



P H E
ETHIOPIA
consortium

Our Voice

Director's Note

Dear PHE Ethiopia Consortium Supporters,

Welcome to our second newsletter about integrating Population, Health and Environment (PHE) issues in Ethiopia and around the world! As a consortium which recognizes the interconnectedness between people and their environment, we are pleased to present the May – August, 2010 edition of the OUR VOICE newsletter. This edition presents latest organizational updates and other issues.

PHE Ethiopia Consortium held the 4th Emergency General Assembly Meeting on May 07, 2010 to endorse the 2009 Activity, Audit report and the re-registration of the Consortium as PHE Ethiopia Consortium.

The Consortium in partnership with different organizations celebrated the National Earth Day and the National Environment Day on April 22, 2010 and June 5, 2010. Both the celebrations were good opportunities to create awareness on climate change and the importance of harmonizing nature and human relationship through an integrated approach.

In our efforts to build the capacity of members, with the support from the BALANCED Project we organized a day and a half working group session on June 2 - 3, 2010 as refresher workshop for the preceding training on Monitoring and Evaluation of Population, Health and Environment (PHE) Programs.

The consortium with the support from PRB held a small technical roundtable discussion on June 15, 2010 to discuss the findings of two assessments carried out in Ethiopia in late 2008, entitled 'Demographic Data for Development Decision-making (or 3-D)' and way forward with the objective to present the major findings, identify the major obstacles to data use at federal and local levels and discuss how to begin to close the gaps.

PHE Ethiopia Consortium in partnership with Ethio Wetlands and Natural Resource Association (EWNRA) and Ethiopia Environmental Journalist Association (EEJA) has organized a visit for 22 media organizations, from June 30 - July 3 to EWNRA's integrated PHE project site which is located in the Ilu Aba Bora Zone of the Oromia Regional State that contains some of the last remaining intact wetland ecosystems in the country.

From July 04 – 14, 2010 the Consortium organized a study tour for Sierra Club activists who visit integrated PHE project sites of Lem Ethiopia in Gedeo Zone, MELCA Mahiber in Bale Zone, Relief Society of Tigray (REST) in Raya Azebo and GPSDO in Welkite. The purpose of this study tour was to witness first-hand the challenges and opportunities associated with community-based integrated development programs and to learn about the connections between population, health and the environment. The study tour included a happy hour event in order to provide a platform for the study tour participants to report to network members their lessons learned, impressions, recommendations and thoughts from their visit to Ethiopia's PHE sites

This newsletter also includes an Interview with Annie Wallace, who has been Population, Health and Environment Technical Advisor with USAID's Global Health Fellows Program for the last two years.

In addition we have also news on Vetiver Grass network activity, national population day and launching of study on Benefits of meeting women's contraceptive needs in Ethiopia.

As a consortium, we encourage your contribution to make our website, brochures, Ethiopia's PHE spotlight booklet and this newsletter more valuable and supportive to your efforts. Please don't hesitate to contact us at pheethiopia@gmail.com. Thank you for your work in harmonizing the relationship between people and nature in Ethiopia and throughout the world.

We look forward to collaborating with you!

Negash Teklu
Executive Director
PHE Ethiopia Consortium

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2nd National Earth Day Celebrated



Earth Day conference participants, guest of Hounours and presenters

The Foreign Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, his Excellency Ato Seyoum Mesfin, officially opened Earth Day which was celebrated under the main theme 'Financing Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Success Stories.' Following this, H.E. Dr. Aberra Deressa, State Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, highlighted that Earth Day is a day designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the environment.

Ethiopia, which has become Africa's mouthpiece for climate change negotiations, celebrated the day for the second time nationally in the UNECA Conference Center with a panel discussion intended

to raise public awareness on environment and depletion of natural resources due to human behaviors. The celebration was attended by over 400 participants from all stakeholders, namely government offices, local and international nongovernmental organizations, diplomats, the donor community, UN Agencies, the private sector, academicians and researchers from institutions, and the press. A research paper entitled 'The Rain Doesn't Come On Time Anymore: Poverty, Vulnerability, and Climate Variability in Ethiopia' and a collection of selected abstracts on climate change research in Ethiopia from the Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate Change (ECSNCC), were inaugurated at the

commencement of the celebration and different publications were distributed. Subsequently, a series of presentations were made by Ato Assefa Tofu from World Vision, Ato Tsegaye Tadesse from Farm Africa / SoS Sahel Bale Eco Region Sustainable Management Programme, Dr. Dadi Jima from Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute (EHNRI), and Ato Seyoum Zenebe from Ministry of Mines and Energy. One of the PHE Ethiopia Consortium members, Ethio Wetlands and Natural Resource Association (EWNRA), presented the integrated Wichi Watershed project by Ato Shewaye Derebe.

The celebration came into effect through the collaborative

efforts of various organizers: PHE Ethiopia Consortium, Climate Change Forum-Ethiopia (CCF-E), Horn of Africa Regional Environment Center (HOAREC), The Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate Change (ECSNCC), Climate and Health Working Group (CHWG), Ethiopian National Youth Coalition for Climate Change (ENYCCC), and United Nations Environment Program.

Extensive media coverage was given for the event and news was broadcasted both in the electronic and printed mediums. A proceeding is in the process of being printed. The Earth Day celebration was the initiative of PHE Ethiopia Consortium. ■

WORKING GROUP SESSION ON MONITORING AND EVALUATION

As the lead on PHE training and capacity building within Ethiopia, PHE Ethiopia Consortium, in collaboration with CDM International and MEASURE Evaluation, organized trainings on Program Design for Population, Health and Environment (PHE) and Monitoring and Evaluation of Population, Health and Environment (PHE) Programs on November 3 – 6, 2008 and November 17 – 21, 2008 respectively. The trainings

were attended by 34 member organizations, of these Ethio Wetlands and Natural Resource Association (EWNRA), Relief Society of Tigray (REST), Lem Ethiopia, MELCA Mahiber, Gurage Peoples Self-Help Development Organization (GPSDO), Oromia Development Association (ODA) and Consortium of Christian Relief Development Association (CCRDA) are actively implementing integrated PHE projects in

different parts of the country.

To further support the capacity of those members implementing integrated PHE projects, the Consortium, in collaboration with the BALANCED Project, organized a day and a half refresher working group session on M&E, on June 2 - 3, 2010 at the Institute of International Education (IIE) office. To this end, Elin Torell, the BALANCED Project's

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (M, I&E) Advisor provided to the above mentioned 14 PHE Ethiopia consortium members information on what they had learned about monitoring and evaluation of population, health and environment programs and helping those to develop or revise integrated and value-added indicators. The training was interactive, participatory and timely, as commented by the participants. ■

Vetiver grass network activities

Vetiver grass and its products



PHE Ethiopia Consortium is an active member of Ethiopian Vetiver Network (ETVN) established on July 31, 2009 in accordance with the mandate given to the Ad Hoc Committee by the participants of the national workshop on “The Vetiver System for Soil and Water Conservation, Environmental Protection and Land Rehabilitation in Ethiopia” conducted 16-18 March in Addis Ababa. In this workshop the importance of Vetiver Grass is not only for dam stabilization, but, also for environmental protection as a whole and income generation.

The network is hosted at Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF) and it has three

subcommittees: 1) Knowledge Management, Documentation Networking and Newsletters/ Publication group, 2) Leadership, Advocacy, Lobby, Funds Soliciting and Monitoring & Evaluation group (that is chaired by our Consortium) and 3) Training, Research & Extension group.

Leadership, Advocacy, Lobby, FundsSolicitingandMonitoring & Evaluation group contacted higher officials of EEPSCO and Road Authority to discuss the importance of Vetiver Grass to the country’s road construction and sustainability and hydro power dam construction and preventing siltation. Ato Meheret Debebe Executive Director of EEPSCO and Ato

Zaid W/Gabriel, Executive Director of Road Authority thanked the visiting team and appreciated the uses of the miraculous grass not only for EEPSCO’s constructed dams and but also for flood control, river banks and access to road stabilization.

As a result, on 8-10 May 2010 ETVN members organized a visit for higher officials of EEPSCO and Road Authority that covers Center for Indigenous Trees Propagation & Biodiversity Development situated near Addis Alem, Addis- Ambo road, Ambo-Gedo road, Anno Agro Industry P.L.C and Gelegele Gibe 1&2 dams. The visit provided opportunities for

discussion on environmental problems observed on each of the sites visited. The objective of the visit was to introduce the Vetiver System application and propose the use of vetiver for control of dam siltation and watershed management package of EEPSCO and the Road construction in the country.

Finally we are preparing an important workshop to save the hydro power dams from siltation problems with special focus on Gilgel Gibe watershed sometime in the coming October in partnership with Jimma University, EEPSCO, the Vetiver Grass Network and our Consortium. The importance of Vetiver grass will be discussed in that workshop. ■

4th PHE ETHIOPIA CONSORTIUM GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

PHE Ethiopia Consortium held its 4th Emergency General Assembly Meeting on May 07, 2010 in Addis Ababa. The General Assembly leader Ato Haddis Mulugeta, began the meeting by welcoming and stating in short the purpose of the assembly meeting which was to endorse the re-registration of the Consortium, endorse the 2009 Board report, 2009 Activity report and 2009 Audit report and endorse new members and affiliates.

Following that the Assembly endorsed the reports unanimously and endorsed new members and affiliates. As reported by the Executive Director, there were up to 50

members upon establishment. This membership numbers reduced to 28 upon re-registration since the new NGO law doesn’t allow individuals and networks to be members of another network. However, as to individuals who had been members of the consortium at the individual capacity, they could no longer be full consortium members. But they can be associate as honorary and lifetime members if agreed to by the General Assembly.

As a result, the General Assembly approved and endorsed new full membership to ENDA Ethiopia, Sustainable EnvironmentandDevelopment Association, Wolaita



General Assembly participants

Development Association, Eshet Children and Youth Development Organization, Talent Youth Association, Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society, Anti-Malaria Association, Ethiopian Environmental Journalists

Association, Coalition for Action Against Poverty and Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara.

Currently the consortium has 38 full and 2 associate members. ■

“ I think the network needs to think of low cost, low tech ways to keep the members engaged in building their capacity and skills. Long, costly trainings take time away from members implementing their work and are not sustainable.”

Annie Wallace,

Population, Health and Environment Technical Advisor with USAID's Global Health Fellows Program

Our Voice : May you introduce your self to our readers?

Annie Wallace: My name is Annie Wallace. I am a Population, Health and Environment Technical Advisor with USAID's Global Health Fellows Program which is a part of the Public Health Institute based in the United States. I am seconded to the David and Lucile Packard Foundation's Population and Reproductive Health office based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. I am also a wife and mother of 2 children ages 3 years and 7.5 months.

Our Voice: What is your role in Ethiopia?

Annie Wallace: I provide technical assistance to Packard's grantees implementing PHE work in Ethiopia. I focus primarily on developing capacity and awareness of integrating population, health and environment interventions to achieve community development goals in Ethiopia. I also support and give advice to the consortium.

Our Voice: When you came how was the development of PHE integration in Ethiopia in relation to project implementation? Member's participation? The consortium?

Annie Wallace: When I first arrived there were a few organizations that had received funds to pilot PHE interventions. There was confusion on how to integrate interventions and many issues regarding what the PHE approach is. I still feel there is misunderstanding of what PHE is but several of the projects that have been implementing over the past two years have very strong integrated approaches. I am excited to see results from these projects and for other practitioners in Ethiopia and elsewhere to learn from them. One area that seems to confuse many practitioners is how to integrate approaches. I think this is an area that the consortium will have to continuously work on the technical and practical application of integrated approaches. Most practitioners appreciate the concept of integration and they just need to build their confidence and skill in actually integrating their interventions.

Actually when I was arrived the consortium was a few months old and member participation was very



Annie Wallace

small. In the past two years the network has worked very hard to involve members in workshops, trainings, experience sharing visits, and other opportunities. These activities have built the members' confidence and expectations of the network which has resulted in active participation. I have been impressed with how many people attend every meeting and activity that I have been a part of over the past few months. The consortium has definitely come a long way since the beginning.

I think the network is doing a great job responding to members' needs. I hope it is able to get funds to have a capacity building officer to focus on specific project design and conceptual needs of the members.

Our Voice: Which sites have you visited? And how do you describe them?

Annie Wallace: I have been to REST's PHE sites, MELCA's PHE site, GPSDO's PHE site and several potential sites. My reactions to the projects vary as I have visited them at different stages. I am always hopeful when I see the site before implementation and am eager to learn how the process of implementation will go. I am impressed with the different approaches, as well.

For instance, REST is using a watershed management approach and the integration is the foundation of the planning process. The government and community involvement is what makes this project so successful. The partnership between the health extension workers and development agents has increased men's involvement in health and family planning issues while the women are becoming involved in livelihood issues. Talking with community members is exciting and that is when, at REST and other sites, you can see that people live integrated lives and integrated approaches make sense to them.

GPSDO and several of CRDA's sub grantees have an interesting project area with high population density and severely degraded farmland which have resulted in limited livelihood options, high rural/urban migration, and food insecurity for larger households. This area is particularly fascinating due to the large number of female-led households due to the rural urban migration. The added value to implementing integrated approaches is the direct benefit and involvement of women in the projects. I am very eager to see results coming from this area.

I found MELCA's project fascinating due to the involvement and eventual buy in from the Islamic religious leaders. The large family sizes in the Bale area are a direct threat to the sensitive ecosystem, demand on resources, health issues of women and the nutrition of families. Developing relationships with religious leaders and getting their buy in for family planning activities is a huge success for this project. The project is completed and I hope that MELCA is able to continue to support the health extension workers in building awareness and demand for family planning services. The results in this area could provide great lessons learned for future practitioners looking to work in primarily Muslim communities.

Several of the projects that Packard funds are starting to have some very exciting lessons learned from the first 1 to 2 years of implementation. I am looking forward to watching them develop and see the results that come from the projects. I hope that larger donors become interested in this great work and start to invest in them and the scaling up of their activities.

Our Voice: How do you evaluate the development of PHE integration in Ethiopia in the last two years? Networking wise? Project wise? Partnership locally and internationally?

Annie Wallace: I think that there are some exciting projects being implemented. My fear is there is little capacity or motivation to implement quality monitoring and evaluation systems. Without gathering data to measure outcome and eventually impact indicators we won't really understand how well the projects were or were not implemented. This threatens future funding prospects. Without funding projects will not be able to continue to address community needs with integrated PHE approaches.

The network has grown significantly and, as a result, awareness and understanding of the PHE concept is very high. I think now the network's role is to develop the capacity and understanding of organizations on the importance of monitoring and evaluating. They need to be collecting more information than process indicators (i.e. number of people trained, number of sessions held, etc). We need to know what people are doing with this training in the communities and what the outcomes of these activities are on the communities.

Our Voice: How do you evaluate your contribution for the PHE integration in Ethiopia?

Annie Wallace: Two years is not a long time. I think I have done well with developing understanding of the PHE concept and working with organizations on their conceptual frameworks and project planning documents. I would have liked to have been more involved in the monitoring and evaluation as I see there is a great need for this. My hope is the network will be able to provide that support through those that have been trained and by developing the capacity of its staff so it will not rely on outside expertise. The network is self sufficient in so many ways and being able to provide m&E support in house will be a powerful tool for its members.

Our Voice: What are the major success's?

Annie Wallace: I think all of the capacity building and experience sharing visits that the network has provided its members are great successes. I also think that 6 pilot PHE projects is a huge success after only 3 years since the introduction of the PHE concept in Ethiopia.

Our Voice: What are the major challenges? Your advice?

Annie Wallace: Monitoring and Evaluation and my advice is on that: I think the network needs to think of low cost, low tech ways to keep the members engaged in building their capacity and skills. Long, costly trainings take time away from members implementing their work and are not sustainable.

Our Voice: When are you leaving? And who is replacing you?

Annie Wallace: I am leaving Addis Ababa on September 6, 2010 and will be continue working on several projects remotely through October 20, 2010. As of now there is not another PHE Advisor coming but, as I indicated above, I think it is important for the network and its members to focus on building the network's ability to provide capacity building in house. This will allow for long term sustainability of the work. ■

PHE SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD

2010 SIERRA CLUB ETHIOPIA STUDY TOUR

Sierra Club is America's oldest, largest, and most influential grassroots environmental organization. The Club was founded by John Muir in 1892. Since 2003, the Sierra Club's Global Population and Environment Program has conducted a series of study tours to explore issues around sustainable development, reproductive health, justice, and the environment. Past study tour countries include Ecuador, Madagascar, Ethiopia, India and the Philippines.

The 2010 Sierra Club Ethiopian Study Tour was coordinated by the PHE Ethiopia Consortium from July 4 – 14, 2010 which was attended by 4 members of Sierra Club: Sandeep Bathala who is Director of the Global Population and Environment Program, Ned Grossnickle who is Professor and Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences for the University of Wisconsin Colleges, Robert Murphy who is a priest involved in environmental justice work for several decades and Alecia Fields who is a medical student at the Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Blacksburg Virginia. The tour were to visit integrated PHE project sites of Lem Ethiopia in Gedeo Zone, MELCA Mahiber in Bale Zone, Relief Society of Tigray (REST) in Raya Azebo, and GPSDO in Welkite with the objective to develop "super" activists/leaders who are educated and empowered by first hand knowledge in visiting integrated Population Health Environment (PHE) programs in the field.



Sierra clubs' happy hour presentation

As one part of the tour a Happy Hour event was organized on July 14, 2010 with the objective to share the lessons learned, impressions, recommendations and thoughts from the study tour participants regarding their visit to Ethiopia's PHE sites and what they intend to do with the knowledge gained. The event was attended by 35 member organizations. According to one study tour participant, "The trip to Ethiopia was easily the most important trip I have taken in my life. Visiting villages and understanding the problems they face is crucial if we are to convey a meaningful message to others. I have given four presentations about Ethiopia so far, and all have been extremely well received. I know we are building awareness among our members and among the general public who attend our presentations."

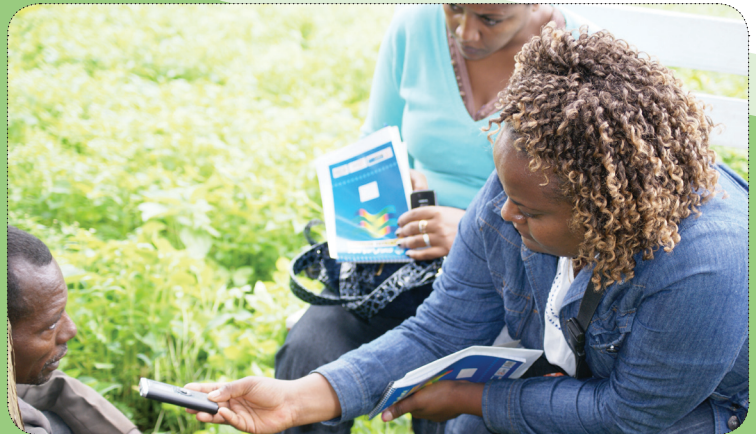
In addition the Sierra Club Study tour participants have met with David and Lucile Packard Foundation, USAID, UNFPA. ■

METU FIELD VISIT BY MEDIA CREW

PHE Ethiopia Consortium in partnership with Ethio Wetlands and Natural Resource Association (EWNRA) and Ethiopia Environmental Journalist Association (EEJA) organized a media crew visit from June 30 - July 3 to EWNRA's integrated PHE project site which is located in the Ilu Aba Bora Zone of the Oromia Regional State that contains some of the last remaining intact wetland ecosystems in the country.

This integrated Population, Health and Environment (PHE) project provides a good model for community-based adaptation strategies since it is implemented in close collaboration with the local government. In addition to environmental protection, health promotion and provision of family planning information and services, the project includes components addressing farming practices, agro-forestry, potable water, cleaner cooking facilities and micro-credit for women.

The visit was attended by twenty-two Media participants from Addis Admas, Addis Zemen, BBC World Service Trust, EEJA, The Ethiopian Herald, Ethiopian News Agency, Oromiya Info Office, Deutsche Welle, Tigray Mass Media, Dwet-FM 102.2, Amhara Mass Media, Dire Dawa Mass Media, Forum for Environment, VOA, MCC Reporter, ETV-2, AAU, Yegna Promotion, DRIO. The journalists have discussed and interviewed committee members from different groups and found out that most of the needs are being addressed. These committees are from microfinance, water, sanitation, family planning, farming (modern farming) involving both men and women.



Media people interviewing member of the community

After the interview with the committee they had a chance to meet with the beneficiaries of the projects in the villages. These were rural people who are actually practicing environmental conservation activities and are the direct beneficiaries of various activities under the Wetland Conservation project. Under this visit they have seen beneficiaries who had learned how to keep their sanitation by keeping their house clean and separating their animal shatters. They visited the water project and shallow well constructed with the help of EWNRA. The visit had ended with a panel discussion with the community leaders at the field office of EWNRA. ■

17TH NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY

World Environment As part of the 2010 Environment Day Celebration, for the 17th time in Ethiopia, PHE Ethiopia Consortium, in partnership with Bio Economy Africa, Forum for Environment, Greener Ethiopia, Horn of Africa Regional Environment Center and Network, Institute of Biodiversity Conservation, Oromia Forest Enterprise Supervising Agency, and Youth Network for Sustainable Development convened the National Environment Day on June 5/2010. The day had different activities including a half day Panel Discussion and Site visit to Bio Economy Africa. Fifty six participants, including governmental and non-governmental institutions, universities and environment civil societies attended the event. Presentations were made by different organizations like Institute of Biodiversity Conservation, Botanical Garden, Oromia Forest Enterprise Supervising Agency, Bio Economic Africa, and Ethio Wetlands and Natural Resource Association (EWNRA), which led the participants to discuss different issues. Lastly, the participants visited the Bio Economic Africa site and shared experiences.

Activities included a tree planting event at Wochecha area. Mt Wochecha covers an area of about 21,265 ha, and is characterized by high human and livestock population, dega agro ecological zone, water catchments for the Awash River, and source of water for the Gefersa dam. Unfortunately, Mt Wechecha can also be considered as one of the most degraded mountain ridges surrounding Addis Ababa. Mt. Wechecha is selected as a site for this vital event because it has significant biodiversity, and it is a source of water supply (nearby Gefersa river), has investment/development opportunities, and is near the capital city of Ethiopia.

The tree planting event at Wochecha was held on June 12, 2010 with the presence of H.E President Girma W/Giorgis. Around 1000 people attended the event and 10,000 seedlings were planted. ■

Study on Benefits of meeting women's contraceptive needs in Ethiopia

Guttmacher Institute and Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists with the financial support from World Bank conducted a study on Benefits of meeting women's contraceptive needs in Ethiopia aiming to help chart a course towards better health and family well-being by highlighting the cost savings and health benefits from improving contraceptive services.

PHE Ethiopia Consortium in collaboration with the Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, Federal Ministry of Health, and Guttmacher institute convened a dissemination workshop where the study report launched. The workshop was held on July 13, 2010 at Hilton Addis, and was attended by participants from governmental and nongovernmental organizations, UN agencies and international NGOs. The organizations include Regional Health Bureaus; Federal and Regional Women's Affairs Offices, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, national and international NGOs working on RH including UN agencies, and public and private media among others. The full report is available at http://phe-ethiopia.org/admin/uploads/attachment-371-IB_Cost_Benefit_Ethiopia_Final_wLinks%5B1%5D.pdf

In addition we in collaboration with the National Office of Population, Central Statistics Agency and other partners organized the World Population Day, which was celebrated nationally this year on 15 July with a half-day symposium in which 400 people, comprising government officials, members of the diplomatic missions, representatives of UN agencies, CSOs, and others participated. The day also marked the 17th anniversary of the promulgation of the National Population Policy of Ethiopia. Moreover, the occasion also served as a venue to disseminate the Detailed Statistical Results of the Third Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia which was conducted in 2007.

In addition to the international theme chosen for the day, "Everyone Counts," a national theme was also chosen for this year titled "Small, Happy, and Prosperous Family." The national theme also served as the theme of the Ethiopian Government for the commemoration of the World Population Day last year.

Remarks were made at the event by the State Minister of Finance and Economic Development Ato Mekonnen Manyazewal, the representative of the Mayor of the Addis Ababa Administration Dr. Solomon Berhe, Director-General of the Central Statistical Agency Mrs. Samia Zakaria, the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations Country Team Mr. Samuel Nymambi, and UNFPA Country Representative Mr. Benoit Kalasa. ■

DISCUSSION ON DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FOR DEVELOPMENT

Two coordinated assessments were carried out in Ethiopia in late 2008 as part of a four country study in Sub-Saharan Africa's Demographic Data for Development Decision-making (or 3-D). Based on the recommendations from the assessments, the Consortium, with the support from PRB, held a small technical roundtable discuss of the findings and recommendations with the objective to present the major findings, identify the major obstacles to data use (at federal and local levels) and discuss how to begin to close the gaps.

The meeting was conducted on June 15, 2010 and attended by 10 experts, including members of the assessment teams, demographers and population specialists from Central Statics Agency, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Federal Ministry of Health, National Office of Population, Addis Ababa University, UNFPA, and BBC Trust. It was intended to increase informal, open, highly technical and frank communication among government colleagues and demographic partners at a crucial time when the monitoring progress in achieving the targets of the 2005 – 2010 PASDEP, and establishing the targets for the 2015 PASDEP and the MDGs.

There were four presentations. The first was by Dr. Charles Teller, Sociologist-Demographer and former PRB Scholar who summarized the general findings across the four-country study. Afterward Ato Negash Teklu, PHE Ethiopia Consortium Executive Director, presented the role of the media in bridging the gap and their need for demographic data. The new NAPA baseline indicator targets and their urgent data needs for the new 2010-2015 PASDEP was presented by Ahmed Mohammed, demographer in the Population Affairs Directorate in MoFED, followed by a presentation on Current Census Issues and New Population Data Needs by Gebeyehu Abelti, lead technical demographer at CSA.

After the discussion on the presentations, it was strongly agreed that such inter-governmental technical discussion groups should meet regularly, with additional ministries and technical stakeholders and high decision making levels included. ■

Resources

PHE-Ethiopia Consortium is pleased to announce that, we have new resources available to our partners and member organizations!

• Updated Website:

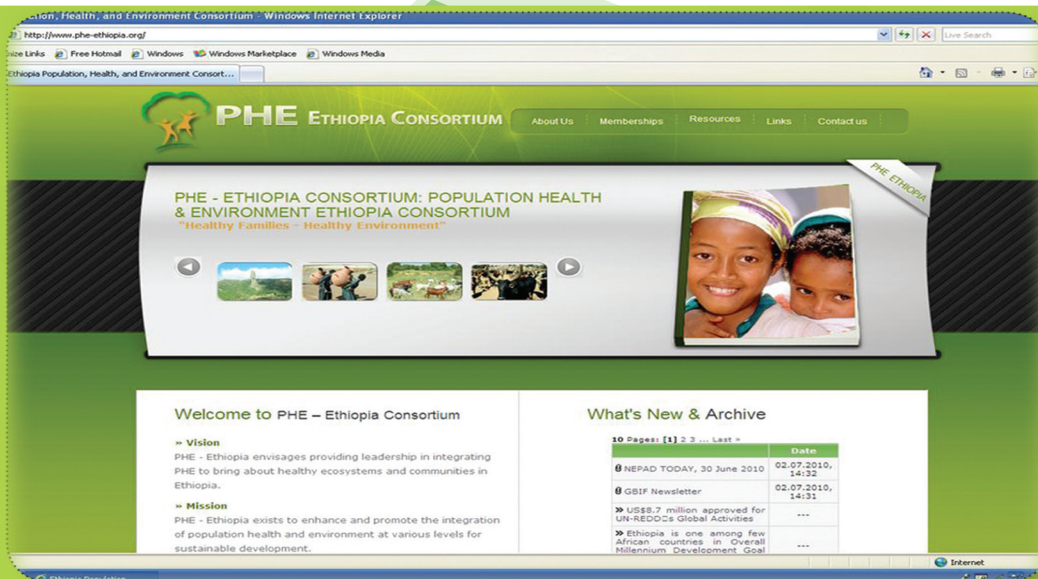
PHE-Ethiopia Consortium's website, www.phe-ethiopia.org, was established in February 2009, which includes articles, manuals and policies, and national data related to PHE, as well as links to the websites of government organizations, research centers, and partner/member organizations. With the support of the Global Health Fellows Program, we have revised our website to be more user-friendly and interactive, offering on line service, the best available knowledge and practices on PHE programs in Ethiopia and Internationally. We are also linking our website to PHE Toolkit site at K4Health website, internationally.



• **Ethiopia's PHE Spotlight** : PHE Ethiopia Consortium has launched a new booklet that address on the success and challenges associated with community-based integrated development programs, and to learn about the connections among population, health and the environment, by member organizations and partners.

• **General Assembly Proceeding** : PHE Ethiopia Consortium 2nd, 3rd, and 4th GA meetings proceeding is going to be distributed that outlined the status of PHE interventions, endorse the consortium, 2008, 2009 annual report and 2008, 2009 audit report, discuss and endorse the re-registration of the consortium under a new name PHE Ethiopia Consortium according to the Societies and Charities Proclamation 621/2000.

You can download these materials from our website www.phe-ethiopia.org, or if you are interested in requesting hard-copy brochures for dissemination to your organization please contact us via our email phe-ethiopia@gmail.com



Visit PHE Ethiopia Consortium's online Networking and Capacity Building Website!



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Healthy Environment**