

FSS Update




Issue No. 14
February 2007

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

- In this Issue:**
- EC Grants 25 million birr to CSOs
 - Conference of CODESRIA Journals Editors
 - Training on Social Network Analysis
 - Threats from Global Climate Change to Ethiopia
 - Meeting on Population, Health and Environment in Ethiopia
 - Partnership against Child Sexual Abuse
 - Conference & Fellowship Announcements
 - New Acquisitions of FSS Documentation Centre

Spotlight



Call for Expression of Interest

FSS is preparing to launch a critical digest of national policies. FSS members interested in undertaking brief reviews of sectoral policies of the FDRE are hereby invited to submit their resume and application before **31st March 2007**.

Forthcoming FSS Events

- IGTK Public Lecture by Amb. Teferra H/Sellassie on: “የኢ.ንስዱስትሪና የመንግሥት ሠራተኞች አስተዳደር ዕድገት” **23rd March**.
- FSS General Assembly, **29th March**.
- National Conference on Academic Freedom in Ethiopian Higher Education Institutions, **26th -27th April**. (Members’ pre-registration at FSS office, until **31st March only**)

EC Grants 25 million birr to CSOs



The European Commission Delegation to Ethiopia signed agreements with representatives of 11 civil society organisations whose project proposals were selected for funding under the EC programme of capacity building and governance service delivery. The agreement which was signed on March 2, 2007 at the Delegation’s head office in Addis Ababa provides financial support to civil society organisations to the tune of 25 million birr under a tripartite arrangement in which the Donor, Government and CSOs cooperate on a regular basis. Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Tim Clarke, Head of the EC Delegation to Ethiopia, said that the 11 projects selected for funding “will make a difference in fostering the capacity of Ethiopian civil society organisations to work, participate and dialogue”. The 11 projects launched today were selected out of 208 project proposals submitted in response to the EC’s call for applications. The signatory CSOs will be partnering with 53 other CSOs for implementing their projects.

One of the 11 winners of the grant is the Forum for Social Studies (FSS), which will receive funding totaling about €146,000. The FSS project, which has a lifecycle of about two years, comprises the following components:

- building the institutional capacity of FSS through staff development and procurement of office facilities and equipment;
 - engagement of policy through dissemination of FSS development research, especially through the production of policy briefs;
 - catalyzing policy dialogue through policy analysis in the form of compilation of a critical digest of national policies;
 - constituency building through organisation of public platforms for dialogue in seven regional cities.
- The EC Civil Society Fund is a €10 million program that runs over the next five years, up to 2010. It was initiated in support of non-state actors and is financed by the European Union through European Development Fund in cooperation with the Ethiopian Government.
- Conference of CODESRIA Journals Editors**
- The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) organised a two-day conference of the editors and managing editors of the Council’s journals, Bulletin and the *Africa Review of Books* in Dakar, Senegal. In his welcoming statement, Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi, CODESRIA Executive Secretary, underlined the that the conference was part of the drive to ensure that the quality of CODESRIA journals is up to the standard of an African brand name in the production of scientific knowledge. The Conference, which was held on 17-18 February 2007, discussed several aspects of technical and management aspects of journal production, marketing and promotion. A critical appraisal of CODESRIA journals was presented by three resource persons,

namely, Olajide Oloyede, Fabien Boulaga and Zenebework Tadesse. Francis Nyamnjoh, Head of Publications and Dissemination, talked about the Council's Publications Policy while Ms. Zenebework, former president of CODESRIA, made a presentation on the 'Editorial challenges of modern scholarly publishing'. FSS was represented at the Conference by Dr Taye Assefa, who took over from Ms. Zenebework as Managing Editor of the *Africa Review of Books*.

The *Africa Review of Books* (ARB) is a bi-annual and bilingual publication of CODESRIA hosted and managed by the Forum for Social Studies in Addis Ababa. The ARB French section is managed by the Centre de Recherche en Anthropologie Sociale et Culturelle (CRASC) based in Algeria, while the English section as well as overall editorial production is handled by the FSS. So far, four regular issues and one special issue in Portuguese have been produced, while the fifth issue will come out by the end of March.

The ARB is emerging as a singular continental publication of high quality reviews of Africa-related works. Among its essays are reviews authored by some of Africa's internationally acclaimed scholars such as Thandika Mkandawire and Mahmoud Mamdani. In his critical appraisal, Prof. Olajide Oloyede rated the quality of ARB's reviews as being of similar standard as that of the *London Review of Books* and the *Times Literary Supplement*.

Training on Social Network Analysis

A two-day training workshop aimed at understanding how Social Network Analysis (SNA) helps rural smallholder innovation processes was held from February 13 to 14, 2007 at Ararat Hotel in Addis Ababa. The training was provided to about 25 practitioners working in various agricultural research and academic institutions.

The workshop, titled 'Introduction to Social Network Analysis (SNA)' and organized by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI), brought together participants from the EEPRI, EIAR, EDRI and the Somali Region Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral Research Institute located in Addis Ababa, Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, SNNP and Gambella regions. Ms Senait Seyoum, Poverty Researcher, represented the FSS at the workshop.

The first presentation was made by Dr. D.J. Spielman of IFPRI on a joint IFPRI/EDRI study titled 'Enabling rural innovation: Findings from a study of Ethiopian smallholders'. This study applied SNA to see how social networks in selected rural sites affected smallholder innovation processes.

Following the presentation, the background and rationale for the workshop (including objectives and expected outputs), as well as the use of the Participant Action Plan Approach (PAPA) were described. The history, basic concepts and elements of SNA were also introduced.

The second day of the workshop involved more hands-on-

experience with SNA, supported with computers on which the SNA software had been downloaded and pairs of participants could practice. This exercise was meant to explain different types of network data, data collection methods, and types of network measures, as well as describe data entry methods, standard centrality measures and approaches of analyzing networks.

At the end of the two days, certificates of participation were handed out to participants by Dr. Kwadwo Asenso-Okyere, ISNAR Division Director, together with CDs containing all of the Power Point presentations and handouts distributed in the course of the two-day training.

Threats from Global Climate Change to Ethiopia

The threats to Ethiopia from the global climate change are such that policy makers and researchers in the country have to exert concerted efforts to address it without further delay, says a researcher.

Dr. Daniel Kassahun, FSS Environmental Researcher, made the observation during his public lecture on "**Global Climate Change and Its Implications in Ethiopia**" delivered at the Ethiopian Civil Service College (ECSC) on February 26, 2007. Dr. Daniel underlined the adverse impact of global warming, due to uncontrolled emission of green house gasses, is likely to be exacerbated by local rapid population growth, massive natural resource degradation, growing vulnerability of households to frequent crop failures and food insecurity, among others.

He urged researchers and policy makers to exert more effort to scale up local climate change adaptation measures while enhancing the sustainable management of natural resources in the country.

More than 300 students of the ECSC's Law School attended the lecture. During the general discussion, participants expressed the need to involve policy makers, legislators, civil society and the private sector in similar future discussions.

Meeting on Population, Health and Environment in Ethiopia

A one-day meeting organized by the Packard Foundation was held in Addis Ababa on 13th February 2007. The meeting, which focused on the integration of population, health and environment issues in Ethiopia, started with a welcome address by Ato Sahlu Haile, Ethiopia Country Representative of David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The keynote address was delivered by His Excellency Dr. Kebede Worku, State Minister of the Federal Ministry of Health.

The discussion highlighted that decades of rapid population growth in Ethiopia had contributed to over-farming and deforestation, which degraded the environment and undermined

development. Despite this, many scholars see the opportunities to integrate population, environment and health issues in the country's development programs. But a new study reveals that the integration has hardly been realized.

The study conducted by Desalegn Rahmato, Yeraswork Admassie and Yared Mekonen has revealed that the integration of the population, environment and health issues in all surveyed institutions is very limited.

Another presentation made by Mr Bjorn Ljungvist, Country Representative of UNICEF, highlighted the key issues of girls' education in Ethiopia in light of health, equality and protection vis-à-vis the Millennium Development Goals. The discussions on 'Empowering young girls: Health, education, equality, and protection', stressed that increasing girls' education and women's opportunities can improve women's health and stabilize population growth. The poor state of women's health is also a barrier to development.

The meeting, which was attended by representatives of various NGOs, CSOs, and GOs, also discussed a study titled "Conceptual framework and global experiences on the integration of population, health and environment" presented by Roger Mark, Geoff Dabelko, and a representative from Kenya. In addition, Ababu Anage from the Federal EPA, made a presentation on "Environmental challenges and national development in Ethiopia".

Partnership Against Child Sexual Abuse

Five child-centered organizations established a joint pilot project to promote the awareness and participation of the public in the prevention of child sexual abuse in Addis Ababa.

Children Aid-Ethiopia (CHAD-ET), Forum on Street Children Ethiopia (FSCE), African Network for the Prevention of and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), Organization for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Female Street Children (OPRIFS) and Child Abuse and Neglect Unit (CANU) established the project titled "Multi-sectoral joint project for the prevention and rehabilitation from sexual abuse of children". The project is also aimed at delivering an integrated service for victims.

According to a communiqué by CHAD-ET, the project, which is implemented in Addis Ketema Sub-city of Addis Ababa, has three major objectives: Promoting the participation of the community in the prevention of the problem; Rescuing protecting, rehabilitating, and reintegrating trafficked or sexually exploited children from further abuse and assisting them to reintegrate with the society; and Providing legal aid for children suffering from sexual abuse, case follow-up for proper filing of the prosecution and subsequent legal procedures.

The project has been making efforts to provide a holistic service for children abused and/or trafficked to Addis Ababa from different administrative regions of the country, the statement reads. The way the network operates is once a child is

reported to one of the project offices and/or drop-in-center of CHAD-ET or FSCE, the community worker assigned there will first take the child to CANU for physical examination and for obtaining a medical certificate. The same community worker then takes the child to the police station, followed by the provision of counseling service by ANPPCAN, and provision of temporary shelter by OPRIFS. The legal representation in courts will be handled by ANPPCAN.

Violence against women and children is nowadays becoming a common social problem in the country. Although the majority of cases are believed not to be reported by the victims or family members of abused children, the number of reported cases is showing an increase through time.

Conference and Fellowship Announcements

International Conference on Ethiopian Development Studies

The Western Michigan University (WMU) Center for African Development Policy Research (CADPR) announces that the 4th International Conference on Ethiopian Development Studies (ICEDS) will be held from August 3 to 5, 2007 under the theme: "The Challenges of Peace and Development in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa."

The Symposium is intended for academics, policy makers, investors and donors, and others interested in contemporary issues in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa.

For 'Participation Form' and related information kindly visit the following site <http://homepages.wmich.edu/asefa/> or contact Prof. Sisay Asefa at: sisay.assefa@wmich.edu.

The Open Society Institute (OSI) African Policy Scholar Award

It provides emerging leaders from African civil society the opportunity to spend four-to-six months in Washington, D.C., and allow their voices to be heard in the United States. Scholars-in-residence will have access to the policymaking and academic communities, as well as to the vast research resources in the Washington area.

Programs for 2007 might have passed but visit the website (www.wilsoncenter.org) for more scholarship opportunities in 2008.

Third Millennium International – International Human Rights Fellowship

The goal of this Third Millennium Foundation (TMF) initiative is to develop a cadre of young activists from different countries whose understanding of, commitment to and effectiveness in human rights work have been enhanced through a year long, in-depth exposure to and reflection on a broad

range of perspectives, situations and experiences related to human rights issues. Through these practical training fellowships, the Program aims to provide the fellows with the skills necessary to start or advance a career in the field of human rights. Visit: <http://www.seedsoftolerance.org/initiatives.html>.

Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists in Sub-Saharan Africa or Least Developed Countries (LDC) at Centres of Excellence in the South

The general purpose of the scheme is to contribute to the emergence of a new generation of women leaders in science and technology, and to promote their effective participation in the scientific and technological development of their countries. Applications should reach the TWOWS secretariat by 30 May of each year. Visit: <http://www.twows.org/postgrad>.

New Acquisitions of FSS Documentation Centre

Publication on Ethiopia

Heise, Karl Fritz. 2005. *Civil Society in Ethiopia: Reflections on Realities and Perspectives of Hope*. Gottingen: Africanisch-Asiatischen Studienforderung.

Other Publications

Arat, Zehra F. 2003. *Democracy and Human Rights in Developing Countries*. Lincoln: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Burrell, Alison. 2000. *Agricultural Policy and Enlargement of the European Union*. Wageningen: Wageningen Pers.

Commonwealth Secretariat. 2005. *Gender Equality: A Decade of Commonwealth Action*. London: Commonwealth Secretariat.

Iliffe, John. 2006. *The African Aids Epidemic: A History*. Athens: Ohio University Press.

Nieuwoudt, Lieb and Jan Grienevald, eds. 2003. *The Challenge of Change: Agriculture, Land and the South African Economy*. Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal Press.

Southall, Roger and Henning Melber, eds. *Legacies of Power: Leadership Change and Former Presidents in Africa Politics*. Uppsala: The Nordic Africa Institute.

WHO. 2006. *The Health of the People: The African Regional Health Report*. Brazzaville: WHO.

_____. 2006. *Tough Choices: Investing in Health for Development Experiences from National Follow-up to the Commission on Macroeconomic and Health*. Geneva: WHO.

Forthcoming Publication

Africa Review of Books

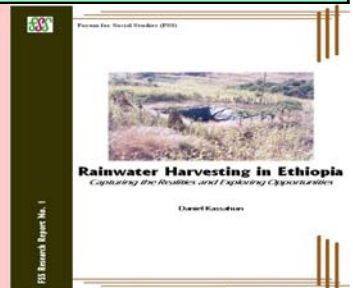
Vol. 3, no. 1 (March 2007)

Contents:

- *The 2005 Ethiopian Elections: Millstone or Milestone?* (Berhanu Abegaz)
- *African and Its constitutional Development* (Gordon R. Woodman)
- *De-silencing the African Past* (Tekalign Wolde-Mariam)
- *Exposing the "Unthinkable"* (Sanya Osha)
- *African Football* (Chris Bolsmann)
- *Le supplice de Tantale en Afrique centrale* (Ernest-Marie Mbonda)
- *Paris noir, Paris arabe: le Paris africain* (Hassan Re-maoun)
- *Histoire Politique du Congo* (Noë Obotela Rashidi)
- *Les sciences sociales pour construire notre future en Afrique* (Aïcha Benamar)
- *La politique africaine de l'algérie* (Ammara Bekkouche)

New FSS Publications

Daniel Kassahun. *Rainwater harvesting in Ethiopia: Capturing the realities and exploring opportunities*. FSS Research Report No. 1. (Addis Ababa, 2007).



ተካ ሴገኛ፣ አንጋፋው የኢንቨስትመንትና የግለ-ክፍለ ኢኮኖሚ ተዋናይ፡፡ ከድህነት ወደ ልማት፡- ፅውቀትን ለትውልድ ማስተላለፍኛ 2ኛው ዙር ተከታታይ ዕትም ቁ. 1 (አዲስ አበባ፣ 1999 ዓ/ም)

Bahru Zewde and Siegfried Pausewang, eds. *Ethiopia: the Challenge of Democracy from Below*. Nordiska Afrikainstitutet (Uppsala) and Forum for Social Studies (Addis Ababa). Reprinted in 2007.

