



USAID TEKI Activity

Fighting Plastic Bags With Sign Language

TEKI [ተኪ] is an Amharic word from the verb "Metekat," which means replacing. TEKI Fighting Plastic Bags with Sign Language is a three-year activity funded by USAID-Ethiopia and implemented by Teki Paper Bags PLC. The goal of the TEKI activity is to empower youths with disabilities to turn the fight against plastic bag pollution into a national employment-intensive inclusion solution.



**Strengthen
Disability Inclusion**



**Empower
Ethiopian Youths**



**Protect the
Environment**



**Promote
Women Leadership**





About TEKI Paper Bags



Founded in 2016 in Ethiopia, Teki Paper Bags PLC is the world's first deaf-run paper bags company. We empower deaf women to build a plastic-free Ethiopia. We produce, sell, distribute, and raise awareness, all in Ethiopian sign language.

With our hands and signs, we can now overcome our disability and convince people to stop using plastic bags better than others. With the support of USAID-Ethiopia, we are now able to scale up and create more jobs for youths living with disabilities to produce more paper bags and turn our dream into a reality.



Since
2016



2,045,500
Plastic Bags Replaced
with TEKI bags



38 Jobs
Created for young
Deaf Women





TEKI Objectives



**Job Creation for
Youths with Disability**

Create 200 jobs for Deaf youths by opening TEKI branches across the city and transferring our technology to special needs schools to empower their young graduates who can't find employment.



**Fighting Plastic
Bags Pollution**

Replace 10 million single-use plastic bags with our TEKI paper bags produced by youths with disability and sold using Ethiopian Sign Language.



**Education and
school activities**

Provide soft skills and technical training for our Deaf employees as well as internship positions and school visits to inspire the young generation.



**Awareness
raising**

Leverage social media and Ethiopian Sign Language to raise awareness about plastic pollution and disability rights from an innovative angle.



Made in Ethiopia





TEKI Activity Planed



**Job Creation for
Youths with Disability**



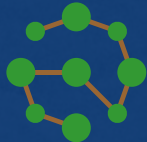
**Fighting Plastic
Bags Pollution**



**Education and
School Activities**



**Awareness
Raising**



**Opening Branches
Across the City**



**Increase TEKI
Monthly Production**



**Soft Skills
Program**



**Use of
Social Media**



**Empowering
Special Needs Schools**



**Collaborate with
the Private Sector**



**Provide
Internship**



**TV and Press
Coverage**



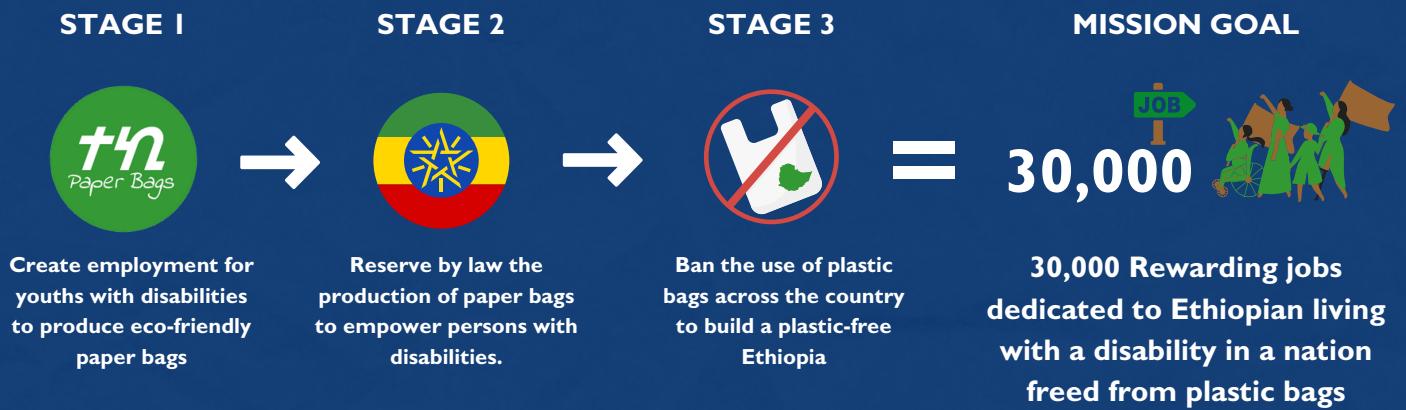
**Organise Monthly
School Visits**



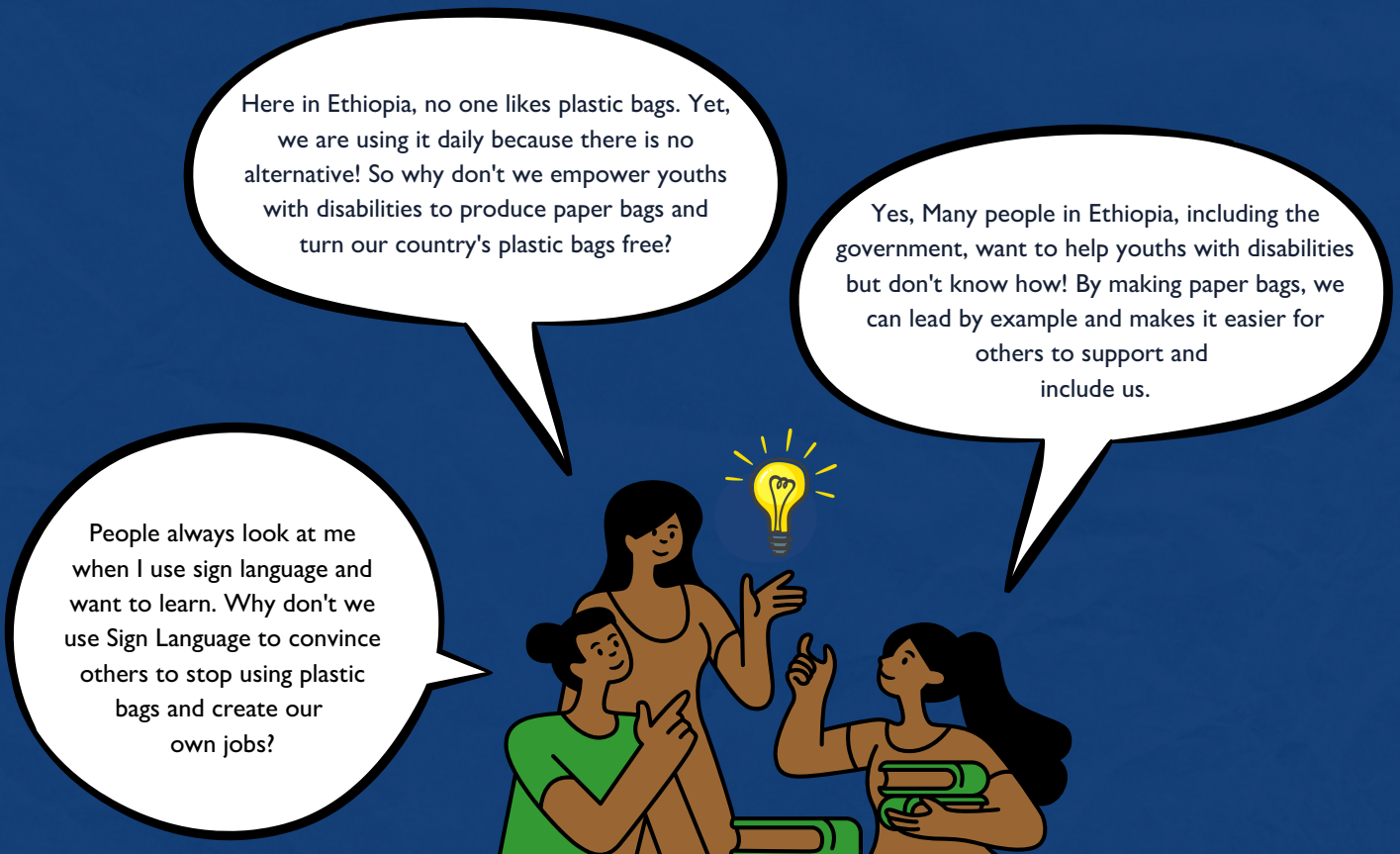
**Teaching
Sign Language**



A National Inclusion Solution



The TEKI Concept





USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



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