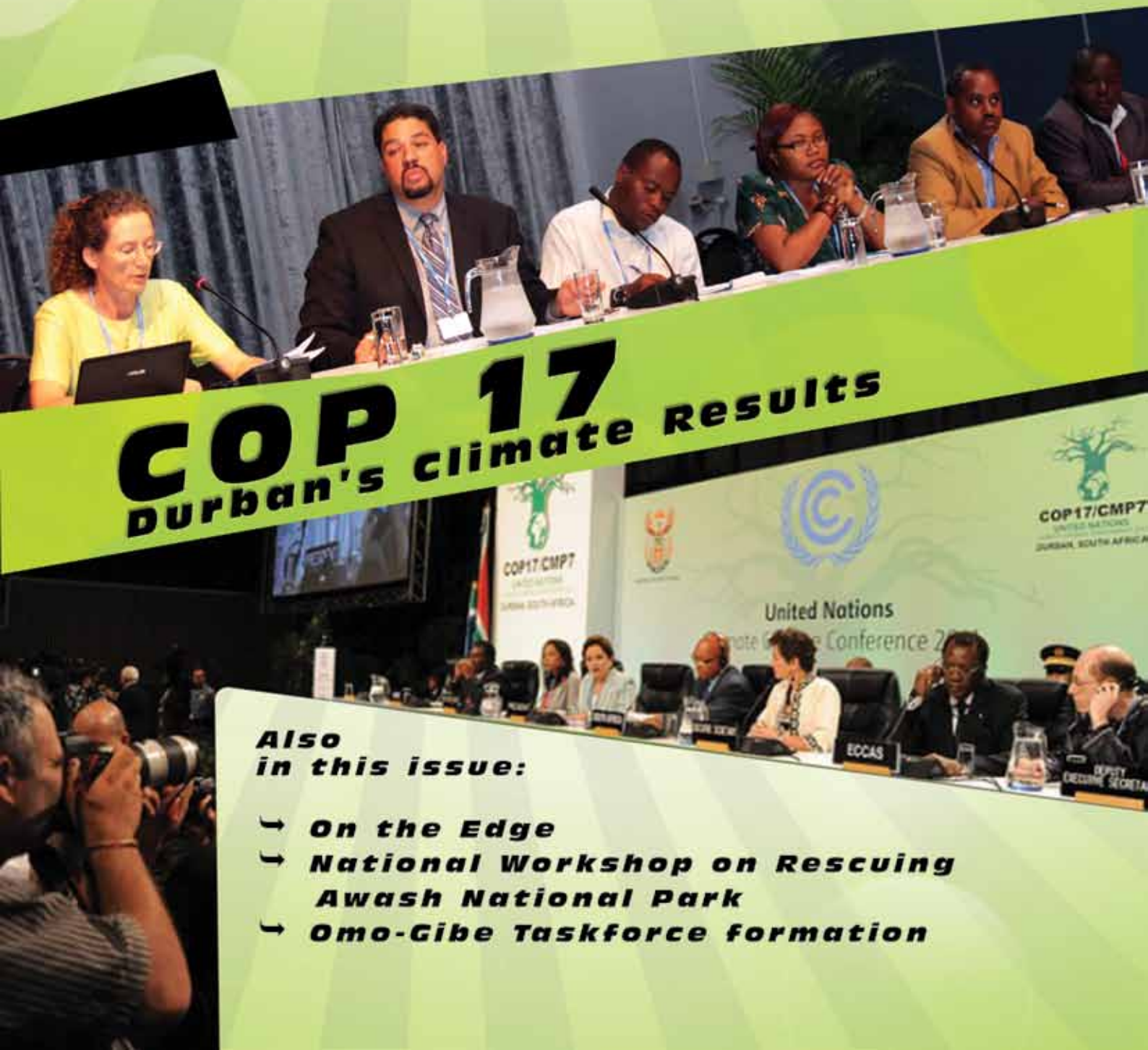




P H E
ETHIOPIA
consortium

Our Voice

Newsletter, Fifth Edition, September - December, 2011



COP 17 **Durban's climate Results**

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Published by:
PHE ETHIOPIA CONSORTIUM
P.O.Box - 22808,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Phone: + 251-11-860 8190
+ 251-11-663 0833
FAx: + 251-11-663 8127
E-mail: pheethiopia@gmail.com
website: www.phe-ethiopia.org

Edited by:
Ato Negash Teklu, Executive Director
Kristen Stelljes, PHE advisor
Thuria S. Adem, Program Officer

Contributors:
Ahmad Mohammad, Program Officer
Mesfin Kassa, Program Officer
Dagim Gezahagne, ICT Officer
Betel Sintayehu, Program Assistant

Designed & Printed by:
PHILMON PRESS
(0911644678)

Director's Note

Greetings,

It is with great pleasure PHE Ethiopia Consortium is sharing this newsletter with you. We hope you are as inspired by the contents of this newsletter as we are. Over the last six months, we have seen government officials embrace the PHE integration in new ways. Through our work with national and local taskforces for the Awash National Park and the Gilgel Gibe hydropower stations, we have brought integration to new areas to meet community needs while ensuring the sustainability of our national parks, dams and hydropower stations and water basins. We look forward to sharing the progress made by these taskforces in future newsletters. We are also very excited that we have published three new studies on PHE related topics and have trained 77 journalists on PHE approach. Our story on COP 17 shows how far our planet have come on addressing climate change, but also how much farther we have to go. The Consortium is committed to integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation into all of our work and we will continue to advocate at global events for mechanisms that support those communities and countries that are most challenged by climate change, including our very own Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) and Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE).

The next six months will bring many exciting events- we have already had two successful workshops with our members and we are looking forward to our sixth General Assembly. We are looking forward to developing more joint proposals with our members and to support their projects with pass-through funding as we adapt to the Charities and Societies directive. We will also be strengthening our ability to share evidenced-based information with you as we conduct research projects with our eleven partner universities and roll out our shared national PHE M&E framework that our members will contribute to so that we can tell the story of our impact across PHE project areas.

You can always read about our latest activities on our website (www.phe-ethiopia.org). Check in with us often for the latest events and publications.

Negash Teklu
Excutive Director
PHE Ethiopia Consortium



National Workshop on Rescuing Awash National Park



The National Workshop on Rescuing Awash National Park (ANP) was conducted from August 24-25, 2011 in Adama Ras Hotel, Adama. PHE Ethiopia Consortium was one of the organizers of this workshop as a member of the Working Group (WG) for Awash National Park. One of the mandates of the Consortium is to play a role in protected areas for bringing a sustained conservation and management through integration and harmonizing the ecosystem with the interest of the surrounding communities.

More than 80 people from federal ministries, the House of Representatives, zonal and woreda sector offices, ANP, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA), NGOs, embassies and ANP WGs and individuals attended the meeting. Dr. Yirmed Demeke, Director of one of our member organization Wildlife Sustainable Development (WSD) as well as Secretary of the working group introduced the objectives, the participants and the program of the workshop.

Mr. Xavier Marchal, EU Delegate in Ethiopia, was enthusiastic about the workshop and shared his support for the efforts being made to rescue the national park and maximize the benefit to the local communities and to the country.



Mr. Xavier Marchal

by Dr. Kilfe Argaw, Director General of EWCA. He emphasized the economic, ecological and social benefits of the protected area to society and shared his expectation that through the workshop solutions for the recurrent problems in ANP could be identified, especially the illegal occupation, emerging in the park. He also welcomed participants and urged their full participation during the meeting.



Dr. Kilfe Argaw

The national workshop was officially opened by H.E. Ato Dawood Mohammed, State Minister of Culture and Tourism (MoCT). He remarked that ANP with all its special values and services has to be well preserved for local and national advantages. The State Minister confirmed that the ministry would pay special attention and follow up closely on the park issues.



H.E. Ato Dawood Mohammed

Presentations and research finding

During the workshop five different papers were presented and which were preceded by a brief film show by EWCA that shed light on the potential benefits and threats of the park which left participants with deep passion to protect the park from harm.

Dr. Yirmed Demek briefed the participants on the progress and major activities accomplished by the ANP Working Group through its integrated conservation and development initiatives. His presentation was followed by Ato Kahsay G/Tensae, Director, National Parks and Sanctuaries Directorate, EWCA, who presented the conservation and management issues of the ANP where he shared the historical background of the ANP, its significance in terms of flora and fauna richness, its attractive features, the values and opportunities present as well as the threats for the Park.

The experiences of Semien

Mountain National Park were shared by Ato Zeleke Tigabe which shed light on how the local community has benefited from receiving an equal share of the income from the park as well as from its aesthetic and ecological values, even though the park has similar problems to ANP.

The other presentations depicted the values of protected areas in relation to climate change adaptation. The Ethiopian protected areas can store about 19 Million Gt of CO₂, worth about \$950 million, and the estimated contribution of ANP in carbon sequestration is about \$12 million a year.

The resource conflict among the community and their view in the park was assessed and presented by Ato Fedlu Abdela, WSD. The assessment showed that 77% and 87% of Fentale and Awash Fentale woreda community members respectively reported the presence of conflict around resource use.

The last presentation was delivered by Ato Mesfin Kassa, PHE Ethiopia Consortium, on the paradigm shift needed to provide sustainable and integrated solutions by proposing community based social, economic, environmental integrated interventions for protected areas. Comprehensive and collaborative approaches must be used by the different stakeholders to effectively design and implement joint action plans. Moreover, community ownership and participation must be core issues to be considered to bring about change in the park.



Ato Kahsay G/Tensae



Ato Mesfin Kassa

Most of the meeting was dedicated to extended panel and group discussions among participants, woreda, zonal, regional and federal representatives to identify possible opportunities and solutions to the challenges faced by ANP.

Way forward

After the intensive discussion, consensus was reached to establish active taskforces at the local and national level. Local Committees of three woredas from Awash Fentale, Fentale and Zone-3 of East Shoa

established a joint committee on ANP with the aim of resolving any emerging problems towards preserving the park from devastation and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with EWCA. These committees will involve relevant sector representatives including police and security as well as the park management. On a weekly basis, the respective woreda park committee members will have a regular meeting to resolve common problems within the woreda as well as across the neighboring regions. WSD and Ethiopian Sustainable Tourism Alliance (ESTA) from the WG became members of the Local ANP Committee which incorporates both Afar and Oromiya regions. Zones serve as a bridge to channel the overwhelming challenges and those that demand high decision level.

The National Taskforce is composed of MoCT, EWCA, Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA), regional government bureaus and CSOs (EWNHS, ESTA and PHE Ethiopia Consortium) from the WG and other relevant ministries and relevant cso's. This taskforce has the mandate to advise, and support MoCT and EWCA nationally and the Local ANP Committee. Whereas, the existing WG will continue its technical support to MoCT and EWCA and seek financial resources for the development of the park. All the stakeholders from federal, regional, zonal and woreda offices vowed to have shared accountability in front of the participants. The proceedings of the workshop are being finalized and then will be printed and distributed. ■



Workshop panelists and participants

Meeting with Basin National Taskforce Chairperson



H.E. Alemayehu Tegenu, H.E. Ato Seleshi Getahun, Ato Abiti Getaneh and PHE staff on the meeting

Prospective members of the soon to be established National Taskforce on Basins organize and hold its initial meeting with the Chairman of the Basin Taskforce, H.E. Alemayehu Tegenu, and Minister of Water & Energy (MoWE), in his office on 17 August 2011. H.E. Ato Seleshi Getahun, State Minister of Agriculture (MoA), Ato Abiti Getaneh, Research & Development, Directorate Director in MoWE and PHE staff held the initial meeting. The discussion focused on the procedures, pre-arrangements and directives necessary to organize and hold the meeting that would launch the national taskforce on river basins.

During this session, H.E. Seleshi Getahun briefed Ato Alemayehu Tegenu, about the Jimma national workshop on integrated watershed management that was held in December 2010. The recommendations from the meeting including the establishment of a National Basin Taskforce that incorporates line ministries the regions within the basins, the World Bank to represent donors, PHE Ethiopia Consortium representing NGOs, and others.

In addition, he emphasized why coordination is important

and that the role of the task force will be to give advice and to coordinate the joint action within the basin area nationally and locally including within the Omo-Gibe Basin area. The Minister appreciated the efforts made to organize the national workshop by the stakeholders as basins require an integrated and coordinated effort and explained briefly the current situation in the 12 river basins. He also elaborated on the directions the government is taking in relation to basin issues. He emphasized the importance of the involvement of communities and the mobilization and establishment of basin institutions. In addition, the interventions of bio-fuel and afforestation development to meet energy demand should be implemented with community participation.

H.E. Alemayehu Tegenu said that to date there have been three basin institutions established: Awash, Abay and Lakes Basin Authority. The Omo-Gibe Basin Authority will be established soon. Until these institutions are strengthened, the National Basin Taskforce

will continue its activities. He also commented that the taskforce members should include MoWE, universities EEP Co, EPA, MOE, MoCT represented by EWCA, and regional offices. In addition, MoFED will financially support the basin institutions.

The meeting was concluded by assigning responsibilities to two Directorate Directors, Basin Administration (Ato Fekie Ahmed) and Research & Development (Ato Abiti Getaneh) to organize a team to prepare action plans on what to do and specify the role and contribution of each member.

Based on the directives, the Basin Directorate is planning to have a national workshop on watershed management that can contribute for the establishment of a national Technical Committee, and Steering Committee. In addition, the national taskforce will be established before the workshop; the Basin Directorate is developing the TOR for its formation. ■



H.E. Alemayehu Tegenu

COP 17 Durban's Climate Results



The 17th Conference of Parties (COP 17) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was hosted by Durban, South Africa from 28th November-11th December, 2011. One hundred and ninety four nations were represented by over 12,480 participants, including over 5,400 government officials, over 5,800 representatives of UN bodies and agencies, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations and more than 1,200 participated members of the media took part in this vital event which moved the global response to climate change forward.

The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which provides policy-makers with information on the current state of climate science, including the impact of climate change and what can be done to tackle it, is due to publish the first part of its fifth assessment report in 2013. The fourth assessment report was published in 2007 and demonstrated that a temperature increase of two degrees Celsius could have a damaging effect on water supplies, biodiversity, food supplies, coastal flooding and storms and health. What is needed to minimize the risk of exceeding this temperature increase is to reduce emissions to zero as quickly as possible and to stabilize it at that level. To achieve this, global emissions need be reduced to a 95%

or more below the current level by 2050-preferably earlier! To make this possible, we need an unprecedented level of global cooperation and sharing of responsibilities. Discussions in Durban focused on how we can achieve these goals.

Many important issues were discussed during COP 17, including forest protection, new technologies, indigenous people rights, agriculture, and water conservation, etc. However, two topics were highly emphasized : reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the proposed transfer of hundreds of billions of dollars from developed to developing countries to cover the costs of dealing with climate change.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions:

One outcome of the Durban Climate Conference was an agreement for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol effective from January 2013, thus theoretically avoiding a gap between the first Kyoto Protocol, which will end in 2012. The establishment of the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action to develop a new protocol (legal instrument) that will be applicable to all parties to the UN Climate Convention was made possible. This new instrument is to be adopted as soon as possible, but not later than 2015, and will come

Opening of COP 17

into force in 2020. Participants also recognized the need to raise their collective level of ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to keep the average global temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius.

Practically, it means that for the first time in history, by 2020 all major emitters, including China and India, will be held to the same legal obligations as industrialized nations in the quest to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions. However, the outcome from Durban was widely recognized as not enough to put us on a pathway to a safe climate -- the Climate Action Tracker says that we are currently on a path to 3.5 degrees of warming with current mitigation pledges on the table. However, the creation of the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action did open up an opportunity to reach at new top down, science based international climate agreement. In addition, the Kyoto Protocol was preserved, albeit with a number of uncertainties. This shift away from a pledge and review approach, which was never going to lead to sufficient action, is not guaranteed but Durban was a step in the right direction.

Nevertheless, the text of the decision that adopts this second commitment period doesn't name

an overall reduction target and only “takes note” of the cuts individual countries proposed. In the aftermath of Durban, Canada, Russia, and Japan pulled out of the Kyoto Protocol.

The talks in Durban did provide the scene for some big shifts in politics. The progressive alliance between Association of Small Island States (AOSIS), least developed countries and the EU contributed substantially to ensuring the limited progress that was achieved. The EU built upon lessons learned at COP 15 and leveraged its potential commitment to ensure a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, making itself central to the deal at Durban. The vulnerable countries provided the moral justifications for action, with the Africa Group playing a particularly constructive role. In addition, China worked to be seen as a constructive country rather than a blocker, evidenced by publically expressing their flexibility to participate in a legally binding agreement. The South African , Durban meeting overall it was transparent and inclusive and achieved greater outcomes than many thought possible.

The decisions made at Durban have moved important adaptation results forward. The loss and damage work programme has become more concrete, with a number of expert meetings envisaged (the first one is scheduled from 26 to 28 March in Japan) and the option for an international mechanism is still on the table for COP 18 at Doha, Qatar, in November. After tough negotiations, the National Adaptation Plan Process is on track, through the adoption of a decision including initial guidelines and an invitation to Parties to submit their experiences on the application of the initial guidelines by February 2013. The Adaptation Committee was established with nominations for members. However, the lack of progress on mitigation agreements and the increasing climate induced disasters, challenge the ability of poor countries and communities to adapt in the long term. We should begin thinking what we want to get out of the Durban Platform process

from an adaptation perspective to prepare for the 2015 negotiations. This thinking should be guided by the perspective that the Durban Platform will be primarily about the post-2020 needs.

Climate Financing:

The other notable achievement in Durban was the adoption of a Green Climate Fund, and accompanying governing instrument, to manage \$100 billion per year in long-term climate financing that developed countries promised to deliver at the Copenhagen summit in 2009. Governments have agreed that the fund must be available to poor countries by 2020, to help them cope with climate change and pursue sustainable development. In addition, the Fund will soon have staff and an office. At present, the Fund remains empty and so can do little to help developing countries cope with the crippling costs of climate change and to develop in cleaner ways which won't greatly exacerbate the crisis. The delegates agreed to limit the power of the private sector by including provisions for nationally designated institutions to have the final say over funding decisions, thus weakening the threat that Wall Street investors could bypass national governments and directly access funds that were meant for the poor through a private sector sub-fund.

Part of this important outcome was the creation of a work programme under the LCA on long-term finance. This work programme will be led by co-chairs from developed and developing countries and will include workshops to review potential new sources of innovative finance that will be considered by COP 18. In addition, the composition and working modalities of the standing committee have been adopted. The Standing Committee will develop a work programme to be presented to at COP 18. In 2012, the finance discussions under the UNFCCC will focus on the arrangements to operationalise the fund.

Areas of continued concern:

To maintain the Durban

achievements in the coming years the following issues need to be addressed:

Equity: Governments must agree country-by-country on targets for emissions cuts, taking into consideration the historic emissions each is responsible for, the efforts on emissions each has made, their populations and how countries can continue to develop. The existing plan for climate action contains no mention of equity and no provisions for putting emission cuts in the context of sustainable development for poor countries

Money: Developing countries are expecting financial assistance to cut emissions and cope with the effects of climate change, but it is not yet clear from where this funding will come.

US elections: If a Republican becomes president next year, it may be impossible to negotiate a deal during COP 18 .

The legal form: The form of words settled on for the mitigation agreement – “an agreed outcome with legal force” – is vague enough that countries could dispute it. In addition, there are still a number of uncertainties as to what the future legal architecture would look like related to the second commitment period of the KP and the nature and ambition of mitigation commitments amongst others needs to be sorted out. There should also be clarity how to deal with countries such as Canada, Japan, and Russia who decided to not participate in the second Commitment Period of the KP.

The process : The UN negotiations has been exceptionally slow for decades and we still have a long struggle ahead.

Ethiopia at COP 17

Ethiopia was represented in Durban by around 60 participants (which is the largest delegation to date) the delegation was composed of government and non-government participants led by His Excellency Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. Ethiopia presented its Climate

Side Events at the 17th Conference of Parties where H.E. P.M Meles Zenawi presented



H.E. P.M Meles Zenawi

Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy. Ethiopia is the first country to present its green economy strategy which envisages having low carbon and green growth, zero emissions by 2030 against a backdrop of a middle-income level economy. It was highly supported by donors such as South Korea, UK and Norway.



Australia; Esther Agbarakwe-Corps Atlas Fellow at Population Action International; and Negash Teklu, PHE Ethiopia Consortium. Presentations on population, health and climate change were made by all participants where family planning

PHE approach in contributing to achievement of the MDGs and Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plan targets was presented as an experience in the panel by Ato Negash Teklu. The discussion was moderated by Roger



L-R: Jane O'Sullivan, Sustainable Population Australia; Roger-Mark De Souza, Population Action International; Dingaan Mithi, JournAIDS, Malawi; Esther Agbarakwe, PAI Advocacy Fellow, Nigeria; Negash Teklu, PHE Ethiopia Consortium; and Isaac Kabango, Climate Action Network, Uganda; explored the impact of climate change on women and families around the world.

Weathering Change: Exploring the Impact of Climate Change on Women and Families around the World

This event featured the screening of the award winning documentary called *Weathering Change* produced by Population Action International which depicts how population, health and climate change matters to women from Ethiopia and other countries. The film screening was followed by a panel discussion which included: Isaac Kabongo- Ecological Christian Organization, Uganda; Dingaan Mithi-Journalists Association Against AIDS, Malawi; Jane O'Sullivan-Sustainable Population

was noted to be vital to climate adaptation due to high population pressure, which makes adaptation difficult. The reduction in funding for family planning to African and other poor countries was noted to be a stumbling block to climate change adaptation interventions as nations cannot sustainably invest in reproductive health. The stabilization of population growth would significantly assist in climate change adaptation. However the omission of family planning in the UNFCCC negotiation Goals was a huge concern which also made it difficult to have it included in the climate treaty at the COP 17. The contribution of the integrated

Mark De Souza of Population Action International.

The discussion stressed the importance of family planning as a tool that balances population growth and also reduces hunger. However, low levels of international aid for family planning causes a problem for vulnerable and poor countries that cannot access reproductive health services to serve the 215 million women worldwide who have an unmet need for family planning.

Women's Health and Empowerment Luncheon

Another side event where PHE

Ethiopia Consortium participated was a luncheon on women's health empowerment and climate change held by Population Action International, Aspen Institute for Global Health and Development and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

The event featured former Irish President, Mary Robinson, who sits as chairperson on the Global Leaders Council. A panel discussion during the luncheon featured Mary Robinson, Roger Mark De Souza of Population Action International, Esther Agbarakwe, a Corps Atlas Fellow at Population Action International and Twelve pupils from Zwelibanzi High School in Kwazulu Natal were given time to ask questions on population, health and environment to the former Irish President. Our Consortium shared its experience related to women in the integrated PHE sites we have in country. In addition the film *Weathering Change* which focuses on Ethiopia was also aired in the side events.

The side event stressed on the need for the COP 17 to recognize the role of family planning to solve problems in unmet need around the world which is vital towards climate change adaptation. In addition, the respect of women's right to reproductive health was noted out to ensure women can make choices on the number of children they want to have.

"Global leaders must start to realize that health choices are very vital including providing access to reproductive health services, health and climate changes are closely linked, extreme weather events such as floods and droughts are affecting women more than in the past".

Mary Robinson

The impacts of climate change were also pointed out to have more adverse consequences on women across the globe, while population issues were seen as unimportant by most leaders. The side event also strongly called on health and population matters to be address at the 2012 Rio+20 World Sustainable Development summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. ■



PHE Ethiopia Consortium Hosts its First Online Forum: Healthy families, healthy planet: Connecting population and climate change adaptation 21-23 November 2011

PHE Ethiopia Consortium held its first online forum from 21-23 November on ***Healthy families, healthy planet: Connecting population and climate change adaptation.*** The first topic was inspired by the Conference of the Parties (COP) 17 in Durban, South Africa, which occurred the week following the forum. As world leaders prepared to discuss the future of climate mitigation agreements, we discussed how climate change is impacting us here in Ethiopia and what we can do to adapt to climate change. Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) has laid out ambitious but achievable goals for Ethiopia to have zero emissions and to take aggressive measures like the CRGE (Climate Resilient Green Economy) and to adapt to climate change. It also set a target to increase the contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) to 65% by 2015. The current CPR from the 2011 Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey is 28.6%, which is double the rate of 14.7% from 2005. So, much progress has been made and policies are in place to support a sustainable future; however, much still needs to be done to achieve these goals. In Ethiopia, climate change and high population growth interact to present challenges such as food insecurity and vulnerability to natural disasters such as drought and flood. The forum explored how we have each experienced climate change in our own lives and what we can do to build the resilience and to mitigate and adapt to climate change in a way that addresses the diverse needs of our communities while moving closer to the goals of the GTP.

Over 180 people joined PHE Ethiopia Consortium's first online forum focused on the linkages between population and climate change adaptation. eighteen different people plus the two facilitators posted 52 posts over the three days of the forum. Five people qualified to receive certificates of participation from the forum. The next discussion will be on March focusing on gender and development issues in commemoration of March 8, International women's Day. ■

Interview >>

with **Dr. Yetnayet Asfaw**,
Project Director for EngenderHealth Inc
and Board Chairwomen of PHEEC

Dr. Yetnayet Asfaw is a physician and public health professional with 16 years of experience in managing diverse health programs. She is currently the Project Director at EngenderHealth leading a Comprehensive Reproductive Health Project implemented in five regions and two city administrations. Prior to joining EngenderHealth she served as Country Director of IntraHealth. Dr. Yetnayet has also served as senior advisor and consultant for various UN Agencies including WHO, UNICEF and the World Bank. Dr. Yetnayet is a highly motivated and ambitious professional who is passionate about Maternal and Child Health, RH and quality of care. She is currently the Board Chairperson of PHE-Ethiopia. Dr Yetnayet is a mother of four.



Dr. Yetnayet Asfaw

Our Voice: How and when did you come across the PHE approach?

Dr. Yerinayet: I first learned about PHE in 2008 from my colleague, Dr. Gelila Kidane, who was the Chairwoman of the Board of PHE at that time. She also introduced me to Ato Negash, the CEO/ Director of PHE, a passionate advocate and leader in the area of PHE integration who kept providing me with important information and updates on PHE. I have also attended a couple of workshops on PHE that helped me deepen my understanding about PHE.

Our Voice: Can you brief us on how you were elected and how the board works in relation to PHE?

Dr. Yerinayet: The board holds its quarterly meetings as stipulated in its Memorandum of Understanding and as needed for emergency meetings to deal with urgent issues that can't wait for the routine meeting cycle. The Executive Director, as a secretary of the board, consults the chairperson or vice chair to set the agenda for the quarterly board meeting and shares the minutes from the previous meeting and reports ahead of time. Board members will then review and endorse the minutes and the agenda for the day, discuss on the agenda and reports, and will then provide the secretariat with overall policy and programmatic guidance and decisions. In addition, between the quarterly meetings, the

Director consults the Deputy and me on any important issue that needs our consideration. I succeeded Dr. Gelila Kidane of EngenderHealth, and was elected to be a member of the Board of Directors in the 3rd General Assembly meeting held in February 2010 where I was elected their Chairperson.

Our Voice: What is EngenderHealth's role within the Consortium?

Dr. Yerinayet: Our organization, EngenderHealth (EH) Inc, being a member of the consortium as well as chair of the board, and because we support the PHE vision and goals, we are actively involved in all the activities and regularly make our annual membership payments. In the first two years we handled all major costs of the Consortium with funding channeled from the Packard Foundation. For instance, we handled all secretariat staff expenses and MELCA Ethiopia was given 50,000 USD for their PHE initiation in Dinsho Woreda Bale zone. Moreover, EH hosts the PHE Consortium in its office and covers the cost of basic utilities such as electricity and internet connection. We are also looking for opportunities where our current projects could be linked with other PHE EC member organizations to create synergy by leveraging resources. Whenever we find opportunities to advocate for PHE, such as meetings held at various levels, we also take the opportunity to create awareness.

Our Voice: How effective do you think the PHE integration approach is in supporting the progress toward the Ethiopian development goals?

Dr. Yerinayet: We acknowledge that integration is vital, and timely for Ethiopia's developmental goals as well as the sustainability of our RH/FP efforts. Since PHE is still at its initial stage, it is difficult to judge its significant contribution since undertaking real time evaluation is a challenge.

There are, however, small-scale promising practices that are ad hoc in nature, such as, in the area of watershed management, integrated RH and livelihood interventions, upper catchment rehabilitations etc. These have a potential for wider scale implementation if funding could be made available. The promising practices present immense opportunity for partners working in PHE integration to significantly contribute to national development goal and to global efforts as well.

Our Voice: How is the Consortium dealing with issues of youth empowerment, gender equity, and livelihood development and diversification?

Dr. Yerinayet: PHE EC has always put the interest of our women and youth at the forefront of almost all of its endeavors. The Consortium is keen to support implementing organizations like LEM Ethiopia, EWNRA, GPSDO, MELCA Ethiopia and others whose beneficiaries, owing to the efforts of Youth and Adult Peer Educators, are educated on gender, youth and livelihood concerns. In the fifth General Assembly discussions were focused on the nexuses between PHE and gender as well as youth. PHE EC has trained members on youth peer education and has developed a manual. In addition we have given training to women journalists to help raise awareness on women's empowerment, integration and income generating activities. PHE has plans of partnering with the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth with the objective of scaling up of issues such as climate change resilience through integration, gender equity youth participation etc.

Our Voice: Describe how the Consortium works with government and higher learning institutions?

Dr. Yerinayet: PHE EC plays a key role in facilitating and coordinating with member organizations, government bodies and higher learning organizations. The Consortium has established formal relationships with government ministries and will be a member of the national steering committees for the National River Basin Areas and protected areas. The Ethiopian Wildlife and Conservation Authority has incorporated the

integrated approach into their recommendations for improving the management of Awash National Park. As a result of its work on climate change, it has been included in the steering committee for the Ethiopian Civil Society Climate Change Network and was a part of the Government's Negotiators Group for the United Nations Climate Change Conference of Parties COP 16 - 17 in Cancun, Mexico and Durban, South Africa.

It also works in partnership with 11 universities in generating evidence-based research activities on environmental change. For instance, PHE EC works hard to address the siltation problem of the Omo Gibe Basin in partnership with Jimma University. PHE EC was also involved in strengthening pastoralists and women's resilience and how our PHE sites can nationally contribute to scaling up the community-based adaptation in partnership.

Our Voice: What, in your opinion, are the national and international opportunities for PHE?

Dr. Yerinayet: Priorities set by PHE are also part and parcel of the national development strategy, health sector development strategy, agricultural strategy, and environmental conservation and population strategies. At a global level, climate change issues, reproductive health and population issues are priority issues. Therefore, the timing is most opportune for promoting integrated approaches. The Consortium has revised its strategic plan accordingly in such a way that they can contribute to the MDG and the new GTP targets and CRGE strategy. To contribute to the sustainable development of our planet we are partnering with Population Climate Change Alliance (PCCA) on the Rio-20's basic document to incorporate RH, and population.

Our Voice: What are the challenges our Consortium must overcome to boost the implementation of PHE integration locally and internationally? How do we overcome these challenges?

Dr. Yerinayet: Since PHE is a relatively new approach in Ethiopia and considering the dwindling global funding to developing countries because of the global financial crisis, raising adequate funds will continue be a challenge. It is also equally important to gain the confidence of the public sector ministries and build strong partnership so as to try an alternate funding approach where sector ministries start to channel some funds to consortiums for earmarked activities based on performance. The Consortium has also to clarify how best it could operate and turn into opportunity while

complying with the newly endorsed Charities and Societies directives. Continued evidence-based advocacy and research of what are working and the practical results achieved could help in building trust among potential donors. Moreover, PHE EC needs to strengthen its evidence-based results for its national advocacy. The integrated PHE demonstration sites need to have a stronger monitoring and evaluation system and come up with scientifically significant data base.

Our Voice: What are your expectations for the 6th General assembly which will be held from March 15 to 16 at Bishoftu DSW/Bonita Youth Center?

Dr. Yerinayet: PHE EC should build on existing relationships with members and partners to strengthen their ownership and participation in line with the revised strategic plan ultimately contributing to the achievements of GTP national targets like food security, maternal mortality, CRGE targets. In addition another priority discussion should be how to overcome the present challenge of complying to the new Charities and Societies directive and change it to opportunity. All members should have clarity on what strategic directions should be followed by PHE to continue to operate in Ethiopia and to be well positioned to strengthen their membership. Discussion on how to build the capacity of the members and the consortium in a sustainable fashion should also be another agenda item.

Our Voice: How do you assess and evaluate the progress of the consortium since establishment?

Dr. Yerinayet: Presently, the Consortium has 45 registered local and international members and two additional individual associate members. It has been building the capacity of its members through organizing trainings and experience sharing visits in country and abroad. It now supports members in the implementation of PHE and livelihood integrated interventions in 35 Woredas namely: LEM Ethiopia in 3 Woredas, REST in 4 Woredas, EWRNA in 2 Woredas, MELCA Ethiopia in 3 Woredas, GPSDO in 4 Woredas, CCRDA (SEPDA) 9 Woredas, BEA in 6 sites, DSW in 2 Woredas, EPDO in 1 Woreda, and ODA in 1 Woreda.

PHE EC has established a resourceful web-site that is providing up to date information on a wide range of PHE related issues and is connected to the K4Health PHE toolkit. The PHE Ethiopia Consortium has been engaging members through its annual general assembly, site visits to existing PHE projects, joint development of proposals, it is now in their 5th newsletter publication, spotlights have been published which demonstrate PHE integration activities on the ground from MELCA

Ethiopia, LEM Ethiopia, and REST, additional spotlights namely EWRNA, GPSDO and BEA are underway.

The PHE Ethiopia Consortium preparing for its second online forum where members and partners will share their ideas and actions related to linking gender and climate change. In addition, there are around 5000 members of the Consortiums' email list through which information is shared. It has also been actively represented in various national, regional and global PHE advocacy forums. In addition within this year the Consortium has started channeling funds to seven member and partner organizations which it generated from BARR Foundation.

The Consortium is evidently making very good progress in establishing itself as a credible organization. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely appreciate and thank Ato Negash, who is an exemplary leader and the few dedicated staff that are working selflessly to promote the cause of the Consortium. Many promising and commendable results have been achieved as a result. However, for the Consortium to make a major impact, its capacity to plan and execute complex projects needs to be further strengthened. There is a long way to go to make the Consortium sustainable and self-sufficient and the unreserved effort of all PHE supporters is needed now than ever. The Integration approach is work in progress – with a good beginning, but we have a long and difficult road ahead. With concerted efforts of local actors, donors and advocates at all level, it is possible to bring the Consortium's capacity to a higher level and at par with other experienced consortiums elsewhere.

Our Voice: What message do you have to the local and international partners and members of the Consortium?

Dr. Yerinayet: Developing countries such as Ethiopia are faced with multi-dimensional and inter-related economic, social and political challenges. PHE presents unprecedented opportunity to address these challenges by focusing on cross-cutting issues and bringing synergies through adding value to previous stand alone approaches that had limited scope and impact. There is encouraging evidence that the integrated PHE approach produces greater impact and efficiency in the use of scarce resources. Funding integrated PHE projects and initiatives will be one of the best decisions all concerned partners and supporters of PHE could make for 2012 and in the years to come. Let us all do the best we can within our reach to support and strengthen PHE intervention, to work in collaborative and coordinated manner. ■

PHE Trainings and Field Visits



Health Journalists trainees

PHE Ethiopia Consortium organized two field visits and media capacity building trainings with the Knight International Journalism Fellowship through the support of Packard Foundation and Population Reference Bureau (PRB). The objectives of the trainings were to increase the knowledge, skills, and interest in reporting on population-health-environment issues among journalists in influential news outlets and to increase the quantity and quality of news coverage of key PHE issues in Ethiopia.

The field visits made was part of the trainings. The Health journalist group visited Bio-Economy Africa in Addis Ababa and the women journalist group visited the Lem Ethiopia site in Fiche. The field visits allowed the participants to see how the PHE integration approach is implemented on the projects. The objective of the visit was to let participants understand the relevance of the integration of PHE at community level and to

provide an overview of the environmental rehabilitation activities and family planning activities currently being implemented.

The Consortium conducted the first training for 27 health journalists from September 7-9, 2011.

This training included health journalists from private and government media outlets. The second training was organized for 50 women journalists representing the government and the private sector from all over Ethiopia from November 9-11, 2011. All trainings were given at Bishoftu-DSW/Bonita Youth Development Training Center.

The participants at the trainings represented: Tigray Mass Media, SNNPR Mass Media Agency, Ethiopian Radio and Television Agency, Dimtsi Woyane, Oromia Radio and Television Agency, Fanna Broadcasting, Medical Newspaper, Reporter Newsletter, Sendek Newspaper, Addis Admas, ESOG, Propride, Yibekal, all FM radio stations, Amhara Mass Media, Harar FM, Awramba Times, EMWA, VOA, DW and other media houses. The trainings mainly focused on different

topics like the importance of RH/ FP to the development of the country, and health reporting basics. The trainings also provided background on PHE integration including PHE experiences from Ethiopia (achievements and prospects for development), and PHE and climate change in Ethiopia. Participants also explored issues, challenges and opportunities for journalists, the role of the media in integrated



Women Journalist trainees

reporting, tips on making smart integrated stories, how to use resource guides, facts, figures and numbers in making development stories, the results of EDHS 2011, including gender and youth, and the importance of online use and online resources.

Upon completion of the program, participants acknowledged the importance and timeliness of the trainings and the value of the PHE integrated approach and that the results being achieved through the approach are improving the lives of communities and increasing sustainable productivity. ■



Women Journalist visit to Model Farmers of Fiche Lem Site

Parliamentarians' Standing Committee and government experts visit Nile Basin Catchment

PHE Ethiopia Consortium hosted a three day visit to the Nile Basin funded by Heinrich Boll Foundation in order to develop a common understanding of the challenges facing the Nile Basin among the Parliament Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Standing Committee members and government experts from different ministries, namely: Ministry of Water & Energy (MoWE), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPC), Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and other organizations including Bahir Dar University, Ethio-wetlands Natural Resource Association (EWNRA), Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara (ORDA), Addis Ababa University (AAU), and media from ETV. The visit was accompanied by presentations and discussion sessions before and after the visit with participants, community members and other key actors.

The visit was timely because the Nile Basin is under threat due to siltation as a result of prolonged exploitation on the land for cultivation, overgrazing and forest degradation. This siltation may limit the lifespan



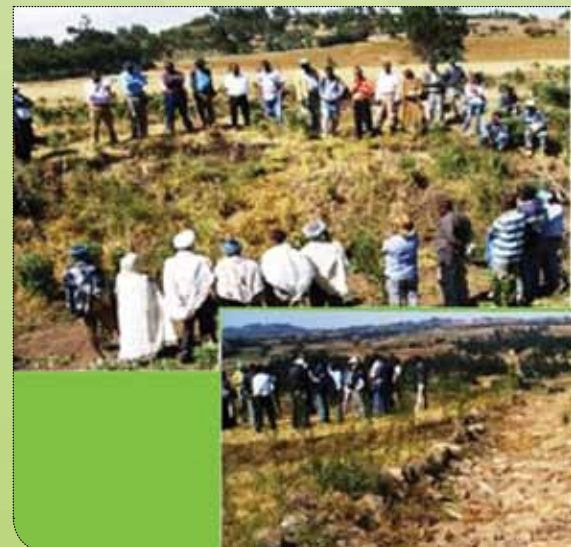
H.E. Ato Shimelis Abebaw chairing the discussion session

of the Grand Renaissance Dam. Aggressive soil and water conservation and environmental rehabilitation activities are progressing on the hillsides of Guna Mountain, which is the main source of Tana Beles. The group visited artificial waterways, gully treatments and different check-dams in the catchment areas. This area is seriously degraded- more than 50 tons of soil is lost to erosion per hectare per year.

Tana Beles project and ORDA are operating in 75 different catchment areas where massive catchment rehabilitation activities are being done in collaboration with the Farta Woreda Agriculture Office. The Ajirgate catchment rehabilitation area is one of the most intensively

rehabilitated areas through the Wewa Magera Peasant Association. The primarily rehabilitation activity is the establishment of bio-physical soil bunds where edible shrubs are planted on the bunds to provide cattle feed at the same time.

Moreover, bamboo introduction for valley bottom development and highland fruit planting to serve as a source of food and income were some of the activities carried out in the Nile Basin. These activities have direct and multiple advantages for households, the catchment and for the basin in terms of soil conservation, water percolation and forage production as well as in maintaining the ecosystem within the catchments. These activities are contributing to extending



Intensive biophysical measures in Wewa upper catchment areas

the potential life of the Grand Renaissance Dam for as long as possible. The construction of the dam and integrated watershed management cannot be treated separately as they are two sides of the same coin.

As a result of the visit, mutual understanding of the stakeholders and the commitment of parliamentarians in the rehabilitation task was tangibly achieved and the sustainability of the dam will be ensured through intensive rehabilitation and watershed management activities of the upper catchment areas. Farta woreda officials and Parliamentarians had an open opportunity to share and discuss the strengths and challenges of the woreda development activities.

Both groups agreed to strengthen their networking to ensure the sustainability of the dam. The experience sharing event and the lesson learned were communicated to the public through ETV News where Parliamentarians, the Regional Bureau of Agriculture, ORDA, MoWE, EPA and EEPCo all shared their thoughts with Ethiopian TV from the visit. ■

View of Biophysical, live-check dam and artificial waterway in the catchment at Wewa PA



PHE Ethiopia Consortium Establishes Partnerships with Universities

Meetings and discussions were held with eleven well established universities in four regions in order to strengthening research activities, promote action oriented research on river basins and other developmental topics and to establish formal partnerships with our Consortium. Through the partnerships, the Consortium and partner universities will conduct joint research and use the findings to support development programs and evidence based advocacy. As a result of these meetings, the Consortium now has formal partnerships with Addis Ababa, Mekelle, Bahir Dar, Hawassa, Jimma, Wondo Genet, Adama, Arba Minch and Haramay Universities. The discussions involved 63 staff members of the universities including vice presidents, heads of research and development, community services leaders and researchers. Meetings are also planned with the universities in Dilla and Gondar.

It is well understood that universities have research findings that have not yet been used to develop demand driven development interventions or advocacy as a result of a lack of partnership with other stakeholders. Topics that the universities will be engaged in research with the Consortium are: lake pollution, siltation, basin rehabilitation, climate change, health, protected areas livelihood gender and population pressure. Moreover, recommendations coming from research conducted by the universities will be used to design programs and conduct advocacy activities by interested groups. They will be invited to the general assembly and discuss on the partnership. In addition, a joint workshop will be held with the different universities to discuss and share knowledge and experiences at Jumma University in April/May 2012. ■



Discussions with Universities (Hawassa, Wondo Genet and Haramay Universities)

Omo-Gibe Core Stakeholders Meeting and Visit on the Rehabilitation of Omo-Gibe Basin and Catchment Areas

The Omo-Gibe core stakeholder consultative meeting on the rehabilitation of Omo-Gibe basin and Gilgel-Gibe I, II, III, catchment area was conducted on December 27, 2011 at Jimma University and included a field visit to Gilgel-Gibe I, II, and III. The participants of the meeting and field visit were: the House Parliament members of the Standing Committee for Natural Resources, Jimma Zone Office of Agriculture, Jimma University, the six Gilgel Gibe catchment woredas (Dedo, Kerssa, Seka Chekorsa, Omonada, Tura'Affeta and Sokoru Office of Agriculture), representatives of Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Water and Energy (MoWE), Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation Gebe I, II, and III, Heinrich Boll Stiftung Foundation, Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF), Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCo), Representatives of Gilgel Gebe I, II, and III, Oromia Development Association (ODA), media representatives and the PHE Ethiopia Consortium. In total, about 40 participants attended the meeting and the field visit.

During the meeting, different study papers and reports on the activities of the Gilgel-Gibe catchment were presented and the field visits provided with practical experiences on natural resource conservation and the practical problems of siltation on the dam.

The objective of the meeting and visit were to establish the Local Omo-Gibe basin Taskforce that will work jointly to prevent further siltation of the dams



The regional core stakeholder consultative meeting

and destruction of the natural resources along the catchment Woredas, and that could develop a strategy to save the whole Omo-Gibe basin and to make it an example for other basin areas in the country.

Presentations by Ato Kora Tushune and Ato Ayalew Talema were made on Jimma University Activities in Gilgel-Gibe HEP Dam Area, Mechanical and Hydrological Influences of Multipurpose Trees, Shrubs and Grasses to Stabilize Riverbanks, Landslides and Gullies in Southwest Ethiopia, Progress of SLUF/Ethio Wetlands and Natural Resource Association (EWNRA) activities, and Buffer Zone and Activity Reports of Jimma Zone and Woredas Agricultural Offices on Gilgel-Gibe catchment areas.

Parliamentarians, lead by H.E Ato Damene Darota, actively participated in the discussion and at the end the participants agreed the zone, with the woredas, Jimma University, the three Hydro dams managers and ODA will take the lead in establishing the Omo Gibe Taskforce. The taskforce will include other stakeholders in developing a joint activity plan which will focus on the major problems raised during

the meeting and this task force will be accountable to MoWE.

From December 28-29, 2011 the participants of the meeting made a field visit to Gilgel- Gibe I, II and III.

Visit at Gilgel Gibe I

The participants visited the Jimma University gully protection activities around the catchment area of the Gilgel-Gibe I dam. According to the head of Gilgel-Gibe I, Ato Negussie Mamusha, the Gilgel Gibe hydroelectric power plant. The dam generates an average of 722 million KWh annually. The treatment of Gilgel Gibe I catchment ultimately will result in the recuperation of the Gilgel Gibe catchments 1,2,3,4, and 5.

Ato Negussie raised concerns about illegal farming near the dam. These illegal farmers have already received compensation. Farming increases the siltation in the dam and crops are causing serious problems in the generation of electric power.

The woredas and zonal officials participating agreed that saving the dam requires coordinated efforts of the whole stakeholders.



Parliamentarians, zonal and woreda officials visiting Gilgel Gibe Dam I and SLUF's project Site-treatment of gully erosion.

The visit also included the project sites of SLUF (Sustainable land Use Forum) including their grantee Ethio Wetlands Natural Resource Association (EWNRA), which has been working on conservation.

Gilgel-Gibe II Hydroelectric Power Station

Gilgel Gibe II hydroelectric power station is one the most amazing stations ever constructed. Gilgel Gibe II station uses the water from Gilgel Gibe I dam. The water is transported to Gilgel Gibe II through a 26 kilometer long cave/canal that penetrates the mountainous areas of Sokoru and Yem woredas. To reach the power station, the water that comes from the canal/cave goes through 3 kilometers of pipe line to the power house. Gilgel Gibe II has the capacity to produce a 420MWH annually.

The Gilgel Gibe II hydro-electric power station closely works with the Yem and Hadiya woreda administrations including in the development activities of the two Woredas.

Gilgel Gibe III Hydroelectric Power Station

The Gilgel Gibe III hydroelectric project is being constructed in the lower Omo basin, about 450 kilometers southwest of Addis Ababa. The dam site is characterized by lowland climate, a deep gorge and high temperatures with 150 km long

reservoir. The Gilgel Gibe III hydroelectric project is the first of its kind in Ethiopia. It is utilizing Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) technology, and differs from other projects by its size, complexity and type.

According Ato Mebratu Teshome , coordinator of the site, over 50 percent of the construction is completed. The power house will have 10 turbines with the capacity of 187 MW each and total capacity of 1870MW.

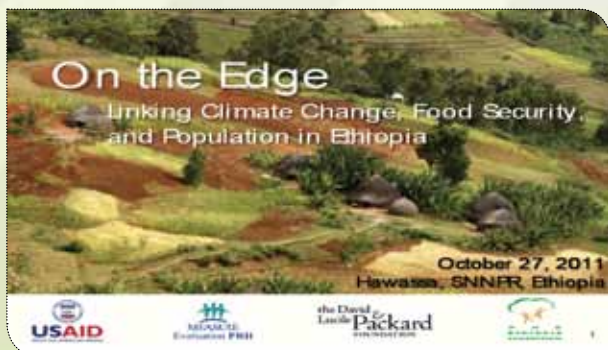
At the end of the Gigel Gibe III visit, a closing lunch discussion was conducted. In this discussion the visitors' reached the common conclusion that it is high time to engage in coordinated management of the catchment area at the zonal and woreda levels by establishing/ strengthening the local Omo Gibe task force, to mobilize the population to effectively conserve natural resources and to maintain the dam by considering the situation of the surrounding population.

The members of the Standing Committee from the Parliament promised to discuss with the responsible ministries and regions on the urgent intervention actions that need attention nationally. In addition, the other participants from the different ministries also agreed to coordinate their activities and commitment towards the basin catchment areas. The event was covered on Ethiopian TV. ■



The Gilgel Gibe II hydro-electric power station closely works with the Yem and Hadiya woreda administrations including in the development activities of the two Woredas.

Validation Workshop on the Linkages of Population, Food Security and Climate Change Conducted



On the Edge, an advocacy presentation about the relationship between climate change, food security and population is to be launched soon it was disclosed by Ato Negash Teklu, Executive Director of PHE Ethiopia Consortium. According to the Executive Director, PHE Ethiopia Consortium and Futures Group Global (funded by Measure Evaluation PRH Project & Packard Foundation) has jointly developed the advocacy tool that helps to show the relationship between climate change, food security and population. The model was developed through several rounds of consultation, advisory and validation meetings with stakeholders at different levels that ranged from field visit that was made to Lem Ethiopia model farmers' site in Wonago Woreda, Gedio Zone and Wonago Woreda sector officials, at regional incorporating, the sector bureaus, universities and NGO's in SNNPR, at national level incorporating Federal Ministry, local and international NGOs. The tool will be used to inform policy and decision makers at different levels of government and the public

at large about the need to consider the influence of population, food security and climate change on the lives of Ethiopians and develop integrated approaches to address these challenges. The model is currently being revised based on feedback from the validation workshops and will be launched starting in early March 2012 through dissemination workshops throughout the year.

Major Events Staged in Developing the Model

The data collection and field visit was made at Mekonisa and Deko kebeles at Wonago Woreda in August 9, 2011. During the same time consultations with 18 participants from Gedeo zone and Wonago Woreda including farmers, higher Officials, and Dilla university participants were conducted. A regional advisory meeting was held in Hawassa, SNNPR on August 10, 2011. The advisory meeting participants were drawn from the regional sector bureaus comprised of senior experts and department heads, NGO representatives and leaders from university from Wondogenet Forestry College and Hawassa University. Totally about 20 officials and academicians took part. The objective of the meeting was to collect the necessary information and discuss the major problems related to population, food security and climatic change in the region. The southern region was selected as proper region to develop the model, since the region is one of the regions highly impacted by climate change and has the highest population density and food security is a serious issue in this region. The technical group led by Ato Negash Teklu



National Validation Workshop on session

Executive Director of PHE Consortium Ethiopia, and from Futures Group Dr. Scott Moreland principal investigator and Ms. Ellen Smith, demographer, also paid a visit to federal institutions and NGOs from August 16-19, 2011. The objective of the meetings was to discuss the importance and use of developing the model. In addition, a request was made to those institutions to provide the necessary data and information for the realization of model.

After the draft model was ready by Future Group Global, the first zonal validation workshop was conducted on October 25, 2011 at Dilla University. Totally about 25 participants including the farmers and local policy makers have attended the validation meeting and important feedbacks were documented.

The Regional validation workshop was conducted on October 27, 2011 at Hawassa. Twenty seven invited guests from the regional sector bureaus, civil society organizations and from Hawassa University and Wondogenet Forestry College attended the meeting. Several important points were raised that helped to improve the model.

The National validation workshop was conducted at the Hilton Hotel on November 3, 2011. The participants at the meeting were representative of Federal Ministries, local and international NGOs, from Addis Ababa University and research institutes. An important discussion ensued on the presentation and the points raised were important and strongly improved the model.

The results of the analysis indicate that in Ethiopia, a country with high fertility, high unmet need for family planning, and vulnerability to food insecurity due to climate change, investing in meeting women's needs for family planning would reduce fertility in ways that can significantly improve prospects for future food security, and contribute to the success of the GTP targets and MDGs. The output of the model suggests that decision makers, planners, organizations, and donors should consider population trends and family planning needs in their climate change and food security adaptation plans and programs. The final tool in policy briefs, CDs, and powerpoints will be disseminated at the federal level as well as in all regions, to the media and to higher learning institutions and civil society groups throughout the year. The technical document will be published in PHE Ethiopia Consortium, and Futures Group Global websites (futuresgroup.com). ■



Dilla Validation workshop



Hawassa validation workshop



National Workshop participants



Kristen Stelljes,
PHE Advisor

PHE Advisor Joins PHE Ethiopia Consortium

The PHE Ethiopia Consortium will be working with the PHE Advisor, Kristen Stelljes, through the USAID Global Health Fellows Program and the Packard Foundation over the next two years to support our work in implementing integrated population, health and environment projects. Kristen arrived in Ethiopia in September 2011 and is replacing Annie Wallace who was with the Consortium from 2008 to 2010. She will be working with PHE implementers across a range of areas and will focus on helping PHE implementers to tell the story of the impact of their work using strong data.

Kristen's expertise is in monitoring and evaluation and organizational development. She has worked with reproductive health organizations in Africa, Asia and the Middle East to introduce and scale up best practices to improve the services they provide. She also worked with teams to develop their capacity in leadership, change management and strategic planning. She has developed and delivered trainings for the World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office and other international and regional organizations. She received a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and Philosophy from Brandeis University and a master's degree in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning from Tufts University, both in the United States. Her master's thesis was a case study of an integrated development project in Nakuru, Kenya.

She is ready to support the Consortium and its members and partners to address any needs we may have in strengthening our PHE programs. She has already visited our members BEA, EWNRA, GPSDO and LEM, and is planning to visit the other PHE implementers. You can reach Kristen at kstelljes@gmail.com.

Joint Research between PHE EC and Addis Ababa University Published

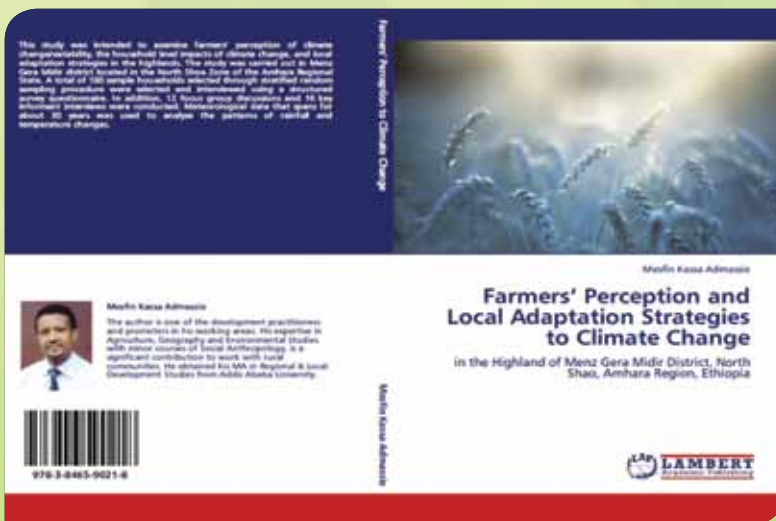
To generate evidence based information for policy makers and practitioners, three research activities were conducted by PHE Ethiopia Consortium in collaboration with Addis Ababa University. The themes of these researches are: gender and climate change in pastoralist area, impacts of droughts and flood disasters in the Woito River Catchment of South Omo, and community based biomass energy production (Jatropha, livelihood and environmental rehabilitation in South Wollo). The results of each study will be disseminated through policy briefs and workshops. The researchers were sponsored by the Heinrich Böll Foundation and the Barr Foundation.



Focus group discussion on Jatropha in
South Wollo



Floods and grazing area invaded by Parthenium spp., road infrastructures damaged by flood in woito



A Master's thesis sponsored by PHE EC on climate change perception, impacts and local adaptation strategies in North Shoa highland worda has been published in book form. It was written by Mesfin Kassa Admassie, PHE EC Program Officer. You can learn more about the book at:

<https://www.morebooks.de/store/gb/book/farmers%20%99-perception-and-local-adaptation-strategies-to-climate-change/isbn/978-3-8465-9021-8>. ■



Media Reflections >>



ቃለመጠይቅ - በሥነ ሕይወትና የአየር ንብረት ልወጥ



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East African PHE Newsletter
January 13, 2012 www.prb.org

NEWS FROM THE EAST AFRICAN PHE NETWORK

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter of the East Africa Population, Health, and Environment (PHE) Network. Since 2007, the East Africa PHE Network has served as a forum for knowledge sharing and capacity building on PHE issues and integrated approaches, and collaborative work among individuals and organizations that participate in PHE work in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda, which bring together their expertise to address specific coordination and collaborative challenges. This newsletter will work in partnership with the network to disseminate information and foster collaboration.

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Population Health & Environment Toolkit

K4Health Home » Toolkits » Population Health & Environment Toolkit »

- Home
- Why PHE
- PHE Approaches
- Communications, Outreach, and Advocacy
- Capacity Building and Field-based Resources / Tools

Publications from the PHE-Ethiopia Consortium

- Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Vision and Strategic Document Ethiopia
- Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey 2011 Preliminary Report
- PHE Ethiopia Consortium Newsletter Number 04
- Education Sector Development Program IV
- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Federal HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office Report on progress towards implementation of the UN Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

Durban Climate Change Conference | ENB on the side | Friday, 9 December 2011 | Issue #10 Page 3

Weathering Change: Exploring the Impact of Climate Change on Women and Families around the World

Organized by the Population Action International (PAI) and Sustainable Population Australia

Roger-Mark De Souza, Population Action International, suggested that reproductive health, family planning and adaptation strategies could be one of the critical requirements to address climate change threats. He stressed the need for funding mechanisms that empower women through increasing access to family planning and reproductive health.

Jane O'Sullivan, Sustainable Population Australia, emphasized that giving women control of their fertility will empower them to deal with the effects of climate change. She called for adoption of family planning programmes to effectively reduce family size and population growth. O'Sullivan said that, without a political focus on population support for family planning and reproductive health, fertility reduction slows, and population increment reverses.

During the ensuing discussion, participants spoke about: the direct link between population density and carbon emissions; mitigation strategies in relation to population growth; policy gaps and political rhetoric that fail to address the real issues; community ownership; and specific challenges and strategies regarding climate change.





What is PHE?

Population, health and environment (PHE) interventions in Ethiopia are a holistic, participatory and proactive development approach whereby issues of environment, health and population are addressed in an integrated manner for improved livelihoods and sustainable well-being of people and ecosystems.

The PHE integrated approach acknowledges that people do not live their lives in single sectors. Instead, every day they make decisions and face challenges across health, livelihoods, education and the environment. PHE integrates different sectoral approaches in order to address these challenges at the same time through developing partnerships and relationships with government offices, organizations from other sectors and the community. The PHE approach recognizes that community concerns are interlinked. Food security is tied to the amount of land one has to farm and the quality of the soil on that land. As population increases, parents must divide their plots among many children, leading to smaller and smaller land holdings. As there are more people to feed, traditional practices such as fallowing are stopped, preventing the land from regenerating and reducing soil fertility and agricultural productivity. To fully address any component of this scenario sustainably requires utilizing family planning, alternative income generation opportunities, soil conservation and improved agricultural practices. Leaving one component out reduces the effectiveness of the interventions in the other areas. PHE approach has been shown to be effective at meeting the diverse needs of communities while creating opportunities for cost savings as partners and communities address multiple issues at the same time, saving transportation and meeting expenses while respecting the time of communities.

PHE Ethiopia Consortium was formed legally in 2008 to promote the PHE approach in Ethiopia and support PHE implementing organizations. The mission of the PHE Ethiopia Consortium is: PHE Ethiopia Consortium exists to enhance and promote the integration of population health and environment at various levels for sustainable development. The vision of the PHE Ethiopia Consortium is: Ethiopia with healthy population, sustainable resource use, improved livelihood and resilient ecosystem. ■



www.phe-ethiopia.org

PHE Ethiopia Consortium's official website Articles, Manuals, Policies, national data related to PHE, as well as links to websites of governmental organizations, research centers, partners/member organizations and many more....!!

Please pay a visit!!