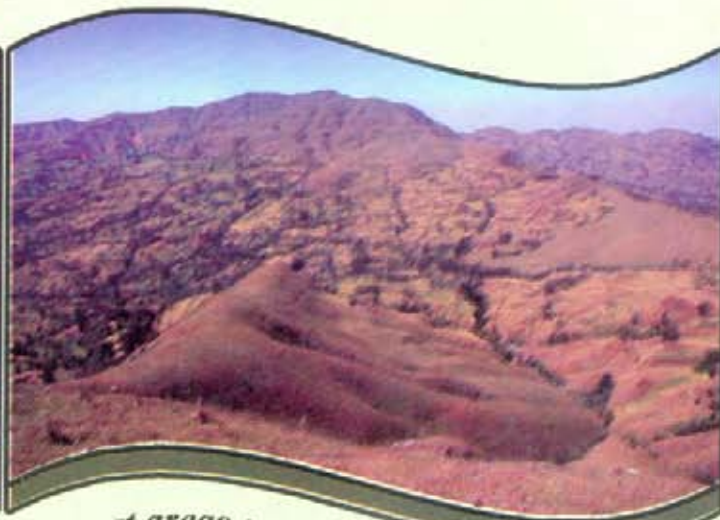


Proceedings of the Establishment and
Launching Conference for the

**ETHIOPIAN CONSORTIUM FOR
INTEGRATION OF POPULATION,
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
(CIPHE)**



Large family size hinders development



Forest areas are becoming farm areas

May 30-31, 2008
Ethiopia Hotel, Ambo

1. Executive Summary

A new developmental approach that will help to bring sustainable and equitable growth for the country has been launched on May 30-31, 2008, in Ambo, Ethiopia, in the presence of His Excellency President Girma Woldegiorgis, as the Consortium for Integration Population, Health and Environment (CIPHE) was established.

At the onset of the event, Ato Mogues Worku, chair for the ad hoc CIPHE committee, explained that "An integrated approach that connects issues of population, health and environment leads to improvement of livelihoods and sustainable use of resources,"

For many years well-intentioned organizations have exerted their best efforts to assist in Ethiopia's development processes. Policy studies indicate that the supports made so far and those that are under execution could have produced better yields at much wider scale if the organization and concerned bodies had promoted their development efforts by joining efforts together and filled each other's gaps being cognizant of the cross-sectors nature of problems on the ground.

New information on best practices of integrated approaches which have demonstrated marked progress in some countries can be used as bench marks to call for harmonization disparate and sectoral efforts and recover several lost decades.

Integrating population, health and environment (PHE) is a pragmatic approach to development that takes a holistic view of the needs of Ethiopian population, health, environment, gender and others issues by involving institutions, organizations and community associations who work together for synergistic achievements of mutually supportive efforts.

CIPHE will be a learning a platform where novel techniques on PHE integration will be developed through innovative research which will be communicated and scaled up to significantly contribute towards the improvement of the livelihood of the Ethiopian people and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in general and the Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) in particular. CIPHE will act as the main instrument of advocacy and capacity building to bring a paradigm shift and comprehensive change in community engagement.

While this historic event marks the end of one phase and the recognition of the fruitful planning, it is the beginning of a new phase to enhance and promote the integration of PHE at various levels for sustainable development through effective networking and community empowerment for equity, health and environmental stewardship.

His Excellency the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Girma Wolde Giorgis, pledged his devotion to CIPHE as the patron of the organization in his conclusive remark of his speech during the launching of CIPHE last week. The President has granted unwavering support since the inception of CIPHE last year and expressed his admiration of impressive composition and the speed at which CIPHE came to the establishment stage.

Last weekend's event is the culmination of months of hard work to bring together the right human resources and areas of expertises to make a meaningful impact on the manner in which Ethiopia develops. The coalition-building workshop that was held at Hilton Hotel from November 12-13, 2007, and the conference organized under the theme "Population, Health, and Environment: Integrated Development for East Africa," sponsored by the Population Reference Bureau (PRB) and LEM Ethiopia, which was held at ECA from November 14-16, 2007, both were a success in helping to bring together East African Partners and moving the process along for the formation and launch of a PHE Network at an East African level and in the respective countries.

It was merely seven months ago that the seven ad hoc committee organizations, LEM Ethiopia, Engender Health, Addis Ababa University, Arba Minch University, Consortium of Reproductive Health Associations, Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority and Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Authority, began work on CIPHE's establishment, supported by an individual member and coordinator, Ato Negash Teklu. But these respected and varied organizations connected through these events and countless efforts exerted since are now cemented with the formal establishment of CIPHE in Ethiopia, in the conference successfully facilitated by Ato Teshome Admassu from Engender Health Ethiopia.

With the finalization of the Memorandum of Association and election of experienced and qualified members of its board, CIPHE garnered the momentum it needs to implement its vision "to see a prosperous and healthy society in a sustainably managed environment".

The presentation of a concept paper by Professor of Biology at Addis Ababa University (AAU), Zerihun Woldu (PhD), entitled The Population, Health and Environmental Nexus gave the clear and well-researched impetus for CIPHE's establishment.

"Long-term or short-term interventions that separately foster beneficial effects on population, health and environment can be counterproductive and self-defeating... Integration of PHE programs can play an important role in areas where demographic trends such as growth and migration exert pressure on the environment; where degraded natural resources impact the health and livelihoods of local communities; and where a lack of effective health services, including reproductive health threatens long-term prospects for sustainable development."

Gelila Kidan (MD) from Engender Health Ethiopia, who is the Chair of the new seven member board, confirmed the great benefits that will accrue to Ethiopia's sustainable development at CIPHE's onset:

"By applying the experiences from other countries such as The Philippines and Madagascar that have demonstrated the potential for integrated approaches to projects and studies in PHE areas, measurable and noticeable change in environmental sustainability and holistic development will follow."

The conference also included the successful election of the Board's Vice Chair, Professor Zerihun Woldu from AAU, as well as its other five members: Ato Moges Worku from LEM, Ato Ababu Anage from the Environment Protection Authority, W/ro Saba Gebremedhin from the Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations, Dr. Desta Woldeyohannis from the Ministry of Health and Dr. Getachew Tikubet from Integrated Biofarm Enterprise.

The hard work put forward at the conference by the above 60 participants in analyzing and finalizing CIPHE's vision, mission, objectives, membership rules, responsibilities and procedures as well as the organization's structure was an example of the progressive work that will be accomplished. The general assembly of CIPHE also elected the President of the Assembly Ato Eshetu Bekele, Executive Director of PANE, Vice President, Ato Tezera Getahun, Executive Director of Pastoralist Forum for Ethiopia and Secretary W/ro Beletu Mengistu ISAPSO Executive Director.

With the resources and expertise now gathered with CIPHE it will successfully enhance an enabling environment for integration of PHE at various levels; build the capacity of stakeholders and network members; improve coordination and communication among members and stakeholders, support community empowerment initiative on PHE; and disseminate relevant information and experience to the wider community.

Both Dr. Strike Mkandla, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Representative to the African Union (AU), ECA and Ethiopia and Dr. Abera Deressa, State Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture, showed enthusiasm and support at the event for a promising beginning to CIPHE that recognizes its immediate need and harmony with international and domestic efforts. The event even drew the attention of the World Health Organization (WHO) who sent their representative, Dr. Fatoumata Nafotraore, to encourage the initiative.

But it was Dr. Kostentinos Berhe, Master of Ceremony, who explained it best when he affirmed that it is a rare moment when such talented individuals, organizations and institutions can begin such a promising endeavour. "CIPHE is bound for success in its quest to make a positive, lasting and strong impact on Ethiopia's bright path forward."

2. Concept Note

CIPHE is founded upon strong theoretical grounding informed by experience from organizations and researchers across the globe. The integrated approach to development that will provide the basis for CIPHE's activities is the product of tireless research and consultation with professionals and academics in the fields of population, health and environment.

The beginnings of the conceptualization of Ethiopia's PHE integration came at the conference organized under the theme "Population, Health, and Environment: Integrated Development for East Africa," sponsored by the Population Reference Bureau (PRB) and LEM Ethiopia, which was held at ECA from November 14-16, 2007. It was here that the ad hoc committee members for CIPHE's establishment were selected and began their valuable efforts to make the vision a reality.

International experience was also instrumental to CIPHE's founding as two participants travelled to The Philippines in February to integrate the successes experienced there into the CIPHE's establishment. The practices honed in Turkey were taken into account in the conceptual stages of CIPHE's founding as experience sharing and networking took place at a conference in Ankara in Mid-May.

The local context was integrated into CIPHE's founding with a leading Ethiopian professor's research and presented at the conference. The presentation of a concept paper by Professor of Biology at Addis Ababa University (AAU), Zerihun Woldu (PhD), entitled *The Population, Health and Environmental Nexus* gave the clear and well-researched impetus for CIPHE's establishment. (See Annex 1 for full paper). Ato Sahlu Haile, representative of Pakard Foundation of Ethiopia, chaired the concept note portion of the conference.

2.1 Presentation of Concept Note

Professor Zerihun Woldu extrapolated the main points of his study, *The Population, Health and Environmental Nexus*, at the founding conference utilizing a visually appealing projected outline format supplementing the formal research with graphics that granted a strong human appeal. He explicated the underlying philosophy of CIPHE's approach as an integrated and holistic approach to development cognizant of the interconnections between population, health and environment. While previous efforts have taken the three areas as independent, an integrated approach is necessary to take into account the dynamic influences on environmental change and its subsequent two-way effects on health and population.

"Achieving environmentally-sustainable development in situations of surging population growth, declining biodiversity and chronic poverty requires strategic planning, multi-disciplinary interventions and cross-sector-linked approaches that mirror the livelihood strategies of poor households and communities."



Professor Zerihun Woldu delivers the concept note presentation

CIPHE's approach is particularly crucial at this time and for a developing country like Ethiopia as population and unsustainable economic activities exact a devastating toll on the very resources that create the possibilities for progress. CIPHE's approach that recognizes the cross effects of population growth, health and environment is critical as the dynamics of population growth shift towards the younger generation and simultaneously life expectancies and pressure to consume resources increases.

Abject poverty is another factor that exacerbates the problems as the rush to consume limited resources neglects proper sustainable management. The cycle of poverty is only cemented when the effects of proper and sufficient environmental protection is neglected. It is with this recognition that CIPHE will strive to give communities tangible incentives to sustainably manage resources by linking environmental efforts with more immediately recognizable benefits in the health and environmental sectors. Where once communities were often suspicious of efforts that sought to protect limited resources that could provide immediate income, CIPHE's approach seeks to create a cooperative and receptive atmosphere amongst the various sector projects, as community returns are evident.

The population and environmental pressures meet at a confluence in the poor areas of Ethiopia and its world-class biodiversity is forever lost, resulting in the disappearance of valuable resources that sustainably reproduce themselves. However, the situation is not altogether grim as there exists a "glimmer of hope" found in Ethiopia's rich national endowments as well as the growing attention these problems receive by many organizations as well as the integrated overall development framework encompassed in the Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP).

Recognizing these factors, CIPHE, plans to pay heed to all areas embodied in its acronym. Basing efforts in advocacy, capacity building, communication and research CIPHE will work towards achieving PASDEP and MDG goals by generating active cooperation amongst various levels of authoritative hierarchies.

As concluding remarks, Professor Zerihun stressed the need for CIPHE to be proactive in a demand driven and integrated approach to rural development.

"Today, more than ever, the dire situation related to population, health and environment calls for more concerted efforts than previous isolated piecemeal approaches."

2.2 Concept Note Discussion

The discussion following Professor Zerihun's presentation demonstrated the extensive and varied expertise of the organizations gathered. A diverse body of subjects were covered in the concept note's explication, including detailed and researched analysis of the situation of population, health, gender and environment. When the floor was opened to discussion, the strength of representation from the various areas became apparent.

Responding to concerns regarding the framework to integrate CIPHE's three focus areas on the grass roots level, Professor Zerihun stressed the demonstrated failures of disconnected approaches that do not appreciate the linkages as a rationale for CIPHE's founding. Further, the lack of structure evidenced amongst past efforts gives a great impetus for CIPHE to work passionately.

"Integrating approaches builds synergies that improve outcomes more than if they were done separately. The Consortium is founded upon deep understanding of roadblocks to progress in other countries and thus has the ability to work efficiently with foreknowledge of impediments."

Additionally, a participant from Wondo Genet Forestry College emphasized the critical nature of capacity building that can foster experience sharing. The participants agreed that the incredible human resource pool gathered under CIPHE is a particularly strong asset and should be exploited to the benefit of the various organizations who have much to share as well as for the improvement of various communities' livelihoods.

Some participants raised the sentiment that many community and non-governmental organizations have been structured to concentrate on specific intervention areas and thus integration may be difficult. However, the discussion that followed demonstrated the prior felt need to do just this. Many organizations shared experiences in their various fields of expertise where they would have appreciated consultation and teamwork with other groups operating in the same area but did not have the framework to do so.

Participants extrapolated the advantages to integration as detailed discussions brought the theoretical implications of harmonizing efforts in the PHE sectors. Development efforts that harness an integrated approach offer a greater potential to remain sustainable as the various sectors complement each other and create linkages that aid community livelihood improvement as a whole. Moreover, through cooperation of interventions in the PHE sectors the social base that is uplifted is widened and participation of the community as a whole is the result. When resources are mobilized in this dynamic and integrated way resources are mobilized efficiently and directed at the most effective target areas.

Participants felt that integration on the ground that captures the proscriptions of conceptual approaches would be paramount to achieving the goals of CIPHE. With this in mind a number of participants raised specific domestic and international experiences that would be key to incorporating in CIPHE's efforts. In this way the acronym that symbolizes the philosophy of the integrated approach (PHE) would bring about changes in a variety of necessary sectors that fall under the categories. When efforts come together on the ground level improvements in a numerous areas including, gender, specific health areas and different kinds of environmental needs would be addressed.

One participant from the Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Center and Network emphasized situations where forestry projects faced community opposition and tension because immediate benefits to not using timber resources were not apparent. However, the participants agreed that when the safety net programs of other sectors could be integrated with such environmental efforts, the overall effect on the community would be noticeably positive.

“Gelila Kidan from Engender Health Ethiopia emphasized that experiences from other countries such as The Philippines and Madagascar demonstrate the potential for integrated approaches to affect measurable and noticeable change in environmental sustainability. Participants agreed that research has shown the demonstrated need for the type of integrated approach CIPHE will take.

3. Memorandum of Association Discussion

Before the conference, all participants were provided with a draft memorandum of association so as to prepare for the extensive discussions that were to take place. After the enthusiastic opening of the conference where consensus on the rationale and need for an integrated consortium in the vein of CIPHE, the participants were anxious to solidify a workable and pragmatic framework from which to operate.

The purpose of the memorandum of association discussion was to allow the talented and passionate participants to internalize the specific commitments and framework to institute the valuable ideas and talents assembled. Moreover, once the pragmatic guidelines were deeply understood in terms of both philosophy and working composition, members were ecstatic about the chance to work in the developed organization.

One of CIPHE’s core strengths the impressive, both in terms of size and importance, list of members was immediately noticeable. Participants were so involved that even the name of the organization itself was hotly debated. In the end, even this basic but important aspect of the organization’s character was fine-tuned so as to clearly convey its purpose.



Participants worked hard to fine tune the Memorandum of Association

In a similar vein, the truly national level of CIPHE's members as well as its holistic approach and potential to be a real positive force for sustainable national development created the need to leave open its projected chapters that would compliment the Addis Ababa headquarters. In this way, conference participants agreed that CIPHE has the capability and should realize the need for it to reach all areas of Ethiopia. (See Annex 2 for full memorandum of association).

3.1 Vision, Mission and Objectives

From the onset, conference participants made clear that the progressive nature of CIPHE as an integrated approach to development called for clear and concise statements of purpose. Because there would be so many organizations, communities and professionals involved the need for precise wording of founding documents would be necessary so as to make the areas of involvement easily recognizable.

Participants were divided into groups so as to streamline discussions. In this way all members of the diverse and valuable pool of human resources gathered were given opportunities to apply various expertises and experiences. At the end, when numerous valuable suggestions had been gathered, the group decided to shorten the vision and mission statements to succinct and comprehensible versions.

Moreover, cognizant of the need to provide all the members from population, health and environment sectors proper space to make their respective constructive contributions, an additional objective was added. Participants made it clear that the extraordinary collection of organizations that would operate in CIPHE would be able to grant great weight to any community initiative it decided to put its support and resources behind. This critical aspect of supporting grassroots level efforts was then included in the specific objectives of the memorandum of association.

3.2 Membership

Discussion of membership criteria and rules focused on CIPHE's need to be both inclusive of all valuable potential members, but at the same time firm on requirements so as to maintain a cohesive framework from which to operate. Following these principle discussions the categories of "honourable members" and "lifetime members" were added and the language of membership criteria was softened so as to be open to new groups previously excluded from the old version's wording.

CIPHE's broad based and integrated approach allows it to encompass leaders from a variety of fields in its membership. Big names in international and Ethiopian contexts are joining ranks with the realization of the potential for this historic organization. CIPHE's membership includes research organizations, private institutions, government entities as well as NGOs, CSOs and individuals.

Responsibilities of members was also a point of contention in discussions as representatives from some of the country's most successful and sustained organizations were able to share their experiences on how best to build a strong consortium. Participants agreed that the language of membership responsibilities should be made to convey the opportunities available through active participation in CIPHE. The responsibilities were also clarified to prevent ambiguity in rights and duties.

Membership contributions were deemed by the participants to be basic and vital to CIPHE's success. In order to create a strong and capable institution membership dues must be given vital attention and be closely regulated.

Procedural discussions focused on the need for efficiency. Participants concurred that it was vital for CIPHE's procedural foundations to be strong and understandable. In this way many participants were able to share specific examples of incidences occurring in other organizations and thus how CIPHE could be structured to avoid and/or deal proficiently with them. One of the main points agreed upon was the need to demarcate duties between the board and the general assembly so as to ensure issues would be solved quickly and not hinder the overall operations of CIPHE.

3.3 Organizational Structure

CIPHE's organizational structure was clarified during the conference discussions so as to ensure a smooth flow through the hierarchy. The duties of various positions were solidified based on the participants' vast practices. It was decided that the more extensively structures could be clarified, the more efficiently members could operate.



Breaks were an important time to network and further understand members' backgrounds

4. Elections

Following the extensive and successful discussions on Friday, May 30, the next morning saw great enthusiasm for the election of the General Assembly President, Vice President and Secretary by secret ballot who then elected the seven-member board. The Saturday, May 31 vote was successfully completed as participants actively participated being attracted by the strong field of candidates. The results of the election are as follows:

I. General Assembly

President: Ato Eshetu Bekele, Executive Director of PANE,

Vice President: Ato Tezera Getahun, Executive Director of Pastoralist Forum for Ethiopia

Secretary: W/ro Beletu Mengistu ISAPSO Executive Director

II. Board

Chairperson: Dr. Gelila Kidan, Engender Health Ethiopia Executive Director

Vice Chairperson: Professor Zerihun Woldu, Addis Ababa University (AAU)

Ato Moges Worku, LEM Executive Director

Ato Ababu Anage, Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

W/ro Saba Gebremedhin, Executive Director of Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations

Dr. Desta Woldeyohannis, Ministry of Health (MoH)

Dr. Getachew Tikubet, Executive Director of Integrated Biofarm Enterprise

In the Board's second meeting, it has recruited as CIPHE's Executive Director, Ato Negash Teklu who was the coordinator since its inception.

5. Poster Presentation

Many of the member organizations participating the founding even displayed various resource materials. Organizations such as the Ethiopian Economic Association, Amhara Development Association, Biofarm Enterprise, Care Ethiopia, Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF) and others presented brochures and posters detailing their various activities, focusing on programs in the PHE areas. Through the presentations the participants were familiarized with the activities of other members and thus formed stringer ties and cemented a foundation for further cooperation under CIPHE.

6. Launching Wrap-Up

At the end of the extensive conference proceedings all participants were ecstatic at the successes reached during the weekend. In a conference that brought together experts from a number of specialized fields and representing a wide spectrum of organization types, including donors, national and international NGOs, as well as research and government institutions, it was immediately evident that the promise for success following collaboration was present.

As structured group discussion throughout the conference proceeded it became clear that members from the various fields represented in this umbrella approach had much to share in terms of expertise, experience and vision. The conference cemented the founding vision of CIPHE as bringing together the diverse professionals and organizations they represent. CIPHE's founding proved to be an important building block to integrated development.

6.1 Board Chairperson Acceptance

Dr. Gelila Kidan from Engender Health Ethiopia was ecstatic at the opportunity to assume a position of leadership amongst so much potential. Dr. Gelila for very enthusiastic that such a well-represented organization as CIPHE could be founded in such a short time.

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all members of the consortium who has been working strenuously the last couple of days and it is with full confidence that motivation and commitment will continue in realizing our vision of seeing prosperous and healthy society in a sustainable managed environment."

She praised the conference participants for their demonstration of dedication and was positive that the commitment would continue for the various challenging tasks that would soon follow.

"Not only will CIPHE serve its own purposes as a vessel to integrate development efforts to the benefit of Ethiopia's diverse communities but also the various members will reinforce the valuable approaches developed and incorporate them into their respective institutions."

7. Honourable Guests' Speeches

CIPHE's establishing conference was extraordinary in the unparalleled support it received from some of the top policy makers in the country. The attendance of high level professionals and politicians was testament to the success that would follow. Master of Ceremony, Dr. Kostentinos Berhe, introduced the conferences distinguished guests and declared his support for CIPHE and his enthusiasm that the organization was capable of gathering such a distinguished membership in the short time it had operated.

7.1 Dr. Strike Mkandla, UNEP Representative to AU, ECA and Ethiopia

Dr Strike Mkandla said CIPHE's initiative comes at a critical time and encompasses relevant issues when viewed through the lens of the United Nations' current focus and

the areas it is concentrating its efforts. The groundbreaking founding of CIPHE is the sign that Ethiopian development efforts are now on the cutting edge of integrated theories informed by world experience.

"Ethiopia's civil society and non-governmental organizations have taken a big step forward today in founding CIPHE as this integrated approach is in keeping with the experience and recommendations of leading international institutions."

Ethiopia has a unique opportunity to develop sustainably and responsibly, cognizant of the global impacts of local progress, by building upon the knowledge garnered from past experiences of developed nations. But along with bright prospects to take new and innovative approaches that are embodied in what CIPHE seeks to accomplish, comes the dire need to pay heed to environmental pressures that have been enhanced over the years with population pressure.

While the problems that make up the impetus for CIPHE's establishment, including the lack of cooperative pushes for development of all sectors appreciative of linkages between sectors, the establishment of a coalition to integrate health, population and environment issues marks an occasion to appreciate progress and build momentum to put forth the effort that this innovative approach needs to succeed.

"The UN Country Team is at your disposal as you seek to engage the population of youth and adults, men and women, public and private sector organizations, mass media, and academia, among others."

7.2 Dr. Abera Deressa, State Minister of Agriculture

Dr. Abera Deressa stressed the interconnected nature of the issues of population, health and environment and the critical need to tie these efforts to help these sectors in an organization like CIPHE. The government of Ethiopia has focused its efforts to pull the country out of poverty in its Agricultural Development Led Industrialization (ADLI) program. It is through the efforts of organizations like CIPHE that this process can proceed in an informed and integrated manner.

"Achieving desired family size must come with encouraging impacts on the well-being of families and better management of natural resources for the present and future generations."

The current world food crisis characterized by shortages of staples as well as inflation that have exacted a huge toll on poor people across the world is a demonstration of the crippling potential effects of climate change. Unfortunately, the agony caused by these

tragic circumstances fall disproportionately on the poorer nations whose contribution to climate change is miniscule but lack the mechanisms to cope that are found in the wealthier nations.

The integrated approach embodied in the founding of CIPHE lays the foundation for achieving the sustainable growth to end the crippling poverty that prevents Ethiopia to combat environmental and livelihood degradation. The environmental degradation that has been acute in densely populated highland areas needs to be combated with an integrated approach.

"The excellent initiative that you are launching today is very much related with the government direction, and therefore on behalf of the Government of Ethiopia, my Ministry will support you in realizing your targets. It is my pleasure to congratulate you for such excellent work done, especially those of you who have worked right from the initial concept note development to this launching workshop. I hope you will maintain your momentum until you reach the target and we all provide you the necessary support to realize the objectives set."

7.3 President Girma Woldegiorgis

His Excellency the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Girma Wolde Giorgis, pledged his devotion to CIPHE as the patron of the organization in his culmination speech at last week's launching of CIPHE. The President has granted unwavering support since CIPHE's beginnings last year and expressed his pleasant surprise that CIPHE came to the establishment stage with such great speed and impressive composition.

The President emphasized the government's desire to provide a conducive environment for organizations like CIPHE to strive.

"It is through working hand-in-hand with dedicated and progressive groups like CIPHE that government efforts to develop the country succeed."



Dedicated participants rejoice after a fruitful weekend

Ethiopia has been showing positive signs of economic growth lately. While this is a promising development it must be taken with the understanding that there is still a long road ahead and that it is important to lay the right foundations for sustainable growth at the onset. It is with this understanding that the government, myself and other institutions must support the promise for integrated development that CIPHE represents.

8 Conclusion

At the conclusion of the event the excitement generated through CIPHE's founding participants' efforts to form a progressive, well conceived and inclusive organization was evident on the faces of those gathered in Ambo, Ethiopia. The mood could be classified as one of joy and a degree of anxiousness to put into practice the results of the conference.

With both private and public media coverage watching closely as CIPHE got its feet under it, it was evident that success will follow. The mere composition in name of an organization with such a diverse and professional membership encompassing 51 dedicated individuals and organizations was reason for celebration.

At this point, many thanks should go to the organizations that supported the conference financially, namely Engender health, Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Centre & Network, OAK Foundation and CORHA.

Annex 1: Concept Note Paper

**THE POPULATION, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
NEXUS**



The need for integration and networking

Background paper for the establishment and launching of PHE in Ethiopia in May 2008

Zerihun Woldu, Addis Ababa University

May, 2008

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1. Introduction

The Earth's ecosystems and its human population are inherently connected. The fundamental relationships are fairly easy to grasp. Ecosystem goods and services provide the conditions for a healthy and secure life. Ecosystems provide energy and raw materials for human activities, which in turn affect the ecosystems and the relationships between the interacting bodies. These relationships are intricately interwoven. Worldwide data indicate that nearly two-thirds of the services provided by nature to humankind are found to be in decline. These interactions encompass human population growth, consumption, resource use and depletion, as well as disturbance of the natural world in a holistic manner. Issues about environment are entangled with those of population and damages to environmental goods and services can adversely affect people's health and well-being. However, major differences in perceptions, assumptions, and definitions among stakeholders complicate the holistic nature of the interactions and offset the underlying relationships. It is, therefore, prudent to acknowledge that the livelihood of people and their well-being are inseparably linked to their environment and are not defined according to different sectors.

A forward-looking analysis of the interconnected components of an ecosystem suggests that the transition to sustainability will depend upon fundamental changes in the way people perceive the complex systems upon which they rely. There are, however, challenges which are at the interface of science, policy and governance which need the interaction of society, relevant stakeholders and policy-makers to promote a paradigm shift that recognizes the interconnectedness of society to natural capital assets. The most critical challenge is the overriding goal of increasing productive capacity which may conflict with increasing adaptive capacity. This eminent conflict will phase out when we move from the view of humanity as independent of nature to the view of humanity as an integral part of nature co-evolving in a dynamic fashion within the biosphere. We must, therefore, build knowledge, incentives, and learning capabilities into institutions and organizations through advocacy, research, training and communication to manage the adaptive capacity of local, regional and global ecosystems and to improve livelihoods of communities. Such management should involve diverse interest groups in new and imaginative roles. The dreams of all citizens can be realized only if we acknowledge the reality of complex relationships and provide pertinent alternatives which are mutually beneficial. In effect, we must create a win-win interaction between nature and a responsive consumer approach.

Ethiopia is home to two of the world's biodiversity hotspots, each of which comprises at least 1,500 species living in rapidly shrinking habitats. Integrated conservation efforts appear to be the last resort to save the remaining mix of landscape and ecosystem diversity. Land is needed to grow food, yet agricultural yields have dropped and traditional farming practices are proving unsustainable. With more than 77 million citizens and growing by an estimated 2 million annually a better balance must be struck between human survival and preserving natural resources.

Interventions which are all within reach are necessary to bring a lasting solution to unshackle all Ethiopians from the predicament imposed by both nature and humankind. These interventions logically lead to the need for integration of Population, Health and Environment (PHE) and the networking which will serve as the driving force for its sustainability.

2. Objective

The objective of this article is to establish the specific properties of the integration of interventions in PHE services, the need for their integration and the need for networking both locally and globally. It will assess the state of PHE in Ethiopia, the policies and strategies relevant for PHE, and the opportunities that are at the nexus of integrating program implementation.

3. The need for PHE integration

Long-term or short-term interventions that separately foster beneficial effects on population, health and environment can be counterproductive and self-defeating. The synergies that can be obtained through integrated programs will be sacrificed in exchange for high cost at best. In most developing countries, environmental/natural resource organizations are charged with managing a resource that results in limiting the communities' access to those resources—protection by exclusion—through setting aside a protected area, whether a forest, a grazing area or a lake, and cutting off communities from their traditional practices. It then becomes difficult for the communities to establish positive relationships with the environmental resource managers. But if resource managers could join efforts with health organizations, they could provide some tangible benefits through agreed entry points and gain the trust of the communities. This is particularly possible when working together with projects that provide immediate assistance, such as food, immunizations, reproductive health services, and provision of clean water or the building of schools. Communities may also be more inclined to participate in the conservation project and become more receptive to the practices if they feel they are receiving something in return. This leads to the recognition that people may not exercise adequate stewardship over their natural resources unless their basic needs for health, nutrition and economic well-being are adequately addressed. Project implementers will add value and build synergies by integrating with other complementing projects.

The key objective of addressing the complex connections between humans, their health, and their environment is, therefore, to simultaneously improve access to health services while also helping communities manage and conserve natural resources and critical ecosystems in ways that do not compromise their health and livelihoods. This means that achieving desired family size must come with encouraging impacts on the well-being of families and better management of natural resources for the present generation and posterity. Integrated PHE programs promote equity, health and environmental stewardship.

At the planning level, the integration of PHE may require the participation of various experts such as ecologists, health specialists, and community development experts who could link the livelihoods of communities to environmental stress, fertility, migration, women's health, women's educational status, and poverty alleviation. Well-planned integration will have cascading pay-offs and will draw bystanders toward the local and global efforts to reach targets beyond the MDGs.

At the global level, the concerns over population, environment and health have been evolving over time but were expressed comprehensively in the Rio Declaration on Population, Environment and Development (United Nations, 1992). The Rio Declaration identified population policies as an integral element of sustainable development. Principle 8 of the Rio Declaration stated that "to achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies." The declaration also covered demographic dynamics and sustainability and stated that "the growth of world population and production combined with unsustainable consumption patterns places increasingly severe stress on the life-supporting capacities of our planet."

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment also indicates that humans have changed ecosystems more rapidly and extensively over the past 50 years than during any other period, primarily to meet increasing demands for food, fresh water, timber, fibre, and fuel, but the effects are geographically differentiated.

Integration of PHE programs can play an important role in areas where demographic trends such as growth and migration exert pressure on the environment; where degraded natural resources impact the health and livelihoods of local communities; and where a lack of effective health services, including reproductive health, threaten long-term prospects for sustainable development.

3.1. The Need for Integration of PHE in Ethiopia

Achieving environmentally-sustainable development in situations of surging population growth, declining biodiversity and chronic poverty requires strategic planning, multi-

disciplinary interventions and cross-sector-linked approaches that mirror the livelihood strategies of poor households and communities.

To establish the need for PHE integration in Ethiopia and to heighten our commitments for its success, we need to explore the prevailing population, health and environmental conditions and other related issues.

PHE integration in Ethiopia has a much broader meaning than the acronym suggests. In addition to family planning and conservation, program areas using the PHE integration approach are expected to deal with disaster mitigation, gender mainstreaming, HIV/AIDS programming, food security promotion, social entrepreneurship, environmental health promotion, poverty alleviation and economic development. This is not, however, to suggest that PHE integration is necessary only in response to mounting population pressures, poor health services and environmental degradation or as a disaster management mechanism. Instead, PHE integration would be more effective and less costly when it is implemented proactively as a preventive measure whenever possible.

3.1.1. Population Growth in Ethiopia

The population of Ethiopia has been growing at a fairly rapid rate since 1950. The population grew at an average annual rate of 2.5% between 1965 and 1980 and at 2.9% between 1980 and 1989. In 1975, the population of Ethiopia was approximately 32.2 million (Encyclopedia of Nations). The national census in 1984, which was the first accurate census for Ethiopia, revealed a population of 42 million, increasing at 2.9% per year, much larger and faster growing than previously anticipated (Central Statistical Authority, 1984). Ten years later, the 1994 census confirmed the trend, recording a population of 53,477,256 (Central Statistical Authority, 1999).

In terms of the age structure of the population, the percentage distribution of the population of Ethiopia in the 1984 census structured by age is typical of many developing countries experiencing high birth rate and declining death rate. Children under 15 years constituted 48.2% of the population while the population between 15 and 64 constituted 47.1%. Only 4.7% of the population was above 65 years. Children between 0 and 14 years old and the youth between 5 and 25 years old accounted for 62.3% of the total population of Ethiopia. The median age which was 16.3 is an indication that about half of the population was below 16. The population pyramid which has a wide base is indicative of an age structure with a very large proportion of children and a small proportion of elderly persons. In 1994, the population of the young (0-15) was 45.4% and that of the old (65 and above) was only 3.2% of the total population.

With a relatively high growth rate of 2.7% between 1975 and 2000, the population of Ethiopia doubled reaching a total of 64,117,452 by July 2000 (Encyclopaedia of Nations).

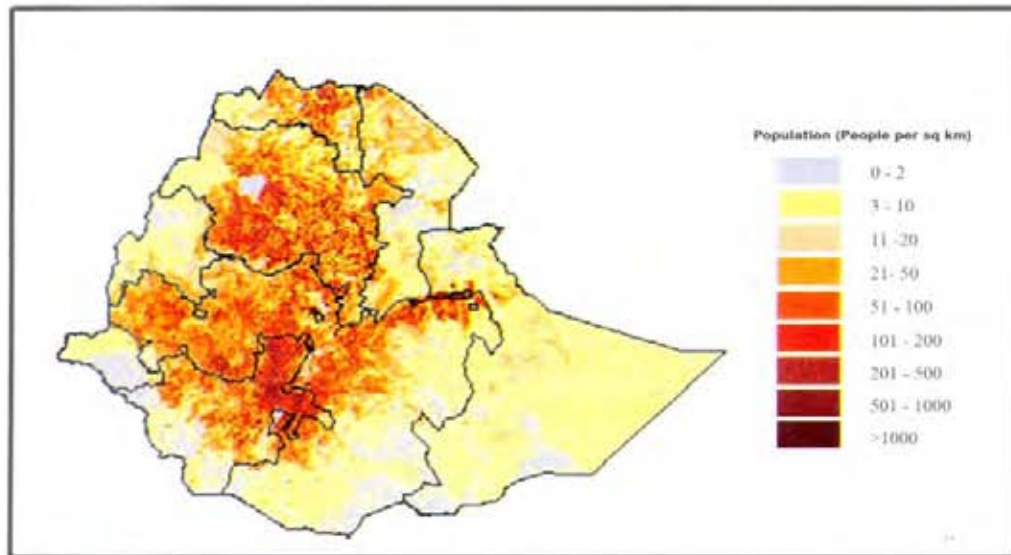


Figure 1. Population density in Ethiopia in 2002

The population density in 2002 was 61 per sq km (159 per sq mi) (Sonneveld and Keyzer, 2002). The area of greatest density is the central highland where more than 70% of the population lives (Figure 1). Currently, the population of Ethiopia is growing at a rate of 2.9% and has reached a magnitude of 79 million. When the population grew over 77 million in 2007, the increment exceeded 2 million per year (Encyclopaedia of Nations).

The age structure of the population of Ethiopia shown in Figures 2 and 3 (drawn after CSA 1984 and 1994), is typical of a heavy burden of dependency, particularly at young age. In 1984, roughly 111 persons in the productive age group (Figure 2) had to support 124 dependants in terms of food, clothing, health, and education. Likewise 95 young and old adults depended on 100 working age persons in 1994. This is in contrast to the situation in the developed countries where there are only about 65 dependents per 100 persons in the productive age group (CSA, 1984; CSA, 1999).

The age structure of the current population is almost similar to those of the previous census years. Forty seven percent of Ethiopians are younger than 15 years of age, 50% are between the ages of 15 to 64, and only 3% are older than 65 years of age. The life expectancy at birth of the total population is 49.03 years with 47.86 years for males and 50.24 years for females.

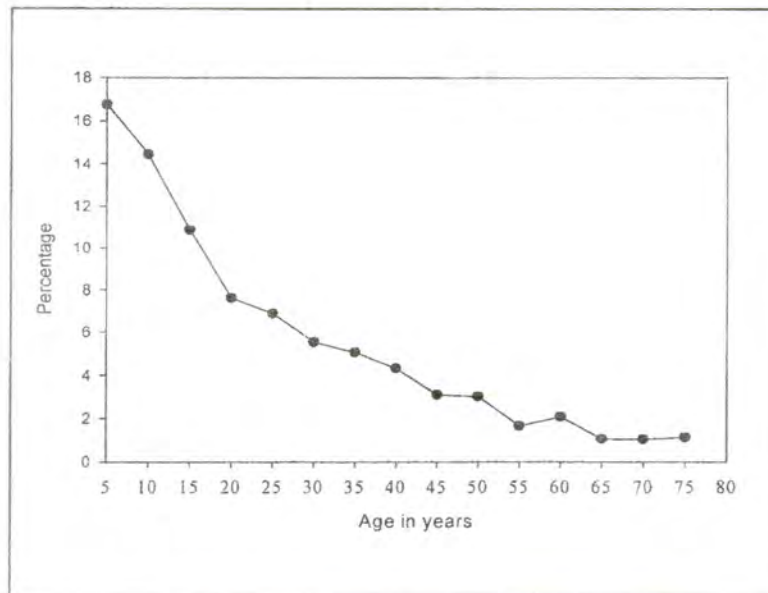


Figure 2. Age structure of the Population of Ethiopia in 1984

In Ethiopia, large family size, with its high dependency ratio, is closely associated with poverty. In particular, those families with higher numbers of children under the age of 15 years and older persons above the age of 65 seem to be vulnerable to falling into poverty (CSA and ORC Macro, 2006). This is indicative of the severity of dependency on the active labor force and the value of adult labor for the survival of rural households.

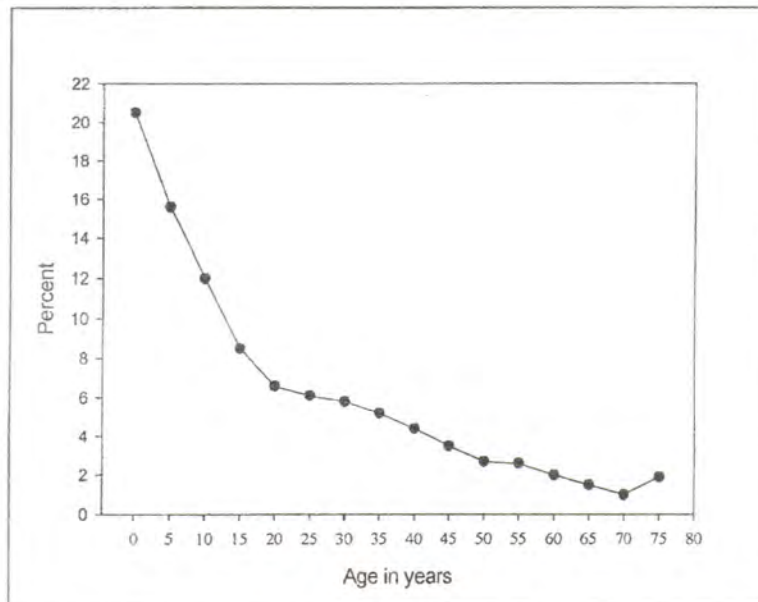


Figure 3. Age structure of the population of Ethiopia in 1994

If the prevailing fertility rate continues and mortality declines as would be expected under normal conditions, it is projected that the population of Ethiopia may grow at the rate of 3.1% or more a year during the remaining part of the present century and will reach 90.9 million by 2015.

At the moment, incremental growth of the population by about 2 million persons per year puts tremendous strain on Ethiopia's resource base, the economy, and the ability to deliver services. With this continuing massive addition of people, it can be much more difficult to make progress in reducing poverty, creating sufficient employment, and in raising agricultural productivity enough to keep up with food needs.

3.1.2. Health conditions in Ethiopia

The health care system in Ethiopia is very poor. This is well demonstrated in the reproductive health sector. Reproductive health, like most aspects of health in Ethiopia, is generally poor, with significant regional disparities in access to services and in health outcomes. Almost 80% morbidity in Ethiopia is due to preventable communicable and nutritional diseases, both associated with low socio-economic development. Improving the general physical infrastructure and strengthening health systems are crucial to improving health and require major investments and much time.

The diversity of socio-economic environments, climatic conditions, and terrains among regions in Ethiopia greatly impacts health conditions and outcomes. Poor health coverage is of particular concern in rural Ethiopia, where access to any type of modern health institution is limited at best. The infrastructure is underdeveloped and transportation problems are severe especially during the rainy season.

The health situation of women in Ethiopia is even more appalling. Women in Ethiopia are at a very high risk of death during pregnancy and delivery. One in 14 Ethiopian women faces the risk of death during pregnancy and childbirth with the risk being even higher among the rural poor and uneducated women (WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, 2003). Almost all births take place at home in Ethiopia (94%) with only 6% of women delivering in clinics or hospitals. The majority of these births (61%) are assisted by a relative or some other untrained person and 5% are delivered without any assistance at all. Ethiopia's maternal mortality remains among the highest in the world, with the maternal mortality ratio estimated to be around 673 maternal deaths per 100,000 births in 2005 (CSA and ORC Macro, 2006). Less than 28% of all Ethiopian mothers receive prenatal care from a trained doctor, nurse or midwife. The quality and frequency of this care is variable; many women receive the care either too late in their pregnancy or too few times (CSA and ORC Macro, 2006).

Discrepancies in access to health services are not limited to reproductive health. Vaccination rates vary significantly between rural and urban areas; vaccination coverage in urban areas is three times that of rural areas. Malaria is a major health problem and cause of mortality and is the leading cause of outpatient visits in Ethiopia.

Infant and child mortality are equally high; one in every 13 Ethiopian children dies before their first birthday and one in 8 dies before the age of five. Across the board, mortality is lower in urban than in rural areas in Ethiopia (CSA and ORC Macro, 2006).

Besides the loss of lives of millions of children due to preventable diseases, those who survive suffer from less optimal nutritional conditions or malnutrition expressed in stunting, wasting and low weight for age. Wasting which is a condition of low weight-for-height is a reflection of malnutrition which may be caused by acute food shortage or serious infections. The prevalence of wasting at the country level is 8% (WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, 2003). Stunting is an indicator of long-term or accumulated nutritional deficiency resulting from lack of adequate dietary intake over a long period of time, or recurrent illness. Weight-for-age, which is based on the principle that a child has an expected weight for his/her age, measures the general nutritional status of children in terms of both wasting and stunting. The prevalence of under-weight children in the country is 37.1% (WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, 2003). Very early malnutrition in life can affect long-term mental and physical development, limit lifetime potential and productivity and create a low-income, low-consumption household in the next generation.

Like many African countries, one of the most daunting prospects that Ethiopia faces is a massive HIV/AIDS epidemic. However, infection with HIV is one area where rural areas fare better than urban areas. National HIV prevalence in Ethiopia is estimated by the Demographic and Health Survey at 1.4% among adults aged 15-49. Prevalence is much higher in urban areas (6%) than in rural areas (1%). It is twice as high among women (2%) than men (1%) (CSA and ORC Macro, 2006).

In the face of the present mounting population size and the unmet demands for reproductive health and other health services, the problems associated with the incapacity to respond adequately are likely to be even more astounding in the near future.

Nevertheless, it is comforting to learn that there is an ongoing effort to increase the number of health services institutions and enhance their capacity to provide the required services in the years to come (MoFED, 2005).

3.1.3. *Environmental Degradation in Ethiopia*

Environmental degradation is a relatively silent and insidious encroachment on life and livelihood, increasing social, economic, and environmental vulnerability even to mild events. For example, recurrent drought, deforestation, and progressive land degradation and desertification result in incalculable human, crop, livestock, and environmental losses, which are not easily measured by conventional disaster-loss tracking systems (Holloway, 1999). As a result, the losses caused by environmental degradation in Ethiopia are often underestimated.

In Ethiopia, much of the land is seriously degraded and ecosystem functions over a large area have been compromised for millennia. The life of peasants is rooted in the land, from which they eke out a meager existence. In the process, forests have shrunk, soils have eroded and rivers and streams have dried up.

From a scientific perspective what has happened and what is continuing to happen is fairly clear. The climatic conditions, relict forests and soil properties suggest that the vegetation cover over the highlands of Ethiopia in the distant past was mainly primary forest and glades of grasslands.

At present, as in the past, the population of Ethiopia is concentrated in the high and intermediate altitude areas, i.e., areas above 1800m, whereas such areas make up only a little over 35% of the total land surface of the country.

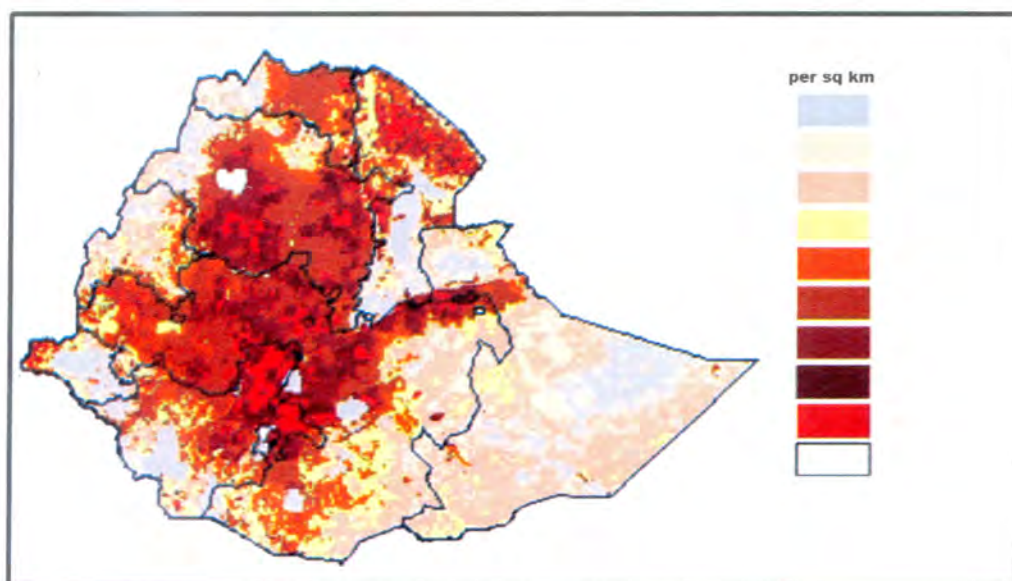


Figure 4. Livestock density in Ethiopia in 2002.

In the northern highlands ox-plough agriculture has had a long and continuous history. The nature of ox-plow agriculture necessitates a large population of livestock and land clearing for ease of plowing (Sonneveld and Keyzer, 2002). Figure 4 shows the livestock population density in Ethiopia. The large numbers of livestock for plow agriculture also de-vegetate, trample and compact the earth and expose it to wind, sun and rain.

The rate of soil erosion in the highlands of Ethiopia is quite high. Sheet erosion is reducing soil depth at a rate that, if unchecked, will render crop production impossible over large areas within the next 50 years. It is estimated that nearly 2 billion tons of soil is washed away from agricultural land every year (CSA and ORC Macro, 2006).

There are several studies that deal with land degradation at the national level in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Highland Reclamation Study (EHRS) has shown that water erosion (sheet and rill) was the most important process and that in the mid 1980's 27 million ha or almost 50% of the highland area was significantly eroded, 14 million ha seriously eroded and over 2 million ha deteriorated beyond reclamation (EHRS – FAO, 1986).

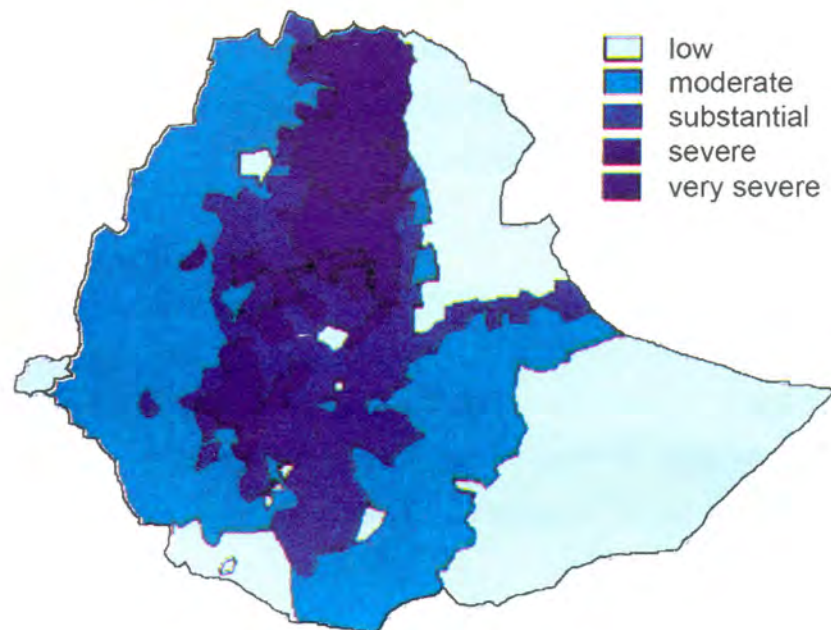


Figure 5. Soil erosion in Ethiopia

However, Sutcliffe (1993) gave lower estimates for soil erosion, but emphasized the much greater importance of nutrient loss. Figure 5 (source: Hakkeling, 1989) illustrates the extent and intensity of soil degradation in Ethiopia.

These disruptions affected the natural infiltration and retention of water during rainfall leading to recurrent floods and droughts. A good number of streams, springs, ponds and wetlands have either dried up or are in poor condition. These disruptions have also reduced the ability of plants to absorb carbon and other vital nutrients thus resulting in the leaching of the fertility from the soil.

Loss of ecosystem functions and land resource productivity are serious problems in Ethiopia and the problem is likely to be even more daunting with an even higher rate of population growth in the future.

The direct effect of natural resource degradation is not only reduced crop production, fewer animal holdings, and less biomass, but also low per capita caloric intake. Resource degradation can also compel sedentary farmers and pastoralists to adopt difficult methods of cultivation, accessing water, acquiring fuel and construction material, and feed for livestock which may lead to progressive deterioration of their living standards.

On the other hand, it is gratifying to find that degraded areas in Northern Shewa, Tigray, Wollo and the Central Rift Valley can be rehabilitated to desirable conditions given the optimal treatments (Zerihun Woldu and Ingvar Backéus, 1991, Feoli, et.al., 2002a&b, Kebrom et.al, 1997, EPA, 2005). However, these are small islands of success which have to be scaled up through participation with the relevant stakeholders and decision makers.

3.1.4. Loss of Biodiversity

The topography and diverse climatic conditions of Ethiopia have led to the occurrence of habitats that harbor some unique plant species and animals and their assemblages. As a result, Ethiopia is one of the countries in the world with the high level of biodiversity. Owing to the long history of agriculture and the diversity of the environment, Ethiopia is again one of the 12 Vavilov centers of crop genetic diversity.

The overall result of the environmental degradation in Ethiopia, whether at a local or ecosystem level, leads to desertification and its manifestations which eventually become the overriding cause for loss of biodiversity. These disruptions have meant that much endemic biodiversity has been lost and more is threatened.

As a result, some parts of Ethiopia are categorized among the 34 biodiversity hotspots of world. These are the central plateau along with similar habitats in east Africa, designated as the Eastern Afrotropical Biodiversity Hotspot and eastern parts of the country along with similar habitats in the Horn of Africa designated as the Horn Biodiversity Hotspot (Figures 6 & 7). This signifies the threat of anthropogenic influences to the biodiversity which has already affected more than 75% of the designated areas.



Figure 6. Eastern Afrotropical



Figure 7. Horn Biodiversity

The shift of the farming population, in particular, from the higher elevations to the lower in search of farming land had been going on for many decades. Similarly the expansion of in situ pastoral activities has also reduced the biodiversity rich lowlands into yet another biodiversity hotspot.

The fact that 85% of the population of Ethiopia is rural and will remain so in the years to come implies that the rural areas will carry an even greater demographic burden than at present. On the other hand, the natural resource base of the country will shrink to about 10 to 15 percent in the next fifty years. This will be reflected in the rapid rate of deforestation of the limited forest resources of the country. According to Sutcliffe (2006), the potential annual supply of woody biomass in 2000 was 77 million tons while the annual consumption (including wood as charcoal) was 54 million tons. There is an annual loss of 65,540 ha of high forest, 91,400 ha of woodland and 76,400 ha of shrubland due to land-clearing for agriculture and settlement, which amounts to woody biomass losses of approximately 3.5 million tons (Sutcliffe, 2006). As a result, ecosystem functions which encompass biodiversity, hydrological regulation, carbon sequestration, and soil fertility loss will continue impinging on the biodiversity and lead to the extinction of many unique flora and fauna of the country and the world at large.

3.1.5. The Economic Situation in Ethiopia

The incidence of poverty in Ethiopia is considered one of the highest in the world. The poor continue to become poorer and the likelihood of greater numbers of them sinking into destitution is ever increasing. Most Ethiopians in rural areas are trapped in a cycle of poverty that accelerates in a downward spiral with each generation. The expanding rural population struggles to eke out a living on ever-decreasing plots of land whose fertility and productivity continue to decline. In a "normal" year, at least five million people out of the total population can be in danger of starvation. That number can rise to over 13 million people if drought or other factors cause additional shortfalls in agricultural production.

There are about 10 million pastoralists who depend primarily on grazing herds of cattle, camels, and goats, and are concentrated mostly in the dry lowland areas. Human development indicators and poverty among this group are uniformly worse than elsewhere in the country and they have proven difficult to reach with traditional services. These pastoralists move seasonally in search of water and grazing and are often exposed to famine when drought inhibits rejuvenation of the denuded grasslands.

According to a study carried out by the Central Statistical Authority (1999) GNP per capita income in Ethiopia is less than US \$100 with 46% of the population below the poverty line. In some regions, this is as high as 85%. Small farmers, who constitute the bulk of the population, are often caught in production of low-risk/low-return food grains. With insufficient cash funds, and unpredictable outcomes, they do not venture to take the risk of diversifying from subsistence food production into potentially higher-return activities (such as growing cash crops for market), or of spending their limited cash on purchased agricultural inputs. If they fail, either because of crop failure, price collapse, or failure of demand, the basic food they would otherwise have produced, or the cash to purchase it will not be available. As a result their families will be doomed to suffer from hunger. Investing in education may be too prohibitive for poor households, because of both the direct costs as well as the fact that all members need to contribute to the family's income, including time-consuming tasks such as collecting water and firewood. Even if the returns from education can be high, the inability to finance that initial investment means that there is under-investment. Without significant increases in productivity, it is difficult for capital to be accumulated, and returning to unskilled labor is likely to grow. Poverty and low education, therefore, reproduce themselves in future generations.

For decades, this has been the general pattern of life for most Ethiopian peasants. The Government of Ethiopia is currently grappling to alleviate rural poverty under the Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program (SDPRP) and its current phase, Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) (MoFED, 2005). PASDEP outlines sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, programs and targets for accelerated development to end poverty.

There has been encouraging progress in recent years in improving some basic aspects of life in Ethiopia. The massive push proposed in PASDEP in the area of agriculture which revolves around the effort to support the intensification of marketable farm products both for domestic and export markets is yielding some signs of improvement in food security and capital wealth accumulation.

The positive response of the economy to the initiatives of the government and the contribution of the small scale farmers to food security can be ascribed partly to the provisions extended through development of agricultural credit markets, improvement of land tenure security, support for small-scale irrigation and the reforms to improve the availability of fertilizer and seeds. However, the number of farmers registering significant improvement is infinitesimally small compared to the felt needs in food security and prevailing abject poverty. The positive achievements therefore need to be duplicated in many folds to adequately meet the needs and vigorously contribute to poverty alleviation.

3.2. Available Opportunities for PHE

3.2.1. Opportunities in the Policy Environment

3.2.1.1. The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, which is the supreme law of the country, sets the overall environmental values to be preserved and protected in Ethiopia.

The Constitution has provided a comprehensive basis for promoting sustainable development and has paved the way for taking subsequent actions. In effect it provides sustainable development and a clean and healthy environment as fundamental rights of citizens (articles 43 and 44). The provisions encompass among others, the right to participate and be consulted in national development programs, policies, projects and programs affecting livelihood. Citizens are also entitled to improved living standards, capacity enhancement for development and meeting their basic needs; appropriate compensation and state assistance when affected by development initiatives.

3.2.1.2. Population Policy of Ethiopia

The rationale for the National Population Policy (NPP) of Ethiopia is to match the rate of economic growth and development with that of the rate of population growth. It also sets out to integrate the efforts of achieving the rationale with other sectors directly or indirectly related to population. Objectives of the NPP include improving maternal and child health, a significant increase in contraceptive usage, and a dramatic reduction in fertility. The policy notes the need to educate people about the links between family size, human welfare, and environmental security.

The policy integrates issues of agricultural productivity, off-farm alternative livelihoods and the need to bring about a rational distribution of population commensurate with the carrying capacity. This makes the population policy quite relevant for environmental issues such as combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought.

3.2.1.3. Health Policy of Ethiopia

The Health Policy of Ethiopia is rooted in primary health care with an emphasis on education in personal and environmental hygiene, nutrition, immunization and family planning. Specific objectives of the health policy relevant to population and environment are:

- Intensifying family planning for the optimal health of the mother, child and family;
- Accelerating the provision of safe and adequate water for urban and rural populations; and
- Developing safe disposal of human, household, agricultural, and industrial wastes, and encouraging recycling

Scrutiny of these objectives reveals that the health policy incorporates issues relevant to population and environment.

3.2.1.4. The Environment Policy of Ethiopia (EPE)

Because the Constitution of the FDRE ensures all Ethiopians the right to sustainable development and the right to a clean and healthy environment, Ethiopia had to develop a comprehensive environmental policy on natural resources and the environment so as to harmonize development with sustainability and to rehabilitate the degraded environment. The Environmental Policy also paved the way to adapting and ratifying several international conventions and agreements related to the environment.

EPE emanated from the Conservation Strategy of Ethiopia, which constitutes ten-sectoral and ten cross-sectoral policy pronouncements. The general objective of the Environmental Policy of Ethiopia is to improve and enhance the health and quality of life of all Ethiopians and to promote sustainable social and economic development through sound management and use of natural, human-made and cultural resources and the environment as a whole so as to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Environmental Protection Authority, 1997).

Specific objectives of the policy emanate from well-articulated guiding principles which include the right to a healthy environment, community empowerment, creation of an enabling atmosphere, sustainable use of renewable resources, use of appropriate technology, long-term economic development, security of land tenure, regular assessment and monitoring of environmental conditions, increased environmental awareness and interdependence on environmental issues at all levels.

The most important policy pronouncements of EPE for PHE are Human Settlements, Urban Environment and Environmental Health, and Population and Environment. The Human Settlements, Urban Environment and Environmental Health sectoral policies of the EPE contains among others:

- to incorporate rural urban migration, human settlement and environmental health concerns which arise from urbanization created by social and economic development into regional, wereda and local level planning and development activities;
- to bring about a sound partnership between the government and communities in the development of an integrated sanitation delivery system, and to foster the supplementary role of NGOs;
- To integrate population planning, resources management and the rehabilitation of and care for the environment to achieve a sustainability of lifestyles;
- To tackle simultaneously the issues of poverty, health, education and empowerment as these are interlinked with those of population growth, availability and access to resources and the well-being of the environment;

- To ensure a complete empowerment of women especially to enable their full participation in population and environmental decision making, resource ownership and management; and
- To promote off-farm and on-farm income generating programs which aim at the alleviation of poverty, especially, among women whether they have access to land or not and among men who have no access to land.

3.3.2. The Establishment of Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission

The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has established the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission by Proclamation N° 10/1995 based on the Constitution which is the supreme law of the country. The Constitution provides the following basic human rights, namely:

- Right to Life (Article 15) - No person shall be deprived of his or her life except for serious crimes
- The Right of the Security of a Person (Article 16) - All persons have the right to protection from bodily harm;
- Environmental Right (Article 44)
 1. All persons have the right to clean and healthy environment
 2. All persons who have been displaced or whose livelihoods have been adversely affected as a result of State programs have the right to commensurate monetary or alternative means of compensation, including relocation with adequate State assistance.

The National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Committee (NDPPC) was established under the Prime Minister's office to implement the National Disaster Policy.

The NDPPC deals with natural and man-made disasters occurring at the national level and is chaired by the Prime Minister. Its members include the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Water Resources and Development, the Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC), the National Meteorological Services Agency (NMSA) and the Ethiopian Mapping Agency.

The National Policies on Disaster Prevention and Management (1995) has provided guidelines for reducing the impacts of drought. In addition to the provision of relief in times of acute food shortages, the guidelines contain various

interventions to avert disasters. These interventions include among others conservation and retention of soil moisture and the establishment of small-scale irrigation; construction of wells; training farmers to reduce run-off and exploit ground water and encourage forestation; mobilization of drought resistant agronomic practices; fodder and water distribution; pasture development; ground water exploitation; controlled grazing; organized migration and mobile abattoirs.

The DPPC has a crisis management group consisting of nodal officers of government ministries to assist in disaster management. Relevant ministries and agencies have a designated technical person as a member of the National Committee for Early Warning (NCEW) under the Federal DPPC.

There are early warning committees at various levels of government i.e. the Federal DPPC, Regional Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureaus (RDPPBs), Zonal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Departments (ZDPPDs) and the Wereda Early Warning Committee. The NCEW depends on these committees to acquire and analyze information pertaining to weather, crop, food, market trends, commodity prices, livestock conditions, water and pasture, and food and nutritional conditions.

It appears that DPPC has limited itself to disaster prevention and management and pays little or no attention to population pressure under normal conditions. There seems to be opportunities to encourage the NPPC to also engage in reproductive health services and the prevention of the HIV/AIDS pandemic at times of disaster management.

3.2.3. Opportunities with NGOs Operating in Ethiopia

Non-governmental organizations are usually non-profit organizations that gain at least a portion of their funding from private sources.

Both foreign and local NGOs can be established in Ethiopia by registering with the Government. Following registration with the Ministry of Justice and obtaining of Certificate, NGOs are required to sign an Operational Agreement with the Federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC). After the signing of Operational Agreement with DPPC, an NGO is expected to enter into specific project agreements with the concerned regional government offices depending upon the type and the nature of the project prior to implementation. As a result of the historical background of the registration of NGOs and the persistence of NGOs after establishment, Ethiopia has become the home to many NGOs operating in different areas of health services, rehabilitation and development.

It is almost 30 years since many NGOs first began working in Ethiopia. The leading ones, both national and international, originally became involved in mitigating the effects of the droughts of 1973-74 and 1984-85. Since then, their emergency response and relief activity roles have gradually declined and today the important operations are in the fields of rehabilitation and development. Some of the larger international NGOs have withdrawn from operations and have turned themselves into donors.

There are more than 2,000 NGOs engaged in development in Ethiopia. Most NGOs in Ethiopia are organized in associations and the Christian Relief Development Association (CRDA) is the largest organization representing an alliance of over 320 local and international NGOs.

The missions of NGOs in Ethiopia are diverse, ranging from research and policy to advocacy and the environment. Most NGO investments in the health sector are in reproductive health and family planning. The biggest investments for environmentally focused NGOs are in agriculture and food production, specifically soil and water conservation, with a smaller segment devoted to conservation and natural resources management. NGOs have also made significant contributions in the water sector, in the provision of safe water and small-scale irrigation schemes.

The NGOs in Ethiopia collaborate loosely in development and rehabilitation activities but the extent of collaboration among NGOs, the private sector and government organizations varies according to the nature of their respective operations. However, oftentimes collaboration is impeded by many factors including, in some cases, lack of a specific modus operandi for interaction, disagreement on priorities, and different styles of operation. Some even occasionally engage in rivalry. The contribution of NGOs is constrained by a lack of sufficient policy and program guidelines as well as inadequate mobilization of communities and stakeholders by government and program managers. At other times, activities have tended to reflect mainly the orientation and concerns of program managers and specialists, including researchers, as opposed to the concerns of those who would be directly affected by such activities. The same can be said about government organizations. This insufficient collaboration among organizations, whose inputs are expected to reach the end users almost on a daily basis, may have failed to make use of the comparative advantages of different types of institutions.

3.2.4. Opportunities with Resettlement Programs

Ethiopia has suffered more from severe and frequent droughts and associated famines in the last three decades than from the environmental degradation which has a longer history. A large portion of the country's population has been forced to depend on food aid for survival.

Since 1974, the government has increasingly relied on resettlement as a strategy for alleviating of the disaster on victims of drought, reversing environmental degradation and reducing population pressures. The Emergency Resettlement Program initiated in November 1984 in response to the 1983-85 droughts, relocated some 205,000 families from the drought-prone northern areas of the country to the better-watered western regions. The massive and highly coercive resettlement program of the mid 1980s, which had left a bitter taste in the mouths of both donors and many Ethiopians, was terminated in 1990.

A new resettlement plan was announced in June 2003 with the aim of moving 2.2 million people over a period of three years with a rationale of improving the food security of the settlers while also providing better opportunity for rehabilitation of the abandoned areas. The program is being implemented purely on a voluntary basis, and each settler household is guaranteed assistance with packages which take advantage of PHE integration.

If the assistance packages do not include PHE integration, pressure on available water, grazing land and soil fertility will be intensified at a much higher scale. Resettlement would therefore be counterproductive to the sound environmental management and livelihood improvement programs when conducted without due consideration of the population growth rate. What is most likely to succeed, therefore, is to put in place the necessary precautionary and proactive measures which consider PHE integration focusing on improving all aspects of the livelihoods of the settlers.

3.4. The need for PHE Network in Ethiopia

To achieve PHE integration, program implementers will have to form a network which can be in the form of a consortium or an association where their activities will be coordinated and facilitated.

The PHE network will constitute a broad coalition of government agencies and non-government organizations that have come together to promote their vision of healthy people living harmoniously with nature in a healthy environment.

The network will be a learning platform for sharing achievements, challenges and opportunities in policy advocacy, resource and community mobilization, research, education, communication and experience-sharing.

The network will conduct research to generate models, data and indicators which can be used for scaling-up of interventions. Most importantly, the network is expected to craft viable plans to expand, strengthen and advance capacity through training at different levels.

Specifically the network will achieve the following objectives and goals in its long-term efforts.

- It will support the development of Ethiopia, and contribute to the success of the PASDEP program and the MDGs.
- It will generate active cooperation with national, regional and international advocacy and research centers, and provide important sources of solidarity and cooperation for national-level efforts and lessons.
- It will help in narrowing the communication gap between population, health, gender and environmental organizations and activities.
- It will be a powerful learning group, because of the interchange with organizations working on PHE issues.
- It will develop coordination and collaboration between organizations and will strengthen access to information and resources.
- In general, the PHE network will increase visibility and success of developmental initiatives and campaigns.

To achieve its objectives and goals the network may need to form committees whose members specialize in and practice their respective fields such as:

1. Policy and Advocacy
2. Information, Education, Communication
3. Capacity-Building
4. Research

It is hoped that organizations will be more effective in pursuing their missions by collaborating with PHE program implementers and the PHE network.

3.4.1. Developments in PHE integration in Ethiopia

The Population Reference Bureau (PRB) conducted a 2-day workshop on coalition-building for East African PHE stakeholders in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on

November 12-13, 2007. Thirty-eight people representing Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Congo, Tanzania and Uganda participated in the workshop, with an additional five resource persons from the Philippines, Madagascar, and the United States.

PRB and the Training Resources Group (TRG) then co-facilitated a 2-day conference "Population, Health, and Environment: Integrated Development for East Africa," with the goal of laying the foundation for the launch of an East Africa PHE Network which was announced on November 14-16.

As a follow-up to the launching of the East African PHE Network, eight participants of the conference from Ethiopia, representing NGOs, government organizations, higher education institutions, and interested individuals, formed a committee which has since been working relentlessly towards the launching of the Ethiopian PHE network.

The vision of the Ethiopian PHE network will revolve around having "a nation where poverty is eradicated, biodiversity is preserved, high quality health care is available to all citizens, and environmental resources are used in a sustainable, equitable manner."

The mission of the network will include, among others:

- To enhance and promote the integration of PHE at various levels for sustainable development through effective networking and community empowerment.
- To advance PHE to ensure equity, health and environmental stewardship, and poverty alleviation.

At a conference to be held in May, the Ethiopian PHE network will be launched, and members will find the opportunity to participate in the noble task of working towards relieving the Ethiopian poor from their predicament and to meet the MDGs.

4. Conclusion

In Ethiopia, demographic pressure, land scarcity, land fragmentation and poor health are the underlying causes which drive the population to ever-increasing rural vulnerability and poverty. The supply of food and fuel and their resource base are under continuous threat.

However, in Ethiopia there has been very low awareness of the importance of population management and the impact of population pressures on sustainable resource management and

the provision of health services. The relationship between demographic pressure and the resource base unfolds very slowly but takes place with concrete signals and devastating effects. The recurrent droughts and the consequent famines of the last three decades have highlighted the sharp dividing line between the watersheds of the natural resource base and population pressures. The balance could be tipped unfavorably by a slight push, resulting in a loss of resilience and increased vulnerability. The ecological vulnerability induced mainly by degradation of basic environmental resources has resulted in the susceptibility of Ethiopia's rural population to long-term malnutrition and disease burden. This situation has no place in the 21st century.

Evidence shows that the concern about population pressures and environmental degradation in Ethiopia arose largely because of the rapidly declining agricultural productivity and the decreasing availability of arable land. Thus the response of planners and decision makers in issuing policies and strategies related to population, health and environment have been reactive instead of the proactive. Although the issuance of these policies and strategies was long overdue, they have created an enabling atmosphere and provided clear guidelines, instilling political will for a paradigm shift which serves as a basis for engaging in a combination of development issues.

In addition, the recent proliferation of NGOs who have gradually shifted their emphasis from relief work to development and advocacy, has increased the chance that we can achieving the common goal of delivering services which communities can easily embrace

Today, more than ever, the dire situation related to population, health and environment calls for more concerted efforts than previous isolated piecemeal approaches. There are ongoing efforts by the government to improve conditions and enhance the capacity to provide services in population, health and environment and register a dramatic reduction of poverty. There are more enabling conditions for integrating service delivery efforts to communities in a more holistic manner and it is important that we capture the opportunity quickly.

It is important to acknowledge that the Ethiopian Government, donor agencies, community-based organizations and national and international NGOs are making significant efforts to alleviate poverty, ensure food security, rehabilitate the environment and control the population growth rate. But many development practitioners do not recognize the interdependence of population and environmental issues. They are taking mostly single sector approaches with some focusing on food security, others on natural resources conservation and still others on reproductive health and family planning. Unfortunately integrated approaches remain far too unrealized.

If the NGOs and government organizations working in different sectors could team up, their efforts could furnish dual advantages. Integrating approaches builds synergies that improve outcomes more than if they were done separately. Additionally, they could increase the visibility of each member of the team at national and international levels. This, in turn, increases the chance of attracting more donors funding at the international level and the renewal of contacts at the national level.

At the recipient level, the integration of population and reproductive health interventions with environmental management would improve the health, economy and the fate of future generations. The awareness of policymakers and the public on the link between population, health and the environment would increase. This, in turn, would help policymakers address these complex long-term issues by balancing far-reaching benefits with short-term costs. Local communities can empower themselves to effectively manage their environment while also improving education, primary health care, livelihood opportunities, and the status of women. Ultimately, these approaches will help in matching development needs with policy interventions in a rapidly changing world. Clearly, available resources may not permit doing everything to the satisfaction of the end users. Interventions in food security and population management, which should be pursued in conjunction with measures to manage the natural resource base and protect the environment, could easily be identified and entry points could be prioritized through a consensus and confidence building process. This forms the main thrust of PHE integration which is a development approach for achieving compounded growth to break out of the self-perpetuating poverty trap.

The long history of interaction between humans and their environment in Ethiopia provides a basis for developing sustainable, integrated community development models useful for PHE programs. Ethiopia's demographic, health, and environment situation make it a good candidate for PHE programming. PHE programs can benefit in many ways from forming a national network.

Ethiopia, therefore, has to quickly subscribe to PHE integration and networking to recover the lost decades in development and meet the MDGs in a span of time much shorter than anticipated.

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Annex 2: Memorandum of Association

Background

The Coalition-building workshop that was held at Hilton Hotel from November 12-13, 2007, and the conference organized by the theme "Population, Health, and Environment: Integrated Development for East Africa," sponsored by the Population Reference Bureau (PRB) and LEM Ethiopia, which was held at ECA from November 14-16, 2007 was very successful and helpful in bringing together East African Partners and moving the process along for the formation and launch of a PHE Network in East African level and in the respective countries. The conference, which was funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Packard Foundation, featured remarks by Ethiopian President His Excellency Girma Wolde-Giorgis, as well as Ethiopia's State Ministers of Agriculture and Rural Development, Health, and representative of the Environment Protection Authority. This laid the foundation for the establishment of the Ethiopian PHE Consortium. Few organizations took the lead as founding members to realize the establishment of the consortium.

In order to improve the livelihood of the Ethiopian people and contribute to the attainment of the PASDEP and MDGs establishment of Consortium for population, Health and Environment integration is highly required.

The founding members in the establishment conference of May 30 & 31 are the following organizations and individuals:

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Addis Ababa University | 27 | ISAPSO |
| 2 | Agri Service Ethiopia | 28 | Jimma University |
| 3 | Amhara Development Association (ADA) | 29 | Malaria Consortium Ethiopia Office |
| 4 | Arba Minch University | 30 | Mekale University |
| 5 | Basic Education Association (BEN) | 31 | MIDROC Ethiopia |
| 6 | CARE Ethiopia | 32 | Ministry of Health (MoH) |
| 7 | CRDA | 33 | MOARD |
| 8 | CORHA | 34 | Ministry of Finance & Economic Devt. |
| 9 | Environmental Journalist Association | 35 | NEWA |
| 10 | Ethiopian Economic Association | 36 | Ato Negash Teklu |
| 11 | EENGO | 37 | ORDA |
| 12 | EIFDDA | 38 | Oromia Development Association (ODA) |
| 13 | Engender Health | 39 | Panos Ethiopia |
| 14 | Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) | 40 | PANE |
| 15 | Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA) | 41 | Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia |
| 16 | ERSHA | 42 | Parliament |
| 17 | EWNRA | 43 | Pathfinder International - Ethiopia (PIE) |
| 18 | EWNHS | 44 | Rural Devt. Natural Resource Devt. Sector |
| 19 | Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia (FGAE) | 45 | Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF) |
| 20 | Forum for Environment | 46 | Wildlife Sustainable Development (WSD) |
| 21 | German Foundation for World Population (DSW) | 47 | Wondo Genet Forestry College |
| 22 | GPSDO | 48 | World Vision Ethiopia |
| 23 | Horn of Africa Regional Env. Center & Network | 49 | Youth Network for Sustainable Devt. |
| 24 | Institute of International Education (ILE / LDM) | 50 | Dr. Assefa Mebrate |
| 25 | Integrated Biofarm Enterprise | 51 | Lem Ethiopia |
| 26 | IPAS - Ethiopia | | |

Other Partner Organizations and donors who Participated on the Establishment Conference are:

1. Henrich Boll Foundation
2. Pakard Foundation
3. Royal Norwegian Embassy
4. UNDP
5. UNEP
6. World Health Organization (WHO)

VISION

To see a prosperous and healthy society in a sustainably managed environment.

MISSION

Enhance and promote the integration of PHE at various levels for sustainable development.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To contribute towards sustainable development through the integration of PHE.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the Consortium are to:

- ⇒ Enhance enabling environment including policy advocacy for integration of PHE at various levels;
- ⇒ Build the capacity of stakeholders and Consortium members;
- ⇒ Improve coordination and communication among members and stakeholders;
- ⇒ Support community empowerment initiatives on PHE, and
- ⇒ Conduct research and disseminate information and experience to the wider community.

PRINCIPLES

The guiding principles of the Consortium are:

- ⇒ Sustained commitment to PHE integration;
- ⇒ Respect for nature and human well-being;
- ⇒ Scale up partnership and coalition building;
- ⇒ Equity among generations and
- ⇒ Accountability and transparency

NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

Consortium for Integration of Population, Health and Environment ion (CIPHE)

The CIPHE is established in May 2008 by the Ethiopian law. The CIPHE will have its head office in Addis Ababa, and Chapters in Regional states and city administration of the country as necessary.

LOGO

THE CONSORTIUM WILL HAVE A **LOGO THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED BASED ON THE VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSORTIUM.**

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA OF THE CONSORTIUM ARE:

- ☞ Legally registered organizations and/or institutions supporting the mission, vision and objectives of the Consortium,
- ☞ Individuals that support the mission, vision and objectives of the Consortium,
- ☞ Willingness to accomplish duties and responsibilities of membership as stated in the memorandum of Association;

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

THE CONSORTIUM HAS FOUR TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

Full Members

ARE INDIVIDUALS OR ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT FULFIL MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA.

Associate Members

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ARE THOSE ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS AND/OR INDIVIDUALS THAT SUPPORT THE MISSION, VISION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSORTIUM AND CANNOT BE FULL MEMBERS OR OPTED TO BE AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER.

Honorary Members

HONORARY MEMBERS ARE NOMINATED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ENDORSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Lifetime members

ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS AND/OR INDIVIDUALS CAN BE LIFETIME MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM BASED ON THEIR SUPPORT TO MISSION, VISION AND OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSORTIUM.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS OF MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Responsibilities

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF FULL MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS, INDIVIDUALS AND ASSOCIATE RE DEPICTED HERE UNDER:

FULL MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS AND OR INSTITUTIONS

- ☞ Organizations and institutions that will Pay dues Birr 1,000 a one-time membership fee and Birr minimum 500 annual fees;

- ✧ Can elect and be elected
- ✧ Can be a member of a technical committee, task force or chapter;
- ✧ Able to participate in a geographic chapter.
- ✧ Should actively attend the general assembly meeting

FULL MEMBERS: INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

- ✧ Pays dues Birr 200 membership fee and Birr minimum 100 annual fees;
- ✧ Can elect and be elected; and
- ✧ Can be a member of a technical committee, task force or chapter.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

- ✧ Pays dues Birr 100 for membership fee and Birr 50 for annual dues;
- ✧ Can attend the general assembly meeting of the Consortium and air his/her concern but can not elect or be elected
- ✧ Able to participate in a Geographic Chapter and

RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF FULL MEMBERS:

FULL MEMBERS HAVE THE RIGHT:

- ✧ To participate in all deliberations/ meetings of the Consortium;
- ✧ To have one vote to elect and/or be elected;
- ✧ To access the facilities of the Consortium;
- ✧ To access all the records or books of the Consortium during business hours; and
- ✧ To access fund, training and other services of the consortium as decided by the Board.

RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

- ✧ Associate members cannot nominate and vote in the General Assembly. However, they will serve as members of different task forces established by the board;
- ✧ Associate members have the right to access the facilities of the Consortium and
- ✧ Associate members have the right to access all the records or books of the Consortium during business hours

PROCEDURE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MEMBERS

Applicants must submit membership application to the Secretariat or the board and/or the chapters. Membership can be accepted by the Board but must be endorsed by the General Assembly.

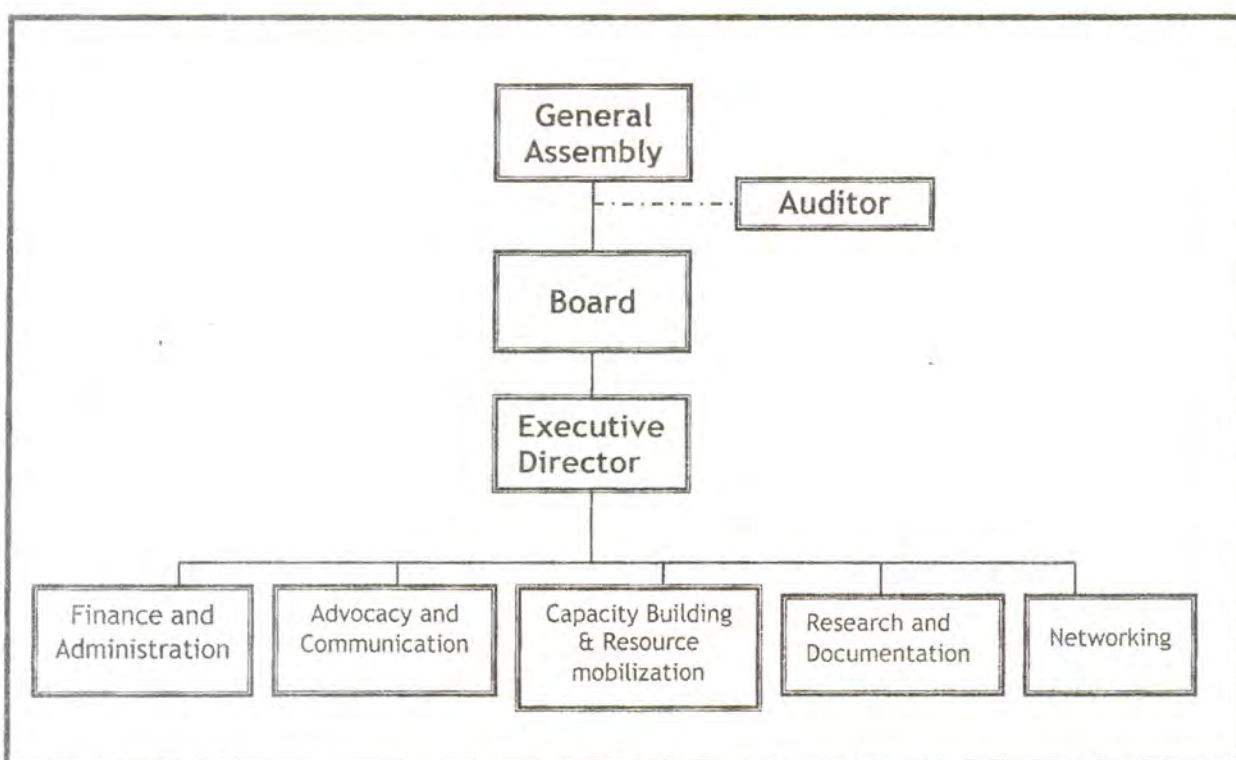
An organization or individual may however begin to participate in the Consortium activities while the Executive Board is screening application and approved by the General Assembly.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSION OR TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Suspension, expulsion and termination of membership shall be in accordance with the rules and regulation as stated in the organizational manual for the Consortium. Any member of the Consortium may file a complaint against another member by filing a written complaint with the Secretariat. The Board shall call a special meeting to consider the charges. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board shall be necessary to suspend a member. However, the General Assembly will decide on the expulsion or termination of membership.

Organizational Structures

The proposed structure of the Consortium and the functions of each of the units in the structure are discussed here under:



The General Assembly

- ⇒ The General assembly is the highest decision making body of the Consortium.
- ⇒ The General Assembly shall meet at least once every year. The meeting shall be held at any place within its area of operation and at such date the Board may assign;
- ⇒ Meeting Notice - Written notices of the General Assembly shall be served by the Secretariat through e-mail and letter to each member at least three weeks prior to the general assembly;

- ✦ Special meetings of the General Assembly may be called as the need thereof arises by the Board or upon petition of simple majority (50% + 1) of the general membership;
- ✦ At the annual general assembly or special meeting of members, a quorum shall be a simple majority (50% + 1) of members entitled to vote;
- ✦ Voting - Each full member shall be entitled to one vote;
- ✦ The General Assembly approves annual plans of the Consortium; elects the committee and chapter chairs, and such other matters requiring a simple majority (50% + 1) vote of all the members in good standing of the Consortium;
- ✦ The General Assembly approves the report of the Auditor
- ✦ The General Assembly approves new membership and/or expulsion or termination of membership;
- ✦ The General assembly shall have its chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary;
- ✦ The General assembly might form different technical committees and /or task forces as necessary and elects chairs of these committees citing their duties at the time of appointment. All such technical committees and/or task forces shall lapse upon the completion of their duties,
- ✦ The General Assembly endorses the management guideline of chapters developed by the Board and/or the secretariat

The Board:

- ✦ The Board will be composed of seven members and the Executive Director participating as ex-officio member;
- ✦ Board membership is open to full members, as described above. However at least two of the Board members need to be from the previous board to ensure continuity;
- ✦ The Board members shall be elected for three years but not exceed two consecutive terms;
- ✦ The Board shall provide strategic and policy directions to the secretariat;
- ✦ The Board shall be responsible for the screening of members and suspension of members and other matters related to membership development.
- ✦ The Board will hold quarterly meetings and additional meetings can be called as deemed necessary by the Board and /or the Executive Director;
- ✦ A simple majority (50% + 1) of the members are needed to hold an official meeting.
- ✦ A simple majority (50% + 1) is required for passage of resolutions or regulations.
- ✦ The Board will develop detail guideline for the functionality of Chapters.
- ✦ The Board on an as-needs basis will determine individual responsibilities and duties;

Executive Director

- ⦿ The Board will recruit the Executive Director.
- ⦿ The Executive Director shall be the implementing arm of the Board. It shall be in charge of the day-to-day operations and documentations of the Consortium and shall maintain an office for the official conduct of its business.

Technical Committees and/or task forces:

The General Assembly or the Board shall form different technical committees and/or task forces to implement and or facilitate smooth implementation of the Annual Action Plan of the consortium.

Chapters

The consortium shall open Chapters in Regional States and city administrations;
Chapters are full members of the Consortium.

Chapters will:

- ⦿ Coordinate and implement PHE activities at the chapter level,
- ⦿ Disseminate PHE information at the chapter level;
- ⦿ Increase local support for PHE including membership.

Annex 3: Program of the Conference

Establishing and Launching Conference for the
Consortium of Population, Health and Environment Integration (CoPHEI)
May 30-31, 2008, Ethiopia Hotel, Ambo

CONFERENCE PLAN

Friday, May 30, 2008

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 6:30 a.m. | Participants depart by bus to Ambo from Meskell Square, in front of the big screen |
| 8:30 a.m. | Arrival at Ambo, Ethiopia Hotel and registration and coffee breakfast starts |
| 9:30 a.m. | Beginning of conference and welcome, purpose, introduction and overview by Ato Mogus Worku (Chair person) and Dr. Gelila Kidane (Vice Chair) |
| 9:40 a.m. | Setting the Context: Background Paper Presentation and discussion presented by Prof. Zerihun Woldu, Addis Ababa University chaired by Ato Sahlu Haile, Pakard Foundation Country Representative |
| 11:00 a.m. | Health break |
| 11:30 a.m. | Building a Shared Vision and Mission and Objectives
A dialogue process |
| 12:45 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:45 p.m. | Establishing the Network: A series of group consultations on the Memorandum of Association, and Action Plans |
| 3:45 p.m. | Coffee Break |
| 4:15 p.m. | Finalization of the Memorandum of Association and Endorsement by the General Assembly |
| 5:00 p.m. | Nomination of Executive Board Members |
| 6:00 p.m. | Adjournment |
| 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. | Dinner will be served and over dinner the result of the ballot will be announced to the public. |

- 7:30 a.m.** Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m.** Beginning of meeting by announcing the Executive Board Chair, Vice Chair
- 8:45 a.m.** **General Assembly** meeting will start by electing President, Vice President, and Secretary. Final presentation and endorsement of Action Plan and Budget will be presented
- 9:30 a.m.** **Break and Gallery Walk**
Participants view poster presentations and other resource materials offered by participant organizations
- 11:00 a.m.** **Launching ceremony starts by Dr. Kostentinose Berhe (Master of Ceremony)**
Executive Board Chairman / Woman formally welcomes the honored guests and introduces the results of the conference
- 11:15 a.m.** Solidarity address by **Dr. Strike Mkandla**, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Representative to AU, ECA and Ethiopia
- 11:30 a.m.** Keynote address by **Dr. Abera Deressa**, State Minister of Ministry of Agriculture
- 11:45 a.m.** Address of H.E. President Girma W/Giorgis, the patron of the consortium.
- 12:15 a.m.** Adjournment
- 12:30 p.m.** Lunch
- 1:30 p.m.** Group photo and return to Addis Ababa

Annex 4: Participants' List

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Name of Organization</i>	<i>Name of Participant</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
1	Addis Ababa University	Prof. Zerihun Woldu	091 140 7255	zerihun_woldu@yahoo.com
2	Agri Service Ethiopia	Wrt. Betelehem Mamo	011 465 1212	ase@ethionet.et
3	WSP Sweden	Mr. Brian Burrell	091 211 7374	brianburrell@gmail.com
4	Amhara Development Association (ADA)	Ato Hamid Ahmed	058 220 1008	Ada.hq@ethionet.et
5	Amhara Development Association (ADA)	Ato Degarege Seyoum	091 120 0573	Ada.hq@ethionet.et
6	Arba Minch University	Ato Tarekegn Tadesse	091 125 0668	Ttadesse03@yahoo.com
7	Arba Minch University	Ato Shiferaw Abate	091 138 8582	shif.abets@gmail.com
8	APE	Dr. Assefa Mebrate	091 123 4049	asemebrate@yahoo.com
9	Basic Education Association (BEN)	Ato Alebachew Mekonnen	091 118 5433	ben@ethionet.et. alebachew.mz@live.com,
10	CARE Ethiopia	Dr. Frehiwot Eshetu	091 142 4451	care.eth@ethionet.et
11	CRDA	Ato Mesfin Mengistu	091 111 3645	mesfinynt@yahoo.com
12	CORHA	Ato Abiy Shewarega	091 162 1646	abiy@corha.com
13	Environmental Journalist Association	Ato Argaw Ashine	091 169 4783	ethiomec@yahoo.com
14	Ethiopian Economic Association	Ato Demirew Getachew	091 146 5466	hkedir@eeaecon.org
15	EENGO	Ato Sisay Debela	091 104 8263	eengo@ethionet.et
16	EIFDDA	Ato Jihad Keno Abagero	091 122 7769	jihadaba@yahoo.com, eifdda@eifdda.org
17	Engender Health	Dr. Gelila Kidane	091 112 3849	GKidane@engenderhealth.org
18	Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)	Ato Ababu Anage	091 184 3801	eco.co@ethionet.et
19	Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA)	Ato Ali Beyene	091 124 5975	epha@ethionet.et
20	ERSHA	Ato Eshetu Yimer	091 121 0105	ersha@ethionet.et
21	EWNRA	Ato Shewaye Deribe	091 133 0419	ewrp@ethionet.et
22	EWNHS	Ato Geremew Gebresillase	091 124 2369	ewnhs.ble@ethionet.et
23	Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia (FGAE)	Ato Fisseha Mekonnen	091 112 7050	fgaeed@ethionet.et
24	Forum for Environment	Ato Messay Sintayehu	091 146 3694	ffe@ethionet.et

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Name of Organization</i>	<i>Name of Participant</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
25	German Foundation for World Population (DSW)	Ato Adem Alo	091 147 5735	adem1996@yahoo.com
26	GPSDO	Ato Bedru Jamal	091 117 6116	gpsdo@ethionet.et
27	Horn of Africa Regional Env. Center & Network	Ato Aschalew Assefa	091 140 9003	asschalew_assefa@yahoo.com
28	Institute of International Education (ILE / LDM)	Wrt.Selam Admassu	091 147 5963	smilelyselam@yahoo.com
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30	Integrated Biofarm Enterprise	Ato Dagnatchew Amberbir	091 176 0263	Dagna96@yahoo.com
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Annex 5: Keynote Speeches

5.1 Windup Speech – Dr. Gelila Kidan

Your Excellency President Girma W/giorgis, Your Excellency state minister Dr Abera Deresa, regional representative of UNEP Dr. Strike Mkandla, WHO representative Dr Fatoumata Nafo traore, dignitaries observed, ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the newly appointed board and members of consortium for integration of population, health and environment, it's a great pleasure to welcome you all to the launching of the consortium.

As you recall, regional conference on population, health and environment for seats Africa was held on from Nov 14-17, 2007 in your Excellency's presence at uneca conference center in Addis Ababa

During this conference the regional network was launched by 5 countries namely Kenya Uganda, Tanzania Rwanda and Ethiopia,

It was also recommended to establish national consortium in each respective countries with the objective to harmonize national efforts in health, population and environment which are one of the three important pillars of sustainable development

Shortly after the conference, the ad hoc committee that was formed during the conference was actively working with partners and institutions to engage stakeholders that are working in environment population and health and establish this national network.

Yesterday, over 60 institutions from higher learning institutions, government organizations, and civil societies, national and international NGOs developed and endorsed the vision, mission and objective as well as memorandum of association for the consortium.

The general assembly elected the chair, vice chair and sectary of the assembly who then facilitated the election of the executive board of the consortium.

Members of the board briefly met and expressed their commitment to carry the responsibilities and duties bestowed by the general assembly.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all members of the consortium who has been working strenuously the last couple of days and it is with full confidence that motivation and commitment will continue in realizing our vision of seeing prosperous and healthy society in a sustainable managed environment.

Thank you,

5.2 Solidarity Speech - Dr. Strike Mkandla

Your Excellency, Dr. Girma Woldegiorgis, President of the FDRE

Ato Ahmed Nasir, State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture

Dr. Fatoumata Nafo-Traore, WHO Representative

PHE Board Members and Officials,

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

All protocols observed!

First and foremost I would like to thank you for involving the United Nations in this launching ceremony for the Ethiopian chapter of the Population, Health and Environment (PHE) Network, that you played a big role in setting up just a few months ago. The UN Country Team for Ethiopia is very keen on your initiative; hence the presence of two of us this morning. The UN Resident Coordinator for Ethiopia, Mr. Fidele Sarassoro asked me to convey his greetings and to indicate that the Consortium of Population, Health and Environment Integration (CoPHEI) is a very important initiative from the point of view of the UNCT because it responds to many themes cutting across the mandate of the agencies working in Ethiopia.

Indeed, the name of your consortium itself spells out the broad range of interlinked issues that call for a wide partnership with the UN family. The timing of this initiative is also very fortuitous in that this is an era when the UN is committed to "delivering as one".

We also share your observation in your founding documents about the "interconnectedness between people and their environment. You have signaled the intention of your organization to deal with issues such as disaster mitigation, gender mainstreaming, combating HIV/AIDS, promoting food security and good governance, promoting environmental health and economic development. These concerns cut across many of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and, as you have yourselves pointed out, they underpin efforts to achieve not only poverty alleviation and poverty reduction but also address increasing food security and gender equity, among others.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests!

The debate about an optimum population is an old one, as you know. Theorists such Thomas Malthus painted an alarming picture of population growth outstripping the capacity of the world to support its survival. In between some radical voices pointed out, "Every mouth comes with a pair of hands". Great strides in technology and production methods have somewhat postponed a resolution of this debate,

because where the whole world was a billion people barely a century ago we now have a country that has exceeded a billion and can still feed itself. Furthermore, the stress on the world's ecosystems, a result of climate change exacerbated by the unprecedented accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, is the scourge of our time that can be ascribed solely to the increase in the world's population.

Paul Ehrlich put it polemically in 1968 when he said there is a problem of population there are too many rich people! Such positions are not universally accepted, but there is now increasing acceptance that modern lifestyles (of the relatively affluent) need to be moderated to reduce environmental "footprints", through cleaner production, energy efficiency, prudent water use and other measures that lessen human impacts on ecosystems. I am also not suggesting that poverty is a good thing. On the contrary, as one of my superiors once admonished, if the last tree has to be cut to cook food for famished people it will be cut and used regardless of the consequences for the world's survival. Thus over-consumption and poverty can threaten the earth's carrying capacity from different angles.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests!

This year's theme for World Health Day, "protecting health from climate change", is among the many reminders of the pervasive impact of the climate change phenomenon. Indeed, the UENP/WMO Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has warned that climate change will alter the ecology of some disease vectors, such that there is a potential 5-7% potential increase in malaria distribution by 2001, and likelihood of increase in epidemics due to the lack of protective genetic modifications in the newly affected populations. This dire warning on the health front should be taken alongside other climate related threats such as the increased incidence of extreme weather events, particularly floods and draughts, which are among the contributing factors to food insecurity in Africa. While Africa is responsible for less than 3.5% of GHG concentration in the atmosphere, the continent is set to experience more hardship than most from impacts of climate change. Adoption to climate change is an imperative, as is climate proofing of all development efforts. Programs like the African Seed and Biotechnology Program (ASBP) are advocating protecting of endemic genetic resources as well as use of improved varieties of crops and livestock in order to promote food self-sufficiency.

Too much water (floods) or too little water (droughts) requires management and preparedness to reduce destruction of infrastructure and human lives. These twin

pressure also threaten the attainment of the water and sanitation target in the MDGs and affect too the attainment of other health-related targets, including maternal and child health.

The population, Health and Environment nexus cuts across the whole spectrum of MDGs, on account of its centrality to human development. Conflicts over degraded and diminished natural resources, species extinction, rural-urban migration and rapid urbanization with its attendant problems of ensuring adequate shelter, waste management and other needs are some of the many issues that the PHE forum will have to address, develop policy options and propose practical solutions.

My task this morning is not to second-guess your priority setting but to express my enthusiasm for your initiative, your determination to find African solutions to African problems, and to deal sensitively with a complex issue. The UN Country Team is at your disposal as you seek to engage the population of youth and adults, men and women, public and private sector organizations, mass media, and academia, among others.

Congratulations for embarking on the long march to sustainable development, appropriately begun in this first year of the Ethiopian Millennium. As they say in Asia, a journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step.

I thank you for the invitation to witness this giant step, and for giving me your attention.

5.3 Keynote Address - Dr. Abera Deresa

Your Excellency Mr. Girma W/Giorgis,

President of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia,

Invited Guests,

Distinguished Conference Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It gives me a great pleasure to be given with this opportunity to make a keynote address at this important and timely held conference entitled Establishing and Launching Conference for the Consortium of Population, Health and Environment Integration here.

This conference is very important at least for two reasons, firstly the conference outlined the relationship and the interdependence of population, health and the environment. Secondly, the topics chosen for discussion are very much related to the human endeavors and civilizations. The consortium is very timely as it has

come at the time when the Government of Ethiopia is in need of diversified and focused support of its partners to ensure continued and sustained economic development. The International Community became aware of the influences of climate change on life of population, health and on the environment.

In earlier times of human civilization, nature keeps the balance between growing population and resource base of the environment. The civilization and inventions of medicines, the human health status has been improved and the environment was manipulated towards the desired benefits of human population and that created imbalance towards increased population.

The pressure on environment has increased in the last two centuries. The inventions of medicines and modern technologies that kept man healthy are said to have positive implications on the health of mankind. On the other hand, with betterment of human health and increased creativity of human being, it happened to increase the population on earth and, consequently increased exploitation of natural resources and of pressure on environment. It was just after the mid of 19th century, when the Industrial Revolution brought much change to human civilization and brought economic development to the revolutionary nations in the world.

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Without much exaggeration, I believe that you all agree with me if I say that environment became polluted and is a challenge to the health of human life after the era of industrial revolution due to emissions of gaseous substances that interfere with all types of life. These circumstances brought about significant change on climate, which the world is currently suffering from the consequences. To mention few of adverse effects, climate change causes drought, flooding, heat waves, etc. These are risks to the socio-economic set up of human population. The increase in diseases, malaria, risks of insecurity, and the like are some of the manifestations of these adverse events of climate change. These have, in turn risks the health and well-being of human kind.

More importantly, risks from climate change are also expressed in the form of loss of agricultural production and, consequently causing food insecurity, occurrence of water stress and water scarcity, rising sea levels and exposure of all life to un-conducive environment due to transformed ecological systems and human health problems. The risks of climate change have become an issue to some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities around the world. Rich countries, being in much better position than the poorest countries, are not affected by catastrophe

of climate change as they can use their vast financial and technological resources to protect themselves against climate change.

For Ethiopia, much of the land is seriously degraded and much of ecosystem functions over a large area have been disturbed. This includes much of the highlands, which are major portions for agricultural production. The direct effect of natural resources degradation is not only reducing of crop production, fewer animal holdings and less biomass, but also low per capita caloric intake, which would influence the health status of people.

Resource degradation can also compel sedentary farmers and pastoralists to adopt difficult methods of cultivation, accessing water, acquiring fuel and construction material, and feed for livestock, which may lead to progressive deterioration of their living standards. On the other hand, the current incremental growth of the country's population at a rate of 2 million persons per year puts tremendous pressure on Ethiopia's resource base, the economy and the ability to deliver services. With this alarming rate of population increase, it can be much more difficult to make progress in reducing poverty, creating sufficient employment, and in raising agricultural productivity to keep up with increasing needs for food.

Distinguished guests

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The diversity of socio-economic, climatic, and terrains in Ethiopia greatly affects health situation. Inadequate health coverage is of particular concern in rural Ethiopia despite the ongoing efforts of health extension services that focus on prevention of diseases and family planning. Environmental management interventions should consider the role of population, which could harmonize and ensure the health of people.

Interventions that separately foster beneficial effects on population, health and environment can be counterproductive and self-defeating. The synergies that can be obtained through integrated programs should be enhanced towards effectiveness and efficiency. The interaction between human health and the environment are complex and thus, need to be treated wisely.

We also need to utilize the resources for the benefits of the communities and conserve ecosystems for future use. In other words, achieving desired family size must come with encouraging impacts on the well-being of families and better management of natural resources for the present and future generations.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure that the Government of Ethiopia has laid foundations by establishing relevant strategies and policies to address issues with wise use of natural resources and an integrated approach for achieving rapid and sustainable growth to end poverty. For this interventions we have been put a strong strategy called Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP).

In this conference it is stated that the objective of this conference is establishing and launching the Ethiopian Population, Health and Environment (PHE) Network and introducing PHE Integration Approach across organizations. I could also learn that exploration of opportunities and challenges of engaging in PHE projects, strengthening the PHE network partnerships and developing a viable plan to expand, strengthen and advance PHE in Ethiopia.

The excellent initiative that you are launching today is very much related with the government direction, and therefore on behalf of the Government of Ethiopia, my Ministry will support you in realizing your targets. It is my pleasure to congratulate you for such excellent work done, especially those of you who have worked right from the initial concept note development to this launching workshop. I hope you will maintain your momentum until you reach the target and we all provide you the necessary support to realize the objectives set.

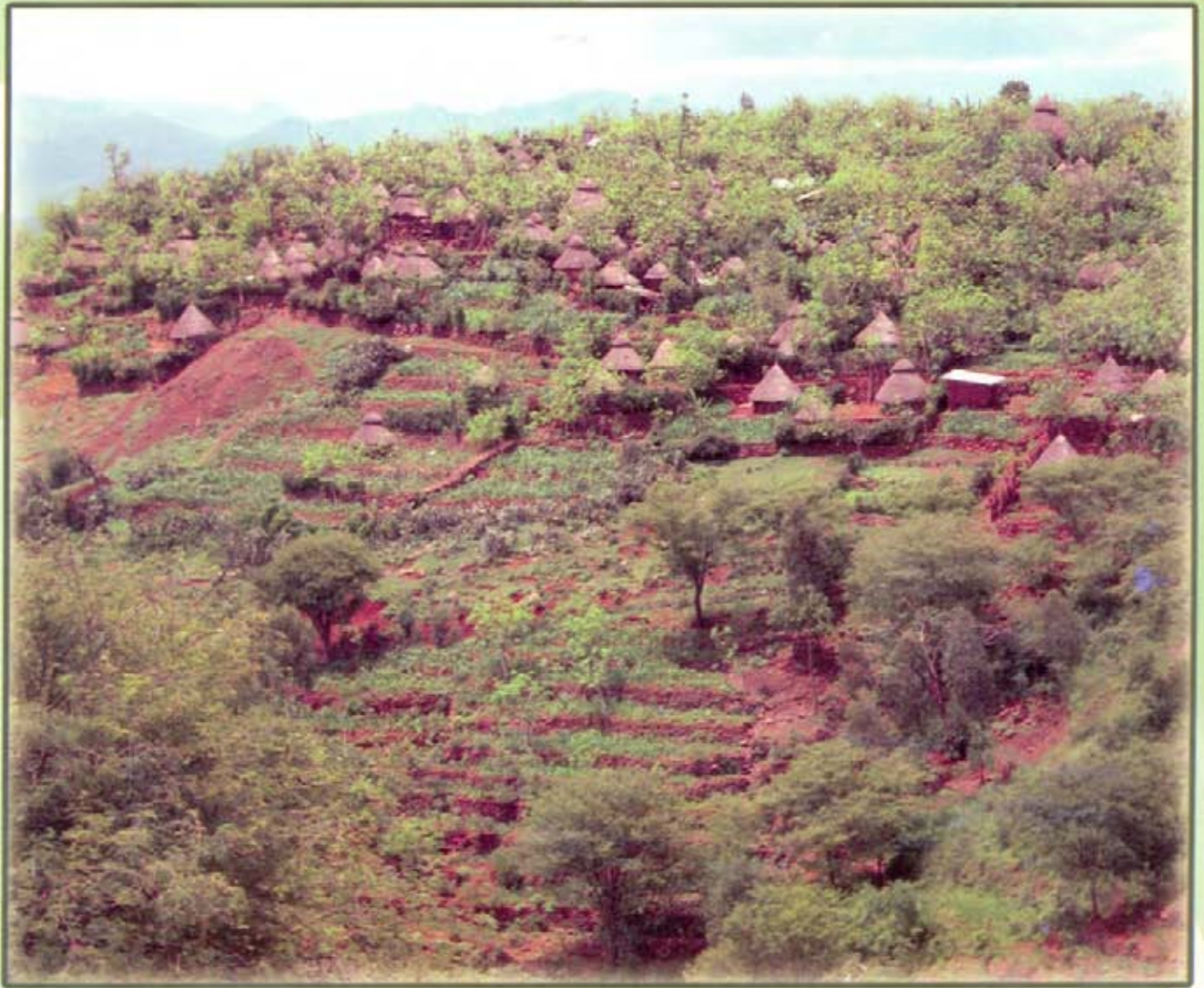
Thank you,

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