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FSS wishes you
a Happy New
Ethiopian Millennium
!!!



5th National Conference on PHEIs in Ethiopia

The 5th National Conference on Private Higher Education Institutions (PHEIs) in Ethiopia, organized by St. Mary's University College, was held in Addis Ababa on August 25, 2007 at the UN Conference Center. The theme of the conference was 'Private Higher Education in Ethiopia at the turn of the Ethiopian Millennium'.

Attended by participants from the government sector, private and public higher institutions as well as NGOs/CSOs, including FSS, the conference aimed to generate a debate on issues that affect PHEIs in general, and quality of education in higher learning institutions in particular. The conference discussed the role, institutional responsibilities and professional development of teaching staff of PHEIs. It also deliberated on Ethiopian government policy of higher education, public-private partnership in the higher education system, relationship between PHEIs and the banking industry, and cross-border provisions of higher education and its implication for PHEIs. Participants debated on quality assurance in Ethiopia's higher education system, especially on self-evaluation and external quality audit in higher learning institutions, student engagement in quality improvement, and the implication of quality assurance practices in industry and business for the education sector.

There was a presentation of case studies on Tigray regional state, especially on the practicum as professional development in PHEIs; relationship between TVET commission and the private colleges; and public perceptions about the education and training provided by private colleges. Some of the academic activities of St. Mary's University College, especially the

implementation of continuous assessment practices, major causes of students' attrition and developing instructional materials based on learner-centered approach, were also presented as case studies. In addition, the conference discussed international experiences, especially accreditation practices in the Netherlands and quality assurance in the United Kingdom with particular reference to Scotland's enhancement-led institutional review and the Open University.

National Symposium on Engaging the Diaspora for Ethiopia's Development

A national symposium on engaging the Ethiopian Diaspora for the country's development kicked off on 30th August 2007, in Addis Ababa. The symposium was organized by Hibret Lelimat Ma'ekel (HLM), in partnership with the Addis Ababa Millennium Secretariat. HLM, which is a non-governmental organization established in 2006 in Addis Ababa, focuses on strengthening Ethiopia's human resources and institutional capacity by linking Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia in the Diaspora with local institutions. The aim of the symposium was to initiate a broad network of Ethiopian professionals in the Diaspora and to establish a common understanding of the ways the Diaspora can be effectively engaged for Ethiopia's development. Participants of the symposium were members of the Diaspora, representatives from government organizations, embassies as well as local and foreign NGOs. FSS was represented at the symposium by Paulos Chanie, Governance Researcher.

A representative of the Ministry of Capacity Building gave a speech on the

importance of mobilizing and engaging the Diaspora in the country's development effort as well as the measures the Ethiopian government is under taking to utilize the intellectual and financial resources of the Diaspora. Representatives of the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and Addis Ababa University briefed the audience on the importance of the Diaspora's engagement in institutional capacity building and on the efforts made by their respective organizations to mobilize the Diaspora. The three speakers, however, lamented that the efforts made by their institutions to mobilize the Diaspora were sporadic and individually initiated. The Indian Ambassador and a representative of the Tanzanian Embassy in Ethiopia also briefed the participants on the institutional arrangements and the incentive mechanisms employed to mobilize and utilize the financial, intellectual and political resources of the Diaspora in their respective countries. A representative from the International Office of Migration (IOM) highlighted the experience of IOM in addressing the role of African Diaspora. He outlined their ongoing program, 'Migration for Development in Ethiopia (MIDETH)', which focuses on skills gap identification, establishing a Diaspora database and networking. Representatives of societies and associations in the Diaspora briefed the audience on the challenges faced and opportunities realized while working on capacity building and other integrated development activities in some parts of Ethiopia. These included the Ethiopian Knowledge and Technology Transfer Society (EKTTS), the Association of Ethiopian Health and Health-related Professionals in Sweden (AAHPS), the Ethiopian Diaspora Volunteer Program (Diaspora engagement in HIV/AIDS: Twinning Centre Volunteer), and the AHEAD Canada.

The participants appreciated HLM's initiative to engage the Diaspora in national development efforts; the strategic plan developed by the same to realize its missions and objectives; and the HLM website developed to collect and disseminate information on the Diaspora as well as create linkages among members of the Diaspora as well as with local institutions. Participants also reiterated that HLM should give emphasis to different approaches of mobilizing and utilizing the Diaspora, especially virtual learning, telemedicine, database development, networking ,etc.

4th National Conference on Pastoralism and Pastoral Development in Ethiopia

The Fourth National Conference on Pastoralism and Pastoral Development in Ethiopia was launched under the theme 'MDGs and Pastoral Development: Opportunities and Challenges in the New Ethiopian Millennium' at the UNECA Conference Center in Addis Ababa, on 29th and 30th August 2007. The objectives of the conference were to explore the status of the Ethiopian Pastoralists vis-à-vis the MDGs, and to contribute towards achieving MDGs in the Pastoral context. The participants of the conference were representatives of the pastoral community, government agencies, CSOs/NGOs, donors, and members of the academic community and researchers in the field.

Seven papers were presented in the conference on topics such as trends in pastoral development, environment, poverty and hunger, education, health and gender issues in pastoral areas. Participants were informed about the changes unfolding in some pastoralist areas, which include the shift from communal to private landholding system, urbanization (growing number of villages and rural towns), expansion of livestock marketing and petty trade, high demand for education, less tension and managed conflicts, improvement in infrastructure (roads, telecommunication, water supply and electricity). Focusing on MDGs, the conference discussed the status and achievement of primary education, basic health services (child mortality, maternal health, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases) and gender equality in pastoral areas. In the discussion it was indicated that there are encouraging moves in terms of providing enabling policy directions, constructing health facilities and schools, training of health professionals and teachers, campaigning and providing outreach programs on immunization and decentralizing health and education service delivery system. Paper presenters also provided participants with education and health statistics. For instance, it was indicated that primary school enrollment in 2005/6 at the national level was 91.3% while the figures for Afar and Somali were 21.9% and 30.9%, respectively. The national figure for under-5 children fully vaccinated was 54%, but the figure for Afar and Somali was 25.1% and 2.5%, respectively. Moreover, the proportion of deliveries attended by skilled professionals at the national level was 15.1% while the figure in Somali and Afar were 2.1% and 8.9%, respectively. The discussion led participants to agree that there are enormous challenges in reaching the health and education MDG targets in pastoralist areas.

participants were informed that, based on poverty head-count indices by regions from 1995/6 to 1996/2000, the poverty situation in the pastoralist area, especially in Afar and Somali, showed an increase from 0.33 to 0.56 and from 0.31 to 0.38, respectively, while poverty situation at the country level reportedly decreased from 0.46 to 0.44. Compared to the national average, per capita calories intake levels of pastoralist areas is said to be very low. During the presentation and the discussion, the factors responsible for such dire situation or the challenges for achieving the MDG on poverty and hunger were identified to be draught, inadequate livestock marketing infrastructure and veterinary services, shortage of animal feed, shortage of water supply for people and livestock, natural resource degradation, poor infrastructure and service facilities. Possible interventions indicated were vocational training, mobile education and health service delivery system, expansion of fishery development, road and water points, agropastoralism, micro finance, tourism, and improving good governance.

Moreover, factors contributing to climatic change and possible remedial steps in pastoral areas were discussed. Accordingly, some of the causes for climate changes were identified to be green house gas (carbon dioxide, methane) emissions, population pressure; expansion of sedentary agriculture, wild life parks and sanctuaries in the range lands; rapid expansion of unwanted plant species; conflict over rangeland resources, etc. Policy interventions to mitigate the climate change were suggested included :population stabilization and sustainable development, saving energy sources, reducing green house

gas emissions, improvement in land use and forest management, and collaborative work by government, CSOs/NGOs, donors and the media.

ELIAPA Approves Statute

The third national meeting of Ethiopian Library, Information and Archives Professional Association (ELIAPA) was held on 30 August 2007. This meeting was organized in collaboration with the British Council, National Archives and Library Agency of Ethiopia, MKTY and UNDP.

Welcoming speech was made by Barbara Wickham, Director of the British Council and an opening speech was delivered by Ato Atkilt Assefa, Director General of National Archives and Library Agency.

The aim of the meeting was to approve the Association's draft statute and five-year Strategic Plan .

During the meeting, the Executive Committee (EC) made a report on what have been achieved in one year's time.

ELIAPA also elected two External Auditors who examine the financial transactions and accounts of the Association.

In his closing remark, Ato Hailemeleket Taye, ELIAPA's President, called on members of ELIAPA to support the association and to use this platform for the development of the profession and professionals of the country.

More than 500 ELIAPA members, including FSS's Documentalist, Ms. Fanaye Fekade, attended the meeting.

New Acquisitions of FSS Documentation Center

Beckman, Bjorn. 2006. *Intellectuals and African Development: Pretension and Resistance in African Politics*. London: Zed Books Ltd.

Bouguerra, Mohaned Larbi. 2006. *Water Under Threat*. London: Zed Books Ltd.

Bray, Mark. 1996. *Decentralization of Education: Community Financing*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank.

Brinkerhoff, Derick W. 2002. *Managing Policy Reform : Concepts and Tools for Decision-makers in Developing and Transitional Countries*. Bloomfield: Kumeran Press.

Chant, Sylvia. 2000. *Mainstreaming Men into Gender Development: Debates, Reflections and Experiences*. London : Oxfam.

Cimadamore, Alberto D. 2005. *Indigenous Peoples and*

Poverty: An International Perspective. London: Zed Books Ltd.

CIVICUS Association. 2007. *CIVICUS Global Survey of the State of Civil Society Country Profiles: Civil Society Index Project 2003-2006*. 2003-2006 Phase. Bloomfield: Kumarian Press.

Cozzi, Guido. 2007. *Intellectual Property, Competition and Growth*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Davies, Martin Brett. 2007. *Doing A Successful Research Project: Using Qualitative Methods*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Escobar, Arturo. 2005. *Women and the Politics of Place*. Bloomfield: Kumeran Press.

Fantu Cheru. 2005. *The Millennium Development Goals: Raising the Resources to Tackle World Poverty*. London: Zed Books LTD.

Levine, Donald Nathan. 2007. *Greater Ethiopia: The Evolution of A Multiethnic Society*. University of Chicago Press.

Mathiason, John. 2007. *Invisible Governance : International Secretariats in Global Politics*. Bloomfield: Kumarian Press.

Mehrotra, Santosh. 2007. *Eliminating Human Poverty: Macro-Economic Policies for the Millennium Goals*. London: Zed Books.

Myers, Garth Andrew. 2006. *Cities in Contemporary Africa*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Myers, Steve. 2006. *Working with Violence: Risk Safety and Responsibility*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Norton, George W. 2006. *Economics of Agricultural Development: World Food System and Resource use*. London: Routledge.

Sako, Soumana. 2002. *Better Governance and Policy: Capacity Building for Democratic Renewal in Africa*. Bloomfield: Kumeran Press.

Saul, John S. 2006. *Development after Globalization: Theory and Practice for the Embattled South in a New Imperial Age*. London: Zed Books.

Sayer, John. 2006. *Development and the Private Sector: Consuming Interests*. Bloomfield: Kumeran Press.

Scott, William. 2003. *Sustainable Development and Learning: Framing the Issues*. London: Routledge.

Szapiro, Tomasz. 2007. *The Socio-Economic Transformation: Getting Closer to What?* New York : Palgrave Macmillan.

FSS Vacancy

FSS invites qualified professionals to apply for the following post at its head office in Addis Ababa. Women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Position: [Poverty Researcher](#)

Job Requirements:

1. **Qualification:** At least a Master's degree in the Social Sciences from a recognized university;
2. **Work Experience:** After earning a degree, a minimum of 3 years of experience in development/poverty research and policy advocacy; and in developing fundable project proposals;
3. **Publications:** A good track record in research output and publications as evidenced by published articles, papers, monographs, and/or books, in English;
4. **Computer Skills:** Demonstrable knowledge of application of spreadsheet and word processing packages;
5. **Language Proficiency:** Fluency in written and spoken English;

Salary: Attractive, with benefits

Employment: 2 years contract, renewable based on performance;

Application Requirements:

1. A hand written application letter,
2. The latest Curriculum Vitae (CV),
3. Copies of relevant educational credentials, plus
4. Two reference letters, preferably from immediate supervisors.

These documents (non-returnable) should be directly submitted in a sealed envelop to the FSS head office, or mailed by post. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted, and they will need to provide samples of their publications.

Deadline: **15th September 2007**



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 programs, 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

Quotes for Advocacy

"Let him who expects one class of society to prosper in the highest degree, while the other is in distress, try whether one side of the face can smile while the other is pinched."

Fuller, Thomas English clergyman and author
(1608–1661)



"Respectable men and women content with good and easy living are missing some of the most important things in life. Unless you give yourself to some great cause you haven't even begun to live."

Merrill, William P. Entrepreneur (1867-1954)



"If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to sleep with a mosquito." Roddick, Anita