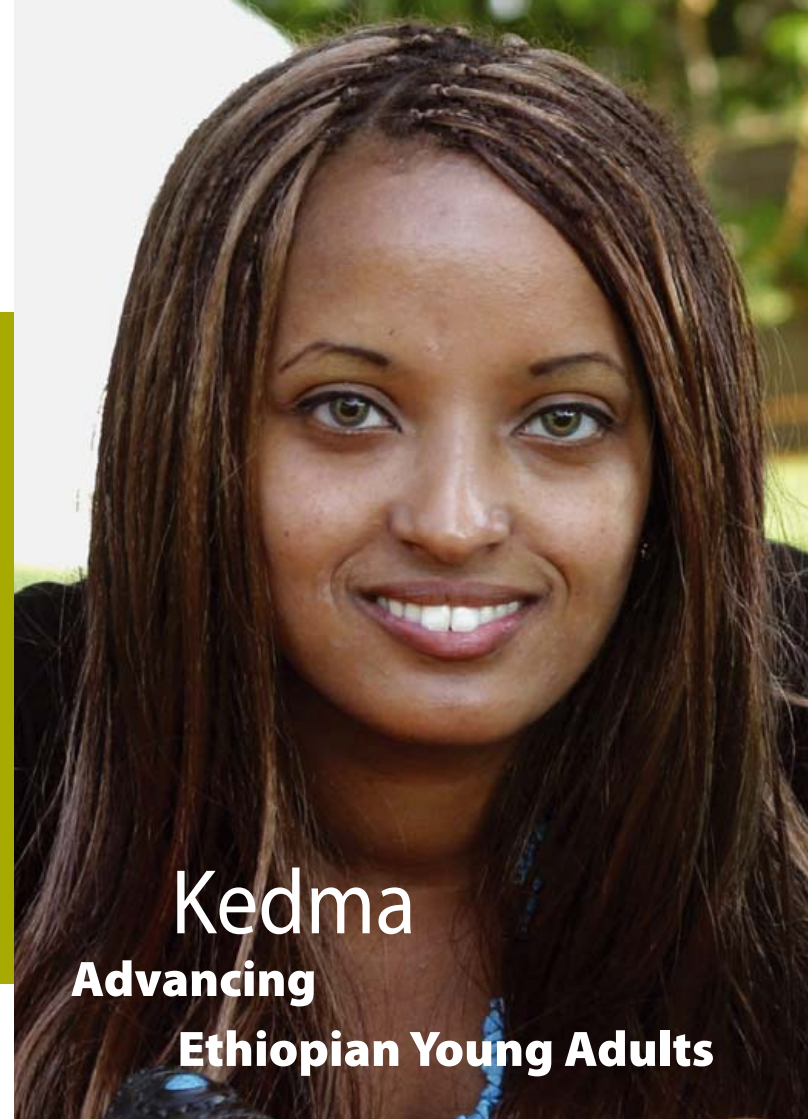




Kedma is investing in the educational and social integration of Ethiopian young adults. The program ensures that these new immigrants become partners in securing a vibrant, contributing, culturally rich population of Israelis of Ethiopian descent.

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Kedma
Advancing
Ethiopian Young Adults

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Ensuring that motivated young adults from Ethiopia have a level playing field where they can compete for both employment and higher education opportunities requires a new approach to integration through education. The Jewish Agency's Kedma program is just that: frontline intervention to proactively address the considerable challenges inherent in the integration of this population group.

Kedma, a year-long absorption program, is a targeted, holistic approach to the integration of Ethiopian immigrants who are 20-25 years old, have completed at least five to seven years of education in Ethiopia and have been living in Israel for approximately one year.

Kedma's core study program consists of an intensive nine-month ulpan providing 1,000 hours

of Hebrew language instruction. Students are divided into groups according to academic levels to facilitate individual advancement. During the second month of the program, these young immigrants begin basic educational enrichment intended to prepare them for professional training programs or further academic study. Kedma includes mathematics, English and computers. The program emphasizes study of Israeli culture and society. Additionally, interested students can pursue Jewish studies in the afternoon.

While participating in Kedma, many of the students reside at the Jewish Agency's Friedmann Student Village IBIM, near Sderot, where an Amharic-speaking counselor serves as a coordinator and liaison for every aspect of the program.

Equal Educational Opportunity

While the majority of Ethiopian immigrants come to Israel without any formal education, many Ethiopian young adults have significant academic promise, but simply do not have the resources and opportunities to advance themselves. Kedma identifies these motivated young adults and invests in developing their unrealized potential.