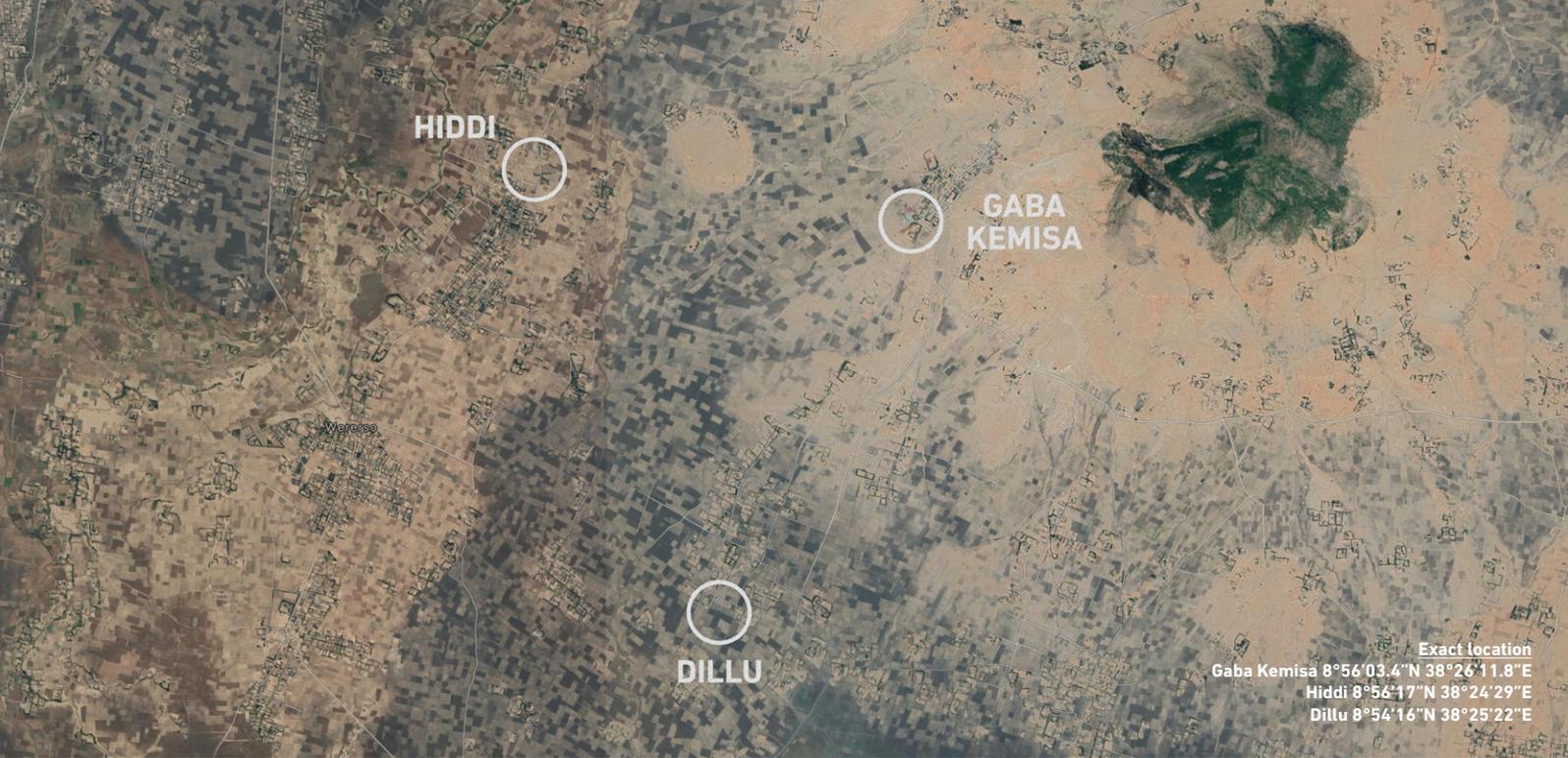
In this area it is essential to create resources that serve the most vulnerable children, since the future of the community will depend on their personal, educational and social development. In addition to being a nursery school, the space fulfills many other functions, among which are:

- **Healthy classrooms:** the school has 8 classrooms for children between 3 and 6 years old, one of them with special needs. It seeks to create an environment that improves the hygienic-nutritional quality of children.
- **Conciliation space:** parents' long working hours cause many children to drop out of school to take care of their younger siblings. The existence of this school means that the children can continue with their schooling.
- **Day center in crisis situations:** there are many families that due to illness, extreme poverty, unemployment or domestic violence cannot fulfill their caregiving function. The preschool also functions as a day center that favors the development of these children in a healthy environment.
- **Children's dining room:** children who, for different reasons, attend the preschool will maintain a correct diet, paying special attention to those with any pathology.
- **Sports activities:** the school has spaces that allow the initiation of children in sports practice, with the aim that they acquire habits in the field of healthy leisure.

This school was born in support of the community and the Bacho Walmara school, located in front of the Abay Center. Thanks to it, children can access pre-school education and the town benefits from endless resources and aid.

Abay is now starting a new cycle in which they want to replicate the model, building support pre-schools in the nearby towns of Dillu and Hiddi.





THE PLACE: HIDI AND DILLU

The Abay Polyfunctional Center and Preschool is located in **Gaba Kemisa**, a “kebele” (village) located in the district of Walmara, in the Regional State of Oromia.

The center of Abay has a great influence on the rest of the adjacent towns, especially on the kebeles **Hiddi and Dillu**. The fact that in these kebeles there is no early childhood education service means that children who want to access it have to walk several kilometers a day to Abay’s center, which makes it very difficult for them to stay in school.

Abay wants to support the Hiddi and Dillu primary schools with the construction of two preschools in these villages. This will ensure access to education for the children of these villages and will help the entire community in the area, as happened more than 10 years ago with the creation of the center and school in Gaba Kemisa.

653 students are enrolled in Dillu and Hiddi Elementary Schools, distributed as follows:

- Students at Dillu’s school: 222 boys / 146 girls
- Students at Hiddi’s school: 166 boys / 119 girls

The goal is to create satellite schools that will replicate the model of the Gaba Kemisa Preschool. For this, Abay has the following actions planned:

- ✓ Construction of a well at Dillu’s school.
- **Construction of the satellite preschool in Dillu.**
- Furnishing Hiddi’s Public Primary School.
- **Construction of the satellite preschool in Hiddi.**

In this competition, we will look for designs for the construction of preschool education schools that will function as support for the public primary schools established in the towns where Abay works. The first to be built will be those of Dillu and Hiddi.





THE SITE: HIDDEN

Hiddi Primary School is located about 4 km walk from the Gaba Kemisa Polyfunctional Center. It receives a total of 285 children who are distributed in two buildings destined for classrooms (marked in yellow in the image above). One of 30m x 7m and another of 12m x 7m, which makes a total of 294m² used as classrooms.

The land, practically square, has dimensions of 70m x 65m (4,550m²) and is fenced around its entire perimeter. The Abay satellite preschool will be located within this space, sharing it with the public school.

In addition, outside the plot (and marked in blue in the image), there is a small 13.5m x 4m building that serves as the teachers' residence.

The terrain is completely flat and there are no trees that have to be taken into account for the construction of the school.

The northwest corner of the plot has a small latrine (marked in pink in the image). It can be kept or deleted according to the design requirements of each participant.



Preschool in Hiddi



THE SITE: DILLU



Dillu Primary School is located about 3.5 km walk from the Gaba Kemisa Polyfunctional Center. It receives a total of 368 children that are distributed in two buildings for classrooms (marked in yellow in the image above). One of 40m x 7m and another of 16m x 7m, which makes a total of 392m² used as classrooms.

Apart from these two classrooms, Abay is building a third along with the others, which will expand the school by approximately 280 m². Besides, they have also installed a latrine in the southwest corner (indicated in pink) and a water well (indicated in green)

The land has dimensions of 95m x 200m (19,000m²). The Abay satellite preschool will be located in the southeast corner (lower right) of the lot.

The northeast corner has a 30m x 5m building used as the teachers' residence (blue in the image).

The terrain is completely flat and there are no trees that have to be taken into account for the construction of the school.

More images and videos of the sites will be sent once the registration is completed. You can check the exact location of the sites in [this link](#).



Construction of the third classroom at Dillu Elementary School



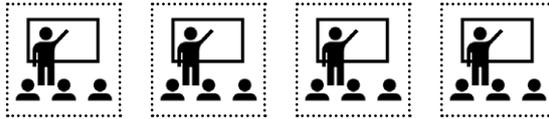
THE CHALLENGE: PROGRAM

This competition will look for a preschool base design that the NGO Abay Ethiopia can use whenever they want to establish a new preschool in one of its work regions, starting with those of **Dillu and Hiddi**.

The main objective in the design is flexibility in the use of spaces and the possibility of adding new areas if they are needed. Thus, schools should include the following spaces:

Initial construction

Classrooms x 4



The classrooms should be approximately 50 m² each and will accommodate between 30 and 50 students per class. The age of the students will be 3, 4, 5 and 6 years old. The first year, only the 3-year-old classroom will be occupied, while the other three will be used as multifunctional spaces (literacy classes for mothers, warehouse / kitchen, health promotion events for pregnant women, etc.). Each year the preschools will occupy one of these spaces for a new classroom until the fourth year all four are used as classrooms at the school.

Latrines



The school will need four latrines, one for boys, one for girls, one for adult men, and one for adult women. The latrines will use a septic tank as a wastewater disposal system.

Covered courtyard



During rainy days, children need a covered outdoor space where they can carry out their sports activities. An approximate area of 100 m² is recommended.

Open courtyard



An open outdoor space is required where children can practice sports, one of the basic pillars that Abay wants to implement. If space allows it, it would be very positive to be able to include a volleyball field and a soccer field.

These spaces will form the basis of the project and will be the first to be built. From there, as additional functions and spaces are needed, other areas will be added to the construction.

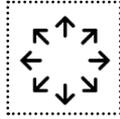
THE CHALLENGE: PROGRAM

Additional constructions

In the design of the school, maximum flexibility will be sought when it comes to adding additional spaces, since each preschool will have particular needs depending on the number of students they serve and the characteristics of the place.

For this reason, proposals must include the option to add the following spaces:

Multifunctional space



Depending on the requirements of the school, it can be very useful to incorporate at a later stage a multifunctional space where literacy classes can be taught to the adults, as well as programs for infants with malnutrition, talks about health, or even serve as a dining room in the case that the school doesn't have one. The offices of the teachers and the school principal would also be included within this space. Its recommended size is 100 m².

Kitchen



During the first years the food for the satellite schools will be cooked and transported from the Gaba Kemisa main school. As the preschools grow, they will require the construction of their own kitchens, approximately 20 m² in size, with a wood stove and wood ovens for bread.

Dining room



Initially, the kids will begin eating in the classrooms, later the dining room will be located in the multifunctional space, although if the center grows a lot as the years go by, it may be necessary to build an actual dining room, with a size of about 100 m².

Corral + orchard



In the final phases of the project, a hen house (like the one that already exists in Gaba) for about 50 chickens may be included. Similarly, depending on the water available on the land, an orchard will be added with the aim of making the school self-sufficient.

Besides these additional constructions, it is also important to think about small storage spaces where they can store school or cleaning supplies.

THE CHALLENGE: CONSIDERATIONS

In this contest the winning project will be built. The following aspects are important points to consider in your design:

Flexibility

The main challenge in the current competition is to ensure that the model that is developed can be adapted to the different places where Abay wants to build schools.

As with Dillu and Hiddi, each terrain is different, **so a flexible model will be needed to adapt to each space.**

Construction techniques and materials

ABAY Ethiopia has already built several buildings in the region. It has generally used reinforced concrete for the foundations, columns and beams, concrete blocks for the walls, and metal panels for the roof. The use of these materials ensures easy maintenance as they are resistant and durable.

The choice of construction materials is free for each participant, always keeping in mind that the material is low cost and easy to obtain. This means that it is not mandatory to build with the same materials that ABAY has used previously.

Thus, the new preschools can be built using concrete, stones, wood, adobe, or whatever material you want as long as it is available.

Sustainability:

ABAY seeks a self-sustaining model in its schools, so sustainability and good use of resources is essential.

One of the first actions that the NGO did in Dillu was the construction of a well, but in addition to that, **a system for reusing rainwater will be highly valued in the designs.**

With regard to electricity, there is no electricity supply in the town, so the classrooms work without light or any electrical appliance. In the future, solar panels could be installed to supply electricity.

Any other characteristic that adds value to the building in terms of sustainability will be positively evaluated.

Climate

New schools will have to consider the climate of the area. ABAY works in Walmara, a region known for its temperate climates, where the average maximum temperatures are around 20-24°C throughout the year and the minimum temperatures are around 10-14°C.

There is a rainy season that lasts approximately 3 and a half months, between June and September, and a long dry season of 9 months in which it hardly rains.

You can check [this page](#) for more information about the weather.



COMPETITION DETAILS

ELEGIBILITY

Any architecture student or professional architect can participate in ETHIOPIAN SATELLITE PRESCHOOLS, regardless of their nationality. Likewise, people from other disciplines can also participate, such as engineers, philosophers, sociologists, photographers, etc. It is not necessary to have an architect on the team, although it is recommended.

Teams may be formed by a maximum of four (4) members and a minimum of one (1).

All team members must be 18 years of age or older.

The registration fee must be paid per team, regardless of the number of members (1-4 people).

In the event that a team or participant wants to participate with more than one proposal, it will be necessary to register twice (or as many times as proposals will be submitted), paying the full price corresponding to each registration.

Under no circumstances may jurors, the organization or persons directly related to the jury participate in this competition.

AWARDS

Prizes totaling 10.000€ + CONSTRUCTION, broken down as follows:

1st PRIZE

6.000 €

+

PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

2nd PRIZE

2.000 €

3rd PRIZE

1.000 €

SPECIAL HONORABLE MENTION

500 €

SPECIAL HONORABLE MENTION

500 €

+10 HONORABLE MENTIONS

In addition, the winning projects or finalists will be published in magazines, blogs or architecture web pages, social networks or the Archstorming website.

*Depending on the country of residence of the winners, the prize may be subject to the withholding or payment of taxes foreseen in the law of that country.



COMPETITION DETAILS

CALENDAR

JANUARY 13, 2021	EARLY REGISTRATION BEGINS
FEBRUARY 16, 2021	EARLY REGISTRATION CLOSES
FEBRUARY 17, 2021	REGULAR REGISTRATION BEGINS
MARCH 16, 2021	REGULAR REGISTRATION CLOSES
MARCH 17, 2021	ADVANCED REGISTRATON BEGINS
APRIL 13, 2021	ADVANCED REGISTRATON CLOSES
APRIL 14, 2021	LATE REGISTRATON BEGINS

MAY 12, 2021

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

MAY 13 - JUNE 7, 2021	JURY DECISION
JUNE 8, 2021	WINNERS ANNOUNCED

*No submissions will be accepted after the general deadline indicated above: 23:59:59 Los Angeles time (UCT / GMT-7) or PDT.

PAYMENT

Registration fees will depend on the registration date, and will evolve as follows:

EARLY REGISTRATION: **60€ + VAT**
REGULAR REGISTRATION: **80€ + VAT**
ADVANCED REGISTRATION: **100€ + VAT**
LATE REGISTRATION: **120€ + VAT**

VAT: 21%

Registration process must be completed on the official Archstorming website. In order for the registration to be successful, the team must pay the fee corresponding to the registration date. Once the registration and payment process have been completed, there will be no refunds.

PAYMENT METHODS

Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express credit or debit cards may be used. The Archstorming team will not have access to credit card details. Please provide the information on the card as it appears on it.

Likewise, payments are accepted through Paypal.

REGISTRATION

Immediately after registration and payment, the Archstorming Team will send a confirmation email to the email entered in the payment form. It will include the work material (pictures, site plans, etc.), as well as the registration number. This number must be placed in a visible spot on the team's competition board, preferably the lower right corner.

At the time of submission of the proposals, the registration number will be required to identify the team.

<http://www.archstorming.com/register.html>



COMPETITION DETAILS

SUBMISSION MATERIALS

Participants must submit **two (2) A1 format boards** (594x841 mm or 23.4x33.1 inches) oriented either landscape or portrait with the registration number in the lower right corner.

The content of the boards is open, as long as the idea that the participants want to communicate is clearly expressed. However, it is **important to detail the proposal with the materials and constructive systems thought. It is also important to represent the design in both sites: Dilli and Hiddu.** The boards must be delivered in JPEG or JPG format and the file name must be the registration number provided by the Archstorming Team (eg 432465423-1.jpg and 432465423-2.jpg for the two boards)

In addition, **one (1) description of the project no longer than 400 words** must be submitted. It must be submitted in PDF format and the file name must be the registration number provided by the Archstorming Team (eg 432465423.pdf)

All the materials must be submitted in the Submit section on the Archstorming's website.

<http://www.archstorming.com/submit.html>

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The jury will evaluate the projects based on the objectives stated in the pages 10, 11 and 12 of this briefing. Specifically, it will be evaluated if the project meets the requirements in program, flexibility, building techniques, materials and sustainability. It is important that proposals always take into account that the client is an NGO, and therefore simple and inexpensive construction methods will be preferred.

The jury is free to add other criteria that they consider important for the creation of the school.

A minimum of 50 proposals will be selected for the final round. Among those finalists, the jury will choose the winner, the second and third place, the 2 special honorable mentions, and the 10 honorable mentions.

FAQ

You can check the most common questions in the corresponding section on the Archstorming website:

<http://www.archstorming.com/faq.html>

Also, during the competition, all questions sent by email will be answered individually and uploaded to the section of the website mentioned above.



COMPETITION DETAILS

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT

All the projects that win a monetary prize will become property of Archstorming, and therefore give Archstorming all rights to the materials from that moment on. Archstorming reserves the rights to use any of the participating projects for exhibitions and publications, digital or paper catalogues and dossiers.

Archstorming will publish all materials given appropriate attributes to the authors.

Archstorming reserves the right to modify the proposals and text in order to better adapt them to any publication format, without changing the essence of the proposal itself.

The participant is responsible for using copyright-free images. Archstorming is not responsible for the use of protected images by the participants.

NOTES

Archstorming reserves the right to make any changes in the rules of the competition (dates, requirements, etc.). It is the obligation of the participants to check on a regular basis the website of Archstorming to verify if the Terms and Conditions or the competition information have been modified.

Abay Ethiopia is in charge of the project construction. Archstorming is collaborating with the project but not responsible of the school construction. If for any reason they finally cannot build it, Archstorming will not be responsible of the fact.

Archstorming is not responsible for any research done by participants in the area.

The breach of the norms and terms defined in this briefing or in the Terms and Conditions of the website of Archstorming will result in the immediate disqualification of the team without any refund of the payments made.

Archstorming reserves the right to cancel this contest in case it does not reach a minimum number of participants, defined in the Terms and Conditions. In that case, Archstorming will return the full amount of registration fees to the participants enrolled at the time of cancellation.

<http://www.archstorming.com/terms.html>

