



ETHIOPIA

A WATERLESS PARADISE

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Sora. Men working in a water pumping station.

“Drought in Ethiopia is worse than a military coup”. This is what Sandro Santilli admits as he jumps on his car heading to Sora, in Southern Ethiopia. Sandro – an Italian from a family based in Addis Ababa for 3 generations – designs and produces filtering systems to make pond and muddy river waters drinkable. This is a useful invention, considering that in 2011 the most severe drought of the last 60 years affected Ethiopia.

Hygiene is not guaranteed, pandemics are widespread and food costs rise while the farmers are in crisis: desertification reduces the space for cultivable fields and forces the farmers to move to new lands, with quite predictable social tensions. On top of that, drought – which used to arrive every 10 years – is now occurring every 2 years.



Negelle. Collecting the water from a well in the outskirts of the city.



Dirid. A man ploughing a field.



Gorodolla Woreda. A woman shocked after a fight between two shepherds during the vaccination of their cows.



Women walking in the countryside along the road connecting Filtu to Dolo.



Negelle. A young girl following a herd in the outskirts of the city.



A bridge under construction by a Korean company, on the road from Awassa to Negelle.



Negelle. Girls playing soccer in a school in the outskirts of the city.



Wadera. A man working in an office in the town hall.



Dhahayal. People drawing water from a local lake.



Wadera. A young girl from the village.



Haraqallo. In the local church.



Wadera. Kids are playing with the water of a well made by COOPI, an Italian no profit organization.



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