



FSS Update



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An email newsletter to facilitate networking and information exchange among CSOs and researchers

In this issue:

- FSS holds Workshop on Resettlement, p. 2
- New research opportunities for FSS members, p. 2
- 7th public lecture of the FSS Intergenerational Knowledge Transfer Series, p.3
- FSS launches 2nd FM Radio programme, p.3
- Publishing opportunities offered by FSS, p.3
- IGAD-NGO/CSO Forum of Ethiopia, p.4
- New acquisitions & services of the FSS DC, p.4

Spotlight

A New Publication from FSS



Bethlehem Tekola. *Poverty and the Social Context of Sex Work in Addis Ababa: An Anthropological Perspective*. FSS Special Monograph Series, no. 2. Addis Ababa: FSS, 2005.

Why Launch of FSS Update?

The Forum for Social Studies is an independent think-tank that is committed to enhancing the democratic space for civil society participation in policy dialogue on development issues. FSS believes that the growth of a vibrant civil society is a necessary ingredient for the democratization process to take root in Ethiopia. Furthermore, FSS thinks that social interventions by civil society organizations can be more effective if they are informed by research, just as a policy making process informed by research and strengthened by considered CSO inputs can bear better fruits. FSS' role is to promote this link between the research community, civil society and the policy-making process. However, to enhance their catalytic role in this process, civil society organizations need to support each other, share information and experiences and generally strengthen collaboration in areas of common interest.

FSS has launched this elec-

tronic newsletter as a vehicle to facilitate networking, exchange of information and sharing of experience among members of the civil society and the research community, from which FSS also draws most of its membership.

FSS therefore welcomes contributions from both CSOs and researchers for publication in the *FSS Update*. Items published in the *Update* include information on workshops and conferences, research undertakings and findings, new initiatives in networking and collaboration, consultations and upcoming public events that highlight CSO social interventions, new programmes, success stories, training and research opportunities, and calls for consultancy services. Individual contributions should not exceed **150 words**.



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FSS Holds Workshop on Resettlement

On December 2005, the Forum for Social Studies (FSS) organized a workshop under the title “Understanding the Dynamics of Resettlement in Ethiopia”. The workshop was aimed at disseminating the initial results of research work carried out in 11 resettlement sites located in Oromia, Amhara, SNNP and Tigray Regional States. The research, which was sponsored by FSS with the support of Development Cooperation Ireland, was undertaken by graduate students and staff of Addis Ababa University in early 2005. The workshop was attended by about 200 participants drawn from the academic and research community, donors, CSOs, and government sector offices of the respective regional states.

The FDRE government resettled over half a million people in the four regional states from 2003 to 2005. The government has also recently announced its plan for further resettlement in Oromia and SNNP regions in early 2006.

The workshop presentations highlighted some of the positive and negative elements of the current resettlement programme.

Among the positive elements identified are:

- On the whole, the voluntary nature of the resettlement although there were also indirect pressures and unrealistic promises that played a part in the decision to resettle;
- Some degree of preparations in resettlement areas, especially roads, shelter, food and other provisions, water and sanitation, allocation of land and oxen, health and education services, although these were not always to the satisfaction of resettlers;
- The ability of some households to attain self reliance;
- The decision of a considerable portion of the settlers to stay in their new areas;
- Government’s willingness to periodically review its practices.

Some of the negative elements identified were:

- Questionable assumptions of widespread availability of under-utilised land,
- Limited consultation with and consent by host communities;
- Mismatch between the expectation of provisions and the realities faced by most settlers;

- Growing tensions and even clashes between settlers and hosts on the use of resources;
- Undermining of the indigenous natural resource management systems and widespread environmental degradation in most of the areas due to deforestation;
- High rates of return and limited interest of volunteers in some regions.

A summary of the research findings and recommendations is provided in the *FSS Policy Briefing* (No.4, January 2006). The research outputs will be published in a book which is currently under preparation. For further information, visit www.fssethiopia.org.et.

New Research Opportunities for FSS Members

FSS is in the process of developing two research projects under the following themes:

1. *“Woreda-Level Decentralization”,*
2. *“Governance, Academic Freedom, and the Teaching Profession in Ethiopia”.*

The two projects are expected to be launched as soon as funding has been secured. Both projects would involve field work, and each result in a major conference and a book of international standards.

Active members of FSS who would like to engage in research in either of the projects are hereby invited to submit an expression of interest, together with their latest CV, to the FSS Secretariat by 25th February 2006, at the latest. Applicants are advised to indicate the project they wish to be involved in, and their previous research experience and/or publication in a related area.

For further details, contact:

Research and Publications Department
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7th Public Lecture of the FSS Intergenerational Knowledge Transfer Series

The 7th public lecture in the FSS' "Intergenerational Knowledge Transfer" series was held on 20th January 2006. The guest speaker for this session was His Excellency Ato Ashenafi Shiferaw, Deputy Minister of Finance during the last years of Emperor Haile Sellassie. Ato Ashenafi had his BA degree from University College of Addis Ababa and his Masters degree from Cornell University.

The topic of Ato Ashenafi's lecture was economic planning. In his talk, Mr Ashenafi recounted the evolution of economic planning in post-Liberation Ethiopia, and highlighted the principal features of the 1st Five-Year Plan, the influential role of the Yugoslav experts in the development of the Plan, the development sectors covered in the Plan, the resource constraints encountered in implementing the Plan, the development of the 2nd and 3rd Five Year Plans, the differences and similarities between the Plans, and lessons to be learnt from those planning experiences. Ato Ashenafi underlined that skilled human resource, investment capital, and sustained efforts are key elements for the success of a long-term national plan.

The FSS public forum under the theme of Intergenerational Knowledge Transfer is held every two months, and is aimed at generating a dialogue between the older and the younger generations and enabling the latter generation to learn from the rich experiences of the older generation.

FSS has been publishing the records of the public lectures under a new dialogue series. The first two issues are already in circulation.

FSS Launches 2nd FM Radio Programme

FSS has launched a new FM radio programme called "Jember" for the people of Southern Ethiopia. The weekly Amharic programme, which went on air on 22nd January 2006, is broadcast via *Dehub Dimtse* (Voice of the South) FM 100.9 from 10:30 to 11:00 AM.

The aim of *Jember* is to enhance public awareness of development and policy issues and facilitate community empowerment, a prerequisite for improving their social and economic wellbeing. *Jember* provides an avenue for

dialogue between regional policy makers and the local people on issues specific to the region.

Jember is the second FM radio programme initiated by FSS. Since March 2001, FSS has been running another FM radio programme called *Dewel* to an audience of millions of people in and around Addis Ababa. *Dewel* provides interviews and discussions on development and community issues via FM Addis 97.1. The programme is broadcast twice weekly.

FSS believes that communities need to be fully informed of development issues and actively engage with policy/decision makers to ensure that their needs and interests are accommodated in the development process. The FSS radio programmes give local people the opportunity to articulate their views on local, regional and national issues, while providing government officials with an opportunity to respond to the needs and concerns of the local population.

Publishing Opportunities Offered by FSS

Since its establishment in 1998, FSS has been producing a variety of good quality publications on different development issues. While a lot of these publications are products of its research and public debate programmes, a number of them are also the outputs of independent research carried out by individuals outside FSS and selected for publication by FSS on the bases of the originality of their research and the social significance of their subject matter.

FSS would like to encourage authors of such good quality works to submit their manuscripts for publication in its book and monograph series.

FSS also invites authors to submit contributions for publication in the quarterly *FSS Bulletin*, which carries short articles on current development and policy issues, book reviews, communications and short notes on ongoing research.

FSS provides a modest honorarium for approved manuscripts that can be published as books, monographs or Bulletin articles and book reviews.

For more details, contact:

Research and Publications Department, email: fss@ethionet.et, phone: 011-1572990/91

IGAD-NGO/CSO Forum of Ethiopia

On 12 January 2006, FSS participated in a discussion organized by the IGAD-NGO/CSO Forum of Ethiopia. The meeting discussed the experiences of member CSOs/NGOs in the areas of Natural Resource Management, HIV/AIDS, Gender, Food Security, Peace and Conflict. The meeting was aimed at facilitating the exchange of experiences, establish appropriate working groups, develop modalities to work with other development actors, and consolidate the IGAD-NGO/CSO National Steering Committee, which consists of CSO and state representatives. Dr Daniel Kassahun, FSS' environment researcher, briefed the meeting on FSS' activities in the area of "Food Security and Natural Resources".

For further information about the IGAD Forum, visit (<http://www.igad.org/partners/ngocs.htm>).

New Acquisitions and Services of the FSS Documentation Center

Books

Arora, R.K. 2005. *Race and Ethnicity in Education*. London: Ashgate.

Banks, James G. 2004. *Unintended Consequences*. Maryland: University Press of America.

Booth, David. 2003. *Fighting Poverty in Africa: Are PRSPs Making a Difference?* London: Overseas Development Institute.

Brugge, Doug. 2005. *Community Research in Environmental Studies in Science, Advocacy and Ethics*. London: Ashgate.

Burke, Ronald J. 2004. *Women in Management Worldwide: Facts, Figures and Analysis*. London: Ashgate.

Chhatwal, G.R., D.K. Pandey, and K.K. Nanda, eds. 2003. *Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*. 4 Vols. New Delhi: Anmol Publications.

Clay, Jason W. 2004. *World Agriculture and the Environment: A Commodity-By-Commodity Guide to Impacts and Practice*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.

Cook, Sarah. 2001. *Unemployment, Poverty and Gender in Urban China: Perceptions and Experience of Laid off Workers in Three Chinese Cities*. London: Institute of Development Studies of Sussex.

Crook, Richard Charles. 2001. *Decentralization and Poverty-Alleviation in a Comparative Analysis or, Is West Bengal Unique?* London: Institute of Development Studies University of Sussex.

Eade, Deborah, ed. 2002. *Development and Cities*. Oxford: Oxfam.

Degnbol-Martinussen, John, and Poul Engberg-Pedersen. 2005. *AID Understanding International Development Cooperation*. London: Zed Books.

Eaton, Peter. 2005. *Land Tenure, Conservation and Development*. London: Routledge.

Engberg-Pedersen, Lars. 2002. *In the Name of the Poor: Contesting Political Space for Poverty Reduction*. London: Zed Books Ltd.

Fay, Chung. 2006. *Re-Living the Second Chimurenga: Memories from Zimbabwe's Liberation struggle*. Uppsala: The Nordic Africa Institute.

Fisher, Julie. 1998. *Development and Rights: Negotiating Justice in Changing Societies*. Oxford: Oxfam.

Francis, Elizabeth. 2000. *Making a Living: Changing Livelihoods in Rural Africa*. London: Routledge.

Luckham, Robin et al. 2001. *Going Global: Transforming Relief and Development NGOs*. Bloomfield: Kumarian Press.

Madeley, John. 1999. *Big Business, Poor Peoples: The Impact of Transnational Corporations on the World's Poor*. London: Zed Books.

Marisa, Lovemore. 2004. *The Impact of Commercial Forest Areas on Nearby Rural Communities in the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe*. *Social Science Research Report Series, no.32*. Addis Ababa: OSS-REA.

Moench, Marcus. 2003. *Rethinking the Approach to Ground Water*. Rome: FAO.

- Nagel, Stuart S. 2000. *National Development : Being More Effective and More Efficient*. London: Ashgate.
- Onsongo, Jane. 2004. *Factors Affecting Women's Participation in University Management in Kenya*. Gender Issues Research Report Series, no. 22. Addis Ababa: OSSREA.
- Rajae, Farhang. 2000. *Globalization on Trial: The Human Condition and the Information Civilization*. Bloomfield: Kumarian Press.
- Raje, Fiona. 2004. *Transport, Demand Management and Social: The Need for Ethnic Perspectives*. London: Ashgate.
- Slaymaker Tom. 2004. *Implementation of Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes under PRSPs: Synthesis of Research Findings from Sub-Saharan Africa*. London: Overseas Development & Water Aid.
- Valentine, Gill. 2004. *Public Space and the Culture of Childhood*. London: Ashgate.
- Vos, Bob. 2000. *Rising Inequality during Economic Liberalization and Crisis: Macro or Micro Causes in Ecuador's Case?* London: Institute of Development Studies University of Sussex.
- Wawire, Violet K. 2003. *Gender and the Social and Economic Impact of Drought on the Residents of Turkana District in Kenya*. Gender Issues Research Report Series-no.21. Addis Ababa: OSSREA.
- Wilson, Ernest J. 2004. *The Information Revolution and Development*. London: Mit Press.
- Wolf, Martin. 2005. *Why Globalization Works*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Materials on Ethiopia

- MoFED. 2005. *Ethiopia: Building on Progress: A Plan for Accelerating and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) (2005/6-2009/10) 2 vols. DRAFT*. Addis Ababa.
- Woldeab Teshome. 2003. *Irrigation Practices, State Intervention and Farmers' Life-Worlds in Drought-Prone Tigray, Ethiopia*. Ph.D. Dissertation. Wageningen University.
- Yigremew Adal. 2005. *Study on the Implication of Decentralization Policy in Ethiopia*. Addis Ababa: Oxfam GB Ethiopia Publications.

Journals

- Meeting the Millennium Development Goals in Urban Areas. *Environment and Urbanization*. Vol. 17, No.1 (April 2005). London: IIED
- International Journal of Environment and Pollution*. (Science, Engineering, Ecological Economics, Policy) Vol. 23, No. 4 (2005). Paris: UNESCO.
- The Journal of Environment and Development: A Review of International Policy*. Vol. 14, No. 3 (September 2005) and No. 4. (December 2005) London: SAGE Publications.

Free Access to Online Resources

The FSS Documentation Center has been providing free access to online journals. This Service is made possible through the program for the Enhancement of Research Information (PERI), which is an initiative of the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) aimed at enabling developing countries to utilize information sources.

Starting from January 13, 2006, The FSS Documentation Center has started providing free access to the following two additional online resources.

1. **Directory of Open Access Journals**. For more details about DOAJ, visit: <http://www.doaj.org>
2. **Annual Review**: Free access to some of the most highly ranked scientific review literature in the world. For more details about **Annual Review**, visit: www.annualreviews.org.

Help the FSS Doc. Center Provide You with Better Services

The **FSS Documentation Center** is dedicated to providing free reference services to members of the research community, graduate students, teachers, CSO staff, government experts, policy makers, and anyone else involved in development and advocacy activities.

You can help us improve our services by:

- Donating publications and reports on development and policy-related issues;
- Suggesting new titles to be acquired from local and international sources;
- Sending us your advice on how best to serve you.

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