

Our Voice

Newsletter, 10th Edition, Jan. - Dec, 2015



COP 21 and its Achievements

Participatory Governance System for
Effective Biosphere Reserve Management

The Second National Omo-Gibe Basin
Workshop and Its Recommendations





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Editor's Note

Dear members, partners and our supporters, we are very pleased to introduce you this 10th Newsletter of our voice for the year 2015. This Newsletter provides an overview of important progresses in the aspects of capacity building, project implementation, and National and International engagements of PHEEC from January to December 2015. This Newsletter has also presented some key lessons of experiences in the areas of protected areas shared management.

Our activities in 2015 included the implementation of existing projects in the pipeline, developing new initiatives, active engagement in national and global fora. PHEEC through has come to widen its scope of thematic and geographic areas intervention within the country. Likewise, we are strongly working on documenting our experiences and lessons gained and share to our wider audiences-this is also one part of sharing the knowledge gained within the year.

This Newsletter has special appearance in that it has showed the overall progresses and picture of PHEEC from the beginning to date in an interview with the Executive Director. Moreover, it has tried to entertaine wider scope concepts on trajectories of climate negotiations, population dynamics, and values of multi-sectoral integrated approach.

Hoping that the Newsletter will provide you more details in it, we wish you to have nice reading time. We are happy to getting any comments from you. ●



1. Capacity Building Trainings and Workshops >>

The Second National Omo-Gibe Basin Workshop and Its Recommendations



Workshop participants attending presentations

The second national consultative workshop on Integrated Watershed Management of Omo-Gibe Basin was conducted from 31 Dec. 2015 to 02 Jan. 2016 at Jimma University. Jimma University and PHE Ethiopia Consortium jointly organized the workshop in partnership with Ministry of Water, Irrigation, Electricity, Jimma Administration, Ethiopian Electric Power Projects Gibe I and II, and with the financial support obtained from Civil Society Support Program (CSSP).

The workshop was conducted with the general objective of establishing and strengthening a forum of multi-sectoral partnership as suggested in the first stakeholders national workshop held in 2010, and reviewing the performance of the stakeholders in the conservation of Omo-Gibe basin since then. In addition, the workshop have addressed

the following specific objectives that included: revive afresh discussion on the conservation of Omo-Gibe river basin, and discuss on the research findings of Jima university and see on how to link the results to planning. The workshop was also sought to address the objective of understanding the impact of climatic change, geo-hazards (siltation/sediments) and the overall anthropogenic activities towards the Gilgel Gibe I, II, and III Dams and to take initiatives and corrective measures through integrated watershed management approaches together with all stakeholders thereby sustain services of the hydro power infrastructures to their intended life span.

The workshop was held successfully with presentation of 18 scientific papers, zonal level and six Woredas performance reports on watershed management activities in the

upper catchments of Om-Gibe Basin combined with field visits to Gilgel Gibe I and II catchments. In addition, in-depth on the spot discussions and reflections sessions were conducted. A total of 73 participants from relevant stakeholders have attended the meeting. Jimma University, Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity, Ethiopian Electric Power Gilgel Gibe I and II projects, Jimma Zone Administration, Jimma Zone Land Administration and Environmental Protection Department, Six Woredas of Jimma Zone (Sokoru, Kersa, Trio Affeta, Omo nada, Dedo and Seka), Oromia Forest and Wild life Enterprise, CSSP, Kaffa zone, Gurage zone, community representatives and PHE-EC have attended the workshop.

The workshop was an event wher the critical problems to the Basin identified and in-depth discussion held. Moreover, participants have given

possible recommendations for coordinated urgent actions.

Summary of the critical problems identified are the following

➤ The siltation problem of Gilgel Gibe I, II and III dams is severe irrespective of the ongoing management practices. The watershed management initiatives put into practice by Jimma University and the upper catchment woredas is covering very small portion and hotspots of the basin.

➤ The inappropriate utilization of wetlands is aggravating environmental degradation and the siltation problem highly

➤ The poor waste management system of Jimma city is increasing environmental pollution and eutrophication

➤ Open grazing and livestock encroachment into the buffer zone is observed to be serious which needs appropriate urgent measures

➤ Illegal farming practices in a steep slopes of the catchment areas and the big landslides happening are potential causes that are aggravating the siltation

➤ The higher population growth and yet lack of mechanism of optimizing alternative livelihoods of the community within the catchments of the basin are also indentified to be the contributing factors to the siltation problem

➤ Weak integration and collaboration and field level monitoring and evaluation among the different stakeholders including private sectors and limitation in implementing comprehensive interventions

➤ Limitations in using the expertise knowledge who has done research in the area



All workshop participants group photo

(example, Jimma University)

Basin Authority

➤ The current watershed activities in the catchment of the basin are project based and fail to include key activities like river bank management and use of grasses in watershed management interventions

Coordinate and oversight the preparation of Omo-Gibe Basin Integrated Watershed Management Plan

Based on the analysis on the issues with regard to the Omo-Gibe Basin and with due consideration of embarking on the problems identified above, the workshop participants have come up with the following outputs.

➤ Agreement was reached to arrange visit of higher officials from MoWIE and the region to create understanding about the level of siltation problem on Gillgel Gibe I, II and III and accelerate timely actions

➤ Omo-Gibe Basin Ad hoc committee was established constituting Jimma zone administration, Jimma University, Gilgel Gibe I, II and III projects, MoWIE, Eco-hydrology Project and PHE-EC with agreement on Jimma zone to be chair, MoWIE vice chair and Jimma University Secretary. The committee was established to play a role of coordinating the implementation of the recommendations given in the workshop that include;

➤ Technical Team was established under the committee with Jimma University assuming the leadership position and Jimma Zone Rural Land Administration and Environmental Protection, Gil Gibe I, II and III Projects and PHE-EC to be members

Facilitating the establishment of task forces at all levels

➤ Two follow up meetings of the Ad hoc committee (one to establish the technical team and the other to review progresses of the team and action steps on the recommendations was conducted.

Facilitate and support the establishment of Omo-Gibe

➤ The technical Team has conducted two meetings and developed framework for preparing management plan for the upper catchments of Omo-Gibe Basin ●

PHE Ethiopia Consortium held its 9th General Assembly

The 9th PHE EC General Assembly Meeting (GAM) was held on March 19th, 2015 at the Harmony Hotel in Addis Ababa. The meeting brought together around 90 participants from PHE EC member, partner and donor organizations.

After the opening session, three presentations were made on the different thematic areas. Mr Negash Teklu, Executive Director of PHE EC, gave presentation on the new PHE EC strategic plan (2015-2020) and was followed by a presentation from Mrs Ghrmawit Haile on GTP 2 and CRGE core pillars and issues versus SDG directions. Mr Yosef Girma from Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Association made the third presentation on the contribution of PHE projects for GTP in the case of Southern Ethiopia. Following the presentations, participants had made heated discussions.

The afternoon session of the GAM focused on business matters, which



Partial view of 9th General Assembly Meeting Participants

included presentation of board report, 2014 physical and financial report and audit report followed by discussions. Subsequently, PHEEC five years (2015-2020) strategic plan and 2015 annual physical and financial plan were presented and discussion held. The reports demonstrated that the consortium has registered remarkable progresses and achievements

during the reporting period. Finally, after thorough discussions on issues raised on the presented papers, the reports and plans were endorsed unanimously by the General Assembly. The meeting was concluded with the signing of the General Assembly meeting minutes. For more information please visit www.phe-ethiopia.org. ●

Training Provided on Policy Communication



Training participants group photo

Population, Health and Environment Ethiopia Consortium (PHE-EC) acknowledges the importance of effective communication as pillar for the desired policy change at all levels. In addition, communicating evidences to policy and decision makers is not an easy task. This was why PHE-EC organized capacity building

training for practitioners on how to communicate population, health and environment research findings to policy makers.

PHE-EC with financial and technical support of Population Reference Bureau (PRB) has provided a five days training (from June 15 to June 20, 2015 in Adama Executive Hotel) on Communicating

Population, Health, and Environmental Research findings for 11 participants (2 F, 9 M). The participants were represented from government offices, member and partner organizations namely PADET, Ethio-wetlands and Natural Resources Association (EWNRA), Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), Farm Africa, Hiwot Ethiopia, Wolayta Development Association (WDA), Ethiopian Charities and Societies Forum (ECSF), Ethiopian Wild Life Conservation Authority (EWCA), and PHE-EC staff. The training was provided by PHE-EC staff who previously took ToT.

Trainees were actively participating through small group discussions and plenary sessions. As per the reflection of the trainees, the training has great value in improving the presentation and communication skills. It has also helped them to grasp knowledge on sustainable development concepts and multi-sectoral integrated approaches. ●

Training Workshop Conducted on Conservation and Resource Management for Africa

This workshop was intended to provide an opportunity to review existing regional initiatives, exchange ideas, develop and enhance capacity networks, and formulate effective and lasting solutions to common capacity problems. PHE-EC, due to its engagement and experience in biosphere management at Yayu, Ethiopia, has been invited to take part in the training and share its experiences.

PHE-EC's activity in the workshop Before involving in the

workshop, PHE-EC had prepared and sent a project brief with sample success stories and got acceptance to be shared in the training. A poster posted in the conference, which showed projects in Ethiopia granted by CEPF used inputs from our experiences.

PHE-EC had participated in all events of the workshop and disseminated relevant information during the workshop. Experiences from Yayu biosphere reserve project was shared among the

participants during field visits. The experiences of PHE-EC in the aspects of participatory management approach of protected areas at Awash and Semien also shared. Our project was included in posters of the workshop, posted online on the CEPF Facebook page and shared during grantee events. PHE-EC is currently part of the dialogue and member in the establishment process of African conservation organizations network. ●

2. Some Successes of Our Projects >>

Carbon Stock Potential of Protected Areas Was Studied

PHEEC, with funding obtained from the Strategic Climate Institutions Program (SCIP), has conducted studies on carbon stock and sequestration potential of Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks. This study was conducted in order to identify the roles of the protected areas in climate change mitigation and conservation benefits for sustainable development. The purpose of the study was to provide technical advice for decision makers and justify the conservation benefits of the parks' ecosystems as a mechanism to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Two comprehensive carbon study documents, one for Awash National Park (ANP) and the other for Simien Mountains National Park (SMNP), were produced. The study result showed that SMNP has a carbon stock of 4,239,804 tons, which is a carbon dioxide equivalent 15,546,091 tons and corresponding carbon finance value of \$62,184,364 USD (4

USD/tonne of CO₂e). Similarly, the total carbon stock of ANP is estimated to be 2,775,845 tons and the corresponding carbon dioxide equivalent and carbon finance values are 10,177,272 tons and \$40,709,088 USD, respectively.

The results of the carbon sequestration potential study of the two parks was validated in a workshop conducted with the presence of participants from National Red Secretariat, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MEFCC), Donors and other relevant stakeholders.

The study result has showed that there is a high potential of integrating REDD+ project into the park management system. This will in turn contribute to emission reduction, enhancement of regeneration, improve forest condition and carbon stock preservation. Based on the study finding, PHE-EC in collaboration with EWCA and the National

REDD+ Secretariat is working on developing proposals for implementing REDD+.

For detailed information and access to the documents:

http://www.phe-ethiopia.org/pdf/carbon_report-Awa

<http://www.phe-ethiopia.org/pdf/carbon-Simi> ●



cover of the policy brief

PHE-EC is Playing Key Role in SHARE BER Project Implementation

Five partner NGOs have launched and are implementing Support for Horn of Africa Resilience Ethiopia (SHARE) Program Project entitled "Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystems Functions and Improved Well-being of Highland and Lowland Communities within the Bale Eco Region (BER)" with a budget of 5.5 million Euro obtained from European Union. The five implementing partners are: Farm Africa (leading), SOS Sahel Ethiopia, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) and PHEEC. The overall objective of the project is to enhance drought resilience, food and nutrition security of vulnerable populations in southern and eastern Ethiopia, through achieving the project's specific objective of conserving biodiversity, ecosystems functions and services in BER and increase resilience and well-being of highland/lowland communities.

The project is envisaged to directly benefit a total of 878,000 people living in 16 woredas of BER by piloting in seven woredas through sustainable management system of resources and indirect beneficiaries of up to 12 million people including those downstream water users within and outside of Ethiopia.

The overall approach of the project is guided by engagement within three spheres in which the co-applicants have considerable experience, namely: natural environment and ecosystems, markets and economic sustainability, and building responsive and strong institutions. The approach is further underpinned by a strong emphasis on proven participatory methods that empower communities through multi-sectoral task forces at all levels. The project will use key tools such as building an evidence base strategic engagement with decision-makers in a way that meets their needs and demands, a strong focus on population dynamics, health and gender issues, and piloting new practices and drawing on best

existing practice to foster genuine innovation in Natural Resources Management.

The overall result of the project includes:

➤ Human/Institutional capacity for sustainable natural resource (NR) conservation/protected area management/interdependent livelihoods in BER enhanced.

➤ Knowledge/understanding of sustainable eco-regional management practices built.

➤ Protected areas, traditional and contemporary natural resource use systems and watershed management incorporated into wider land use planning in BER.

➤ Livelihoods of the BER local communities enhanced.

➤ Federal/regional governments' partnership to sustainable BER strengthened

PHE-EC as one of the implementing partners is responsible to coordinate and provide technical support in the implementation of activities that leads to attaining the following results.

➤ Knowledge/understanding of sustainable eco-regional management practices built,

➤ Livelihoods of the BER local communities enhanced, and

➤ Federal/regional governments' partnership to sustainable BER strengthened

In line to achieving the above results, PHE-EC is implementing activities related to social aspects, gender, health, knowledge management, monitoring, evaluation and promotion of best practices and establishing mechanism of integration of activities through establishing multi-sectoral task forces.

PHE-EC, in collaboration with other implementing partners its one-year implementation period, has achieved the following results.

➤ Established 10 kebele level and seven woreda level taskforces

➤ Developed Flip book helpful for behavioural change communication

➤ Village health committee selected, trained and actively engaged in community mobilization and awareness creation on family planning and reproductive health activities

➤ Multi-stakeholder taskforce guideline developed and published

➤ Developed communication and visibility strategy

➤ Coordinated monitoring, evaluation and gender mainstreaming activities



Orientation Training to Village Health Committee Members

Participatory Governance System for Effective Biosphere Reserve Management



Partial View of South West Forest in Yayu Biosphere area

PHE EC in Partnership with Oromia Forest and Wild life Enterprise (OFWE) and with funding from Critical Ecosystem Partnership Facility (CEPF) is implementing a project in Yayu Biosphere reserve since mid 2014. The project has an objective of improving the management of the biosphere reserve area through harmonizing the livelihood of the community.

Multi-sectoral participatory management approach is introduced to promote joint decision making among stakeholders on issues that matters for their livelihood and environment. To help this new participatory management approach put into action, a stakeholder analysis was conducted and all relevant stakeholders like government offices, community representatives, organized CBOs, NGOs working in the area, private sectors and universities identified and invited to be part of the taskforces. The taskforces are established following the different government administrative structures. For lower level management, one

kebele level taskforces per woreda have been established to serve as showcase. In addition, woreda level taskforces in all the six woredas surrounding the biosphere reserve area and one zonal level taskforce have been established. The taskforces have been supported to develop clear working modality and agreed term of reference supported by joint action plans. The kebele, woreda and zonal level taskforces have an agreed time frame of conducting meetings and reviewing progresses on monthly, quarterly and biannually bases respectively. The respective level administrators assume the chairing position of the taskforce.

Major objectives of establishing the taskforce:

- Develop participatory Biosphere management system through enhancing and strengthening wider stakeholders' involvement for improved decision making,
- Enhance the Biosphere's management and integrated leadership capacity for

sustainable conservation practices,

- Promote participation of local communities in the management of the Biosphere and build their capacities to enable them to improve their livelihoods and health,
- Establish institutional linkages both at the local and across levels of organizations as related to management of Yayu Biosphere, and
- Enable the Biosphere to benefit the local community as well as the country through income generation activities.

So far, the kebele and Woreda taskforces have carried out three quarterly meetings and in most Woredas improvement in conservation successes is already reported. The zonal taskforce have met twice and made major decisions regarding major practices that affect the biosphere. These regular engagements makes the taskforces involve in the day-to-day management of the biosphere. Issues, challenges and constraints



Machine for producing charcoal from Coffee husk (briquette producing machine)

with regard to the biosphere are being discussed in their regular meetings. Members are presenting their activities related to the biosphere, their experiences, challenges and success. In a recent zonal taskforce meeting, the director of environment from the Federal Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Aleganesh Gelaw, expressed her great impression and promised to facilitate its replication in other biospheres. PHE-EC has also been invited to share its lesson and experience for Kaffa/Bonga Biosphere.

Livelihood improvement initiatives have been integrated into the project interventions so as to support for building effective shared biosphere management system. The key intervention in this regard include introduction of new technologies for briquette

production from coffee husks. Yayu Biosphere reserve is a natural coffee forest that has about 150,000 people live in and around the buffer zone of the biosphere. Almost all these people use wood and charcoal for energy use which has created pressure on the biosphere area. On the contrary, coffee husks are abundant in the biosphere and burned every month as a waste material. The coffee husk is also reported to causing water pollution including rivers and ground water. However, the coffee husk could be changed in to charcoal using small local machinery. The project in collaboration with the government micro and small

enterprise offices, established youth's groups and promoted the expansion of this innovation. Now, charcoal from coffee husks is being produced and sold to community. It has at least three values: (1) it is reducing the tree cut for charcoal (2) it prevents ground water pollution due to coffee husks; (3) it provides an alternative livelihood for youths and women. For example, in the three Woredas, three youth groups are involving in the production of the charcoal and nearly hundred women are on the way to be involved in the marketing and distribution and hence getting an alternative job and income. ●



Lessons drawn from the SCIP Program project

PHE-EC and its project-implementing partners (Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA), Ministry of Environment Forestry and Climate Change (MEFCC), Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) and Wildlife for Sustainable Development (WSD) were implementing a project called “Strategic Climate Institutions Program (SCIP)” with the intent to build institutional capacity and participatory leadership in Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks for mitigation, resilience and adaptation to climate change. The program was supported by DFID, Norway and Denmark.



PHEEC staff on field monitoring and evaluation at Awash National Park Area

Threats emanated from lack of harmonization, governance and population pressure were the root causes for the initiation of this project. The existing sector-based management was ineffective in ensuring sound ecosystem management. Lack of stakeholders and community participation and integration of activities are responsible for ineffectiveness and devastation of the protected areas. To address this issue a multi-sectoral approach was employed to provide strategic direction and promote participatory leadership in these parks. Environmental awareness raising, creation of stakeholders’ partnership and collaboration, building institutional leadership capacity and entrepreneurship capacity of women and youth were among the implemented activities. The project has exhibited the following core results:

- Appropriate multi-stakeholders identified and functional protected areas management taskforces established at various levels – kebele, park-woreda, regional, inter-regional and national levels,
- The capacity of multi-stakeholders (leaders) on climate change resilience, adaptation and mitigation improved,
- Skill and capacity of local community strengthened and sense of protected areas ownership created, and
- Vulnerable women and youth groups’ skill on green jobs enhanced

& encouraging results obtained in economic empowerment activities

The project has now concluded its two and half years project implementation period and its final project performance evaluation has been conducted. The evaluation has shown that the implementation of the project was effective and successful in all respects; and has achieved its principal objectives and envisaged impact.

The project has been able to build a new multi-sectoral and participatory park leadership system (shared governance system) in both Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks. The new leadership approach and its park-woreda taskforces have been able to create an all-inclusive, practical and effective joint decision making platforms with notable outcomes vis-a-vis greater participation, awareness and ownership feeling and commitment among local communities, sectors and administrations to the PAs. In particular, collective actions by woreda taskforces were able to inject huge momentum and synergy among stakeholders in park management and resources conservation. Moreover, the establishment and implementation of the new-shared governance system (participatory park leadership) platforms particularly the park-woreda of Awash taskforce has played critical role in facilitating traditional conflict resolution and peace building between historically conflicting

communities. Interestingly, the park-woreda task force has been central in bringing the traditionally at-odds community leaders and elders of the Afar and Oromo people side-by-side in harmony for a common goal.

In the evaluation endeavor, therefore, lessons that can be learned and scaled out from this project implementation have been identified. These lessons can be used as stepping stones and guiding experiences not only to other PAs in Ethiopia but also for other line ministries dealing with existing challenges for sustainable natural resources management in the face of growing impacts of climate change and pressure from human-induced environmental degradations and resource-use conflicts. In this regard, the most important lessons drawn from the evaluation are summarized below.

- 1.** Participatory multi-sectoral park leadership and decision making approach (shared governance system) is a viable and workable system that can be taken as the way forward for improving the management and leadership of the ANP and SMNP, and Ethiopian PAs at large. The new approach was noble, anchored to the core of the PA management problems and well accepted by virtually all stakeholders with conspicuous optimism for its continued implementation. This demonstrates the potential of the new approach for scaling up to other PAs that are currently exercising similar problems.

2. Protected areas (PAs) and natural resources management through holistic, multi-stakeholders and joint decisions making platforms (taskforces) does not only help to bring constructive collective actions but also creates significant awareness, conservation responsibility, alternative livelihoods of the community and lasting partnership among the different stakeholders involved for a common goal.

3. Taskforces, particularly park-woreda level task forces, have not only demonstrated their potential as an essential local institutional platforms for sustainable PA management but also as indispensable medium for peace building and conflict resolution among conflicting communities: "a renaissance to the effective customary conflict resolution systems".

4. PA Leadership empowerment of formal and informal community leaders, local administrations and multiple-sectoral stakeholders has evidently created model conservationists from among the local farmers and pastoralists with growing sense of ownership and responsibility; resulting in substantial role of the local people in controlling encroachers, illegal settlers, livestock grazing, fire and charcoal making. Charcoal production banning at Afar Region can be a good demonstration for this best practice.

5. Fully tapping the potential of the new multi-stakeholder approach for improving PA management however requires effective and strong vertical integration and horizontal coordination among stakeholders at all levels (EWCA, woreda, regional, national taskforces). Failure to establish and maintain this integration would mean clapping in one hand.

6. Building climate change adaptation and resilience capacity is a long-term process that can be developed through targeted actions founded on good knowledge and practices. Hence, trainings, demonstrational visits, and dissemination of IEC materials were effective mechanisms for enhancing the technical knowledge and capacity of stakeholders in rehabilitating and managing PAs and environmental resources. However, learning is a continuous process that needs follow up and guidance to master the desired practices.

7. The necessities for fulfilling household economic needs are obvious drivers of resource degradation and overexploitation in PAs by local communities particularly among marginalized, landless and poor youth and women groups. Equipping PA adjacent women and youth through green entrepreneurship capacity and IGAs has demonstrated the potential of such activities in improving local livelihoods and creating

conservationist community.

8. Yet ensuring the uninterrupted operation, market efficiency and meaningful income generation of the IGAs along with equitable benefit sharing of the youth and women engaged is a must than an option for achieving the desired long-term and short-term impact.

9. The project implementation and its measurable impacts were able to influence higher-level policy making as evidenced by the enactment of the new regulation of EWCA. However, Ethiopia is also a country rich in outstanding proclamations and regulations yet brutally challenged by poor enforcement of these laws and regulations. Hence, unremitting efforts for the full-scale and all level enforcement of the new regulation is critical to realize the project's long vision.

10. The promising results recorded through the project would not be fully sustainable unless further supports are provided by heavy investments in the hardware aspects

In conclusion, the project created stakeholders' partnership and collaboration and established a conducive platform for future parks management, and the system has provided a new model for effective management that would be replicated elsewhere. ●

Social Impact Assessment of Awash National Park Done

PHE-EC has collaborated with the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) from the United Kingdom and Wild life for Sustainable Development (WSD) conducted Social Assessment of the Awash National Park.

The IIED has a leading international research project called the Social Assessment of Protected Areas (SAPA). The purpose of the SAPA project was to develop, test and implement a rapid and cost-effective approach for assessing the social, cultural and economic impacts of Protected Areas. The SAPA project was being conducted in a number of developing

countries in order to identify best practices and to support park managers and decision-makers to make informed decisions that can maximize the positive impacts of Protected Areas for local communities.

Through the initiative of PHE-EC, the Awash National Park in Ethiopia was selected as one of the research sites for piloting the social assessment methodology being developed by the SAPA project. At the time, there was very little information available regarding the social, cultural and economic impacts of Protected Areas on local communities in Ethiopia. Therefore, this project presented

an important opportunity for park managers, policy-makers, and other key stakeholders to obtain valuable information that can be used to enable Ethiopia's Protected Areas to be managed in an optimal manner.

The findings of the social assessment have come up with important results that can add value to the interventions in the Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks in particular and at wider scale for protected areas in general. It has also provided knowledge on community-level impacts that will be useful for designing REDD+ and other forest conservation initiatives in Ethiopia. ●

Resource Base & Climate Change Risk Maps Produced

PHE Ethiopia Consortium through Strategic Climate Institutions Program project has conducted resource base studies in Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks. The study was conducted with the intention to provide information for decision makers and justify the conservation value of the park ecosystems to eradicate poverty, mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The study have produced two comprehensive documents that presented terrestrial biological resources of the two parks, their potential and values including the resource base as well as climate change risk maps.

The developed terrestrial and biological resource base maps include information such as major and rare plant communities and sensitive ecosystem polygons;

wildlife species identification sites; threatened, rare or endangered species observation sites; wetlands and watercourses; appropriate roads and landmarks; and potential or known threat sources to the parks.

This study is very important and helpful resource document that needs to be used by relevant organizations like EWCA in planning interventions for harmonized park management. ●

Park Woreda Task Force; A Good Model for Demonstrative Success

Human settlement and crop farming inside the park territory by local farmers have long been existent and serious problem for Simien Mountains National Park (SMNP). Patches of settlements, recurrent encroachments and other human activities by local communities inside the park boundaries and important wildlife corridors have been severely impeding the free movement of wildlife and true wilderness of the park for tourists. In particular, the two primary schools and the 'Mitlal' open market that were established at the heart of a narrow and vital wildlife corridor joining the Silki and Ras-Dejen ecosystems of the SMNP had been a headache for the park management.

Recognizant of the danger posed by the obstruction of the wildlife corridor to the sustainable management of the park, joint park-woreda taskforce that was established and closely supported by PHE-EC and FZS in partnership with EWCA through the Strategic Climate Institution Program (SCIP), took the initiative to resolve the problem with the full participation and consent of the local communities. In its quarterly deliberation held in early 2014 at Debarq, the multi-sectoral taskforce constituting of more than 30 stakeholders from the five woredas bordering the SMNP deeply discussed the problem and passed a benchmark decision paving the way for a joint resolution including the strategies and processes of resolving the problem. To that effect, the joint taskforce gave the assignment to the Biyeda and Janamora woreda taskforces to establish kebele level committee from

the respective kebele administration and communities managing and using the primary schools and the open market.

The committee with close assistance of the woreda administrations, joint taskforce, respective woreda taskforces and the SMNP began conducting successive consultations and persuading meetings with all segments of the community that are managing and using the primary schools and the 'Mitlal' open market that had taken up much of the key wildlife corridor. Following successive meetings and rigorous discussions, the local communities and the committee passed a remarkable joint decision to relocate the primary schools and the open market outside of the park territory to areas inside the Biyeda woreda. In late 2014, the two primary schools and 'Mitlal' open market were removed from the core park area and rebuilt in Biyeda woreda with some material support from the SMNP. Today the Silki – Ras Dejen wildlife corridor is free of human activities and the wildlife are freely moving between the two ecosystems and tourists are enjoying the true wilderness of the park area.

The above success story of the park-woreda taskforce at SMNP is just a showcase among the many similar success stories brought by the PHE-EC SCIP project in both PAs through implementing its new multi-stakeholder and participatory park leadership approach. ●

Source: SCIP Final Evaluation Report done by Consultant, December 2015

Independent Evaluation of the DFID Strategic Climate Institutions Programme (SCIP)

Building institutional capacity and participatory leadership in Awash and Simien national parks for resilience, mitigation and adaptation to climate change: a case study

1. Context

The SCIP Fund is a major component of the broader SCIP programme and has funded 27 projects to support institutional capacity development in Government, civil society, academia, and private sector, in engagement with implementing government departments. The SCIP Fund receives donor funding from the governments of the UK, Norway and Denmark and is managed by KPMG. This case study has been prepared by Dr Rachel Percy as part of an end of programme review undertaken by LTS International.

This proposal for this project was developed by the Population, Health and Environment Ethiopia Consortium (PHE-EC) in collaboration with the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA). The former has over 55 international and national NGO members. Included amongst the consortium members are the implementing partners of the project: Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) and Wildlife for Sustainable Development (WSD). The EWCA is a governmental organization under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MoCT) which has the authority to undertake conservation and sustainable utilization of wildlife in Ethiopia, including gazetting and management of protected areas (PAs), tackling illicit wildlife trafficking and law enforcement amongst other roles.



Whilst PHE-EC submitted a proposal for a three year period, the SCIP fund management requested that the proposal be cut down and also phased. Consequently, PHE-EC split the project into two phases and received £150,000 funding for the first phase. This phase was intended to take place from April 2013 to May 2014 but was in fact extended into a “consolidation phase” with the project finally finishing in July 2015. This second consolidation phase was also funded £150,000. This was then followed by an approval of £35,000 cost extension to conclude the remaining consolidation phase project activities and terminal report writing up to December 15, 2015. Hence total project funding amounted to £335,000.

The first phase of the project planned for four outputs, and the consolidation phase three of the four. The outputs were:

i. Strengthened and established partnership and collaborations among multi-stakeholders and

beneficiaries

ii. Built park management and leadership capacity of MoCT/ EWCA, Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks (ANP and SMNP respectively)

iii. Built capacity of women, youth groups and local institutions for engaging in climate smart biodiversity entrepreneurship

iv. Promoted good practices in rehabilitation of the park Ecosystem as a Model for Environmental Resilience and Adaptation to the Impacts of Climate Change.

The overall project outcome was “Building institutional capacity and participatory leadership in Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks in order to enhance the leadership and park management capacity of multi-stakeholders and strengthen the newly established shared governance system”.

The original project proposal anticipated working in five

national parks. However the SCIP fund management advised that the number should be reduced to two. The two National Parks – ANP and SMNP were selected on the bases that a) They are long established and gazetted parks and b) between them they represent the range of conditions affecting National Parks in the country. Further the implementing partners have a long association with each of the parks (FZS with the SMNP and WSD with ANP).

2. Methodology

Case study methodology involved document review and key informant interviews. The evaluation framework and questions were used to develop interview checklists tailored to this case study. Documents that were reviewed are listed in Annex 1 and include those that were available prior to travel to Ethiopia and others that were shared with the team during the course of the case study. The latter include a “Project progress and achievement evaluation report” concerning Phase 1 of the project and examples of policy briefs produced by the project including one concerning “Carbon Stock and dynamics of Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks: Implications for REDD+”. For this particular case, key informants included only those in PHE-EC and the EWCA; time constraints prevented follow up with other stakeholders to verify the significance of the findings. Consequently more attention was given to review of existing documents.

3. Key findings

“The project has created collaboration amongst different stakeholders up to the higher levels. New connections are made, there is a platform on which to discuss all issues related to the park. In the past

protected areas were managed by one sector. That did not work and the protected areas were getting worse and worse. There was no involvement of the community. Now everyone has realised the importance of the protected areas and everyone says ‘this protected area is ours.’”

Relevance

Pressures on the parks and the absence of a coordinated response were identified as a key problem. Thus the establishment of multi-stakeholder task forces (MSTF) at different levels was an appropriate measure and the assumptions behind this valid. Membership of the MSTF’s was informed by a stakeholder analysis and included many different sectors along with relevant private sector, NGO and community representation. The two key partners guiding the project were appropriate in that one (PHE-EC) was able to draw on a wide range of relevant expertise and the other (EWCA) is the main body, under the MoTC, responsible for the parks. Needs assessments, both amongst vulnerable youth and women with regard to livelihoods and income generation, and amongst MSTF members with regard to existing knowledge of CRGE, led to appropriate capacity building being carried out.

Effectiveness

The project successfully delivered against all four outputs. Functioning MSTF’s were established at all levels; the park authorities have increased understanding and capacity; various climate smart entrepreneurial activities have been introduced, particularly to the most vulnerable who are most likely to encroach on the park illegally to support their livelihoods and, fourth; a wide range of information, education and communication

(IEC) materials have been produced and disseminated in all relevant languages. There were challenges with regard to the start up of the project, particularly, in the initial stages, from the EWCA itself which was not used to this style of project, and also from Awash National Park staff who initially did not support the project. A more recent external factor that has affected improved conservation and management of resources in Awash National Park has been drought which has meant that the Park has had to allow some level of grazing within the park boundaries.

Impact

Whilst the impact in terms of introduction of alternative climate smart income generation activities (IGA’s) is on a small scale, the project, in addition to the participatory multi-stakeholder park management process that has been established, has contributed to broader CRGE objectives. Examples include the nature conservation clubs set up in schools and supported by a “Climate Change Toolkit for Schools Environmental Education” and the carbon sequestration studies carried out and disseminated by the project.

Sustainability

Indications regarding sustainability and replicability are good. Parliament has requested the EWCA to expand this process to other national parks and steps are underway at present to do this for example in Bale Mountains National Park. The MSTF process was, earlier this year, gazetted for seven protected areas including both parks and is thus legally endorsed and institutionalised. The implications of this are discussed further in the next section.

4. Discussion and lessons learned

Despite the limited opportunity to carry out follow-up interviews with other stakeholders, it is clear from the findings above which in turn draw on a range of project documentation, that overall, despite its modest budget, the project has some significant achievements.

First, the MSTF process has been successful, particularly in SMNP. People who did not communicate before are communicating and as a consequence more “joined-up” approaches to park management are underway. Where the community had not felt they owned the resources in the parks before (and therefore felt free to exploit them) their participation in the MSTF’s (along with the wider awareness raising and income substitution amongst the communities) has led to greater ownership of the parks by neighbouring communities. The engagement of the park authorities in Awash National Park in the MSTF process has gradually increased over the project period and they now accept the need to manage the park in a holistic manner.

Second, and following on from the above, the project has led to the MSTF process being gazetted for seven protected areas including the two parks. This means that it is the responsibility of the EWCA, along with all the sectors engaged in the MSTF’s at different levels, to ensure that the process continues. Funding for meetings will need to be provided by the EWCA, its parent Ministry (MoTC) and the other engaged sectors. The EWCA is committed to sourcing this funding and will look not only to requesting the funding from the Government, but also to establishing a trust fund or putting in bids, for example to

the Government of Ethiopia’s CRGE facility or directly to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

Third, the project has produced a draft “Multi-sectoral protected areas guideline” which is due for completion. This guide has been welcomed by Parliament as mentioned above and thus there is Government support for the scaling out of this MSTF process to other National Parks.

Fourth, the awareness raised in and beyond the parks regarding the need for taking the CRGE into account in and around the National Parks may provide impetus for further initiatives in future. Amongst the MSTFs and amongst the communities neighbouring the two parks there is a new understanding of the consequences of climate change for the parks and the potential that the parks have in terms of carbon sequestration and conservation of resources. The project has produced over 10,000 different IEC materials in English, Amharic, Oromiffa and Afarinnya. These have the potential of raising awareness in and around other national parks. Information about the project may also be disseminated at the international level as PHE-EC have applied to present information about the SCIP funded project at a COP 21 side event in Paris in December 2015.

Turning to the fit between this particular project and the overall SCIP programme Theory of Change (ToC), whilst the MSTFs are not climate institutions in themselves, they are in a much stronger position, and have the relevant understanding, to be able to tackle climate issues related to the parks and outside. As the MSTF have government, NGO, PS and civil society representation then it could be said that there is a fit between this process and all four SCIP programme outputs. Assumptions behind these outputs, at the programme level,

which are valid for this particular project include a) Ministries respond to CC evidence at federal and regional levels and b) More and effective partnerships across types of organisation (see SCIP programme ToC). The SCIP programme outcome: “Organisational and institutional capacity of the GoE, PS and CS to respond to the CC agenda developed” could be said to hold true for this particular project.

Key lessons learned whilst conducting this case study are as follows:

Patience is essential – whilst the SMNP authorities were quick to take up the MSTF process, there was resistance to this at the start with the ANP and it took perseverance and patience to, gradually, get greater engagement by the ANP staff.

Champions make a difference – in this case the present Director General of the EWCA is fully behind the institutionalisation of the MSTF process and its scaling out to other parks. Further, the SCIP Project Coordinator in the PHE-EC and PHE-ECs Executive Director have supported project implementation and dissemination fully and continue to do so.

An integrated, participatory, multi-sectoral approach to National Park management is appropriate – Such an approach can transform the way in which different government sectors, community members, NGOs and PS bodies view and manage National Parks.

Legal endorsement of processes can enhance mainstreaming – the ability to ensure an appropriate process (in this case the MSTF process) is legally endorsed through gazetting can greatly enhance the mainstreaming and sustainability of the approach. ●

3. National and International Engagements >>

COP 21 and its Achievements



H.E Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn addressing at the conference

The 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held from Nov 30 to Dec 12/2015, adopted the “Paris Agreement” with a gathering of 196 countries. The adoption of the treaty under international law represents the first collective effort by the world community to tackle climate change. After 25 years of UN climate diplomacy, the world’s leaders have for the first time in history negotiated a treaty that envisages climate action by all countries. The world agreed that climate change is such a grave problem that tackling it is truly in everybody’s interest. Therefore, despite all shortcomings, the Paris Agreement can be labelled a success that will help us move towards a more sustainable future.

The main successes of COP21 in Paris are that the Paris Agreement is much stronger than many had expected. Unlike in Kyoto, where only the developed countries undertook to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, this time all countries are included in efforts to reduce emissions. This was made at 2013 conference in Warsaw, which created the concept of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). In addition, in contrast to Copenhagen, the basic shape of the Paris Agreement had therefore been defined well in advance of the crucial conference. The way to agreement was also paved by the strong alignment of the China and

the US, which had been crucial in shaping the basic contours of the deal. The Agreement consists of a core agreement that governs the international process will be binding on parties, while there are elements that are not part of the legally binding agreement. These parts, such as the intended nationally determined contributions, may be binding at the national level.

The agreement’s ambition of limiting global warming to “well below 2 °C and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels”, in a way we can avoid dangerous climate change, as the Paris Agreement now posits that any global warming is dangerous. Furthermore, countries agreed that the temperature limit is to be reached by, first, a peaking of greenhouse gas emissions “as soon as possible” and, second, “a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century”. As a direction, the age of fossil fuels is over. The Agreement also includes pledges to cut emissions and set the long-term goal to get off fossil fuels.

In addition, its recognition of two decade-long demands that elevates the standing of adaptation in the international climate regime, where the action on adaptation is to be reviewed and accelerated every five years in parallel to the contribution cycles for mitigation.

The accompanying decision text reiterates that the goal of mobilising an annual USD 100 billion of North-South financial flows in 2020 and beyond, promised already in Copenhagen, is still valid. Furthermore, Parties agreed to set a new, collective financing target by 2025. In this context, the USD 100 billion figure is now considered the floor of financial contributions – rather than the ceiling as before Paris.

The Paris Agreement relies on the establishment of mandatory transparency and review provisions. This innovative review mechanism (“ratchet”) aims for Parties to enhance their contributions every five years. Starting in 2018, these “stock takes” will create moments of concentrated political attention every five years that may be used for fostering the dynamic of the process.

The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities is reflected in this Agreement. There is clearly a duty on all parties to take climate action, according to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities, in the light of different national circumstances.

UN secretary general will convene a High-level signature ceremony on 22nd April 2016 at UNFCCC HQ, NY, USA. In accordance with Article 21, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement, the Agreement shall enter into force on the 30th day after the date on which at

least 55 Parties to the Convention accounting in total for at least an estimated 55 % of the total global greenhouse gas emissions have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depository.

The blocks of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the Africa Group with many CSOs joining the call remained strong. They did not back down on the long-term temperature goal of 1.5° Celcius. In addition, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, Laurent Fabius and his team, headed by Climate Change Ambassador Laurence Tubiana, had meticulously studied the failure of Copenhagen as well as the much more successful negotiations in Cancún and Durban. In addition, the French diplomatic manoeuvres that helped to ensure the success of the Paris talks.

Limitation of Paris Agreement

Shortcomings of the Paris Agreement include the lack of legal binding nature as far as national contributions relating to mitigation, adaptation and finance are concerned. INDCs become important but it is also, what weakens the agreement where in the actions the larger emitters will not have higher ambitions. Even though all the countries under UNFCCC presented their national plans, all those contributions that countries have submitted fall far short of the stipulated global ambition: Even if fully implemented, global mean temperature would most likely still increase in the range of 2.7 °C to 3.5 °C. This is a serious shortfall and action to strengthen those contributions especially by large emitters must start already in 2018 in order to keep the world on a path that is considered safe for humanity.

The need for substantial adaptation finance has been recognized in the Paris Agreement, but it does not include a collective, quantified goal for adaptation finance.

The other limitation is that the Paris Agreement features an article on loss and damage, the decision text contains a clause that excludes the concept to be used as a basis for compensation and liability claims.

The finance part of the Paris Agreement is also very weak. It does not contain any compulsory language to scale up climate finance.

Climate change and its impacts connected to gender equality, human rights, health, specific vulnerable communities and sustainable development are included in the Agreement but in the non-binding parts.

What is Needed to make the agreement effective and implemented?

The agreement requires all countries to take action, while recognizing their differing situations and circumstances. Under the Agreement, countries are responsible for taking action on both mitigation and adaptation. We need to integrate climate action with the implementation efforts for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, as the actions for one are necessary and vital for progress on the other.

The Paris agreement effectiveness depends on whether the momentum of Paris can be turned into a political force. This momentum was largely created by the “high ambition coalition” of small island states, least developed countries, which needs to be maintained. Keeping this coalition alive, at least in its core, would help to work towards a progressive implementation and evolution of global climate policy, both inside and outside of the UNFCCC regime. This coalition would be in a position to push for the agreement’s early entry into force and for the quick strengthening of national contributions.

The Paris agreement needs implementing effective policies that put climate justice and human rights above securing profits and wealth.

The 1.5 degree needs effective policies for implementing. Radical political measures and Loud and strong changes at policy level as a result of the commitments and agreement reached is needed, in particular (but not only) in the countries of the Global North, for drastic emissions reduction as they hold the historical responsibility for climate change. Those measures need to have very clear message on rapidly phasing out fossil

fuels, in a way the vulnerable and least developing countries can have confidence and honest partnership.

It also needs to paradigm shift in the finance area supporting and financing a transformation in the Global South, away from fossil fuels that fully covers the costs related to adapting to the grave consequences of climate change. The pledge to support financially should be new and additional and that could fill honestly with transparent mechanism the enormous gap between what is needed and what is being provided. It should include covering for the inevitable loss and damage in a form of justice not charity; therefore, it should include legal right to compensation, concrete financial commitments, stipulated by a date by when governments need to provide such specific commitments. In general, Paris is a beginning that we need to implement the Agreement, but that demands giant step forward.

Ethiopia in the Climate Change Negotiations

A party to the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol

- Actively engaged in the UNFCCC process
- A member of LDC, African and G77 group
- Lead the political wing of the African negotiators (CAHO5C)
- Lead and negotiate on behalf of the African and LDC group ministerial negotiation during COP21
- Coordinating the different pillars for different groups
- In advance preparation for the negotiation through:
- Continuous trainings of the negotiators
- Having a core team of negotiators and engaging CRGE sectors
- Preparing Ethiopia’s position and
- Continuously analyzing, prioritizing the options in the negotiation text

Comply with requirements like submission of:



PSDA members at COP21 meeting

- First National communication (FNC) in 2001
- National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) in 2007
- Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) in 2007
- Second National communication (SNC) in 2015
- Intended National Determined Contributions (INDC) of Mitigation Action in 2015
- Become a model via developing Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE) in 2011
- Most of the CRGE sectors have developed Climate Resilient Strategy
- The Climate Facility has been established and implementation of CRGE Fast Track Projects
- The CRGE is now integrated in the second Grow and Transformation Plan (GTP II)

PHEEC/PSDA in Paris

Population Health and Environment Ethiopia Consortium (PHE-EC) has participated in COP 21 represented by its Executive Director Mr Negash Teklu, sponsored and being part of Population for Sustainable Development Alliance (PSDA) and as part of the Ethiopian government delegation member. PHEEC and PSDA were active in organizing side events that dealt on sexual reproductive health rights and climate change, gender and climate change and the role of PHE multi-sectoral approach in accelerating climate mitigation and adaptation.

What is expected from Ethiopia?

The agreement requires Ethiopia to take action, while recognizing its differing situations and circumstances. Under the Agreement, Ethiopia is responsible for taking action on both mitigation and adaptation for national interest and global solidarity.

Ethiopia officially submitted its own nationally determined climate actions. Therefore, it has an obligation to implement this plan, and as a result, it will contribute to bend the curve downward in the projected global temperature rise.

The agreement not only formalizes the process of developing countries national plans, but also it provides a binding requirement to assess and review progress on these plans. Therefore, this mechanism will require Ethiopia to continuously upgrade its commitments and ensure that there will be no backtracking.

The poorest and most vulnerable countries (including Ethiopia) wanted the goal to be changed from 2°C to 1.5°C. Although the difference of 0.5°C may not seem much, it actually means that millions of people in the most vulnerable countries will be severely affected. In addition, the focus is on energy and not on ecosystems. In this case, the issues of conservation as needed for food security, land use. Therefore, Ethiopia where its value is more on the eco-system need to further push the issues like gender, health and ecosystems which are mentioned on the preamble to be incorporated at the main convention articles.

This agreement is a clarion call from governments that they are ready for implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and Ethiopia is also committed to act and in-fact be a showcase on this. Therefore, Ethiopia need to integrate climate action with the implementation efforts for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, as the actions for one are necessary and vital for progress on the other.

Ethiopia's INDC need to be integrated in the GTP 2 and CRGE in a way we act jointly with the active participation of all relevant stakeholders. A strong climate activities backed by action on the ground will help us achieve the Sustainable Development Goals to end poverty, build stronger economy and safer, healthier, and more liveable society within Ethiopia.

Ethiopia being a member of the vulnerable countries and the timely chair of the forum, it needs to strengthen its leadership in meeting commitment for implementing the agreement in a way our planet is saved, supported by science.

Looking to the climate impacts and the El Niño, Ethiopia needs to act urgently on climate issues through implementing GTP and CRGE. Assume the exponential growth of the Ethiopian population, we need to increase the food production several times what we are producing today. The future food production will be very much affected by water stress and drought and flood.

About loss and damage, we need to enhance our capacity of linking the climate disaster damages with the green house gas. ●

The Third National Conference on Population and Development Held

The Third National Conference on Population and Development was conducted from 7 to 8 September 2015 in Mekele Planet Hotel, Tigray Regional State. The conference was jointly organized by Mekele University, the National Planning Commission and development partners including PHE-EC. This conference was attended by 220 people represented from government officials, policy makers, local and international NGO's, and academic institutions.



Partial views of workshop participants

Making remarks at the opening of the conference, Ato Getachew Adem, State Minister of the National Planning Commission, noted that effective mainstreaming of population and development in sectoral policies and programs made critical contributions for the promising development gains made over the past years. He also indicated that the conference recommendations would be a big input for GTP2.

Dr. Kendeya Gebrehiwot, President of Mekelle University, said on the occasion that the conference was organized at a critical juncture when transition is being made from MDGs to

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) globally and from Phase I to Phase II of the Growth and Transformation Plan nationally. He explained, "The conference will be an ideal forum for stakeholders to deliberate on various issues of population and development and strengthen their partnership from the interest of contributing to GTP II and SDGs at large".

In a keynote speech, Ato Negash Teklu, chairman of the Ethiopian Charities and Societies Forum (ECSF) and Executive Director for PHE-EC shade light on positive developments and efforts in the country and indicated the need for the government to

strengthen partnership with Charities and Societies (ChSs) in the development agenda of the country. He emphasized that this National Conference on Population and Development has to be a moment where we can commit to work jointly for the success of GTP II. He further continued to emphasize on the critical importance of strengthening partnership between ChSs and government quoting the speech of his Excellency Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn in the concluding meeting of GTP II consultation workshop that said, "We will have a new partnership with ChSs not only having a stick but also having carrot like we treat other key partners". Ato Negash has emphasized that, there is a need to bring true step forward actions by engaging ChSs in planning, implementation and monitoring.

Mr. Faustin Yao, UNFPA Country Representative, indicated as the conference would play a very important role to recommend policy and programme options that have various inputs for Phase II of the Growth and Transformation Plan of Ethiopia. "The recommendations have major implications for our national institutions and for governance as well as central to the post 2015 development agenda.



Ato Negash Teklu (right), chairing one of the plenary session

The conference dwelt at length on lessons learnt on the implementation of the National Population Policy of Ethiopia and the Growth and Transformation Plan I. The implementation of the stipulations and targets of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action and the MDGs was also discussed in detail.

In the two days of deliberations, the conference took up issues, among others include, population and sustainable development; reproductive health; demographic dividend; migration, urbanization and development; and population and environment. In addition, the meeting has come up with the key recommendation on the need for revision of population policy set 22 years. Generally, in this conference 38 research papers were presented and discussion held thereon.

PHE-EC actively participated in this conference through serving as member of organizing technical committee and presenting three different papers. These are, 1) Making the connection:

population, family planning, and climate change - policy action recommendations from an expert working group, Negash Teklu 2) Integrating Population, Health, and Environment Programs with Contraceptive Distribution in Rural Ethiopia: A Qualitative Case Study, Ahmed Mohammed 3) Multi-sectoral Protected Areas Management Approach as a better Practice: the case of Awash and Simien Mountains National Parks, Tadesse Hailu.

Finally, the Conference has come up with the following common consensus of points that need actions.

- Agreement on the need for revising the population policy set before 22 years
- To give emphasis on addressing unemployment problem of youths in the country
- The importance enhancing women role in socio-economic and political arenas



Ato Getachew Adem

- To design and implement mechanisms of reaping the benefits of the potential demographic dividend through further human capital development, women empowerment, massive job creation and creating enabling environments ahead of time
- To conduct the fourth National Conference on Population and Development in consultation with National Planning Commission and other relevant stakeholders ●

EAC is Developing PHE Strategic Plan

The East African Community (EAC) is a regional intergovernmental organization of the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda established through the EAC Treaty of 1999.

EAC partner states have worked to develop long-term national development strategies that envision globally competitive and prosperous nations with a high quality of life for member countries. These strategies include the Burundi Vision 2025, Kenya Vision 2030, Rwanda Vision 2020, Tanzania Vision 2025 and Uganda Vision 2040.

The ECA has organized strategy development meeting with the main purpose of convening multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral

National Consultative discussions in the way that support practical implementation of the economic, social, political, environmental and demographic issues which are considered to be key pillars of the countries visions for the period of 20 to 25 years.

In line to the above objectives, successful consultative meetings were held from April 13th to 22nd, 2015 in the capital cities of all EAC countries. The EAC PHE Strategic framework seeks to guide the EAC Partner States, the EAC Secretariat and the Development Partners in their efforts to integrate and coordinate the implementation of Population, Health and Environment interventions in the East African Community. The EAC PHE Strategic Plan will be for five years from 2016 – 2021.

Its implementation will require a coordinated and integrated approach by various stakeholders at different levels including the communities.

The EACPHE Development Strategy was validated by partner states and Members of Parliamentarians (MPs) in June 2015 in Nairobi and awaiting to be likely presented to relevant sectoral councils of Ministers for endorsement in the coming March 2016.

Mr. Negash Teklu, the Executive Director of PHE EC, was invited to facilitate and share his experiences on the National Consultative meetings in Burundi (April 13-14, 2015) and Zanzibar (April 16-17, 2015) as a Regional and International Expert. ●

Euro NGO Meeting was Held

The EuroNGOs workshop "Strategizing and moving forward beyond 2015" aimed at stimulating a strategic discussion within the sexual and reproductive health and rights community on three hot topics directly affecting advocacy work at the European and international level: sexual rights, climate change and financing for development. While looking forward at strategies for implementing the newly adopted 2030 Agenda on sustainable development, the workshop also looked back at lessons learnt from the MDG and post-2015 journey, as well as current climate change negotiations and the financing for development process.

The workshop took place 2nd - 4th November 2015 in Oslo. It gathered 160 participants from 85 organizations representing 29 European and 14 non-European countries – thus confirming again the convening and mobilizing role that EuroNGO plays with its annual event.

Negash Teklu (Executive Director, Population, Health and Environment – Ethiopia Consortium) have taken part in the workshop through sharing insights on how to position sexual and reproductive health rights in the current climate change negotiations and the wider sustainable development discourse.

Some of the key questions he answered while sharing his insights are the following.

- Given your experience from the ground, what messages and insights would you share with this group?

Mr. Negash Teklu explained that, in Ethiopia people are confronted with the damages and impacts of climate change, which aggravates the economic and social situation of the most vulnerable communities, particularly women. Any action aiming at reducing or eliminating such damages should go hand in hand with addressing



Partial View of Participants of EuroNGO conference

root causes of socio-economic inequalities. Considering Ethiopia's demographic and environmental challenges, the Population Health and Environment approach is the most appropriate. It effectively links population and climate change by considering interrelated factors and conditions of health, population and environment, as well as gender, energy and much more.

- Looking at your previous engagement at COP meetings, what lessons learned can you share with this group?

Mr. Negash Teklu has shared his experiences in responding to the above question. He said that, Population for Sustainable Development Alliance (PHEEC is a member in the steering committee) has been working on the UNFCCC since Copenhagen, in 2009. At that time, CSOs expectations were extremely ambitious and we left with no success. Today the context is very different: activists and CSOs have better understanding of negotiations, a stronger expertise and well-established alliances among themselves and appropriate partners. Yet, the pressure is

high: developed economies are confronted with a major economic crisis and diverting their economies to renewable energies is a major challenge. Developing countries are also in a difficult position. The 20 countries most affected by climate change-the so called 'Vulnerable Twenty-V20' who represents 700 million people- are contributing for less than 2% of climate change. How should these countries finance their climate actions? CSOs and the public opinion have to push governments of developed countries to take concrete actions to fight climate change and protect our planet by implementing what science and justice is demanding taking into consideration common but differentiated responsibilities. ●



Mr. Negash Teklu sharing insights on the workshop

Ethiopian Charities and Societies Forum Strengthening

The Ethiopian Charities and Societies Forum (ECSF) was established in May 2013 by various Networks, Consortia, and groups representing Ethiopian, Ethiopian Resident and International Charities, and Society members operating at Federal and Regional levels in Ethiopia. Since its establishment, ECSF had various impactful engagements that resulted into remarkable successes. PHE-EC, as member and chair of the forum, has actively engaged in the different activities that are helpful to create enabling environment for ChSs operation in the country which include our members and partners.



Partial view of ECSF meeting participants

The major achievements recorded within the year are:

➤ Organized a discussion workshop on the issue of INGOs working in partnerships with local NGOs which has resulted to creating consensus for INGO to partner with local NGOs as far as abided by the 70/30 regulation

➤ Launching National ChSs Code of Conduct in Ethiopia: this was done aiming at offering a clear point of reference for organizations as they negotiate on

operational challenges and give ChSs and their operations greater legitimacy. It will be also helpful in improving the performance of the organizations and creating better sense of collective responsibility and contribute for positive image of the sector through building system of accountability across all actors operating in Ethiopia.

➤ Initiated the sector to come together in responding to the current drought: a platform was arranged in December 2015 where representatives from organizations

currently working on the drought. In this platform, National Disaster and Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) presented the current prevailing situations in the country. Seven ChSs representatives were chosen as committee members where PHE-EC is member for the task force. This committee agreed to arrange a meeting to update all concerned parties on emergency response plans of the sector.

➤ PHE-EC has attended the third General Assembly meeting of the forum and voiced its member's interests to be considered in the forums strategic and annual plan.

➤ PH-EC through its active engagement has made its member to participate in the forum's agenda building workshops related to the sectors working environment including the 70/30 amendment and ChSs consultation to GTP I and II. PHE-EC will table the above agendas into its 10th general assembly meeting which will be held on March 23, 2016.



ECSF leaders chairing meetings

For further information, please visit ECSF website at www.fcsf.net

African PHE Networks Meeting held in Kampala, Uganda



Participants of meeting

The Eastern, Central and Southern African PHE working Group representatives had a meeting from January 28th to 29th, 2015 in Kampala, Uganda to evaluate progresses in the field of PHE, discuss challenges faced in implementation, and strategize on the path forward for the PHE approach. The representatives were from Madagascar, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Kenya, and Ethiopia, and represented a number of organizations, including EAC and Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC).

The objectives of the meeting were to:

- Start coordinating plans for future developments. This included learning from the successes and failures of previous projects.
- Having conversations on how to better communicate and facilitate information sharing on project implementation and advocacy with partner consortia and network, both internally and across country borders.
- Establish a structure that can

fasten and respond proactively as to the new development and opportunities.

During this session, all participants shared strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to their networks, both individually and in terms of cross-country collaborations.

The workshop has forwarded the following recommendations to be considered in the actions of PHE groups.

- Strengthen the structural organization and capacity of PHE Groups,
- Established networks should standardize their roles and create a consensus through consulting with all involved network members. For example, all networks must develop criteria for membership to ensure a more competent consortium or network whilst adding value and prestige of becoming a member.
- Technical assistance is needed for all PHE networks. Assistance can contribute to advocacy strategies,

development of manuals, capacity building, establishment of PHE "learning centers" or exemplary project sites, and resource mobilization strategies.

In addition, it was suggested that information sharing is crucial, as it provides extra resource for even experienced networks. The sharing of information across networks and countries will certainly introduce new ideas facilitating new points of views, approaches and innovations.

In this light, the representatives discussed on the importance of strengthening leadership of the Africa PHE Network by establishing a core group of leaders. It was decided that LVBC will serve as the Chair, Ethiopia as the Vice Chair, and Madagascar as the Secretariat.

Other suggestions included increasing clear communication in English and French across more countries as well as organizing LVBC hosted African PHE Conference in September 2015. USAID East Africa and PRB had provided support and participated in the workshop. ●

PHEEC participated in LANDac LAND forum

On February 5 and 6, 2015, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs organised the second LAND forum meeting. Approximately 50 professionals representing academia, businesses, NGOs (including PHEEC from Ethiopia) and governments from all over the world gathered in Utrecht Netherlands to discuss how agricultural investments in the Global South can be made more inclusive.

LAND forum was initiated by LANDac since November 2013 with the objective of generating evidence and contributing to development through discussing on the issue, "Under what conditions can foreign and domestic agribusiness contribute to food security and inclusive and sustainable development in Africa, Asia and Latin America? PHEEC has been a member to the Netherlands Academy on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable

Development (LANDac) since 2015.

The Ethiopian team comprises Dr. Aklilu Amsalu (Addis Ababa University), Gerrit Holtland (Private business), Jan van de Haar (Private Business), Negash Teklu (PHEEC), Bezualem Bekele Mogessie (Government), and Fekadu Adugna Tufa (Addis Ababa University). The team presented the preliminary results of a study of four cases of contract farming, which could potentially serve as an alternative for large-scale land acquisitions. They found that there were many advantages of working with farmers organised in cooperatives. The team also found that contractual agreements tend to lack transparency and mechanisms for contract enforcement, and stresses the need for clear procedures to handle grievances and hold the various stakeholders accountable. Overall, there is optimism about the prospects of contract farming, especially when organised around

farmer cooperatives and/or unions, with sufficient capacity and bargaining power to negotiate with investors. In addition, the Ethiopian team forwarded ideas on the need to design contract farming agreements based on the needs of the farmers, i.e., not only based on their technical needs, but also in terms of broader livelihood and food security needs in line to the country's GTP and SDGs.

The Ethiopian team wants to make an effort to promote and facilitate multi-stakeholder discussions within Ethiopia. Moreover, the Ethiopian team intends to continue research, in particular on community engagement in agricultural businesses and local dynamics; large-scale agricultural investments; donor financing; and mapping processes. The LAND Forum meeting happens every year at the same time in Utrecht, Netherlands. ●

PHE Regional Conference Held

PHE Regional Conference was held in Kisumu, Kenya from September 9 to 10, 2015. The conference was organized under the auspices of Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), Madagascar Network and PHE Ethiopia Consortium and other partner organizations sponsored by USAID East Africa. The conference had brought together around 200 participants of whom six were from Ethiopia represented from PHEEC, its members and partners.

The theme of the conferences was "Integrating PHE: Lessons for the Sustainable Development. The conferences organized under six sub themes: Integrated Population and Health in to Environmental and Natural Resource Management Project/Programs; PHE, Climate Change and Resilience; Advocacy, Communication and Institutionalize of PHE Policy and Programming; PHE and Inter-Sectoral Coordination and Partnerships; Monitoring, Evaluating and Scale up PHE and National, Regional and Global PHE



Participants of meeting

Strategies, Innovation and Gender. The conference began with official opening and thematic workshop for sub-theme one and two on September 9, 2015 and plenary session: presentation on East African Community (EAC) regional PHE strategic plan 2015-2020 offered to the participants. After wards thematic work shop for sub theme three, four, five and six presented and discussion on

the respective presentation and feedback held on September 10, 2015 in separate hall based on sub-themes.

The conference reviewed the interrelationships of Population, Health and Environment, and the recent developments and policy perspectives on PHE and discussed on the way forward. ●

Media Reflections

The screenshot shows the IIED website with a navigation menu including 'NEWS AND BLOGS', 'OUR WORK', 'PUBLICATIONS', 'ABOUT', and 'THEMES'. The main article is titled 'Q&A: Building zero carbon emission economy in a decade' and is dated 24 November 2015. The article text includes: 'In the seventh of our interviews with representatives from the Least Developed Country Group, Negash Teklu from Population, Health, Environment Ethiopia talks about Ethiopia's ambitions for a zero carbon economy by 2025. Ethiopia is described as one of the fast growing economies in the world and has set an ambitious plan of building a zero carbon economy within a decade without compromising its growth pace. Negash Teklu (NT), executive director of Population, Health Environment Ethiopia, a consortium of 58 organisations, spoke to Andualem Sisay (AS) about the country's challenges in relation to building a zero carbon economy by 2025.' A photo of Negash Teklu is visible. To the right, there are social media sharing icons and a list of related articles: 'Least Developed Countries (LDC) voices', 'A series of nine interviews with Seeds of the post-capitalist forest', 'The Paris Agreement - a framework for local inclusion', and 'COP21: UN climate change conference, Paris'. Below the article, there is a banner for the 'Population & Sustainability Network' with the tagline 'PROMOTING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'. Below the banner is a section titled 'PSN at COP21: making the connection between reproductive health and climate change'. The text in this section reads: 'PSN is the secretariat of the Population and Sustainable Development Alliance. On 1st December PSN joined several PSDA member organisations at the COP21 climate change conference in Paris, for a side-event focusing on the importance of access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in building climate resilient communities. Showcasing integrated PHE successes The event brought together several PSDA member organisations, including the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), the Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and PHE Ethiopia Consortium to present evidence and experiences on the importance of access to SRHR in building climate resilient communities.'

Acknowledgment

Our deep gratitude and acknowledgement goes to those organizations and donors, which provided us with financial and technical support in implementing our interventions. We are also pleased to thank our partners and member organizations for their committed partnership during the actual implementation of our interventions. It is also worth important to thank our staff Mr. Tadesse Hailu, Mr. Ahmed Mohammed, Mr. Zerihun Dejene, Ms. Alem Mekonen, Mr. Kabtamu Kebede, Mr. Semere Sileshi, Ms. Meseret Haile, Mr. Haileleoul Negash and Mr. Tilahun Semu who have helped us through contributing pieces for the Newsletter, editing contents and providing comments and for showing their committed engagement in the process of implementations.

Interview >>

with Negash Teklu

Our Voice: Mr. Negash, Please introduce your self to the reader.

Negash Teklu: I am Negash Teklu, Executive Director of PHEEC and Chair Person of Ethiopian Charities and Societies Forum.

Our Voice: Please tell us how PHE-EC was founded and what was your role in that process?

Negash Teklu: The idea of establishing PHEEC was emanated from the November 2007 International Conference on Population, Health and Environment (PHE) held at ECA, Addis Ababa. This conference was an opportunity to initiate the PHE approach on East African and Ethiopia with the assumption of contributing to sustainable development through integrating social, economic and ecological concerns. Among the total 70 Ethiopian participants of the international PHE conference, seven organizations (EPA, HoAREC, Addis Ababa University, Arbaminch University, CORHA, Lem Ethiopia and Engender Health) willingly established the ad hoc committee in charge of coordinating PHE initiations in Ethiopia. Subsequently the ad hoc committee developed one-year action plan and assigned a coordinator to lead PHE initiation process. It was at this time I was elected as coordinator for the secretariat of the ad hoc committee. Within seven months, PHEEC establishment conference was held and new formal leadership including general assembly, board and executive director appointed. The board has appointed me to serve as executive director for the PHEEC. I have been playing leading role throughout the whole initiation and formal establishment process of PHEEC and still serving as executive director.

Our Voice: What is special with PHE-EC approaches with regard to development interventions?

Negash Teklu: The PHE approach is special in that it considers integration of social, economic



Negash Teklu, Executive Director, PHE EC

and ecological concerns of the community and country in every development initiatives. It encourages coordinated collaboration among different stakeholders through multi-sectoral partnership and uses integrated indicators that support joint outcome. In the context of Ethiopia, PHE approach is more valuable as it creates linkage of population dynamics with other developments.

Our Voice: Please tell us about PH-EC's current engagements and their national, regional and global significance.

Negash Teklu: PHEEC has national engagement in promoting PHE integrated approaches by supporting in filling the big gaps in coordinating joint activities at policy, implementation and outcome levels. This has been demonstrated in protected area management, biosphere reserve management, participatory forest management, natural resources management, wetland management, eco-regional level approach, in highly degraded and populated areas, and integrated watershed management at upper catchments of basin areas. Our projects are helping for climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. We have been also actively participating in the different

national, regional and global fora on environment, climate change dialogues and PHE issues. The major engagements include involvement in Ethiopia Charities and Societies Forum which we are chairing, advocating for African and global PHE approach, climate negotiations through COP meetings and other population and development fora. In this year, we have active engagement in the Ethiopian charities and societies forum with major focus on creating enabling working environment for the charities and societies to play constructive development partnership role in the country. The major tangible results obtained from our engagement include establishment of shared management for protected areas, integration of population issues into national development plan like GTP II and better realization and acceptance of multi-sectoral approaches.

Our Voice: How do you evaluate the overall success of PH-EC with regard to translating its approaches into action?

Negash Teklu: Despite some progresses in translating our approaches into action, we are still far behind reaching our objective. The PHE approach demands creating functional systems where different sector

interventions complement each other for the interest of addressing comprehensive demand of communities. Therefore, concerted efforts will be critically important to bring the change we want.

Our Voice: What are the major challenges with regard to putting PHE approach into action?

Negash Teklu: The major most important challenge in this regard is sector entrenched mentality that is jeopardizing the implementation of complementary and coordinated engagements. This has resulted into sector and professional bias, which is affecting holistic response to communities, demands. The second important challenge is limited resources for integrated interventions. The third important challenge is limitation of documented data and capacity to generate evidences that convince policy makers.

Our Voice: What has to be done for harnessing partnership and contribution of ChSs towards integrated development interventions in the country?

Negash Teklu: I believe sustainable development of a country can be achieved by designing and implementing integrated approaches and with committed leadership of the government and active participation of the citizens. The role of charities and societies is to complement the sustainable development effort of the government through initiating new ideas and practically demonstrating this as strong partners of development. Accordingly, the charities and societies in Ethiopia need to contribute for development through constructive engagement basing on the countries strategy and development plans.

Our Voice: What would be the role of Multi-sectoral task forces in this regard?

Negash Teklu: According to our practical experiences of engagement in implementation of integrated approaches with eco-regional level, protected areas management, biosphere management and so on, multi-

sectoral taskforces are found to be important mechanism of creating common agenda, shared information and values, consensus building and ownership. These taskforces are also serving as platforms for resolving conflicts.

Our Voice: Currently PHE-EC has developed its six years strategic plan and put into action. On the other hand, SDG at global level and GTP2 of the country at national level have been approved. How do you think the PHE-EC strategies will be linked to SDG and GTP2 and what different roles and contribution will it have?

Negash Teklu: PHEEC has initiated the development of its five years strategic plan before SDG and GTP2. In developing the strategy, we have employed rigorous processes of analysis on the bases of our experiences with the local community at grass root level and international contexts. Furthermore, we have also put an effort to inject ideas into SDG and GTP2 through our national and global engagements. This has made our strategy to finely fit into the SDG and GTP2. Our strategy will thus be important instrument to shape our interventions inline to better contribute towards the achievements of SDG and GTP2.

Our Voice: You have been engaging in different international conferences including COPs. What lessons can you share us related to their implication to addressing issues of our country?

Negash Teklu: From the participation in the different international conferences, I have learnt that our country has to focus on its internal potential, alongside to looking for benefiting schemes, for designing climate adaptation and mitigation plans. Given the potentials of the country for sustainable green development, Ethiopia can be a good model and showcase if it properly implements the strategy by engaging all relevant stakeholders including private and charities and societies with active participation of the community.

Our Voice: in this current period of exponential population growth, what has to be done for

ensuring a balanced sustainable development?

Negash Teklu: Ethiopia, which was third in population size in Africa following Nigeria and Egypt some 15 years back, is now second populous country with nearly 100 million people. As the same time, there is higher number of unemployed youths and orphans and vulnerable children combined with wider migration. The composition of the population from zero to 30 years is above 70%, which is young and childbearing age. Unless attention is given, there is potential to double the population size within few decades. Thus, so as to ensure a balanced sustainable development in the country, there is a need to have multi pronged approaches of developing skills among youths aggressively and addressing socio-economic condition of women within the society.

Our Voice: How do you value environmental conservation in the context of watershed campaign?

Negash Teklu: The use of watershed campaign in the country is very encouraging imitative for conservation of natural resources. It has helped to mobilize huge internal resources that can be valued into Billions in monetary terms and resulted into tangible achievements in rehabilitation of degraded and abandoned land. Despite some of promising achievements of the watershed campaigns, there are still limitations that need to be considered in the future plan. The major areas that need improvement are integrating the campaign into system, proper use of professional technical advice, and use of contextualized approaches. This system has to be well established in the way that leads to create responsible citizen who can independently enter into implementing all rounded environmental activities by its own initiatives at household backyard, farmland and catchments at large. The system has to be enhanced to implement contextual approaches through the 12 basin catchment areas and 32 agro-ecological sites so that our agriculture, energy sources and water resources can be sustained and erosion of our fertile soil reduced. ●

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 multisectoral 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 where you can find articles, manuals, policies, national data related to PHE, as well as links to websites of governmental organizations, research centers, partners/member organizations and much more....!!

Please pay a visit!!