



የገረመንና ኢትዮጵያ ስጋዊ ግንኙነት

Facing the environmental degradation in Ethiopia

by TASEW DEJENE

Environmental degradation has long been a major problem in Ethiopia but it was not seriously addressed until the late half of 1970's. Considerable loss of countries forest cover, top soil, water resources and biodiversity has been taking place for long time due to a variety of factors and policy problems. Further more the ill advised state programs, having to do with agricultural and rural development have contributed to the acceleration of the degradation problems. For long time the environmental advisors and policy advocates have little knowledge of local land use and farming practices and who thus blame the land user for the recurrent environmental crises that brought suffering to a large portion of the rural population.

The debate on environment change in Ethiopia has been a serious matter since 1980's when the previous government the dergue embarked on a massive program of conservation, based mainly on food for work program, which was mainly supported by western donors. Even though the idea was holy, it was hard to differentiate whether it was aimed at for the betterment of environment or for filling the gap of food shortage. Hence Ethiopia has been confronted with the dilemma of increasing food production for the rapidly increasing population on the one hand and protecting natural environment on the other. Maintaining the balance between this two has been a major challenge for the country which at present is also adopting the western model as one way to increase its food production while protecting environment.

Aspects of environmental degradation

In recent decades, particularly after 1950's, an increasing trend of **degradation** of local natural resources such as **farmland, soil water, forest and pasture** has been witnessed in Ethiopia. Soil erosion, deforestation, urban pollution are becoming serious problems. Soil erosion in 1990 has cost the nation an annual loss of grain production estimated at about 40,000 tones. The permanent loss in values of the country's soil resources caused by erosion in 1990 was estimated to birr 59 million (environmental policy, 1997). In the Ethiopian Highlands alone, as roughly estimated, nearly one billion tones of soil is lost each year (Tegene, 1994 as cited by Teferi, 1999). This is primary due to human activities. Deforestation has also been a major issue. For instance, due to the lack of viable, reliable, and affordable alternative source of household fuel, wood has risen from 89% in 1991 to 94.8% in 1999 of the total national energy consumption (Teferi, 1999).

As I witnessed in some parts of Ethiopia, the current situation in which investors provided with different kind of incentives to invest in regions, specially in the peripheral ones, has turned in to a situation where regional states and community are losing control over the uncontrolled and irresponsible exploitation of forest resources in the name of agricultural investment. This is not to claim or to blame this phenomenon as the policy of regional states, but to imply that there are a number of unintended outcomes of the investment policy which are seriously affecting the environ-

ment. (See also "Informationsblätter" 06/01 S. 8f). There are cases of modern slash and burn farming practices whereby investors clear area on account of unsuitability of the soil for agriculture and abandon the cleared area. The seriousness of the problem is obvious. Deforestation and poor farming methods which cause soil erosion are (by and) large behavioural issues. They require the understanding and sensitivity and sensibility of policy makers and the full understanding and concern of farmers.

Losses of bio diversity can also be a factor as threat to environmental degradation. The existing diversity is presently subject to serious genetic erosion and irreversible losses. The threat, which interacts several factors, is progressing in an alarming rate. The most crucial one include displacement of indigenous land races by new, genetically reform and uniform crops cultivars, changes and in agriculture and land use, destruction of habitat and echo-systems, and drought. Environmental degradation which entails food insecurity in rural communities in Ethiopia can, therefore, be traced in part to the breakdown of the bio diversity based production system. Biodi-

Inhaltsverzeichnis

Facing the environmental degradation in Ethiopia	1
Umwelt und Ökologie in Äthiopien	2
"Environment" in the Constitution of ...	7
Patchwork	15
Nachrichten aus Äthiopien	18
„Kinder in der Einen Welt- Das Beispiel Äthiopien“	27
Buchempfehlungen	28
Termine	28

versity based production systems,

which compared to conventional monocultures, have many obvious advantages: people health is not affected by the use of pesticides; livestock benefit from the availability of more abundant crop residues associated with traditional crop varieties; soils are not depleted through nutrient mining. Moreover conventional measures of productivity that emphasize the yield of a single commercial crop may be misleading. They ignore the greater productivity per unit area obtained in mixed cropping system involving many plant varieties (including WEEDS used as food) together with animals and trees (Altieri, 1987)

Government policy regarding rural development programme did not either contribute to environmental conservation *but* even accelerate the rate of degradation. Much has been said and written on the extent of degradation of the natural resources in Ethiopia. Study reports by multilateral donors, such as the World Bank and FAO, and government sponsored studies (such as Conservation strategy of Ethiopia) have provided ample evidence on this score.

However, a number of **questions** can be raised:

- Have macro level indicators of sustainability ever been developed to create awareness among policy makers and signal on the severity of resource degradation?
- Have the measures taken so far helped mitigate the environmental degradation problems in Ethiopia?
- Has there been a conducive environment for the implementation of the policy?
- Is the legacy of duplication of institutional accountability and responsibility for the management and administration of natural resource resolved?
- For instance, to what extent are the responsibilities or accountabilities of federal institutions, such as Ministry of Agriculture, and regional bureaus delineated?
- Extraction of resource rent being one avenue for optimal resource use and management, and hence sustainable development: has the ministry of finance ever paid

enough attention to the exploitation of the natural resource base and the damaging effects of environmental degradation.

Questions of this kind call for a framework for assessing the working of the hitherto adopted policies and programmes to alleviate the problem of environmental degradation. This has become a formidable challenge in the government's effort towards alleviating poverty which is believed to have compounded the environmental degradation problem in Ethiopia today.

Conclusion and recommendation

It has also been questionable what to do to reverse the current environmental degradation problem in Ethiopia. Environmental issues could be incorporated in the development planning through several ways: National Development policy and planning, project development and monitoring, environmental impact assessment and National accounting. With regard to incorporating environmental issue in to the national development policy and planning, there appear to be an opportunity to address the link between economic, social and environmental components in the development process

The following are some of the major factors to be considered in addressing Environmental problems in Ethiopia:

- A need to identify key problems (root cause) of degradation and through base line survey and find a solution.
- Analyse indigenous conservation strategy and adopt successful ones with modern conservation methods.
- Use existing local organisations like "Idir" or "Iqub" to increase environmental degradation awareness.
- Create offshore employment opportunity, work with community and awareness building regarding the communal nature of environment.
- Create a conducive climate for constructive collaboration among communities, government and non government

tal organization to develop successful approaches.

References:

Altieri, M.
1987 *Agroecology; the scientific basis of sustainable agriculture.* Westview: Boulder

1990 *Environmental policy.* Environmental Protection Authority in collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation. Addis Ababa

Taferi, R
1999 *Environmental problems and policies in Ethiopia, a survey in IDR 25th anniversary proceeding.* Tegene GebreEgzabiher et al. (ed.). Addis Ababa



Durchblicken

Impressum:

Herausgeber:
Deutsch-Äthiopischer Verein e.V.
c/o Rudolf Schoppmann, Am Bildstock 31
48317 Drensteinfurt
Redaktion: Helga Tewes, Lutz Crackau
Redaktionsanschrift:
H. Tewes, Werraweg 17, 34117 Kassel
E-mail: htewes@gmx.de
Homepage: www.deutsch-aethiopischer-verein.de

Die „Blätter“ des Deutsch-Äthiopischen Vereins erscheinen ca. 3 bis 4 mal im Jahr.
Die Unkostenbeteiligung pro Ausgabe beträgt 10,- DM incl. Porto., das Abonnement 30,-DM.
Mitglieder bekommen die „Blätter“ kostenlos.
Namentlich gekennzeichnete Artikel geben nicht unbedingt die Meinung des Vereins wieder.
Spendenkonto: Postgiroamt Hamburg
BLZ 200 100 20, Kto. 771680-201

UMWELT UND ÖKOLOGIE IN ÄTHIOPIEN

G. Getahun, Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Medizin, Ingenieur- und Naturwissenschaften in Äthiopien e.V., Mainz

Die Umwelt- und Ökologiezerstörungen in Äthiopien haben natürliche und nicht natürliche (menschliche) Ursachen. Die Gründe dafür sind:

- 1) **Abholzung der Wälder:**
 - a) Energieerzeugung (Energiequelle): Brennholz, um Holzkohle als Energieträger zu erhalten für

den Eigenbedarf und zum Verkaufen (Wirtschaftsaspekt).

b) Landwirtschaft: Brandrodung, um neue landwirtschaftliche Nutzflächen zu gewinnen.

c) Siedlungsprojekte: Bau von Häusern, Straßen, Brücken usw.
d) Holz als Exportware und für einheimische Holzverarbeitungsbetriebe.

2) **Bodenerosion:** Überbeanspruchung der Böden, unangepasste Nutzung und Abtragung der Bodenkrume bei starkem Regen.

3) **Wiederkehrende Dürreperioden:** Durch Klimaveränderung verursachte Dürren und Trockenheit.

4) **Weideflächentrockenheit:** Durch Überweidung mit Nutztieren (Viehwirtschaft) ist die Fläche des Graslandes sehr stark strapaziert und ausgetrocknet. Dadurch wird der Boden angegriffen, die Humusschicht wird verkleinert und die Landschaft versteppt.

5) **Zuwanderung in die großen Städte:** Die Zuwanderung verursacht zum Teil die Entstehung der Slumgebiete am Rande der Großstädte. In diesem Zusammenhang sind das Müllproblem und die Kanalisationsprobleme zu erwähnen. Die Ursachen der Landflucht sind die besseren Lohn- und Arbeitsmöglichkeiten in den Städten.

6) **Bevölkerungswachstum:** Ein Teil der Umweltverschlechterung in Äthiopien ist durch das Bevölkerungswachstum bedingt.

7) **Luft- und Gewässerverschmutzung:** Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen des Akaki Flusses zeigen, dass der Fluss erheblich durch Schwermetalle, toxische Stoffe und von hunderten von organisch-chemischen Stoffen belastet ist. Der Fluss enthält verschiedene Industrieabwässer, die von den umliegenden Fabriken abgelassen werden, z.B. der Akaki-Textil-Fabrik u.a. Das Abwasser gelangt unfiltriert und unbehandelt direkt in den Fluß (Stand der Information: Januar 1999). Trotz Verschmutzung wird das Wasser des Flusses zum Waschen und zum Trinken und zur Bewässerung verwendet. Außerdem sind die Luft und die Gewässer in der Umgebung von Addis Ababa noch durch andere Fabriken (Zement, Seifen sowie Waschmittel) stark belastet.

8) **Agrochemikalien und Pestizide:** Nach Angaben der Nachrichtenagentur Reuter (Mai 2000) schätzt die UN, dass ca. 2800 Tonnen Pestizide an verschiede-

nen Stellen (949 Stellen) in Äthiopien deponiert sind. Diese Chemikalien gefährden die Umwelt und die Gesundheit von Tausenden von Menschen in Äthiopien. Die Kontaminationsgefahr ist sehr groß, weil das Verfallsdatum abgelaufen ist und die Behälter möglicherweise korrodiert sind. Dadurch kann der Inhalt ins Grundwasser gelangen. Die "Global Crop Protection Federation (GCPF)", der Verein zur Überwachung globalen Saatguts / Getreides, in der 90 Prozent der großen chemischen Industrien Mitglied sind, teilte der äthiopischen Regierung mit, dass sie bereit sei, die Markierung und das Verfallsdatum der Chemikalien festzustellen. Die UN- Behörde für Ernährung- und Landwirtschaft (FAO) erklärte ihre Bereitschaft, gemeinsam mit der GCPF die Rücknahme und den Transport der Chemikalien aus Äthiopien zu ermöglichen. Die dazu notwendigen finanziellen Mittel wird die FAO organisieren. Nach Mitteilung der FAO hat die GCPF die notwendigen Daten erhalten, um die Pestizid-Hersteller zu erkennen und zu identifizieren.

POSITIVE ASPEKTE

Seit Anfang der 90er Jahre bemüht sich Äthiopien um die Bekämpfung der Ursachen der Umweltzerstörung. Einiges ist erreicht worden, um die Lage zu verbessern. Diese positiven Aspekte sind:

1) Einrichtung einer äthiopischen Umweltbehörde als eine selbstständige Abteilung im Wirtschaftsministerium in Addis Ababa. Die Umweltbehörde der Zentralregierung in Addis Ababa existiert seit etwa 10 Jahren und hat in verschiedenen Regionen Umweltämter gegründet und funktionsfähig gemacht. Die Umweltämter haben die Aufgabe, die Umweltschutzarbeit gemeinsam mit den Bauern und der ländlichen Bevölkerung zu koordinieren und zu organisieren.

2) Die Umweltbehörde in Addis Ababa und die Umweltämter in den verschiedenen Regionen haben durch Informationen, Seminare und Symposien die Bevölkerung über Umweltschutz aufgeklärt.

3) Die Anzahl der Nichtregierungsorganisationen (NGOs)- ausländische und äthiopische - auf dem Gebiet der Umweltschutzarbeit ist gestiegen.

4) Energiegewinnung & Energieeffizienz-Steigerungsprogramme, sowie die Entwicklung und der Einsatz von Biogas-Technologien wurden eingeführt. In den ländlichen Regionen wurde der Einsatz von Biogas-Öfen gefördert und die Technik verbessert.

5) Die Entwicklung und Erprobung von kleinen Turbinen für Wasserkraftwerke in manchen Gegenden ist gestiegen.

6) In Regionen ohne elektrischen Strom wurde die Nutzung und die Anwendung von Wassermühlen erweitert.

7) Design und Modellentwicklung sowie Anwendung von hydraulischen Pumpen, die für die Wasseranlagen verwendet werden, wurde gefördert.

8) In der äthiopischen Hauptstadt Addis Ababa ist eine Fernüberwachungsanlage zur Ermittlung von Schadstoffen in der Luft eingerichtet worden. Die Messstation überwacht gesundheitsschädliche Gase und andere Schadstoffe, die durch Autoabgase, Industrieanlagen und durch die Verbrennung von fossilen Brennstoffen entstehen.

9) Umweltinformationsmaterial wie etwa Tefetro, Akirma, u.a werden für die städtische Bevölkerung angeboten.

10) Die Zusammenarbeit zwischen den NGO's hat zugenommen.

11) Das Umweltbewusstsein der Bevölkerung in den städtischen sowie in den ländlichen Regionen in Äthiopien ist gestiegen.

12) Die Aktivitäten der äthiopischen Diaspora durch Gründung von Vereinen und Verbänden, um die Umweltschutzarbeit in Äthiopien zu unterstützen, hat enorm zugenommen. Die Arbeit bezieht sich auf die Finanzierung von Umweltprojekten und die Planung und Ausführung von Projekten, die zur Verbesserung der Umwelt in Äthiopien einen Beitrag leisten können.

Bisher behandelte Umweltthemen in Äthiopien (Quellen: Die Äthiopische Umweltbehörde, C S E)

- 1) Environment & the Ethiopian Constitution
- 2) The need for Environmental Impact Assessment
- 3) Caring for the Earth
- 4) Workshop, Seminars, Symposia Congress were organised
- 5) Rescue Plan for Biological Diversity

- 6) Tourisms & Conservation
- 7) The Agricultural Sector and Environmental Pollution
- 8) The Rift Lakes without the Acacia
- 9) Environmental Policy in Ethiopia
- 10) Global Environmental Concern
- 11) Emancipation, Environment and Development in Ethiopia
- 12) Women in the Implementation of RCS
- 13) The Privat Sector and the Environment
- 14) Rural Women and the Ethiopian Environment
- 15) Environmental Regulation
- 16) WWF
- 17) Effective Soil Conservation in Ethiopia
- 18) River Basin Development in Ethiopia
- 19) Policies about: Water Resources, Energy resources, Genetic Species and Ecosystem Biodiversity
- 20) United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD)
- 21) Forest Biodiversity
- 22) Promoting Simple Technology To Save our Forests
- 23) Interaction Between Environment and Development
- 24) Prospects for Wildlife Conservation in Ethiopia
- 25) Biodiversity Conservation Through Ecosystem Approach
- 26) The Future in Environmental Protection in Ethiopia and a Message for the New Millennium
- 27) Roles of NGOs to bring about an Integrated Effort to Conserve Natural Resources in Ethiopia
- 28) Environmental Management: The Key to Ethiopias National Development
- 29) Sustainable Tourism Development and the Environment in the next Millennium
- 30) Management of Cultural Heritage within the Environmental Policy of Ethiopia

Darüber hinaus sind folgende Programme geplant und durchgeführt:

- a) Zusammenarbeit mit der Umweltbehörde der Vereinten Nationen (UNEP)
- b) Kooperation und Zusammenarbeit mit dem Internationalen Institut für Umwelt & Entwicklung (IED)
- c) Der Verkauf von Umweltkalendern an die Bevölkerung

- d) Die Gründung von Umwelt-Clubs
- e) Erteilung von Zeugnissen für Personen und Institutionen, die an Umweltaktivitäten teilgenommen und erfolgreich beendet haben.
- f) Gründung von "Ethiopia Forum for Environmental Writers"(EFEN)
- g) Gründung von Regionalen Umweltverbänden sowie einem Programm-Koordinierungskomitee (RECC)
- h) A workshop on the Draft Character Proclamation to Establish National Desertification Fund of Ethiopia.

Lösungsansätze gegen die Umweltzerstörung in den Entwicklungsländer und in Äthiopien

Maßnahmen

Entwicklungsländer

- 1) Umweltschutz, Wirtschaftswachstum und soziale Gerechtigkeit in der Gesellschaft sollen entwickelt oder geplant werden, um den Menschen eine ausreichende Lebensqualität zu sichern, nicht nur für die reichen Nationen sondern für die breite Masse der Weltbevölkerung.
- 2) Möglicherweise kann die Globalisierung für das Wirtschaftswachstum und für die Liberalisierung des Handels nützlich sein. Darüber hinaus kann das internationale Investment steigen. Dieses System kann die Produktion und den Konsum auf dem Globus erhöhen. Dieses birgt die Gefahr, dass die Umwelt zerstört, die Rohstoffe sowie die natürlichen Ressourcen ausgebeutet werden. Darum sind Programme zum Schutz der Ressourcen sowie der Rohstoffe notwendig, d. h. Konzepte für die angemessene Nutzung der Rohstoffe und der Ressourcen müssen entwickelt und angewendet werden.
- 3) Die Entwicklungsländer und die Schwellenländer müssen ermutigt werden, ihre Umwelt und ihre natürlichen Ressourcen zu erhalten. Das Wirtschaftswachstum und ihre industrielle Produktion müssen so konzipiert sein, dass die Umwelt nicht zerstört wird.
- 4) Die industrielle Produktion und das Wirtschaftswachstum müssen mit der Erhaltung der Umwelt und Ökologie vereinbar sein. Das heißt, die Planung sollte nicht nur an dem wirtschaftlichen Gewinnmaximierungs-Prinzip orientiert sein.

- 5) Die Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Regierung und den NGO's sowie der Gesellschaft ist zu stärken. Eine gut informierte, verantwortungsbewusste Gesellschaft bringt mehr für die Verbesserung von Umwelt und Ökologie auf nationaler und internationaler Ebene als zahlreiche Erlasse, Verordnungen und Gesetze.
- 6) Ein Appell an die Weltgesellschaft, ihren Lebensstil und ihre Gewohnheiten zu ändern, ist notwendig. Die Gesellschaft muss anfangen, das Konsumverhalten der einzelnen Bürger im positiven Sinne zu verändern.
- 7) Die Weltökonomie muss mit der Ökologie zu vereinbaren sein. Die Industrienationen und die multinationalen Konzerne müssen in ihren wirtschaftlichen Entwicklungskonzepten (globale Konzepte) die technologische Entwicklung so konzipieren, dass die Lebensqualität sowie die Erhaltung der Umwelt und der natürlichen Ressourcen für die gesamte Nation berücksichtigt wird.
- 8) Ökologen und umweltbewusste Bürger, sowohl in den Industrieländern als auch in den Entwicklungsländern, sollen klar und deutlich sagen: Wir brauchen auf jeden Fall wirtschaftliche Entwicklung, die mit der Erhaltung der Umwelt und Ökologie vereinbar ist. Unter keinen Umständen sollte die Globalisierung der Wirtschaft voran getrieben werden ohne ein internationales Konzept zu entwickeln, das der Zerstörung der Umwelt entgegenwirkt.
- 9) Wenn die Entwicklungshilfe der EU-Länder generell das Interesse der Entwicklungsländer an der aktiven Teilnahme am Globalisierungsprozess unterstützen soll, dann muss die Globalisierung der Wirtschaft langfristig auch Chancen für eine ökonomisch, sozial und ökologisch nachhaltige Entwicklung bringen.
- 10) Durch die einseitige Globalisierung der Wirtschaft wird ein überaus gefährliches Vakuum entstehen. Die Politik, die Gesetzgebung und das Rechtssystem zu globalisieren wird nicht so schnell gehen wie die Globalisierung der Wirtschaft. Die Wirtschaft agiert heute auf der globalen Ebene in einem weitgehend rechtsfreien und politikfreien Raum. Eine Marktwirtschaft ohne rechtlichen, ökologischen und sozialen Rahmen verschärft die soziale Spaltung der Weltgesellschaft und ruiniert die ökologischen Lebensgrundlagen. Dieses System führt zur Selbsterstörung

der Marktwirtschaft, deswegen muss neben der Globalisierung der Märkte ein internationales Arbeits-, Umwelt- und Sozialrecht realisiert werden. Damit ist eine ökologische sowie soziale Weltwirtschaft geschaffen.

11) Bürgerkrieg & Umweltzerstörung : Immer wenn über Rüstungsexporte in die Länder der Dritten Welt gesprochen wird, argumentieren viele Menschen wie folgt:

- Für den Preis eines Panzers kann man 10 000 Klassenräume für 30 000 Kinder errichten.

- Für den Preis eines Kampfflugzeuges konnten 40 000 Dorfapotheken in der Dritten Welt gebaut werden. usw.

Die Militärausgaben aller Länder wachsen gegenwärtig um durchschnittlich 4 % pro Jahr, also wesentlich schneller als die Weltwirtschaft. Die Entwicklung von Waffen verschlingt viel Geld. Dieses Geld wäre für die Energie- und Medizinforschung notwendig. Nach Angaben von SIPRI, dem internationalen Friedensforschungsinstitut in Stockholm, gibt die Bundesrepublik Deutschland 10 % aus. Die weltweite Rüstungssteigerung vermindert tagtäglich die Chancen, das Massensterben durch Hunger und Krankheit zu beenden oder wenigstens zu begrenzen. In der Welt werden 5-6 % der gewonnenen Rohstoffe für militärische Zwecke genutzt. Bis Mitte der Neunziger Jahre sind 75 % des Waffenhandels in der Welt mit den Entwicklungsländern betrieben worden. Der Waffenhandel ist jener Bereich der Weltwirtschaft, der die höchsten Zuwachsraten aufweist. Die elementaren Grundbedürfnisse der Menschen in den Entwicklungsländern werden zunehmend vernachlässigt, um die militärischen Machtstrukturen weiter auszubauen. In der Vergangenheit gab es Kriege bzw. kriegerische Auseinandersetzungen zwischen Eritrea und Äthiopien. Dadurch wurden zahlreiche Ortschaften, Landschaft sowie vieles was zur Natur gehört völlig zerstört. Diese Umweltzerstörung ist nicht mehr gutzumachen bzw. rückgängig zu machen. Der Krieg verursachte die Flucht aus der Region und Umsiedlung der betroffenen Menschen. Diese brachte gesellschaftliche, soziale und Umweltprobleme mit.

Darum muß die EU-Außen-, Sicherheits- und Entwicklungspolitik restriktive Handhabung von Rüstungsexporten ausüben. Der

Export von Kriegswaffen und Rüstungsgütern muß unterbunden werden. Zum Beispiel ist die Rolle der Rüstungsexportgenehmigungsstelle in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland neu zu definieren. Diese Stelle kann als "Krisen- und Konfliktpräventionsstelle Dritte Welt " benannt und ihr neue Aufgaben erteilt werden. Das Entwicklungshilfeministerium der Bundesrepublik Deutschland könnte zur Krisen- und Konfliktprävention und zur Bewältigung von Konflikten in den Ländern der Dritten Welt ein Gesamtkonzept entwickeln und in ihrem Entwicklungsprogramm einführen und in der Praxis umsetzen. Der Konflikt im Süden kann nur in dieser Weise vom Norden gelöst werden. Keineswegs durch Waffenlieferungen

Äthiopien

1) Umwelterziehung und allgemeines Umweltbewusstsein bei den Menschen erzeugen.

2) Für allgemeinbildende Schulen sollten Unterrichtspläne zum Thema Umweltschutz konzipiert werden.

3) In den kleinen Dörfern und in den Städten sollten Abendschulen für Berufstätige und Tagesschulen für nichtberufstätige Bevölkerungsgruppen eingerichtet werden, an denen Umweltschutz, Ökologie und Ressourcenschutz unterrichtet und Wissen vermittelt wird.

4) Für des Lesens und Schreibens unkundige Menschen kann mittels audiovisueller Methoden Unterricht erteilt werden. Darüber hinaus sollten Informationsveranstaltungen über Umwelt und Ökologie mit Diskussionen gefördert werden.

5) Um das Interesse der Bevölkerung für Umwelt und Ökologie zu wecken, können Fernseh- und Rundfunkprogramme vorbereitet und in verschiedenen Sprachen gesendet werden.

6) Das Bevölkerungswachstum könnte durch folgende Maßnahmen gebremst werden:

a) ein verbessertes Bildungssystem, Durchsetzung der Schulpflicht, Aus- und Fortbildung.

b) die Verbesserung der Lage der Menschen.

Durch bessere Bildung und Ausbildung werden die Berufschancen gesteigert und ein festes Einkommen ermöglicht. Dieses garantiert den Menschen für das spätere Leben eine Altersversorgung (soziale Sicherheit). Im Allgemeinen kann das Bevölke-

rungswachstum durch Veränderung der gesamten sozioökonomischen, gesellschaftlichen, politischen und globalwirtschaftlichen Situation bekämpft werden. Die Umweltzerstörung kann nicht nur allein durch Senkung der Geburtenrate gestoppt werden. Bei der Debatte über das Bevölkerungswachstum und der Lösung des Problems ist es sehr wichtig, dass man die wachstumsfördernden Gründe, die mit Tradition, Kultur und Religion zusammenhängen erkennt, sowie die wirtschaftliche und ökonomische Lage der Menschen berücksichtigt.

7) Das Problem des Brennstoffes für den Haushalt kann durch Verbesserung der traditionellen Koch- und Heizmethoden und anderen kostengünstigen alternativen Arten der Energieerzeugung erreicht werden. Diese sind die Nutzung von Sonnen- und Windenergie, der Biomasse aus tierischen und pflanzlichen Abfällen, sowie Wasserkraftwerken. Modellprojekte für die Entwicklung von Biogas-Anlagen, Konstruktion und Erprobung verbesserter Holz- und Holzkohleöfen sind zu fördern. Wiederaufforstungsprogramme zum Schutz der Böden für landwirtschaftliche Betriebe sind notwendig.

8) Zur Bekämpfung der geologischen Erosionen, dem Erosionstyp, der durch geologische und natürliche Abläufe zustande kommt, bei dem der Boden vom Wind weggeweht oder vom Regenwasser weggespült wird, müssen Terrassen, Windschutzgürtel und Buschhecken angelegt werden. Eine gesunde Pflanzendecke sichert und bereichert den kostbaren Boden. Die Wurzeln der Bäume und Sträucher festigen die Humusschicht, Regenwürmer und andere Kleintiere lockern den Boden auf, so dass der Regen nicht abfließt, sondern allmählich in die Erde einsickert. Büsche und Bäume bremsen den Wind, spenden Schatten und mildern zerstörerische Sandstürme. An den Berghängen verhindern die Pflanzen, dass die Erde vom Regen weggeschwemmt wird. Es müssen Pflanzenarten angepflanzt werden, die dem Boden Halt geben. Um die Erosion wirksam zu bekämpfen, sollten all diese Überlegungen beim Ackerbau mit einbezogen werden.

9) Die Weidewirtschaft ist mit der schonenden Nutzung der Naturwälder zu kombinieren.

10) Ein Umweltschutz-Aktionsplan für die Flüsse und Seen in Äthiopien ist zu entwickeln.

11) Einige Bewässerungsprojekte sind zugunsten der Landwirtschaft sehr notwendig.

12) Reservate mit besonders schützenswerten Biotopen sind zu gründen.

Schlussfolgerung:

Die Menschen in den Entwicklungsländern strapazieren die Umwelt aus Unwissenheit und aus Not. Es bieten sich keine greifbaren Alternativen, daher handelt der benachteiligte Mensch zwar nicht umweltverträglich, aber von seiner Position aus gesehen, vollkommen richtig. Ein Beispiel hierfür ist die Brandrodung zur Gewinnung neuer Ackerflächen. Hinzu kommt, dass die herrschenden politischen und wirtschaftlichen Verhältnisse sowie das Weltwirtschaftssystem einen entscheidenden Einfluss auf die Umwelt und die Ökologie in den Entwicklungsländer haben. Um Investitionen zur Erhaltung der Umwelt profitabel machen zu können, wie das Anpflanzen von Bäumen zur Erosionsbekämpfung usw. muss das Landrecht in den Entwicklungsländern, insbesondere in Äthiopien so gestaltet sein, dass die Bauern und die Landarbeiter sicher sein können, die Flächen für sich und ihre Familien langfristig nutzen zu können. Dazu sind politische und wirtschaftliche Stabilität notwendig.

In Bezug auf die globale Umweltproblematik stehen die Industriestaaten und die Entwicklungsländer in gegenseitiger Abhängigkeit. Das Problem der Umwelt- und Ökologiezerstörung kennt keine Grenzen. Es ist ein lokales, regionales, nationales und globales Problem. Beispiele:

- a) die Aufheizung der Erdatmosphäre durch Kohlendioxid und Methangas,
- b) die Luftverschmutzung durch die Emission von Schwefeldioxyde und Stickoxide,
- c) Veränderung der Ozonschicht durch FCKW (Fluor, Chlor, Kohlenwasserstoffe)
- d) grenzüberschreitende Gewässerverschmutzung durch Umweltchemikalien und Schwermetalle,
- e) der grenzüberschreitende Industriemüllverkehr,
- f) die Versenkung von Abfällen ins Meer,
- g) Erzeugung von künstlicher Radioaktivität,

h) die globale Umweltbelastung und Ökologiezerstörung durch zivile und militärische Nutzung des Weltraums. Hierbei handelt es sich um hochkomplexe militärische Technologie im Interesse des militärisch-industriellen Komplexes und andere zivil-industrielle Forschungen.

i) Die globale Umweltbelastung und Ökologiezerstörung durch Atomwaffenversuche bzw. Nuklearexplosionen. Der Versuch war bis 1963 in der Atmosphäre, seitdem gibt es unterirdische Kernwaffentests.

Dieses alles sind globale Umweltprobleme. In den Industrieländern wurde die Umwelt um des technischen Fortschrittes Willen zerstört. Es muss möglich sein, die Gegensätze zwischen dem technischen Fortschritt und dem Schutz der Umwelt aufzulösen. Dieses ist nur machbar durch die Vereinbarkeit von Ökologie mit Ökonomie. In den Entwicklungsländern ist die Umwelt- und Ökologiezerstörung einerseits naturbedingt, andererseits mit dem Überlebenskampf der dort lebenden Menschen zu begründen. Trotzdem gibt es die Möglichkeit, die Umwelt in Äthiopien zu verbessern.

Deswegen versucht der Verein „GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FÖRDERUNG DER MEDIZIN, INGENIEUR- UND NATURWISSENSCHAFTEN IN ÄTHIOPIEN E.V DEUTSCHLAND“ mit Sitz in Mainz, in Äthiopien eine Ökologie- und Umweltbewegung aufzubauen und ökologische Entwicklungsprojekte zu starten. Deshalb brauchen wir die Unterstützung und Zusammenarbeit von interessierten Menschen, von Umweltschutzgruppen, Stiftungen, Organisationen, Parteien sowie von Umweltschutztechnologie-Experten in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und zwar in:

- a) sachlicher,
- b) finanzieller,
- c) moralischer und
- d) politischer Hinsicht

Literatur:

- 1) Tefetro - The Quarterly Newsletter of The Conservation Strategy of Ethiopia Project (1997-2001)
- 2) Nagaye - Agrarland Äthiopien - Zeitschrift der Stiftung Menschen für Menschen 1/99
- 3) Getahun, G.: Bevölkerungswachstum und Umwelt in der Dritten Welt

Zeitschrift der Deutsch-Äthiopischen Freundschaftsgesellschaft e.V. (DÄFG) in Darmstadt 1994

4) OECD - Globalisation and Environment - Internet: <http://www.oecd.org/env/global/index.html>

5) UNEP - The Basel Convention: A global Solution For Controlling Hazardous Wastes Secretariat Basel Convention (SBC),1997

6) Deutsche Gesellschaft für den Vereinten Nationen e.V. - Eine Welt Presse Nord-Südzeitung - Nr.1/14, 1997: Total global

7) Getahun, G.: Globalisierung und Entwicklungspolitik Paper: Im Rahmen der Woche der Sozialdemokratischen Partei Deutschlands (SPD), in Mainz, "Woche der SPD mit dem Thema Globalisierung als Chance" Mainz September 2000

8) A World Watch Institute News Release - An Environmental Revolution - Internet: <http://www.worldwatch.org/alerts/9990225.html>

9) Getahun, G.: How Helpful are Scientific Researches to Overcome Environmental Problems? Tefetro: The Quarterly Newsletter of the CSE Project, Vol.2., Nr.2, Sep-Dec 2000

10) Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung (DSE) - Landeskundliche Informationsseite Äthiopien - Die Rolle von Nichtregierungsorganisationen - Bericht im Internet: 16.04.00 - <http://www.dse.de/za/lis/aethiuiop/ethio.htm>

11) Praxis Geographie - Globalisierung der Wirtschaft ohne Grenzen - Juli / August 1998

12) Kulesa, Magaraeta; Schwab, Jan A. - Beiträge zur Weltwirtschaftsforschung - Implikation der Globalisierung für die Umweltpolitik - Beitrag Nr. 60, Juni 1999

13) Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung (DSE) - Ökologische Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung - Internet: <http://www.dse.de> - Bericht v. 18.04.00

14) Bild der Wissenschaft - Geophysik und Geologie - Äthiopien Boden droht die Erschöpfung - Bericht im Internet 28.4.00

15) Akzente (GTZ) D 1319 F - Innovation im Rhythmus der Natur - Die nomadischen Viehhirten im Süden Äthopiens

16) Getahun, G.: The Environmental Startegey of Ethiopia at Present and beyond 2000 - Tefetro: The Quarterly Newsletter of

the CSE Project , Vol.1 No.7
March 1999

17) Alemu, Hailemichael (Dr.):
Akaki River: The Analysis of the
Pollution Level of the Akaki River
and Finding Possible Ways to
Reduce the Environmental Pollu-
tion.

[http://www.telecom.net.et/~estc/
Publication/Proceedi.htm](http://www.telecom.net.et/~estc/Publication/Proceedi.htm)

18) Abera, Girma - Akaki River
Said Toxic - The Monitor, 17.1.99

19) Tessema, AbiyAwoke (Dr.):
Hydraulic RAM Rump System
Design and Application

[http://home.att.net/~africantech/E/
SME/hydram2/HydRam2.htm](http://home.att.net/~africantech/E/SME/hydram2/HydRam2.htm)

20) Aredo, Dejene: Exploring the
Potentials of Water Mills in the
Grain-Milling Industry in Ethiopia;
28 May 1996,

[http://www.idrc.ca/books/focus/79/
0/chapo9.html](http://www.idrc.ca/books/focus/79/0/chapo9.html)

21) Aysheshim, Wondwossen:
Local Manufactory of Crossflow
Turbine for Small-Hydropower, 28
November, 1996

[http://www.telecom.net.et/~estc/p/
ublication/Proceedi.htm](http://www.telecom.net.et/~estc/publication/Proceedi.htm)

22) Rural Biogas Ovens: The
Ethiopian Rural Energy Develop-
ment and Promotion Centre - WIC
(Walta Information Centre), Janu-
ary 1, 2001

23) Brough, David: Pesticide
Firms Seek Ethiopia Toxic Dumps
Audit - Reuter: Rome May 30,
2001

24) Mesob: www.MESOB.org

25) <http://www.geocities.com/akababi>

26) Worldbank Report

[http://www.worldbank.org/18.
04.00](http://www.worldbank.org/18.04.00)

- a) Ethiopia-calub Gas De-
velopment Project
- b) Ethiopia-EnergyII Project
- c) Ethiopia- Water Supply
Development and Reha-
bilitation Project
- d) Ethiopia-National Fertil-
izer Sector Project
- e) Ethiopia -Seed Systems
Development Project
- f) Ethiopia-Conservation
and Sustainable use of
Medicinal Plants

"Environment" in the
Constitution of The
Federal Democratic Re-
public of Ethiopia

[http://www.ethiobar.net/English/C/
ontents.htm](http://www.ethiobar.net/English/Contents.htm)

CHAPTER THREE - PART TWO - DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Article 44: *Environmental Rights*
All persons have the right to a
clean and healthy environment.

CHAPTER FIVE: THE STRUC- TURE AND DIVISION OF POW- ERS

Article 51: Powers and Functions
of the Federal Government

3. It shall establish and implement
national standards and basic
policy criteria for *public health*,
education, science and technol-
ogy as well as for the protection
and preservation of cultural and
historical legacies.

5. It shall enact laws for the *utili-
zation and conservation of land
and other natural resources*, his-
torical sites and objects.

11. It shall determine and admin-
ister the *utilization of the waters or
rivers and lakes* linking two or
more States or crossing the
boundaries of the national territo-
rial jurisdiction.

Article 52: Powers and Functions
of States

1. All powers not given expressly
to the Federal Government alone,
or concurrently to the Federal
Government and the States are
reserved to the States.

2. Consistent with sub-Article 1 of
this Article, States shall have the
following powers and functions:

c. To *formulate and execute eco-
nomic, social and development
policies, strategies and plans* of
the State;

d. To *administer land and other
natural resources* in accordance
with Federal laws;

CHAPTER TEN: NATIONAL POLICY PRINCIPLES AND OB- JECTIVES

Article 90: Social Objectives

1. To the extent the country's
resources permit, policies shall
aim to provide all Ethiopians ac-
cess to public health and educa-
tion, clean water, housing, food
and social security.

Article 92: *Environmental Objec-
tives*

1. *Government shall endeavour to
ensure that all Ethiopians live in a
clean and healthy environment.*

2. *The design and implementation
of programmes and projects of
development shall not damage or
destroy the environment.*

3. *People have the right to full
consultation and to the expression
of views in the planning and im-
plementations of environmental
policies and projects that affect
them directly.*

4. *Government and citizens shall
have the duty to protect the envi-
ronment.*

Some of the Environ- mental Actors in Ethiopia

[http://www.geocities.com/akaba-
bi](http://www.geocities.com/akababi)

**Environment and Development
Society of Ethiopia (LEM-
Ethiopia)**, Addis Ababa.

Development strategies in Ethio-
pia by Costantinos Berhe Tesfu
(Excerpts)

LEM is a civic association and
advocacy group that promotes
policy and legislative support to
the issues of environment and
development. It also offers a
voluntary development partner-
ship of communities to translate
the lofty ideas of a stable envi-
ronment and sustainable liveli-
hood security into everyday ac-
tion. Today, we feel more commit-
ted as we see LEM growing to
strengthen and complement the
work of grassroots organizational
structures, regional, sub-regional
and national initiatives in conser-
vation-based development. In-
spired by the overall concept of
sustainable development in
achieving economic and social
goals, our objectives are:

- to provide a forum for dialogue
to address issues of environment
and development;

- to sensitize the public on the
principles of and generate legisla-
tive support for sustainable devel-
opment by forming an important
advocacy front;

- to promote partnership for de-
velopment through the generation
and implementation of ideas,
tools, technologies and method-
ologies with communities; and

- to reflect, widen, prioritize and
promote the basis of applied re-
search in the area and support
grassroots activities in undertak-
ing conservation-based develop-
ment.

We at LEM have no intention of
mystifying environment and de-
velopment. Our main objective is
to start with what people know
already - and not to re-invent what
people have practised for centu-
ries. LEM has three main direc-
torates: environmental education
and popular participation; pro-
gramme planning and legisla-
tive/advocacy support; and sup-
port for field operations. The fol-
lowing activities summarize the
current field programmes of LEM.

Most of them, to be fully effective, are in need of additional funding. Women in sustainable management

Ethiopia is composed of different cultures, languages and religions with most of them having a dominant patriarchal system imposing sexual division of labour and limiting woman's role to that of wife and housekeeper. In addition, development planning has failed to recognize women's contribution to the development process. Given the socio-economic and cultural setting of the country, the following are found to be the major foci of research with regard to women's participation:

- the legal system and women
- agricultural development and women
- population and women
- the urban socio-economic setting and women
- assessment of operational capability.

Establishment of Environmental Clubs in schools

The main objective of Environmental Clubs is to create and develop an awareness with regards to the inter-relationship and inter-dependence between people and the environment and to engage the youth in community-based activities aimed at conserving and developing the natural environment. The objective being a broad one requires a systematic design and implementation of programmes for its attainment. Environmental Clubs can pursue their goals through one or all of the following activities:

- organizing workshops, seminars and public discussions
- engaging students in literature and drawing competitions on themes of conservation and development
- developing mini-conservation and development demonstration projects and engaging students and their members in practical purpose oriented activities.

An environmental hygiene programme

Given the scope of the environmental hygiene problem of the capital city, this programme shall have the following major objectives:

- creating the forum whereby all concerned and responsible institutions join their forces and address the issue in a multi-sectorally based approach

- raising the awareness of the state, local governments, the productive sector and the community at large with regards to local environmental hygiene issues

- engaging people in activities that will improve their local environment and providing concerned individuals with educational means of getting involved in environmental hygiene activities

- laying down the foundation for a progressive and consistent environmental clean-up programme for the capital city of the country, through activities at the macro and micro-level

- sharing information and experience with other national, regional and international clean-up programmes.

The LEM Centre for Environment and Development

The primary objectives of the Centre are:

- the promotion, training and education of the human resource base of grassroots groups

- the training and education of the environment and development staff of NGOs

- the execution of practical and objective environmental, disaster-related and development research

- the provision of consultancy and advisory services to voluntary non-governmental organizations

- the production and publication of the collective experiences (institutional memories) of NGOs.

These objectives encompass:

- the training needs and institutional development analyses related to grassroots groups

- systematic field training and research on issues arising from the current approaches and thinking to community environment, disaster prevention and development

- the development of documentation of institutional memories

- policy and legislative research on environment and development policies

- population, biodiversity and environment with the three main themes of population- resource balance and sustainability, biotechnology and, conservation of biological diversity.

Forum for Environment - Forum for Environment Secretariat, P.O.Box 278, Addis Ababa

E-mail: sustain@telecom.net.et

Background and partners

The Forum for Environment is a platform for communication among people concerned with the Ethiopian environment. It was established in June 1997 by a small group of people committed to the preservation and betterment of the environment. The Forum for Environment is open to anyone involved in environment-related activities in Ethiopia. Adherents come from government departments, university departments, research community, community-based organizations, non-governmental organisations, the media, the donor community, international agencies and the business sector, without distinction of occupation or nationality. Environment is understood in its widest sense, including:

- the rural and the urban environment;
- people and nature;
- natural, economic, social and cultural resources;
- formal and non-formal paradigms.

Aims and objectives

The mandate of the Forum of Environment is to

- act as a catalyst for networking people and organizations working in environmental issues;
- provide a base for advocacy on issues of environmental concern;
- develop a position of authority on environmental matters;
- promote action which is environmentally sound.

In order to carry out its mandate, the Forum for Environment is committed to:

- organize public meetings to publicize and discuss issues of environmental concern;
- publish a magazine, written primarily in Amharic, designed to discuss and reflect on environmental issues in Ethiopia and to be distributed throughout the country;
- carry out speaking engagements on environment at different institutions and organizations;
- facilitate access to advisory services on the environment;
- create an information center;
- act as a liaison bureau for funding projects that focus on improving or protecting the environment.

Organizational structure

The Forum for Environment has a 12-member steering group coordinated by a secretariat. The secretariat is presently held by ENDA-Ethiopia, which acts as the official intermediary for the Forum. The steering group comprises

representatives of the Conservation Strategy of Ethiopia, NGOs, the Region 14 Environment Bureau, the Addis Ababa University and the donor community. The Forum for Environment is recognized by the Environment Protection Authority of Ethiopia.

Resources and funding

The Forum for Environment essentially functions on the basis of commitment and contributions from some of its steering group members. Special funding requests are prepared for specific projects or activities, such as the magazine for instance.

Geographical coverage

Although the Forum for Environment was founded in Addis Ababa, it is set on establishing environment forum groups in the different regions of Ethiopia. Until then, individuals working in the regions who request to become members of the Forum become Forum for Environment correspondents.

Public meetings

The Forum for Environment organizes regular public meetings that anyone interested is welcome to attend. The major purpose is to raise awareness on specific issues related to sustainable development, share information on relevant activities with a diversified audience and discuss actions to address the issues covered. The meetings serve for scientists to disseminate information about their specific research work beyond scientific circles - to Government agencies, development organizations, members of CBOs and other participants.

As a follow-up of these meetings, interested individuals may register to establish interest groups, which continue to exchange ideas, discuss project proposals and launch initiatives. One such well-established interest group is the group on urban waste and urban agriculture.

Akirma, the magazine on environment and development in Ethiopia

As part of its objective to promote environmental education and awareness and create links between all those concerned, the Forum for Environment publishes a magazine on environment and development in Ethiopia. The magazine, called Akirma, is intended for extension workers, community development workers, teachers, health workers, local officials and media people working in the different regions of

Ethiopia. Akirma is essentially written in Amharic. Each issue has a cover story and contains diverse articles. Topics dealt with in each issue include: pastoralism, biodiversity, alternative energy, indigenous trees, urban development and industry and development. Akirma also has a "farmers' views" and a "try it yourself" column. Judging from letters and comments, this diversity is particularly well received. Also the media have welcomed Akirma because it provides them with documentation on environmental issues. 3 issues of Akirma were published in 1999, with funds obtained from the Netherlands Embassy in Addis Ababa and input (manpower, equipment, logistics) from ENDA-Ethiopia and the Institute for Sustainable Development. The magazine is distributed through a commercial distributor.

Future projects - Regional meetings

In collaboration with active correspondents, organize Forum for Environment meetings in the regions in order to

- expand the Forum beyond Addis Ababa;
- support local environmental activists;
- obtain better knowledge of environmental issues at local levels;
- collect information for Akirma;
- promote and arrange local distribution of Akirma;
- initiate local Forum for Environment groups.

Bibliographies

For each topic presented at a public meeting, prepare a selected bibliography of conventional and non-conventional literature existing in Ethiopia.

Akirma

To develop the publication by

- setting up an effective distribution system in the regions;
- organizing writers' training workshops in the regions.

Ethiopian Environmental NGO (EENGO)

recently introduced its brochure and additional information about its activities. For more information, contact EENGO :PO Box 8838, Addis Ababa; Email: eengo@telecom.net.et.)

As a local NGO the Ethiopian Environmental Non-Governmental Organization (EENGO) is doing its best to protect the natural resources. EENGO is working on natural resources conservation in two badly affected areas in col-

laboration with the farming community. But its intervention is small compared to the acute need of conservation work. Over 1.5 million seedlings of different species are raised and distributed to farmers to be planted on degraded areas, agro forestry, family woodlots etc. every year. Over one hundred farmers are trained on soil conservation and agriculture every year. Vegetable gardening, home management and sanitation training is given to over forty women every year with garden tools and seeds. EENGO will continue conducting the following programs in the next five years:

Natural Resources Conservation and Management, Agriculture, Potable water development, Organizational development.

http://www.boell.de/index01_uk.htm

Heinrich Böll Foundation

E-mail: info@boell.de

Establishment of Environmental Clubs in Schools - LEM - Addis Ababa 1993 - 1999 and Ecological Projects ESAT / CSE, Addis Ababa 1996 - 1998

(see < http://www.deutsch-aethiopischer-verein.de/infobrief_2_01.PDF >, pages 11 / 12)

Partnerorganisationen der H. Böll Stiftung (HBS) und geplante Aktivitäten in Äthiopien

1. PANOS (Äthiopien) sieht seine Aufgabe in der Verständlichmachung der komplexen Themen bzgl. Entwicklungsfragen, -konzepten für Länder der Dritten Welt. Dazu werden Informationen zur Verfügung gestellt, denen die Bevölkerung trauen kann und anhand derer sie sich ein eigenes Bild verschaffen und eine eigene Meinung äußern kann. Dadurch sollen die Stimmen der Marginalisierten besser in der öffentlichen Arena gehört werden. Der Schwerpunkt von PANOS in Ostafrika lag in den letzten zwei Jahren beim Pastoralist Communication Program, welches in Kenia, Tansania und Äthiopien arbeitet. Andere Themen waren **Umweltschutz in Äthiopien**, nachhaltige Landwirtschaft in Uganda, HIV/AIDS, und die Rolle von Medien in Konflikten. PANOS soll von der HBS mit der Koordination eines Netzwerkes in Äthiopien beauftragt werden. Weiterhin soll die Produktion und **Ausstrahlung umweltpolitischer Radiosen-**

dungen über kommerzielle Radiosender im Rahmen des Umwelt-Programms gefördert werden.

2. Forum for Environment ist eine Plattform für Umweltthemen und für die Kommunikation zwischen den Menschen in Äthiopien, die sich mit der Umwelt befassen. Ziel ist, mittels einer effektiven Gruppe in Äthiopien, stärkeres Umweltbewußtsein und Synergie zu fördern

Die Ziele im Einzelnen lauten:

- Im Jahre 2003 soll das Forum 1.000 Mitglieder haben, von den 70% außerhalb von Addis angesiedelt sind.

- Entwicklung und Umsetzung von Mechanismen und Strukturen zur Sammlung, zum Austausch und zur Verteilung von Informationen

- umweltfreundliche Techniken oder Methoden sollen unterstützt werden, welche die Lebensqualität der Bevölkerung verbessern

- Fundraising-Mechanismen sollen aufgebaut werden.

Aktuelle und weiterhin geplante Aktivitäten sind die

- Organisation von öffentlichen Diskussionstreffen in Addis und in den anderen Regionalstaaten

- Organisation von öffentlichen Debatten mit PolitikerInnen und Planern

- Entwicklung einer nationalen Konvention für Mitglieder des "Forum for Environment"

- Herstellung und Verteilung einer Zeitschrift über Umwelt und Entwicklung

- Herstellung von thematischen Bibliographien

- Training zur Umweltberichterstattung

- Entwicklung eines Informations- und Resource-Centers

- Herstellung von Bildungsmaterialien, um angepaßte und umweltfreundliche Techniken und Methoden zu unterstützen und

- Verteilung von Informationen

Im Rahmen der Förderung durch die Stiftung soll das Forum for Environment regelmäßige Informations- und Diskussionsveranstaltungen in Äthiopien zu umweltpolitischen

Themen organisieren und dokumentieren.

3. Addis Abeba City Administration Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB)

Das Umweltamt der Region Addis Abeba wurde als regionales bzw. Länderministerium 1986 gegründet und hat seitdem eine bemerkenswerte Entwicklung genommen. Als Einrichtung, die auch die

nationale Umweltpolitik umsetzen muss, unternahm das EPB folgende Aktivitäten:

- Formulierung von politischen Grundsatzpapieren

- Beginnende Entwicklung von Richtlinien für die Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfungen

- Entwicklung einer Biodiversitätsstrategie und eines Aktionsplans

- Erarbeitung von Umweltgesetzgebung (Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung, Verschmutzungskontrolle, Abfallbeseitigung, städtische Begrünung, Landmanagement)

- Teilnahme an Reinigungs- und Verschönerungsaktivitäten in Addis.

Mit der Unterstützung der HBS konnten zahlreiche Aktivitäten im Bereich Capacity Building, Workshops, Trainings, Veröffentlichungen durchgeführt werden,

wie z.B. Workshops für PolitikerInnen und Entscheidungsträger, für Jugendliche, für Schul-

Umwelt-Clubs, für verschmutzende Industrien, Geschäftsleute, Einwohner in verschmutzten Gebieten zu Regulierungen von Abfallmanagement, Parkmanagement, Pflanzenschutz in Metro-

polen und Trainingsprogramm zu Hygiene und Verschönerung von Addis sowie Öffentlichkeitsarbeit um Addis herum. Die Teilnehmer der o.g. Aktivitäten kamen aus allen Ebenen der Administration, aus Schulen und der allgemeinen Öffentlichkeit. Meinungsbildung war einer der hauptsächlichsten Erfolge sowie ein besseres Verständnis von Umweltproblemen und umweltpolitischen Zielen, Regeln etc. Das EPB hat eine hervorgehobene Rolle in Äthiopien aufgrund seiner Zuständigkeit für die Hauptstadt. So hat sich der Rat der Stadt kürzlich entschieden, das größte Labor für Wasser-, Boden- und Luftverschmutzung bei EPB einzurichten. Durch den Kontakt zur HBS und durch die Mitgliedschaft im Netzwerk kooperiert das EPB heute eng mit NROs und hat sich auch der interessierten Öffentlichkeit in einer Weise geöffnet, die für Äthiopien bemerkenswert ist. Im Rahmen des zukünftigen Umwelt-Programms der HBS soll die umweltpolitische Bildungsarbeit des EPB in ausgewählten Stadtteilen von Addis Abeba gefördert werden. Wo möglich werden "Umweltclubs" eingerichtet, die sich dauerhaft den Verbesserungsaktivitäten in ihrer Umgebung widmen.

<http://www.catholicrelief.org> Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Ethiopia supports activities in the following programming areas: Agriculture / Natural Resource Management, Health, Enterprise Development, General Assistance and Emergency. CRS/Ethiopia provides...

Support to local indigenous institutions, helping to strengthen their capacity to assist the poor.

Provides technical support and training to the local institutions.

Addresses justice issues by working with the Peace and Justice Commission of the Catholic Church and other religious denominations.

Responds to emergency situations that may result from droughts and other calamities.

Examples of 4 Projects in the CRS/Ethiopia Program

Community / Home Based Care Support for AIDS Orphans;

Women's Savings and Credit Program;

Agricultural credit and soil and water conservation activities;

Food Assisted Child Survival program which enhances the health and nutritional status of children and

General Assistance program under the Missionaries of Charity and Other Child Feeding.

CRS/Ethiopia works with implementing partners such as Diocesan Church agencies, local indigenous non-government organizations, and the Government of Ethiopia's Ministries.

The program is focused on development programs designed to address community problems. CRS/Ethiopia has two offices, in Addis Ababa and Nazareth with 4 expatriate and 109 Ethiopian staff.

www.wateraid.org.uk/research/ethiopia.html

Hitosa Water Supply: A People's Project in Ethiopia by Trisk Silken, WaterAid, UK

The Hitosa district in central Ethiopia covers an area of 937 square kilometres and has a population of 174,630. It is located in the Arssi zone of the Oromiya region, where the population is 90% rural. The main town, Iteya, is about 160 kilometres southeast of the national capital of Addis Ababa.

Hitosa is one of Ethiopia's most productive agricultural districts. Having escaped the periodic droughts and famines that have

plagued much of the country, it regularly produces bumper harvests that help to feed people in the less fortunate areas. But despite fertile soil and high rainfall, for many years Hitosa suffered from an acute shortage of drinking water. Since 1996, however, more than 60,000 people living in 31 communities in Hitosa have been supplied with clean water through Ethiopia's largest gravity water supply scheme. Constructed through the joint efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, WaterAid and the communities served, and managed by a local Water Management Board, the scheme demonstrates the value of partnership. It also shows that people without specialised skills, but with the necessary motivation and training, can run a large-scale service efficiently and effectively.

Roots of the water problem

In 1992, WaterAid agreed to assist the people of Hitosa in building a water system that they could run themselves. Having experienced six decades of water scarcity, the community was ready and willing to respond to this challenge. "We even had to ration our children's drinking water," one woman recalls. "We had to bury our dead without washing their bodies." Hitosa's water problem could be traced back to the 1930s when an Italian entrepreneur and an Ethiopian landowner joined forces to exploit the rich farming potential of the area. Because these business partners needed workers for their venture, they moved people from their homes near rivers and springs and settled them on lower, more fertile land. Though these lands receive good rains that make crops thrive, the main rivers upon which people depended for water for drinking and washing flow around rather than through them. Women had to walk as far as 50 kilometres to fetch water and those living in the lowest lying areas could make the journey only every few days. As Iteya, the district capital of the newly settled area, grew, people tried to find a modern solution to their water problem. In the 1960s, observing that a tanker was travelling 50 kilometres from the Awash River to sell water to the town, residents decided to pool their resources and buy their own tanker. They managed to raise enough money to buy a second-hand one but as it regularly broke down, repair bills provoked arguments about money and someone

ran off with the funds, the idea was scrapped.

Meanwhile, the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) had begun to finance rural development in the Arssi zone through the Arssi Rural Development Unit (ARDU) in the Ministry of Agriculture. During the 1970s, ARDU drilled to a depth of almost 300 metres in Hitosa, trying to locate water, but found no resources to tap. Then, finding that it had surplus funds, the local farmers' cooperative suggested to the people of Iteya that they jointly ask ARDU to build a pipeline from the Gonde River and install public water taps. With local funds, technical assistance and a cash contribution from ARDU and additional financing from SIDA, this system was completed in 1979. ARDU trained local people to repair the system and it ran reasonably well for a few years. No one was trained to manage the scheme, however, and after SIDA pulled out it was a struggle for local people to run it by themselves. Poorly paid, technicians left, one by one. The pipeline and taps fell into disrepair.

People stayed in Hitosa because the conditions for farming were so good, and in many ways, their productivity enabled them to enjoy a relatively high standard of living. Nevertheless, lack of water remained a severe problem. By the 1990s, local people had almost despaired of ever finding a permanent solution.

Gravity scheme partnership

Fortunately, the SIDA-ARDU collaboration had left behind a cadre of well-trained and experienced government staff in Arssi. They determined that the best solution to Hitosa's water problem would be a gravity scheme, which would capture water from two springs in the mountains and feed it down to Iteya and the surrounding villages through a network of pipes. This scheme, which was completed in 1996, carries water from the two springs, through 140 kilometres of pipeline, to 122 public water taps and more than 300 individual buildings. It supplied water to an initial 56,000 people, living in 28 villages and three small towns. By 2008, when the population served by the scheme is expected to rise to 71,000, it will be providing clean water to more people than any similar scheme in Ethiopia. The Hitosa water system demonstrates the importance of partner-

ship in projects of this kind. It could not have succeeded without the contributions of:

- the government, which was responsible for designing and constructing the scheme;
- WaterAid, which provided the bulk of the capital investment. WaterAid's representative in Ethiopia was known to government staff through his previous work in Arssi, and the Department of Rural Infrastructure (ARDI's successor) approached him to ask for help in funding the scheme. The organization was keen to assist because it had a high opinion of the competence of government staff and officials in Arssi.
- the communities, which contributed cash and labour amounting to almost 20 per cent of the construction costs, which totalled over US\$1.6 million.

Though the scheme was technically simple to construct, managing it is quite complex due to the length of the pipeline and the number of people, villages and towns served. The government and WaterAid thus realised that it would be necessary to invest as much in the management of the system as in the pipeline and water taps. Nevertheless, they opted for community rather than government management and Hitosa is now run by a local Water Management Board comprised of representatives of every community connected to the water supply system. The Board supervises staff employed to operate the service while the water tariff and charges paid for private connections and repairs cover all running costs.

Conditions for community management

The Hitosa scheme may not be universally replicable in as much as the community has some unusual features, including a long history of social and economic investment and levels of income and education that are higher than the norm for rural Ethiopia. But the experience does challenge the conventional wisdom that community management of water supplies must be limited to small-scale schemes. It has also confirmed WaterAid's belief that four conditions need to be met in order for communities to manage water supply schemes successfully:

- Lack of water should be a severe problem, to which the pro-

posed technical solution offers the best or the only answer.

- Users must be involved from the outset of the project.

- Through every stage, on up to evaluation of the finished project, there must be an organization of users able to run the completed scheme; local people must be trained in management as well as in maintenance and repair.

- The local organization cannot survive in isolation but must be linked to a wider network of government or non-government services.

<http://home.germany.net/100-441770/amsi-amsi.html>

AMSI is the shortcut for Arba Minch Solar Initiative.

The aim of AMSI is to stop the deforestation in Arba Minch and the surrounding by spreading the good idea of using solar cookers instead of firewood. AMSI wants to train metal workers in producing the solar cookers and wants to teach interested woman how to handle and use the solar cooker for roasting coffee, making bread and cooking local food. AMSI tries to improve the construction of the solar cooker and to import and distribute the mirror material needed for the cooker as far as possible. All members of AMSI are working on a non-profit basis and everybody who wants to support the idea of AMSI is invited to participate with ideas, teaching and other supporting activities. AMSI was founded and promoted by Mr. Ernest Willand and Ato Muise Gipo with the support of the Arba Minch Water Technology Institute (AWTI) during the year 1997. The responsibility for the project then was handed over to the Appropriate Technology Center of the AWTI and the Womens Project of the Kale Heywet Church in Arba Minch. You can may get informations on the current status of the project from:

AWTI - Appropriate Technology Center, c/o Ato Hailemariam Desalegne, PO Box 21, Arba Minch (awti@telecom.net.et), GTZ (gtz-biomass@telecom.net.et) and Otto Graf Institute Stuttgart (amsi-solar@gmx.net)

<http://www.gtz.de/hep/english/e01a.htm>

GTZ Household Energy / Protection of Natural Resources Project (HEPNR)

P.O. Box 12994, Addis Ababa, E-mail: gtz-biomass@telecom.net.et

Biomass fuels such as fuel-wood, charcoal, agricultural residues and animal dung account for more than 90 % of the total domestic energy demand. Due to the high level of consumption combined with wasteful utilisation and heavy reliance on biomass fuels for cooking, Ethiopia has encountered severe de-forestation and environmental degradation problems. Women and children are particularly affected by diminishing access to traditional energy sources, as their high workload to collect and supply fuelwood further increases. They are also exposed to high smoke emissions and harmful pollutants, with negative impacts on their health, as well as to risks of burns and fire hazards during indoor cooking on open fire places. The project assists government institutions of different sectors and at different administrative levels in developing strategies to increase the efficiency of biomass energy utilisation in households (demand management). The project focuses on the practical application and dissemination of proven technologies, and aims at increasing the access of significant numbers of urban and rural households to **improved energy-saving stoves** to reduce their dependence on biomass fuels. Compared to traditional often highly inefficient ways of household energy consumption, the use of improved fuel-saving stoves has positive impacts on the environment, on the social and economic wellbeing of households and on the national economy. The benefits obtained from 1.000 households switching from the traditional open fire to the improved "mirt" stove for injera baking are well expressed in terms of the following improvements and annual savings:

575 tons of fuelwood saved per year, 210.000 ETB of household energy expenditures saved per year on fuelwood purchases only, 75 hectares of forest plantation preserved, more than 480.000 ETB for establishing new forest plantations saved, improved health and safety conditions through smoke reduction and protected fire places, reduced net carbon emissions, minimizing contribution to global warming. Much needs to be done to further reduce excessive and inefficient biomass energy consumption in order to make substantial contri-

bution to the sustainable use of the natural resources. Future perspectives include the promotion of

- improved commercial/institutional cookstoves
- solar cookers, a zero fuel option
- other renewable energy technologies for different applications.

<http://www.necofa.org/activities/workshops.html#ethiopworksh>
NECOFA (Network for Ecofarming in Africa)

Under the sponsorship of the German government, the Food and Agriculture Development Center (ZEL) of the German Foundation for International Development (DSE), in co-operation with the German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture (DITSL), an international workshop entitled "Ecofarming: Ecologically and Socially Sustainable Land Management" was conducted. The workshop took place in Ethiopia from November, 16th until December the 11th 1998. In order to facilitate further exchange of experiences among the participants of the workshop, a network, called NECOFA was founded. Further professionals, networks and organisations working in the same field have joined in since. NECOFA aims at acting as a forum to support all national and international activities supporting ecologically and sociologically sustainable land use management in Africa.

<http://www.baletrek.com>

Integrated Forest Management Project Adaba-Dodola (IFMP)

<mailto:gtz.ifmp@telecom.net.et>
IFMP is a technical cooperation project of the Governments of Ethiopia and Germany started in 1995. Its mission is to develop a feasible approach for the conservation of natural forests in the Oromia Region of Ethiopia. A model for participatory, community-based forest management is being implemented by the project in the Forest Priority Area of Adaba-Dodola located on the northern slopes of the Bale Mountains adjacent to the Bale Mountains National Park. The core element of the conservation strategy is granting of exclusive use rights to forest dweller associations (WAJIB) thereby regulating the access to the apparently ownerless forest resources. At the same time, tree

growing outside the natural forest is supported in order to reduce the pressure on what is considered by illegal wood collectors as common property. The generation of alternative income, which the forest dwellers can derive from non-wood forest products, is to further reduce the pressure on forest resources. One such income source is tourism. Its promotion by IFMP is one of the ongoing project activities.

Books

Urban Environmental Management in Addis Ababa - Problems, Policies, Perspectives and the Role of NGOs - by Sandra Dierig (Hamburg African Studies 8)

The most severe environmental problems in Addis Ababa are part of the so-called "brown agenda": the problems of pollution, poverty and environmental induced hazards are threatening the health and life of the majority of the city's inhabitants, especially the urban poor. The author analyses policies, strategies, ongoing projects and constraints; special emphasis is laid upon the role of NGOs which is evaluated based on the analysis of selected projects. (Hamburg 1999, XVI + 220 p., 9 tables, 17 maps and graphs, ISBN 3-928049-59-3, DM 28,-)

Ethiopia - An Introduction into Culture, Economics, Politics and Cooperation

Edited by Christian Fellner, Jep Book - 3 -

1st Edition 2000, Brandes & Apsel (Frankfurt) + Südwind (Wien)

Pages 119 – 133: Population, Natural Resources and Environment, by Seyoum Gebre-Selassie (Management and utilisation of natural resources, Forest resources, Wood production and trade, Alternative sources of Energy, Water resources ...); Pages 135 – 154: Environmental Issues, by Teferi Regasa

(The magnitude of environmental problems, Industry related, What policy measures were and are taken in the past and at present? What institutions were / are set-up? To what extent the policies were implemented? Problems of natural resources management ...)

Niederschlag und Regenerosivität in Äthiopien - Ergebnisse

einer interdisziplinären Studie von Sauerborn, Petra / Osman, Mahdi

Verlag Shaker, ISBN 3-8265-8837-1, erschienen 2001; Paperback; 29,80 DM

Aus der Literaturdatenbank DSE

<http://star->

[www.dse.de:8080/cgi-](http://www.dse.de:8080/cgi-bin/starfinder/23705/dse1.txt)

[bin/starfinder/23705/dse1.txt](http://www.dse.de:8080/cgi-bin/starfinder/23705/dse1.txt) :

a) The environmental policy-making process in Ethiopia

Keeley, James ; Scoones, Ian
In: Journal of Modern African Studies. Cambridge. 38 (2000) S.89-120

Policy discourses urging environmental rehabilitation, and rapid agricultural intensification for food self-sufficiency are firmly entrenched in Ethiopia. This paper examines the actor-networks and key policy spaces associated with the establishment of these discourses, taking natural resource management policies, and institutionalisation of the SG-2000 extension programme as case studies.

b) Land degradation in the highlands of Tigray and strategies for sustainable land management

Hagos, Fitsum ; Pender, John ; Gebreselassie, Nega.

International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). Addis Ababa: ILRI 1999. V+73, Bibliogr.S.65-72

c) The cultural construction of environmental policy. Paradigms and politics in Ethiopia

Hoben, Allan
In: Ecologist. Sturminster Newton. 27 (1997) 2. S.55-63

After the 1985 famine in Ethiopia, Western donors, NGOs and the Ethiopian government instituted a massive food-for-work programme in support of local level environmental rehabilitation projects. The justification for a significant investment of funds, time and effort in activities that have, at best, had a marginal beneficial impact was a belief that the underlying cause of Ethiopia's famines was environmental degradation caused by population increase, poverty and poor farming practices.

d) Peasant agriculture and land degradation in Ethiopia. Reflections on constraints and incentives for soil conservation and food security

Shiferaw, Bekele ; Holden, Stein T.

In: Forum for Development Studies. Oslo. (1997), S.277-306

This article provides a broad overview of the problems of land degradation, agricultural stagnation, and food security in Ethiopia. It uses existing theories of agricultural development and change, environmental/resource economics, and the economics of rural organisation to identify possible causes for deterioration of the environmental resource base and chronic food insecurity in the country.

e) The Economics of Integrated Soil and Water Conservation Practices of Smallholder Farmers in Eastern Highlands of Ethiopia

Institut f. Gartenbauökonomie d. Universität Hannover, 30419 Hannover, Herrenhäuser Str. 2
Prof. Dr. Hermann Waibel, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), 53175 Bonn, Kennedyallee 50
Berhanu, Adenen Degefa
Unters. Zeitraum 1996 - 1999

Links

<http://www.addistribune.com/Archives/2001/04/200401/Breath.htm>

A Breath of Fresh Air - By Sereke Berhan - Addis Tribune 20.4.2001 -

For anyone who has been observing the garbage situation in Addis Ababa recently, a significant improvement can be seen. Thanks to Sileshi Demisse "Gashe Abera Molla," Addis Ababa -- our "New Flower" -- is being transformed.

http://www.ethiopians.com/Main_FSS_Paper1.htm

Water Resource Development In Ethiopia: Issues of Sustainability and Participation Dessalegn Rahmato, June 1999 : Irrigation Schemes, Rural Water Supply, Environmental Impact, Land Rights, Small versus Large-scale Irrigation, Ownership and Management, Integrated versus Sectoral Approaches, Social or Economic Benefits, Stakeholder Participation in Water Development, Management and Governance, Stakeholder Participation in Irrigation Schemes and Rural Water Supply, Gender Issues...

FSS Discussion Papers are published to stimulate debate and critical comments.

Forum for Social Studies, P.O. Box 3089, Addis Ababa, E-mail: fss@telecom.net.et

<http://www.telecom.net.et/~estc/departments/water.htm> ;

E-mail: estc@telecom.net.et

The National Council for Mines, Water, Energy and Geoinformation Science and Technology; Mines, Water, Energy and Geoinformation Research & Development **Projects** funded through the Local Research Grant

<http://www.ethiopians.com/Engineering>

EACE (Ethiopian Association of Civil Engineers):

Hydropower Potential of Ethiopia, Hydropower Plants and Installed Capacity, Geothermal Power Potential, Future Plan For Hydropower Developments + Blue Nile Page: Tis Abay II Hydroelectric Project

<http://www.idrc.ca/books/focus/790/chap09.html>

Exploring the **Potentials of Water Mills** in the Grain-Milling Industry in Ethiopia - 28 May 1996 - Dejene Aredo

<http://home.att.net/~africantech/ESME/hydr2/HydRam2.htm>

Hydraulic Ram Pump System Design And Application, Dr. Abiy Awoke Tessema, Head, Equipment Design Research, Development and Technology Adaptation Center (RDTAC) Basic Metals and Engineering Industries Agency, P.O. Box 1180, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia ESME 5th Annual Conference on Manufacturing and Process Industry, September 2000

www.telecom.net.et/~estc/publication/proceedi.htm

- Analysis of the Pollution Level of the Akaki River and Finding Possible Ways to Reduce the Environmental Pollution

- Local Manufactory Of Crossflow Turbine For Small-Hydropower This proceedings is the third of its kinds and a product of the 3rd cycle Local Research Grant organized by the Commission on November 28, 1996. The participants of the workshop included researcher, representatives of research institutes and higher educational establishments and professional staffs of the Commission.

<http://www.un-urbanwater.net/cities/addababa.html>

Managing Water for African Cities (MAWAC) is a joint initiative of United Nations Environment Programme UNEP and United Nations Centre for Human Settlements UNCHS (Habitat): Addis Ababa Water Demand Management, Pollution Control and Sound Aquifer Management, Public Awareness Campaign, ...

<http://www.telecom.net.et/~estc/cpc.htm> ;

E-mail: ecpc@telecom.net.et

The Ethiopian **Cleaner Production Centre (ECPC)**, established in April 2000, is part of the world wide UNIDO/UNEP National Cleaner Production Centres network. The future picture is the existence of a network of institutions and individuals, whose major focal point is ECPC and committed to the promotion of cleaner production.

<http://edc.usgs.gov/earthshots/slow/Turkana/Turkana>

Lake Turkana, formerly Lake Rudolf, lies in the Rift Valley of East Africa. It is approximately 240 km long and 40 km wide, with an average depth of about 35 m. The Omo River provides more than 80% of the water to the lake. The lake has no outlet and lies in a very arid area. The delta of the Omo River increased by about 380 sq km between 1973 and 1989, due to a drop in the water level. Aquatic vegetation took hold on the emerging delta. Prolonged drought and the damming of three rivers for irrigation near the southern reaches of the lake contributed to the lake's decline. The salinity of the lake increased. Evaporating water leaves its solutes (dissolved salts) behind, and since the lake has no outlet, the salt concentration increases.

<http://www.gondar.co.uk/ethiopia/programme.html>

Ethiopia: **A Biodiversity Challenge**

An International Conference organized jointly by the Linnean Society of London and the Biological Society of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa. Dates: 2-4 February 2000

The Linnean Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0LQ, UK.

Tel: +44 (0)171 434 4479 - Fax: +44 (0)171 287 9364 - E-mail: marquita@linnean.demon.co.uk

The Biological Society of Ethiopia, PO Box 31819, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Tel: +251-1-553177 ext 181/212 - Fax: +251-1-552350; E-mail: biology.aau@telecom.net.et

<http://www.aas.org/international/ssa/enset/>

The Tree Against Hunger: Enset-Based Agricultural Systems in Ethiopia

American Association for the Advancement of Science with Awassa Agricultural Research Center, Kyoto University Center for African Area Studies and University of Florida

(Ecology and Environment, Agronomy and Production Management, Harvesting and Processing, Gender Issues, Enset Farming Systems (Gurage, Hadiya, Sidama), Food Security and Sustainability, Future Projects, ...)

<http://www.siu.no/vev.nsf/info/NUFU-evaluations--AAU1999-0F634>

Control of Schistosomiasis (bilharzia) by Local Production and Use of the **Soapberry Endod** Duration: 1996-1999. Cooperating partners: Institute of Pathobiology, Addis Ababa University and Ullevaal Centre for International Medicine/Department of International Health, University of Oslo and NORAGRIC, Agricultural University of Norway.

<http://www.selam-eth.de>

Some of the products of Äthiopische Kinderhilfe SELAM e.V.: Selam - Poldaw 50 Wind Pump, Water Turbine, Hydraulic Ram Pump, Treadle Pump (Concrete and Metal Type)

S - 280 Community Solar Cooker, Solar Parabolic Cooker, Solar Oven / Cooker Box, Solar Water Heater System, Solar Food Dryer, Biogas Appliances

Multi Crop Tresher, Grinding Mills, Mill Stones, Coffee Pulping Machine, Distillation Unit, Butter Churn, Bee Hive and Smoker, Honey Extractor, Bee Wax Press

MESOB (www.mesob.org) is an initiative of Inter Africa Group's NGO Networking Service (www.interafrica.org), PO Box 1631, Addis Ababa ETHIOPIA, Tel: 251 1 514575; E-mail: iaq@telecom.net.et

Many informations about eth. NGOs:

<http://www.mesob.org/ngo.html>

<http://www.homestead.com/esche/>

The Ethiopian Society of Chemical Engineers' Home page
E-mail: esche@homestead.com

Weitere Informationen zu Umweltthemen sind in unseren Informationsblättern zu finden:

2/99 (August 1999), S. 3 - 5: "Utilisation of Biogas Technology in Ethiopia",
3/99 (Dezember 1999), S. 23 - 25: „Aufforstung in Westäthiopien“ und „Energiesituation, Erosion, Viehwirtschaft“,
2/01 (Juni 2001), S. 8 - 9: „Soziale und ökologische Folgen der Entwaldung im Südwesten Äthopiens“.

Patchwork

Urbanization In Ethiopia Characterized by Low Level of Planning

Addis Ababa, March 15, 2001 (WIC)- Town Planners say that most of the towns in Ethiopia have undergone high rate of urbanization over the last ten years, even though the growth was to a large extent unplanned and disorganized. Dr. Eckart Rosenberger, President of the Chamber of Architects of Baden Wurttemberg, in Germany said 80 per cent of the housing in these towns is unplanned, and has been executed in unplanned areas. According to the architect, who was a guest speaker at a National workshop on Urban Planning in Ethiopia, the archaic growth is not only the characteristics of small, regional towns, but also of bigger cities like Addis Ababa and Baher Dar. "In Addis Ababa, with the majority of the large in-fill sites already developed, most housing construction during the past 20 years has also been unplanned", he said. Similarly, in Baher Dar, capital of the Amhara Regional State, more than 50 per cent of the housing units have been built without proper planning. The effect of the problem has manifested itself in uncontrolled urban settlements, increasing slum areas with growing sanitary, health and educational problems, and increase in the rate of crimes. Major factors cited for these unkempt growth

was centralized and uncoordinated institutional structures, long planning procedures as well as lack of implementation and revision of town plans. While being the least urbanized country in Africa, Ethiopia, nonetheless, is one of the fastest urbanizing countries. This process is not matched with proper town planning practices. Participant of the workshop, drawn from the private sector, regional bureaux and the Federal ministries, will discuss on planning laws and building code, and the role of the government, municipalities and the private sector in town planning issue, among others. Organized by the Ethiopian Consulting Engineers and Architects Association, in collaboration with GTZ, the German Technical Cooperation the workshop is the first instalment of two workshops to be organized on town planning and Architecture.

Bureau Planting Grass Varieties to Curb Soil Erosion

Assossa, March 30, 2001 (WIC) The Agriculture Bureau of Benishangul-Gumuz State disclosed that various types of grass species were being planted in the State to help contain soil erosion. Kefale Adem, Forest Development and Protection Team Leader with the Bureau, said today that in a bid to prevent the soil from being eroded by floods and winds, various grass varieties were planted in coffee producing woredas of the State. Preparations were also finalized to distribute the grass species to peasants in the area, he said, adding that the Bureau was raising awareness among the peasants as to how to build terraces on tilting ground. According to Kefale, about 58 million tones of soil in the State is removed as a result of erosion annually.

Workers Stumble On Italian Chemical Weapons Cache in Ethiopia

Panafrican News Agency (Dakar) May 4, 2001, Addis Ababa
A cache of weapons, including chemicals, dating back to the five-year Italian occupation of Ethiopia in the 1930s, were found early this week at the town of Ambalaghe, some 710 km north of

Addis Ababa. The find was stumbled on as workers dug the ground for the expansion of a local school. News accounts on the find said what was unearthed include close to 800 cannon bullets, over 300 grenades and quantities of gunpowder and gaseous chemicals whose leakage were feared to be fatal. Local authorities in the area had halted excavation at the construction site fearing that tampering with them may result in the escape of dangerous gases, the accounts said. They quoted an expert with the Chemical Weapons Convention Implanting department at the ministry of Trade and Industry as saying that the gunpowder and unidentified chemicals unearthed at Ambalaghe may contain poisonous substances buried by fascist Italian forces when they invaded Ethiopia in 1936. Ambalaghe, a mountainous area about 50 km north of the town of Maichew, was a major battle scene, where ill-equipped Ethiopian troops kept Italian forces at bay for weeks before being overcome by superior firepower and poisonous mustard gas sprayed by Italian warplanes. Sources quoted at the Trade and Industry ministry say that during the invasion, Italy brought in some 80,000 tonnes of chemical weapons, which they dumped in various parts of the country before the occupation ended in 1941. The sources insisted that a country that buries such chemicals during wartime is required by international law to clear and "disable" them. They said Italy has the responsibility of informing relevant international authorities of the locations where its occupying forces had buried war weaponry as well as the responsibility of clearing and defusing them. "All efforts on Ethiopia's side to bring about this had failed so far," a source was quoted as saying. Copyright © 2001 Panafrican News Agency (allAfrica.com).

Who Should Pay for Waste?

May 30, 2001 - OPINION - B. Mezgebu
Air is free. Water is free; and here we are not talking about piped water. Anyone so inclined as to go to the nearest river and have a bath can do it for free. Whether or not the river they would want to swim in is waste-ridden is beside

the point. What happens to supposedly free resources in the course of time and as the result of the actions of people is, however, never beside the point. The air is supposedly free and is meant to be for the common good but if the carbon monoxide belching out from the back of an old truck that has long passed its road worthiness triggers a fit of coughs in passers-by, does the culprit go scot-free? The law's answer to that is no. However, since the law remains buried in paper, most people, including drivers possibly, hardly know it exists. Officials that are supposed to enforce regulations seem hardly aware of it, too. Again, take packagers of which cigarette makers and plastic bag manufacturers are only two. The plastic bag at present is the most widely popular use-and-throw form of packaging in use. And it happens to be the most eye-catching litter in cities and towns in this country to-day. Should plastic manufacturing plants continue to produce such a persistently polluting product and not be accountable to some degree? Should they continue to pollute with a free hand? Not if we were to follow the precedents in Europe and other places. In Germany alone, 2 billion US Dollars are collected every year from 19,000 packagers. The money is then plowed back to help recycle the packaging material, be it pizza cartons, jars, cans of coke, old newspapers, cigarette packing etc. Manufacturing companies understandably might object to any extra payment even if the money were to be spent on enhancing the environment, on grounds of a couple of arguments: One, that they only make the product. They package their product in such a way that it gives the maximum satisfaction to the consumer. It is the buyers that litter and pollute carelessly. As to recycling, they say, if it pays economically to recycle as the advocates of the environment seem to believe, let others do it on their own free will; they have to travel no further than the next garbage bins. Two, Companies or manufacturing firms pay taxes, anyway. It should be up to governments that collect tax money to do the cleaning or the recycling. Obviously these kinds of arguments though not to be dismissed as totally self-serving have not had many buyers in many countries. In Europe for example, in 12

countries, 40,000 packagers were charged, one way or another, for their 460 billion individual packages last year alone. At present the debate in Europe isn't actually if packagers should pay at all but rather in what fashion. As usual this debate revolves around the argument as to who can do the job better with the money so collected: government? private companies? Could we subscribe to such a principle here, too? The principle that companies, businesses and others that either pollute directly themselves or generate waste and end up polluting the air, water or the surroundings, would have to prove that they have paid for at least some of their waste to be removed or even recycled. If businesses that don't pollute the environment pay taxes, then it is only fair that companies that do generate should pay a little extra. As a new trend, we are already beginning to see what could be the beginning of a long-term collaboration between the business community and environment activists in Addis Ababa. Several of the Gashe Aberra Molla city greening efforts have been assisted by business people. But these are one-off deals that may not be sustainable. Already there are signs that the spontaneous community participation that we saw a few months ago in the streets of Addis may have peaked now. We only hope that the graph doesn't begin to tailspin. We would like to suggest to the Addis Ababa City Administration, if we may, that perhaps the first useful step in future work on the environment is to identify the sources that generate waste and engage them on continued bases; be they companies, government institutions or even individual entrepreneurs. Money may not be everything.

Copyright © 2001 The Daily Monitor (allAfrica.com).

"Vigorous Reforestation" Needed

August 6, 2001

The government-owned daily 'Addis Zemen' has advocated for a campaign of vigorous reforestation, and for more attention to be given to protecting Ethiopia's natural resources. It said on 1 August that tree seedlings were being planted on an "extensive scale" during the present rainy season, but that more planting

was not in itself sufficient. "More important will be to nurture the trees until they are mature... [and that] appropriate actions should be maintained at all times, especially in our country where forest lands are fast being turned into deserts due to deforestation." It said "concerned bodies and the society as a whole" should be encouraged to take good care of existing forests, and protect them against fire and arbitrary felling. According to 'Addis Zemen', over one million tree seedlings had been planted in the week ending on 1 August in seven areas of Bale, southeastern Ethiopia. Half the planted seedlings were introduced to replace the forests of Menergetu that had been destroyed by fire last year, the report said.

Copyright © 2001 UN Integrated Regional Information Network (allAfrica.com)

Dams Planned for Power Generation And Irrigation

August 17, 2001

Thirteen dams which are to generate power and irrigate a 590,000-hectare development project will be built in Ethiopia, the pro-government Walta Information Centre reported on Wednesday. The scheme is a component of a joint programme designed by the Nile riparian states under the Nile Basin Initiative. The governments of three riparian states - Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt, are to open an office in Addis Ababa in October to oversee implementation of the regional programme, which will cost an estimated US \$30 billion, Walta said. The head of the hydrology department of the Ethiopian water resources ministry, Kidane Asefa, is quoted as saying that around US \$400 million will be needed to implement the projects under the Ethiopian component of the programme.

Copyright © 2001 UN Integrated Regional Information Network (allAfrica.com).

Basic Geological Map Prepared For 30 Per Cent Of Nation's Total Area

Addis Ababa, August 30, 2001 (ENA) - An official with the geological survey of Ethiopia announced that a basic geological map has been prepared for 30 per

cent of the over 1.1 million squarer km. total area of the country. Regional Geology and Geo-chemistry Study Department Head with the Survey, Dr. Tarekgn Tadesse, told ENA recently that project proposal has been submitted to the government to prepare geological map for the remaining parts of the country within 15 years. Work on the project would start soon-as the 50 million birr worth financial and material donation is obtained from donors, Dr. Tarekgn said. He said the preparations of geological map would help identify the age, structure, type and distribution of the major rocks in the country. The map would also give vital information about the location of raw materials believed to be useful for agricultural, construction and industrial purposes, the head said. He said the map would also indicate the amount, quality and drainage of underground waters. The map would provide advance information about the vulnerability of areas to natural calamities prior to launching dam and road constructions as well as urban planning and population settlement in the area, he said. Dr. Tarekegn said the map would serve as the best reference to the government and investors, who are willing to launch mine exploration and extraction activities.

Authority to Undertake Water Projects with Over 125 Million Birr

Addis Ababa, September 01, 2001 (WIC) - The Water and Sewerage Authority of the Addis Ababa City Administration said it would execute 17 on-going and 5 new water projects in the current budget year with a total outlay of 125,639,800 birr. Head of the Public Relations Office with the Authority, Derese Beyene, told WIC yesterday that work on the final designs of underground and surface water developments and distribution points were among the projects. Derese said that nearly 41 million birr was earmarked for the Addis Ababa Water and Sewerage Back-up Project in addition to the total of 21,604,200 birr allotted to help execute the Kotebe Potable Water Project and to revamp the Legedadi Water Purification Plant. According to him, the delay in

executing the seventeen identify projects was due to uncompleted design works and studies for some projects, failure to secure project sites on time and also failure on the part of contractors to execute projects according to schedule, among others. Derese further said that the Authority was ready to complete the projects successfully by overcoming the aforementioned and other impediments. The Authority had undertaken 15 water project during the last budget year with an outlay of over 56 million birr, it was learnt.

Expired Pesticide to Be Destroyed

September 19, 2001

The Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture is in the process of collecting expired pesticides from rural areas for disposal, the pro-government Walta Information Centre reported on Monday. The pesticides will be shipped to Finland for incineration, since Ethiopia does not have the facilities, a local agricultural expert told IRIN. The ministry hoped to collect 1,500 mt of pesticide, and has budgeted accordingly. However, 2,800 mt of pesticide have already been collected, and the government is looking to donors, who bore the cost of the initial project, to fund the safe disposal of the additional hazardous material. The cost of shipment to Finland and incineration of 1,500 mt was US \$4.6 million, said the expert. The project would get under way once clearance was received from countries that the shipment would traverse, he added. He told IRIN that unused pesticide, if improperly stored, can contaminate ground water, as well as rivers and streams, posing a danger to humans, livestock and wild animals.

Copyright © 2001 UN Integrated Regional InformationNetwork (allAfrica.com).

Water Emergency in Drought-Hit Areas

September 28, 2001

If October rains are as poor as the seasonal Gu rains earlier in the year, conditions will become critical in the Ethiopian Somali region, Somalia, northwestern Eritrea and northern Kenya, the UNDP Emer-

gencies Unit in Ethiopia (EUE) warned in its August-September humanitarian update. Emergency water needs in Warder, Degeh Bur, Gode, Afder and Liben zones in southeastern Ethiopia were an ongoing concern for humanitarian agencies, the report said. The local administration had detailed exhaustion of shallow wells and birkas (reservoirs) in many of the areas, and decreasing borehole productivity. Although some rain had been reported in the last few weeks, "it remains to be seen whether these rains will be sufficient to relieve pressure on pastoralists in areas still recovering from the 1999-2000 drought", EUE said. It pointed out that demands on increasingly scarce water sources had been exacerbated by "an influx of drought migrants from affected areas of north-central Somalia, who are coming with their livestock". Recent climate outlooks for Ethiopia show probabilities for below-normal rainfall over southern Ethiopia for the period September-December 2001.

Copyright © 2001 UN Integrated Regional Information Network. (allAfrica.com).

Association calls for industrial productions of traditional medicines

Awassa, October 1, 2001 (WIC) - The National Association of Traditional Medicine Practitioners has called for mechanisms that would enable the production of traditionally used medicinal herbs by pharmaceutical industries. At the inauguration of a traditional medical center in Awassa Town today, Association Chairman Wubet Abay said that mechanisms should be devised to help prepare the various types of medicinal herbs with the help of the modern medical technology. He said that since efforts made to promote the use of traditional medicine were insignificant, the profession is now feared may be relinquished totally. The Association established in 1984 E.C has a total of 2,000 members, it was learnt.

Nachrichten aus Äthiopien

Auszüge aus ETHIOPIA Seven Days Update¹, zusammengestellt von Harmen Storck

1. Conflict with Eritrea

Deployment of UN Mission on Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE):

The BBC reported from Addis Ababa that the UNMEE has expressed growing concern about the situation in the buffer zone between the two countries. UNMEE says that both Ethiopia and Eritrea have not fully adhered to requirements stated in the cessation of hostilities agreement signed by both countries when their border conflict ended last year. The UNMEE deputy spokeswoman made the following demands to the two sides:

- Eritrea should allow UNMEE unlimited monitoring of the 15-km area adjacent to the northern boundary of the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ).
- Eritrea should provide UNMEE with information on the local militia and police inside the TSZ, including weapons necessary for the mission to verify their functions and the configuration of the militia and police.
- Ethiopia should provide UNMEE with information and maps concerning all minefields to facilitate the work of the mine action coordination center with a view to allowing internally displaced people to return home safely.
- The two parties should unconditionally and without further delay restart the exchange of the remaining prisoners of war and detainees under the auspices of the Red Cross.

The Security Council extended the mandate of UNMEE until March 15, 2002. The number of troops and military observers remains unchanged. By unanimously adopting resolution 1369 (2001), the Council also called on the parties to cooperate fully and expeditiously with UNMEE in the implementation of its mandate and to abide scrupulously by the letter and spirit of the agreements signed by Ethiopia and Eritrea. The Council also emphasized that the Algiers Agreements linked the termination of UNMEE with the implementation of the work of the independent Boundary Commission, which is charged with delimitation and demarcation of the border between the two countries and that in the interim, the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ) must be completely demilitarized (*Daily Monitor*, Sep. 17).

The UN Secretary General has said that Eritrea has failed to provide the United Nations Mission to Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) with the necessary information on its militia and police force inside the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ). It is estimated that 6,800 Eritrean militia and 3,000 police are currently deployed in the TSZ, the *UN Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN)* said. Despite the urging of UNMEE for Eritrea against the deployment of police and militia close to the southern boundary of TSZ, such deployment had led to tension, the report said (*Radio Ethiopia*, Sep. 12).

At a joint press conference at the Mereb River on the border, UN Secretary-General, Legwaila Joseph Legwaila said that despite recent internal problems in both countries, forces at the border were "thinning out". He said the Ethiopian army was "in full swing" with demobilization, and that the government was restructuring the army. He said on the northern boundary of the buffer zone (Temporary Security Zone – TSZ), the Eritrean forces were "preparing for their demobilization at the end of the year". He commended both sides (*IRIN*, Aug. 13).

Routes to Sabalita and Harsile in Eritrea were cited as areas where UNMEE peacekeepers had been encountering movement difficulties. UNMEE's Nkolo told journalists that solving the issue of access throughout the operational area was essential to UNMEE's ability to fulfill its mandate. The road to Harsile, in spite of its critical importance as an evacuation route in and out of the TSZ, is largely out of bounds to UNMEE (*IRIN*, July 23).

At the 7th UNMEE Military Coordination Commission meeting, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on June 27, the Eritrean delegation announced to the meeting that Eritrea does not generally accept the southern boundary of the TSZ indicated on the map prepared by UNMEE. The delegation said the Eritrean government would make its position clear on the issue soon (*Radio Ethiopia*, June 27).

Ethiopia has rejected the UN map that marks the buffer zone between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Ethiopia says the boundaries demarcated on the map are inconsistent with what was agreed with the UN. Ethiopia's Foreign Affairs spokesman Yemane Kidane said there were two main points on the map that concerned the Ethiopian authorities. - Firstly, the eastern sector, known as the Bure Front, includes eight km of Ethiopian territory, which should not be in the buffer zone, as these are positions Ethiopia occupied prior to the war. - Secondly, Mr. Kidane said that in the northern area of Irob, the zone is only 12 kms. deep, when it should be the artillery range distance of 25 kms (*BBC*, June 27).

As of mid-June, 5,631 peacekeepers had been deployed in Ethiopia or Eritrea as

part of the UN mission there, known as UNMEE. Annan cited numerous problems confronting the mission, most notably persistent disputes about the precise borders of a buffer zone set up to separate the two countries' armies. Other complaints were that Ethiopia still had troops stationed in the buffer zone, Eritrea had deployed too many civilian police and militia in the zone and Eritrea was limiting peacekeepers' freedom of involvement. There was also still not accord on a route for direct UN flights between Asmara and Addis Ababa. And Eritrea held 400 Ethiopian prisoners of war while Ethiopia held 1,300 Eritreans, despite having agreed six months ago to release all war prisoners "without delay," Annan said.

Border and Compensation Commission :

Ethiopia recently presented its claims on the border issue with supporting evidence to the Ethiopia and Eritrea Border Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said. Ethiopia has also presented a separate document consisting of procedural matters to the Compensation Commission. The Legal Affairs Director with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ato Seife Selassie Lemma said that the details of the compensation claims would be presented to the commission on December 12, 2001 (*State media*, July 6).

The UN says that only six months remain for the deadline before Ethiopia and Eritrea must submit their claims to the Ethiopia and Eritrea Claims Commission, one of the several UN agencies created to find a final solution to the conflict between the two countries. Official reports indicate that Ethiopia lost more than 120mio USD worth of goods at the Eritrean port of Assab alone, when Eritrea detained import and export goods belonging to Ethiopia when hostilities broke out between the two countries. The worst hit were private businessmen, who have so far received no compensation for the goods they had lost at the port. The claims commission had met in March and May at The Hague. The current vacancy on the commission caused by the resignation of one of the Commissioners originally appointed by Ethiopia is expected to be filled in soon (*Entrepreneur*, June 28).

Ethiopians there, Eritreans here:

Residents of Axum and Adwa have disclosed that Eritreans deported as security risks during the Ethio-Eritrean war are coming back. These include Eritreans married to Ethiopians. Ethiopians who returned from Eritrea via Rama have complained that local officials in Rama failed to act when advised about the return of the Eritreans (*Satenaw*, Sep. 24).

Eritrea had complained to the UN Security Council that Ethiopia had deported a group of 722 people, in violation of inter-

national humanitarian laws and human rights conventions. In a letter dated 28 June, the permanent representative of Eritrea said most of the deportees were "women, children and old people... some suffer from serious disability." The letter complained that most of the deportees were "rounded up from their homes and work places in Tigray and were imprisoned in various places of detention for days before being deported". It said some had been detained for as long as three years "including in places which were never visited by the International Committee of the Red Cross". The group arrived at the Mereb River, on the disputed border, on June 25, the letter said (*IRIN, July 10*).

Demobilisation, Displaced Persons,

POWs:

The Eritrean government has repatriated 24 Ethiopian prisoners of war (POWs) to Ethiopia. In a statement, the Asmara government said it took the decision to return the POWs because of health reasons. The statement also called on the international community to put pressure on Ethiopia to release the POWs it is holding (*State media, Oct. 8*).

The European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) has donated US \$4.2mio to provide emergency food aid to over 300,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) and returnees affected by the border conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea. The money will be used by the WFP to purchase locally more than 11,000 tons of sorghum for IDPs and returnees living in the northern region of Tigray (*Daily Monitor, Aug. 16*).

In line with the Algiers peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea, Ethiopia is reportedly demobilizing 68% of its total army, including recalled members of the former army, recalled TPLF fighters, militias and regular soldiers (*Tomar, Aug. 15*).

Costs of the War:

Ethiopia's war with neighboring Eritrea has had a devastating effect on the economy. A study, by the Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute, says the 2 1/2 year border war cost Ethiopia more than 2.9 bn birr (\$350m). It states the economic and social infrastructures were destroyed, properties were looted and normal human settlement and economic activities were disrupted with a significant loss of life. The report, which is due to be published in the autumn, gives a comprehensive analysis of how the conflict diverted scarce resources from development to fund a war which cost tens of thousands of lives. - It disclosed that when the war broke out on May 6, 1998, the Ethiopian Government was forced to mobilize manpower, material and financial resources to help with the war effort. "To defend the nation, the size of the army was increased from 60,000 to

350,000. The increase in the size of the army increased the defense expenditure from \$95m in 1997/8 to \$777m in 1999/2000. Thus, the military expenditure became 49.8% of the country's total recurrent expenditure," says the report's author, economist Abebe Teferi (*BBC, Aug. 6*).

The border war with Eritrea, combined with a global decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA), had resulted in a \$26mio fall in development assistance to Ethiopia from bilateral and multilateral sources. Figures show that annual external development assistance from these sources fell from US \$756mio to US \$730mio in the three years to 1999 while relief aid rose from US \$150mio to US \$230mio during the same period. Humanitarian assistance now makes up 25 % of all external assistance (*IRIN, July 18*).

2. Economics, Finance, Commerce

State Revenues, Budgets, Economic Growth:

The Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (MEDaC) has forecast that Ethiopia's economy would grow by 7 % in the current fiscal year. This, it said, is based on the expected growth in agriculture as a result of good weather during the current crop season. The performance of the economy will also benefit from improvements in the private sector and increased foreign assistance to Ethiopia as a result of better relations with development partners (*State media, Oct. 1*).

Ethiopia's manufacturing sector has shown a remarkable growth since the free market economic policy. It has been growing at an annual average of 5% between 1991/1992 and 1998/1999. As a result, the share of the sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which was about 4.8%, reached 6.7% in 1999. The relative expansion is largely accounted for by the growth of the share of private manufacturing enterprises, it said. The growth rate of medium and large-scale private manufacturing reached 62.7% in 1999. This development is corresponded by an equal growth in the proportion of the share of workers now employed privately, as compared to the total workforce in the sector (*ETV, Oct. 2*).

The general manager of the Federal Internal Revenue Authority has said that, so far, it had not been able to collect a total of over 2.6bio birr in direct taxes and penalties from state development enterprises. The taxes amount to 804.6mio birr and penalties total 1,259.7mio birr (*Reporter, Sep. 10*).

The Addis Ababa Lagahar customs office has collected over 3.45 billion birr from import and export duties and taxes from various businesses during the last Ethiopian budget year. Over 2.8 billion birr was

secured from import duties while the balance came from export duties and taxes from different businesses. The amount exceeded that of last year by 741.4mio birr. Over 315.1mio birr worth of duty free goods were also imported into the country during the reported period. Over 3.6mio birr worth of contraband goods were also intercepted during the same period (*State media, July 21*).

The Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (MEDaC) had disclosed that the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country would grow by over 9 % during the current year. The GDP growth of the country, which was 5 % during the conflict with Eritrea, is expected to reach between 7.5 % and 9 % this year. It attributed the increase to the bumper harvest last year accompanied by the resurgence in the industrial, trade and transport sectors. The GDP will continue to rise by 7 % over the coming three years and increase the per capita income by 4 %. The reconstruction, rehabilitation as well as the demobilization process is in progress as part of the post war recovery program with USD 400mio obtained from the World Bank in concessional loan (*Radio Ethiopia, July 18*).

The Federal Ministry of Finance has announced that 500mio birr out of the budget allocated this year for defense will go for subsidy to the regional states. Ato Hailemeleket Teklegiorgis, Vice Minister of Finance, said that since this year's defense budget was 46 % less than last year's, economic and social services were targeted to perform better. The education funds were higher by 28 %, while the health funds grew by 24 %. (*Radio Ethiopia, June 27*).

On June 19, the Council of Ministers referred the bill on the national budget for the next fiscal year to the House of Peoples' Representatives for approval. The bill proposed an over 15.12 billion birr capital and recurrent budget for the 1994 Ethiopian fiscal year. It was based on the new budgetary reform system of the country. Over 7.2 billion birr of the proposed budget is recurrent and over 3.9 billion birr capital. The council also proposed over 4.6 billion birr subsidiary budget to states including the Dire Dawa Administrative Council (*Radio Ethiopia, June 19*).

Debts, Grants, Loans and Credits:

The German Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, will pay a working visit to Ethiopia from October 7-9, 2001. The Minister is expected to hold high-level talks and visit a number of projects run under the auspices of the German Agro Action near Bahr Dar and the Agro-Technical Training College (ATTC) run by Menschen fur Menschen in Harar. The visit will be followed by government negotiations on the forthcoming German-

Ethiopian development cooperation meeting scheduled to take place in Bonn October 29-30. According to MEDaC, Germany has made a grant of 925.6 million DM to Ethiopia over the last 37 years (*Radio Ethiopia, Oct. 5*).

The Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) has given a loan of over 641mio birr to farmers to be used for the purchase of agricultural inputs during the coming fiscal year. The National Fertilizer Agency said it has distributed over three million quintals of fertilizers to farmers in the various regional states for the coming fiscal year. The loans were given to the farmers under the guarantee of the regional states (*Radio Ethiopia, Sep. 1*).

The vice-minister of Economic Development and Cooperation, Dr. Mulatu Te-shome, has said that in the past decade, Ethiopia obtained over seven billion USD in foreign assistance through bilateral and multi-lateral agreements. 4.669 billion USD have been pledged through multi-lateral agreements but only 3.223 billion \$ was obtained for aid and loan intended to be used for manpower training, supply of materials and medicines as well as for technical services. The remaining 2.216 billion \$ was obtained through bilateral agreements (*Abiotawi Democracy, Aug. 29-Sep. 4*).

UNDP is carrying out various development activities in Ethiopia this year with nearly 20mio USD (about 170mio birr). UNDP's development interventions in the country focus on public sector capacity building and management, agriculture, health, education and potable water supply. UNDP has provided financial and technical support in the formulation of the country's civil service reform program as well as in the training of managers and planners. UNDP recently launched 60mio USD (nearly 510mio birr) worth of anti-HIV/AIDS programs to support the country's efforts to control the pandemic (*Radio Ethiopia, Sep. 3*).

Agreements amounting to 155mio USD (1.2 billion birr) were signed last week between the governments of Ethiopia and the USA. The agreements provide development support in the areas of basic education, democracy and governance, health, food and agriculture, and a special project targeting pastoralists. (*ETV, Aug. 13*).

The Executive Board of the IMF on Aug. 2 completed the first review of Ethiopia's economic program provided for in its arrangement under the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (PRGF). As a result of this review, Ethiopia was to receive a US \$22mio credit immediately, an IMF statement said. (*IRIN, Aug. 4*).

According to a press release, of the total \$666 million that Ethiopia obtained from the World Bank, \$170.6 million will be used to cover the costs of the Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project.

About 150,000 veterans of the conflict with Eritrea will benefit from activities of the project, which are aimed at reintegrating them back into their communities and providing them with employment opportunities (*Daily Monitor, Aug. 8*).

The DPPC and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have signed an over 2.4mio US-\$ aid agreement. The grant will be used to reinforce the development projects being undertaken by local and international NGOs in nine regions -- Addis Ababa, Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya, Gambella, Benishangul-Gumuz, Harari, Somali and Southern Peoples' State. The projects focus mainly on agriculture, environment protection, natural resources conservation, micro-credit services, HIV/AIDS prevention and family planning. About 736,000 people will become beneficiaries of the projects (*Radio Ethiopia, July 27*).

Ethiopia and the European Commission (EC) signed a memorandum of understanding for a grant amounting to 292mio birr. Out of the total grant, 201mio birr will be used for the provision of 110,000 metric tons of food aid for emergency distribution and the employment generation schemes (EGS) that creates job opportunities for vulnerable groups in the drought-prone areas. 80.4mio birr was allotted for the implementation of integrated food security programs (IFSP) in Tigray and Amhara States under the EU 2000 food security program. The remaining 11mio birr was assigned for capacity building and support studies and mid-term review and evaluation activities (*ETV, July 26*).

The government of Ethiopia and China signed a protocol of partial debt cancellation of 122.56mio US-\$. The Government of China has exempted Ethiopia from paying four batches of interest-free loans, which had matured in December 1999. This includes about 105mio USD interest-free loan provided in 1971, and a 16.86mio USD interest-free loan provided in 1988, 1989 and 1990. A grant agreement of about 1.8mio USD to finance economic and technical cooperation projects was also signed (*State media, June 20*).

The Government of Italy announces a debt cancellation amounting to 375mio USD to Ethiopia. The debt cancellation is part of the Italian government's decision to relieve highly indebted poor countries of about 4.1 billion USD (*Radio Ethiopia, June 22*).

Foreign Trade:

Ethiopia's export earnings during the last budget year has shown a sharp decline of 6.5%, compared to the previous fiscal year. According to reports from the Ethiopian Export Promotion Agency, the country earned 3.8 billion birr from the export business a year ago but last year it made only 3.5 billion birr. In terms of

exported products, in the previous Ethiopian fiscal year 265,187 tons of different items were exported, while last year it was 298,031 tons. According to the Agency's report, the main reason behind the decline is the considerable fall in the price of coffee in the international market. In the past years, coffee's share in the country's export earning had a 60% average, but has taken a down scaling trend reaching the current level of 41% only. Contrary to this, the performance in the export earnings from leather and leather products, flower, sugar, cotton, marble, teff, oil seeds, and textile products was accompanied by an incredible growth. Hides and skin, taking the lead in the highest performance of the export commodities, have shown a dramatic improvement enabling the country to earn 617mio birr, a figure said to be the highest in the past three years. Comparing this budget year's export performance of hides with last year's, it was reported that there was a 426% improvement while the revenue has grown from 24.4mio to 128.4mio birr, and as for skins, it rose from 232.6mio to 460.9mio birr. The growth is attributed to the increase in the world trade market of hides and skin. In addition, t'chat, oil seeds, and gold have climbed 3 to 5 ranks with a share of 14.4%, 7.2%, and 5% respectively (*Capital, Oct. 7*).

The investment bureau of the Benishangul-Gumuz State has announced that an investor in Metekel Zone has exported over 3,000 quintals of sesame to Germany. Similarly, two other investors in the state will soon export more than 1,450 quintals of incense to the U.S. and Europe (*ENA, Sep. 29*).

Ethiopia's coffee revenue fell by almost a fifth to \$204.4mio in the 2000/01 crop year, hurt by low world prices due to over-production and high stocks in consumer countries. Exports fell only slightly from 115,739 tons to 113,031 tons, but export revenues were down 19 % from \$252.9 million the previous year. The general manager of the Coffee and Tea Development Authority (CTDA), predicted a recovery by 2003, when he expects nearly all Ethiopian coffee to be certified as organic, thus generating premium prices. Tesegaye said 93,283 tons of coffee worth \$168.4mio had already been exported this year. Of the amount already exported, 22,813 tons was washed coffee, which generated \$51.mio, and 70,470 tons was unwashed worth \$117.mio, he said (*Daily Monitor, July 27*).

The Ethiopian Petroleum Corporation has announced that Ethiopia would soon import all the butane gas that it needs from Sudan. The Sudanese government is ready to supply 120 metric tons of butane a day to Ethiopia at a favorable price. Ethiopia annually consumes

550,000 metric tons of white diesel, 135,000 metric tons of petrol, 260,000 tons of aircraft petrol and kerosene, and 130,000 metric tons of black diesel for factories. Ethiopia and Sudan signed an agreement on June 14, 2001, allowing Ethiopia to import fuel from Sudan starting next year (*State media, July 1*).

Investment and Investment Policy:

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi has said that the country's agriculture-led development plan would remain in place until favorable conditions that could generate sustainable macro economic growth were created. Briefing local journalists, Ato Meles, however, said that "over the next five years, the government will attach more importance to industrial and urban development than it did in the past few years." He said his ruling party would work hard to empower the district and kebele administrations at the grass-roots level to ensure public participation in the development process (*ETV, Sep. 27*).

The Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EPPCO) intends to complete most of its major projects in the new Ethiopian calendar year, 1994. The corporation plans to work on 56 projects, of which 37 include those that have been carried forward from the previous years. The remaining 19 are new projects. The projects include the Sebela-Mekanisa Transmission Project, Fincha 4th Unit Project, which has a capacity to produce 34 Megawatts of electricity, and the Bahr Dar- Gonder transmission and substation projects. Ato Sendeku said the last two should be completed by June 2002 while the diesel station planned for Galafi and Semera towns in the Afar region should be finalized by around November 2002. According to Ato Sendeku, EPPCO has invested a capital of 2 billion birr to cover the cost of these projects (*Capital, Sep. 8*).

A 15-million birr food processing company has been established in accordance with the commercial code of Ethiopia, the weekly reported. The company, whose major share holder is Sheikh Mohammed Al-Amoudi will produce edible oil, butter, flour, pastry, pasta, macaroni, chocolate, candy and other sweet food and drinks. It is called Horra Food Complex Plc (*Business Review, Aug. 30*).

The Ministry of Mines and Energy has disclosed that 75 licensed investors have started mining exploration in different parts of the country in line with the country's investment law. In an interview the Ministry said that it had issued licenses to 17 local companies and 11 foreign companies in the last seven years. Over 75 types of licenses have been issued to these companies to engage in various kinds of mining activities (*Abiotawi Democracy*).

The Tis Abay II Hydroelectric Power project, constructed at a cost of over 500 million birr, has been inaugurated, the

Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EPPCO) said. The project has a capacity to generate 73 MW of electric power, and will raise the country's power supply to 450 MW from the current 377 MW (*Radio Ethiopia, June 30*).

An Italian company, ENERCO, that has been long waiting for more than a year now, has at last signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EPPCO) to build three power-generating plants across the country. The plants will be built at Bilbi Moya, some 50 km south west of Jimma town, Awash IV and Genale, on the border between Oromiya and Southern Nations regional states (*Fortune, June 17*).

Technical Assistance, Development Projects:

The Ethiopian Social Rehabilitation Development Fund (ESRDF) has undertaken 487 projects in the country with an outlay of 270 million birr during the just ended Ethiopian fiscal year. The projects include basic education, health, rural water supply and sanitation, small scale irrigation schemes, training and capacity building, small income generating activities and environmental protection. The number of projects implemented to date are 3,213, out of which 2,555 were completed in July 2001. Close to 16 million rural and urban residents have become beneficiaries of the projects (*ETV, Oct. 5*).

Privatisation:

The Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions (CETU) has expressed its opposition to a bid under which 111 public enterprises will be privatized. According to Ato Aregawi Kebede, head of the industrial relations branch of CETU, the bids and the post-privatization policy of the Ethiopian Privatization Agency lack openness. He said the over 210 public enterprises privatized by the Agency were currently experiencing serious economic crises. CETU opposes the privatization of the Construction and Business Bank, AMCE S.C., the Addis Tyre Factory, the Ethiopian Tourist Trade Organization, the Wabi Shebelle Hotels Administrative Organization and the Dire Dawa Cement Factory, among others (*The Reporter, Sep. 25*).

A study titled "Ethiopian Non-Governmental Business companies controlled by or associated with EPRDF member organizations" revealed that companies controlled by EPRDF member parties have built a business empire worth 3.5 billion birr despite a law that interdicts political parties from engaging in profit business. The document detailed that 3.3 billion birr belongs to Tigray Rehabilitation, 94.5 million birr to Amhara

business companies and 67.5 million birr to Oromiya companies. Out of 44 companies, 32 are controlled by Tigray Rehabilitation, five each by Amhara and Oromo development groups and only two by the Southern Ethiopia Development Association. Wegagen Bank is a joint venture incorporating capital contributions by all groups. The business companies are directly controlled by senior political chiefs of the parties who serve as board members and directors, the report added (*Tobia July 12*).

Transport and Communication:

British Airways, operated by British Mediterranean Airways, launched a twice-weekly service to Ethiopia on Oct. 5, 2001, introducing an Airbus A320 aircraft to the country. In a joint press conference, officials of Airbus and British Mediterranean Airways said the new service operates between Addis Ababa Bole International Airport and London Heathrow's Terminal 4 on Tuesdays and Fridays. The A320 Family Airbus carries 124 passengers and is the only single-aisle Aircraft able to accommodate standard containerized cargo, it was learned (*state media, Oct. 10*).

Internet services will be made available to five towns in Tigray State, the northern office of the Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation announced. The work on the installation of equipment was completed in June to expand the services to Adigrat, Axum, Endasselassie and Maichew. The towns will share the line from the main hub in Mekele which has the capacity to cater for 768 users (*Radio Ethiopia, Sep. 25*).

The Ethio-Djibouti Railway Administration is planning to replace the old rails stretching from Dire Dawa to Adigala with new ones at a cost of 280 million birr. The 125-km. stretch from Dire Dawa to Adigala will be totally changed, and all bridges along the rail line will also be rebuilt with the 280 million birr aid secured from the EU. The building project will be completed in two years while construction work will begin in the next six months (*Abiotawi Democracy, Sep. 5-11*).

Ethiopian Airlines will fly to Amsterdam effective Dec. 5, 2001. Effective Oct. 30, 2001, it will also reinstate the service to Brazzaville that was suspended five years ago because of security concerns following the civil war in the Congo. The twice weekly service to Amsterdam will make Ethiopia and the whole of Africa more conveniently accessible to tourists and business people alike from the Netherlands and other neighboring countries in Europe. The weekly service to Brazzaville is expected to give the people of the Republic of Congo convenient service in their movement from Congo to Europe, the Middle East and Far East (*Capital, Sep. 2*).

Ethiopia has signed an agreement with the Sudanese government to use port and customs facilities for its import and export transit of goods which will allow Ethiopia to move import-export goods to and from Port Sudan and also use customs facilities. Ethiopia is planning to start using Port Sudan and import fuel from Sudan once the construction of the cross-border road that links the two countries is completed (*Fortune, July 29*).

The Addis Ababa Ring Road Project Office with the Chinese Bridge and Roadwork announced that 65 % of the ring road construction, launched with an outlay of over 0.5 billion birr, has been finalized. The general manager of the project said that so far, 320mio birr had been spent on the construction. He disclosed that the 11-km. road, which extends from Jimma road to the Kaliti area. would be open to traffic soon. The manager also said the ring road project would be finalized in two years time. The Addis Ababa Ring Road Project, launched in March 1998 at a cost of 535.5mio birr, will cover a 32.2-km-long and 40-meter-wide road (*ENA, July 15*).

It was disclosed that the Port of Djibouti would no longer have an environment where companies can survive on their merit. The much applauded free market environment has now been shattered by a new decree signed into law by President Ismael Omar Guelleh on July 8. The law gives right of the port business, stevedoring, exclusively to Djiboutian nationals while it requires other countries to introduce reciprocal laws should their companies want to engage in agency and transit operations at the port. This daring directive is the first of its kind in the country's history that will kick out foreign companies such as Ethiopia's Maritime Transit Services Enterprise (MTSE) and others which have been operating for more than half a century at the Djibouti port. Only COMAD can presently operate under the new law until more Djiboutian companies emerge on the market. (*Fortune, July 15*).

The bridge on the Mereb River has been repaired and opened for use by the United Nations Mission on Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). The bridge crosses the Mereb River between the Ethiopian town of Rama and the Eritrean town of Adi Quala, and is 42 m long and 3.85 m wide (*State media, July 7*).

The Ethio-Djibouti Railway Enterprise plans to undertake emergency construction and study projects to improve its capacity and overall services. 35mio \$ have been set aside for the projects. The projects include the replacement of the 120-km old rails that stretch from Dire Dawa to Djibouti and the revamping of the 2,000 m bridges along the rails. The Ethio-Djibouti Railway Enterprise handles only 10 % of the import and export trade

Ethiopia conducts via Djibouti (*ENA, July 4*).

Ethiopian Airlines will start a bi-weekly flight to Hong Kong in August and increase its weekly flights to Lagos, Nigeria, from five to seven starting in July. The move is part of the airline's network expansion scheme since EAL laid out plans to increase revenues by 12 to 15 % next year by implementing a series of network expansions and enhanced marketing projects (*Capital, June 24*).

Other Issues:

The National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) has disclosed that the birr has over the year depreciated by 18 cents on the average against the USD. The Bank said that during the just ending fiscal year, the average exchange rate of one USD was 8.327 birr against 8.299 birr last year. The Bank attributed the depreciation of the birr to the fall in prices for coffee and other agricultural products in the world market since three years ago. NBE also said that the difference between the legal exchange rate and the exchange rate in the black market for USD was narrowing (*Walta Information Center, July 31*).

3. Agriculture, Food Aid, Drought Drought, Flood, Famine and Food Aid:

Somalis migrating from the drought-affected Gedo and Bakol regions in southern Somalia are congregating in areas of the Somali Regional State. The regions most affected in the Somali region were those which enjoyed reasonable rains this year, and could offer pasture and water, the source said. In Afder zone, a main watering point was described as "overwhelmed by people from Bakool and Gedo coming to find water and grazing". Other areas affected include Gode and Liban (*IRIN, Aug. 29*).

The flood disaster assessment committee of Afar State council said the number of people displaced by the flooded Awash River has exceeded 41,000. However, the Federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission said the number of the displaced stands at only 8,000. The committee said over 41,000 people in Assaita, Afambo and Dubti district have been displaced as the floods inundated 21 kebeles. It is now over one month since the displaced have been living in deplorable conditions (*Radio Ethiopia, Aug. 25*).

Emergency relief assistance is being distributed to more than 15,000 people displaced by the overflowed rivers in the country. Over two thousand quintals of food grain as well as medicines and non-food relief items have reached the affected people. According to a statement from the DPPC, the relief items are being distributed to displaced flood victims in Amhara, Tigray, Gambella and the Southern Peoples' State. The overflowed Tekezie, Gilo, Omo, as well as Gumera

and Rib rivers caused the floods (*State media, Aug. 22*).

Over 670 families have been displaced from their homes following the flooding of their homes as a result of the overflowing of the Finchitu River in Oromiya zone of Amhara State. Similarly, floods that followed torrential rains in eastern Harerge have killed six people and destroyed 228 houses (*Radio Ethiopia, Aug. 13*).

Heavy rains and thunder have made over 6,000 people homeless in Gambella region. The overflowing Gilo River burst its banks and isolated residents of Jol Awraja who have been forced to survive on roots and leaves. Crocodiles attacked people killing four. The chairman of Jihu district said three weeks after the floods, displaced victims are not yet supplied with relief items. Meanwhile, the overflowing Omo River has drowned five people and a large number of cattle. A local official has warned that the life of about 3,000 people is at risk unless people are airlifted by helicopter (*Addis Admas, Aug. 11; VOA, Aug. 13*).

The office of the U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) has said the U.S. Department of Agriculture was planning to contribute 130,000 mt of emergency food commodities to Ethiopia in 2001, valued at more than US \$54mio. It said all the commodities would be provided to the UN World Food Program to be channeled through target supplementary feeding, food-for-work, food-for-training and general distributions. Drought conditions in Ethiopia have generally shifted from "crisis to recovery for millions of Ethiopians", an OFDA information bulletin said. Despite the late start of the current rainy season, rainfall in late April and May has regenerated pasture and water resources across most of Somali region, which had been the epicenter of last year's regional drought crisis, OFDA said. However, despite positive recovery trends among drought-affected people, pockets of the population in Somali region has experienced an increase in malnutrition rates (*Daily Monitor, June 27*).

WFP has issued a donor alert earlier this month drawing attention to a major shortfall in the response to the government's 2001 relief appeal released in January. According to the latest WFP estimates, a further 106,000 mt of cereals and 70,000 mt of supplementary foods are required to meet the needs of 6.2 million people suffering from the effects of drought and poor harvests. WFP said that the drought-relief operation in Ethiopia for the year currently faces a shortfall of 38 % of its total requirements. The DPPC has already been forced to cut rations from 15 kg per person per month to 12.5 kg in order to assist a larger number of people than originally planned (*IRIN, July 18*).

Environment:

The Ministry of Agriculture has disclosed that about 2,240 quintals of expired pesticides were being collected from Addis Ababa, Bedelle and Arjo for consignment to Finland. The project expects to collect a total of 15,000 quintals of pesticides from various sites in the country. More expired pesticides will be collected from 900 sites in various parts of the country. Ato Teshome added that 1,500 quintals of expired pesticides would be collected from Dire Dawa Administration this week for shipment to Finland. Currently, there are over 30,000 quintals of expired pesticides in the country (ENA, Sep. 17).

In a moving petition to Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, elders of the Shekacho people in southwest Ethiopia gave a graphic and grim description of the systematic and barbaric destruction of their forests and the degradation of their ecology in the name of investment. They described their land as having been extremely fertile, getting rains for nine months a year (Tomar, July 25).

4. Tourism

Eight American tourists have made the first successful boat trip along the Blue Nile River, according to the Amhara State culture, tourism and information bureau. The tourists sailed the 2,500 miles of the river that stretches from the Amhara State to Sudan. The team of five men and three women departed from Mota in East Gojjam Zone and arrived at a town on the Sudanese border after 21 days. Many Europeans have attempted to sail by boat on the Blue Nile River since the reign of Emperor Menelik II, but all efforts were frustrated by the overflowing of the river, robbers and dangerous aquatic animals (ENA, Sep. 26).

5. Social, Cultural and Political Aspects

International Terrorism:

The Main Department for Immigration and Nationality Affairs has finalized preparations to register foreign nationals residing in Ethiopia. All foreign nationals living in Addis Ababa, permanently or temporarily, will be required to register at the head office of the Main Department within ten days -- from Oct. 8 to 17, 2001. The Department said that the schedule for the registration of foreign nationals living outside Addis Ababa would be announced in the near future. Foreigners failing to register within the specified period of time will be punished by the relevant immigration laws of the country, according to the release (State media, Oct. 5).

American officials suspect the existence in Ethiopia of bin Laden's Al-Qaeda cell. There are fears that, when America launches attacks on countries where these terrorist cells are based, embassies

and business enterprises in these countries could face attacks. Ethiopian security forces have been instructed by their superiors to ward off possible attacks against expatriates in the country. Indeed, Ethiopians who have rented houses and vehicles to expatriates have been advised to report on the daily activities of their guests. Some Sudanese and Arab residents of Addis Ababa were under surveillance, and 23 persons of Arab origin might have been detained on suspicion. The identities of these Arabs as well as an Arab who evaded arrest from a hotel in Addis Ababa have not been revealed (Tomar, Sep. 26).

According to FBI reports, there are about 7,000 Mujahedeen (Soldiers of Allah) in Sudan, on the borders with Eritrea. These are Afghans trained as fighters, pilots and airborne soldiers in Afghanistan. The Taliban soldiers are allegedly instrumental in facilitating the movements of fighters from Afghanistan to Sudan and North America via Europe (Netsanet, Sep. 18).

A US-Congressional report listed Ethiopia as one of the 34 "identified or suspected countries where terrorist organizations headed by Saudi exile Osama bin Laden had cells, representing a global threat". The Congressional Research Service report, was dated Monday, the day before the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon (Daily Monitor, Sep. 18).

TPLF Central Committee Split:

Ato Meles is reported to have told the TPLF plenary meeting in Mekele that he suspects the dismissed TPLF central committee faction of being behind the murder of the former security chief, Kinfe Gebre Medhin (Poletica, Sep. 10).

The President of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia, Dr. Negaso Gidada, has said that he has, on his own free will, dissociated himself from membership of the OPDO. According to Dr. Negaso, an unlawful act has been committed against the OPDO which, he said, was legally instituted in accordance with proclamation no. 46 of the Electoral Commission. Dr. Negaso also complained about a defamatory campaign waged against him personally by the state media. He stated that the letters he wrote for publication in the press for public information had all been suppressed. Dr. Negaso had also earlier withdrawn his membership in the EPRDF (VOA, Aug. 31).

Two senior officials of the Oromo People's Democratic Organization (OPDO) had joined the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) after fleeing the country. Ato Lencho Bati told VOA that OPDO's head of the militia, Ato Diriba Hariko, and former administrator of Bale, Ato Yassin Hussein, had three days ago handed themselves over to the OLF at an unidentified place along the Ethio-Kenyan border. The

two men were central committee members of the OPDO (VOA, Aug. 29).

201 Oromo militiamen thought to be sympathetic to the deposed head of Oromo militias, Diriba Hariko, have been disarmed and jailed in various prisons on charges of membership in the OLF. There is also concern about what happened to about 5,000 weapons, which Ato Diriba was supposed to have distributed to the militias during the Ethio-Eritrean war. The army is reportedly disarming Oromo militias following suspicions of OLF infiltration (Genanaw, Aug. 29).

The 4th organizational conference of the TPLF wound up successfully after adopting a resolution that praised the conference proceedings which reviewed past achievements and weaknesses and drew a new vision for the future. Conference participants unanimously endorsed the actions taken against the TPLF splinter group (State media, Aug. 11). - The participants also confirmed the supremacy of the TPLF central committee group led by Ato Meles Zenawi, and declared that there had not been a notable corruption problem within the party. They also gave full approval to EFFORT, the big business conglomerate run by the TPLF (Addis Admas, Aug. 11).

The Speaker of the House of Federation, Wzro. Almaz Meko, who had held the position for the last six years, had defected to the U.S. She went to the U.S. after a meeting in the Caribbean, later asked for political asylum and joined the OLF. (VOA, Aug. 12).

Three generals of the previous regime who had joined the army (the Ground and Air Force) Brig-General Tesfaye Habte Mariam, Brig-General Behailu Kinde and Brig-General Asaminew Bedane, have reportedly been retired (Tikussat, Aug. 8).

The OPDO has reportedly been divided between those who support its chairman, Ato Kuma Demekssa, and those that back Ato Girma Birru, seen as a staunch ally of Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. However, neither one had the upper hand throughout the 27 days the OPDO spent in performance evaluation (gemgema) meetings. It is said that the differences have reached cadres and others at the lower levels (Reporter, July 16).

About 400 soldiers and officers of the 102nd corps, who were viewed with suspicion for posing questions and refusing to participate in political meetings, reportedly have been detained. The corps is based in the Wello area and most of the detained officers are said to be Tigreans. Of these, one is reported to be Major Wolde Selassie Abraha, Ato Siye Abraha's brother who is now being held at Tatek military camp (Ethop, July 11).

A mediation committee to resolve disputes within the EPRDF has reportedly been set up and is expected to start work

on Monday, July 2. Members of the committee have been drawn from persons not belonging to EPRDF affiliate parties, people from various ethnic backgrounds and diplomats from embassies. The EPRDF is deeply concerned about moves by some OPDO members to break away as an independent party (*The Press, June 27*).

Ethiopia's President Negaso Gidada walked out of the ongoing regular conference of the Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), the EPRDF Council disclosed. President Negaso is Central Committee member of both the Oromo People's Democratic Organization (OPDO) and the Executive Committee of the EPRDF. The statement said the President left the conference after verbally renouncing his membership of the Council because of what he said was pressure imposed on him at the conference (*Radio Ethiopia, June 22*). - The statement indicated that Dr. Negaso had been showing partisanship towards the expelled TPLF central committee members (*VOA, June 22*). - Meanwhile, the OPDO expelled Dr. Negaso from the organization's central committee and stripped him of all representation and responsibilities in OPDO activities.

Ato Tewelde Wolde Mariam, a former advisor to the prime minister with the rank of minister and TPLF politburo member, Ato Alemseged Gebre Amlak and W/t Aregash Adane had received letters from Prime Minister Meles Zenawi advising them that they had been dismissed and their salaries withheld as of June 8. Ato Bitew Belay suffered a similar fate as of May 29 (*Satenaw, June 18*).

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi reportedly is about to dismiss certain senior officers accusing them of plotting against him with the suspended members of the TPLF central committee (*Asqal, June 19*). Four diplomats have defected, including the ambassador to Belgium, Peter Gabriel, the ambassador to India, Sherifo Desta, the ambassador to Uganda, Dawit Kebede, and the consul at the UN, Berhane Meskel Nega ("*Tigray Net*")

Students' Unrest:

Oromo students at AAU have signed and issued a statement denouncing the decision by the University Senate to return students during the second semester of the next academic year as a vengeful measure by a few persons who were opposed by students. The decision did not involve students and did not meet their interests, they said, and called on the government to reconsider this decision which delays by a year the whole education process (*Seife Nebelbal, Sep. 7*).

The head of the manpower and general services department of Addis Ababa University (AAU) has said that a civilian force would soon replace AAU's police

guard. Ato Mekonnen Abraha said that 272 civilian guards are attending a two-month training, and that the trainees would graduate and be deployed at their respective duty stations after 10 days. (*ENA, Sep. 5*).

AAU has announced that university students who recently boycotted classes could resume classes in the second semester of the coming academic year. This was decided during a special meeting of the AAU Senate. According to this decision, there will be no discrimination during the registration for admission between students who withdrew after fulfilling all formalities and those who did not (*ENA, Aug. 31*).

Over 40 Ethiopian students who fled to Kenya recently following the riots at Addis Ababa University (AAU) have staged a hunger strike in front of the UNHCR office in Nairobi. The hunger strike was staged in protest against the decision of the UNHCR and the Kenyan government to send the students to the Kakuma refugee camp. Once taken to the camp, the students would be dumped there and would get no chance to pursue their education. Moreover, staying in the Kakuma camp would expose them to the attacks of Woyane mercenaries who are widely deployed in Kenya to avenge Ethiopian refugees. The students are now demanding to be sent to a third country where they could get educational opportunities, which they were denied at home (*VOA, June 27*).

Thirty-eight students of AAU have reportedly applied for political asylum in Kenya after fleeing Ethiopia via Moyale. The UNHCR is looking into the matter after the students moved into refugee camps. The total number of students, soldiers and civil servants who had arrived in Kenya and Djibouti since the student unrest is said to be around 106 (*Dagim Wenchif, June 19*).

It has been reported that 17 students of Jimma University, including the president of the students' union, Osman Yeshanew, have gone into exile in Kenya. (*Goh, June 16*).

Elections:

The Houses of Peoples' Representatives and Federation have elected at their second joint session Lt. Girma Wolde Giorgis as the second president of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE). Lt. Girma W/Giorgis is 77 and a member of the House of Peoples' Representatives representing West Shoa Zone in Oromiya State. Married with five children, the new president served as Director General of the Ethiopian Civil Aviation Authority and what was the Trade, Industry and Plan Ministry during the Emperor's regime. He also was Member of Parliament and council president during the same period. Lt. Girma speaks three local and three foreign languages --

Oromiffa, Amharic, Tigrigna, Italian, English and French (*State media, Oct. 8*).

Opposition-Related Issues:

Government troops have reportedly clashed with local armed militiamen in Bui town, Western Wellega zone, during which five soldiers were killed and several were wounded. The clash broke out when the soldiers sought to force local people to reveal what they knew about the activities of OLF fighters in the area. In the ensuing shootout, three residents were killed and 15 were hurt (*Nigat, Sep. 10*).

A military committee had reportedly met at the office of the Prime Minister to discuss the situation in Oromiya which it judged to be worrisome. The struggle with the OLF, it noted, had reached a critical stage in view of the support of the Oromo people to Oromo intellectuals hostile to the EPRDF. This was believed to have weakened the military onslaught against the OLF. The officers at the meeting also reportedly agreed that there could be no military solution to the Oromo problem and that a political solution must be found to resolve the conflict once and for all (*Seife Nebelbal, Sep. 14*).

Reports that three prominent leaders of the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) had been dismissed were denied by an OLF spokesman on August 30. The Washington-based spokesman, Lencho Bati, told that Gelassa Dilbo, Abiyu Geleta and Chala Leta continued to be members of the OLF national council, but were being "reassigned" to new duties. Veteran leader Gelassa Dilbo had for the past year represented the OLF in the recently formed the United Force of Oromo Organizations and the Oromo Union, but had now been "recalled", he added. On the issue of an independent Oromiya, Bati said the OLF had a common goal in "fighting for the rights of the Oromos". He said "we want our people to decide on whether they want an independent Oromiya or a voluntary union." (*RIN, Aug. 31*)

The OLF is reported to have issued a statement on the current situation in Ethiopia. The front claimed that, following an attack on government soldiers, its fighters had captured the town of Boke, near Fedis, Harerge, and later released eight policemen it had captured. The OLF also denied reports about talks between the EPRDF government and OLF (*Seife Nebelbal, July 6*).

Ethiopian Commentator.com has reported that the EPRDF government had secret negotiations with the OLF following pressure from the U.S., UK and Germany (*Netsebrak, July 2*).

Crime, Corruption and Legal Affairs:

An Ethiopian court has acquitted, on the grounds of insufficient evidence, 23 people charged with genocide and crimes

against humanity. The supreme court of Amhara State ruled that there was insufficient evidence to convict the defendants, whose alleged crimes were committed during the rule of the former military dictator, Mengistu Hailemariam. The court handed down two guilty verdicts on the same charges, and sentenced the defendants to 16 years in prison without parole. Ethiopian courts have so far handed down 1,181 verdicts, including 375 acquittals out of 6,180 cases, with some 2,200 suspects still held in prison, and the rest being tried in absentia. Special Prosecutor Girma Wakjira told the agency that the trials were expected to end in 2004 (AFP).

The Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission has called on the public to actively participate in support of the efforts to combat corruption and malpractice. Unilateral action to address corruption cannot bring about the desired results, the Commission said, unless there is a holistic mechanism to root out the social vice (ETV, July 22).

Kuma Demeksa, the president of the Oromiya Regional State and secretary-general of the Oromo People's Democratic Organization (OPDO), has been suspended from the organization's central committee after being accused of corruption, nepotism, antidemocratic practices and abuse of power. In a statement the organization said central committee members Chala Hordofa, Diriba Arkona and Yassin Hussein had also been suspended from the leadership (State media, July 21).

The 3rd regular conference of the Council of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' State (SNNPS) has decided to lift the legal immunity enjoyed by Ato Abate Kisho and nine other executive committee members who had earlier been expelled from council membership. The decision is intended to clear the way for legal actions against those suspected of various crimes while in office. Those affected by the council's decision include senior administrative officials of the Gurage, Kembata, Alaba Tembaro and Sidama zones in the State (state media, July 18).

Refugees:

According to the Administration of Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA), a total of 304 Eritrean Kunamas entered Ethiopia through Tigray last May. This brings to 4,121 the total number of Eritrean Kunamas in Ethiopia (Abiotawi Democracy, June 27–July 3).

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has repatriated 502 Ethiopians from Eritrea. The returnees were primarily from Asmara and the surrounding areas and traveled between the towns of Adi Quala and Rama crossing the Mereb River (Radio Ethiopia, June 30).

Somali refugees who had been living in two refugee camps in eastern Ethiopia have all been voluntarily repatriated to their country, UNHCR disclosed. An estimated half-a-million Somali refugees entered Ethiopia ten years ago fleeing the war there. During their stay in the refugee camps, the Somalia refugees were provided with relief food and other supplies by UNHCR, WFP and the Ethiopian Commission for Refugees (VOA, July 3).

Churches and Religion:

Six archbishops of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church whose names have been withheld, have issued a joint statement calling for the setting up of an independent committee to investigate allegations of corruption against church leaders, particularly Patriarch Paulos. This, they argued, is necessary to save the church from disintegration (Netsanet, Aug. 21).

Christians and Muslims clashed in Addis Ababa (Asco Giorgis church area) on Aug. 5 when Muslims attempted to erect a mosque on an area near the church which had not been fenced. An unspecified number of people on both sides were reportedly hurt. Muslims started the construction in the early hours of Sunday, but were ordered to stop by police. Next day, church bells summoned the faithful who were told by an official to dismantle the incomplete mosque structure. Muslims angrily protested and a clash ensued (Ruh, Aug. 10).

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to the UNMEE, Legwaila Joseph Legwaila met last week with the Eritrean Patriarch and other Eritrean religious leaders, and called on them to persevere with their work towards bringing about reconciliation. Last month, Ethiopia refused to grant visas at the last minute for a planned joint peace mission to the disputed border by Ethiopian and Eritrean religious leaders, diplomatic sources said (The Reporter, July 4).

News about Culture and History:

A museum and research center for the natural and cultural heritages of South Omo Zone has been built at a cost of over 1.1 million birr in Jinka town, Southern Peoples' State. Briefing journalists, Professor Ivo Strecker of Mainz University in Germany, said the center was built with financial support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Institute of Ethiopian Studies (IES) of Addis Ababa University initiated and solicited the construction of the South Omo Research Center. The German Embassy was a partner and facilitator in the project, Ivo Strecker said.

Two weeks after Ethiopian athletics-crazy fans saw off their National Athletics hero to Bristol's IAAF World Half-Marathon Championship, the whole city was awaiting the surprising win of Haile G/Selassie in his first marathon debut. Haile, Olympic 10,000 meters champion, won the world

half-marathon title at his very first attempt on Oct. 7 with a personal best of 1 hour and three seconds. Teammate Tesfaye Jifar, edged by one second by Haile, came in second, setting a personal best of 1 hour four seconds (Ethiopian Herald, Oct. 11).

Gezahegn Abera outsprinted Simon Biwott of Kenya in the final meters to win the men's Marathon and the first gold medal at the World Athletics Championships on Aug. 4. Gezahegn finished in 2 hours 12 minutes 42 seconds, a second ahead of Biwott in one of the closest marathon finishes in a major championship (Daily Monitor, August 6).

Olympic champion Derartu Tulu led an Ethiopian clean sweep in the women's world 10,000 m final on Aug. 7 after emphatically quashing a breakaway attempt from Britain's Paula Radcliffe. Derartu, the Olympic gold medallist in 1992 and again last year in Sydney, just edged Berhane Adere at the line to win in 31 minutes 48.81 seconds. Gete Wami, the 1999 champion, finished third ahead of world cross-country champion Radcliffe (Reuters, Aug. 8).

The Ethiopian government has said it is "surprised and saddened" by reports suggesting Italy may not be willing to return the Axum obelisk, removed from its original site in northern Ethiopia and taken to Rome on orders from Italian dictator Benito Mussolini in 1937. Vittorio Sgarbi, deputy minister in the Italian ministry of culture responsible for antiquities, was quoted by news agencies as telling the Milan daily newspaper *Corriere della Sera* that the stone obelisk had been in Italy so long that it had become a "naturalized citizen" (State media, July 21).

Italy's Under Secretary of State said on July 24 that the statement of Italy's Vice Minister of Culture that Italy would not return the Axum obelisk was his personal view. Alfredo Mantica said that no changes have been made regarding the return of the obelisk. He also held talks with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi on the return of the obelisk (ETV, July 24).

A cluster of bones and teeth discovered in Ethiopia are the remains of the earliest known member of mankind's family tree, an international team of scientists announced. The fossils, of a creature named *Ardipithecus ramidus* kaddaba, have been dated to between 5.2 and 5.8 million years ago, giving the species a good claim to the title of the first human ancestor or relative. Researchers who found, identified and dated the proto-humans, which lived in thick forests in a volcanic rift valley, said they came from one of the original species of hominids - the branch of the primate family tree that leads to modern humans after the split from chimpanzees. Until now, the earliest confirmed hominid has been *Ardipithecus*

ramidus ramidus, a later cousin of the new species, which lived about 4.4 million years ago (*Daily Monitor, July 13*).

The Ethiopian Authority for Research and Conservation has said it has finalized the first draft nomination file to have the Konso culture and topography listed as world heritages. The document prepared for presentation to UNESCO's World Heritage Center consists of information on Konso creative works, archaeological and cultural items, terraces, stelae, public squares, walled villages and palaces. The registration of the Konso heritages with UNESCO brings to eight the number of Ethiopian heritages put on the world's heritage archives. The others are the Axum obelisks, the churches of Lalibela, the Semien and Bale Mountains, the Omo and Mago national parks, and the Tiena Haddar archaeological sites (*Abiotawi Democracy, July 4-10*).

Poverty:

Half of the 64 million Ethiopian people are believed to live with a monthly income of less than 90 birr and live below the poverty line, a publication of the National Office of Population disclosed. It said Ethiopia has a high rate of population growth of 2.92 percent annually. Less than 3 percent of the country's total area is currently covered with forest, and that, on average, the trans-boundary rivers of the country carry 1.5 million tons of fertile soil annually (*ENA, July 10*).

Other Social and Political Issues:

The House adopted Proclamation 256/94 and 257/94. Proclamation 256/94 concerns government restructuring, and provides for the establishment of the Ministries of Capacity Building Coordination, Rural Development, Infrastructure, Federal Affairs as well as Youth, Sports and Culture that will coordinate the activities of existing ministries and institutions working in similar areas. Proclamation 257/94 provides for the establishment of an Ethiopian National Security Council whose main task will be to advise the Prime Minister on matters of national security (*State media, Oct. 8*).

Unnamed officials of the Ethiopian Ministry of Defense had reportedly visited arms factories in the Russian Federation during which a protocol agreement was reportedly signed. Ethiopia would allegedly like Russian assistance to produce its own advanced weapons (*Mebrek, Sep. 6*).

The International Labor Organization (ILO) is reported to have decided by a majority vote to suspend Ethiopia's membership by including it in a "special paragraph". It blamed the Ethiopian government for ignoring, in the last ten years, various ILO recommendations designed to improve the treatment of workers. The ILO cited in particular the government's refusal to end its harassment of trade unions, respect the right of workers to organize, set free from jail the

president of the Ethiopian Teachers' Association, Dr. Taye Wolde Semayat, allow the right of workers to go on strike and the right of teachers and civil servants to organize. This decision by ILO would mean that Ethiopia will lose technical assistance and will be suspended from ILO membership. CETU used to receive technical assistance worth \$500,000 from the ILO annually (*Tobia, June 21*).

Foreign Relations:

The Somali Transitional National Government (TNG) spokesman said Ethiopia was interfering in Somalia's internal affairs and had backed a recent attempt by opposition forces to seize control of the southern port of He said Ethiopian military forces had entered Somali territory and "penetrated a considerable distance in the direction of Kismayu through the Bidwa region". He added there were "about 10,000 Ethiopian troops in three (Somali) provinces" (*IRIN, Aug. 13*).

Ethiopia has announced that it is to formally mediate between the transitional administration in Somalia and the rival coalition of factions. The initiative is aimed at finding broad-based government in Somalia. Relations between the two countries have been tense following meetings by rival warlords - calling themselves the Somali Reconciliation and Reconstruction Council-in Addis Ababa. Last week a high level delegation from Somalia was in the capital, Addis Ababa, for talks. Somalia's interim government announced afterwards that it had been wrong to accuse Ethiopia of meddling in Somalia's internal affairs. The announcement followed months of accusations that neighboring Ethiopia had been launching cross border attacks into the south-west of the country, and actively supporting Somali warlords with the intent of undermining the government (*Monitor, June 20*).

Nile Waters:

The three-day meeting of the International Consortium for Cooperation on the Nile (ICCON) held in Geneva, Switzerland, has concluded with development partners announcing an initial financial support of at least 140mio USD to finance the full program of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI). The program includes the implementation of a basin-wide program of research, capacity building and technical assistance, as well as the detailed preparation of cooperative, socially and environmentally sustainable sub-basin investment programs, in the eastern Nile and the Equatorial Lakes Region. The first phase of the investment program will require about 3 billion USD. A Trust Fund will be established by the World Bank (*State media, June 28*).

6. Education

The Ministry of Agriculture has said it is prepared to train over 11,000 students in different vocations during this academic year as part of its agricultural training program. The program will cover livestock breeding, fodder development, crop production, national resources preservation and home economics (*Radio Ethiopia, Oct. 7*).

The National Examinations Organization (NEO) has released the 2001 Grade 10 national examination results. The examination certifies the completion of secondary school education and enrolls students in academic or vocational streams. 6,453 of the 106,412 examinees that sat for the examination last year scored a grade point average (G.P.A) of 3.00 and above. 626 examinees scored a G.P.A. of 4.00. 70,137 students scored 1.5 and above (*ETV, Oct. 12*).

The All Amhara People's Organization, the Council of Alternative Forces For Peace and Democracy in Ethiopia and the Oromo National Congress have issued a joint statement denouncing the new education policy. The three parties said that the policy was imposed without preparation and had created serious difficulties on young students and parents. They called on the government to take into account the despair of the people and review the policy with the participation of the people (*Tobia, Oct. 11*).

Ethiopian Investment Group, the major private investor in the country, has announced plans to conduct research and education, and has applied for a license to launch projects in the sector. The owners, Sheik Mohammed Hussein Al-Amoudi and three other inventors, have contributed a total of 20mio birr as an initial capital for the METI-MIDROC Education and Training Institute PLC. The Institute will provide quality education at all levels from preprimary up to university level. It will also conduct education research activities with local and foreign educational research institutes, and produce, export and distribute educational material and equipment (*Reporter, Sep. 2*).

57,138 students passed with scores of 2.0 point and above out of the 96,906 regular students who sat for the Ethiopian School Leaving Certificate Examination (ESLCE) in 2001. This result was much better than that of the previous year. A total of 255,595 students, including regular, continuing and private examinees, were registered to sit for the ESLCE (*State media, Sep. 14*).

Thousands of students graduated from three institutions of higher education in Addis Ababa -- Addis Ababa University, Civil Service College and Admas College. Over 3,000 students graduated from AAU this year, about 550 of whom are female. Similarly, over 900 students graduated

with diplomas and degrees from the Civil Service College. The private Admas College graduated over 80 students for the first time (*State media, Aug. 25*).

The Vice Minister of Education said, higher education and the technical and vocational training coverage is still at less than 1%. There are at present only 40 vocational training institutes. Higher education enrolment has risen from 6,500 in 1993 to 12,000 in 2000 (*ETV, July 5*).

7. Health

The Ministry of Health has disclosed that about 250,000 children under the age of five in Ethiopia live with the AIDS virus. The ministry said that next to unsafe sex, the risk of HIV/AIDS transmission from mother to child was very high (*Radio Ethiopia, Oct. 1*).

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has allocated 48.8mio US-\$ to support the country's Health Sector Development Programs (HSDP) over the coming five years. The money will be utilized to fund vaccination programs, malaria prevention initiatives, integrated childcare and reproductive health services. The fund will be distributed in all states, with Oromiya, Amhara and Southern Ethiopia Peoples' states taking the lion's share (*Radio Ethiopia, Sep. 15*).

Over 50% of hospital beds in many towns in Ethiopia are occupied by AIDS patients. The spread of AIDS has assumed alarming proportions. The town of Harar is also facing a critical situation with AIDS. More than half of the people that come for tests to the hospital are HIV positive (*VOA, Aug. 28*).

Dr. Tesfanes Belay, head of the Family Health department, indicated that Ethiopia should continue to procure and make available Norplant contraceptive implants to all women who want to apply family planning. So far, she said, MOH has expanded Norplant implant services in more than 24 health facilities in the country. 4,000 women are reported have benefited from the program, she said (*Daily Monitor, Aug. 25-26*).

Ethiopian health authorities said they have reached an agreement with international companies to import into Ethiopia life-prolonging medicines for AIDS patients. The list of medicines that would be imported has been distributed to local pharmaceuticals. An estimated 1.7 million people are expected to die of AIDS by the end of the year, according to the spokesman (*VOA, Aug. 7*).

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) there have been a total of 6266 cases of meningococcal including 311 deaths, as of 31 May, in ten out of the eleven regions of Ethiopia. The figures show a case-fatality rate of 5 %, WHO said. Three regions, Amhara, Oromiya and Southern Nations Nationali-

ties Regional were still reporting newly affected districts (*IRIN, June 18*).

8. Human Rights, Religion

Freedom of Press:

Editors of six private papers were summoned by the Central Criminal Investigation Coordination bureau on July 3 and interrogated. These included the editors of *Wegahta* (Tigrigna-language paper), *Netsebrak*, *Dagim Wenchif*, *Netsanet*, *Moged* and *Satenaw*. The editor of *Satenaw*, Merid Estifanos, and the editor of *Moged*, Mengistu W. Selassie, have been detained. The two detained editors have been denied bail, the report said (*The Press, July 4*).

Other Issues:

The U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa today gave a grant of 70,000 US-\$ to three state development organizations. The Gudina Tumsa Foundation received a grant of 23,000 \$ to carry out a program of civic education and women's rights among the Karayu peoples in East Harerge Zone. The Center for Local Capacity Building and Studies received 24,000 \$ to conduct a grassroots human rights education program. The Ethiopian Muslims Relief Development Association was granted 23,000 \$ to organize an institutional capacity building workshop on civic education, conflict resolution and leadership in Afar State (*Radio Ethiopia, Sep. 27*).

Seventeen young Ethiopians who had traveled to Germany to present circus shows reportedly have applied for political asylum. The youth, aged between 14 and 22, cited as a reason for their decision the alleged human rights violations of which they claimed they were victims. They presented their grievances in writing to the German government and appealed for assistance to human rights groups and individuals. The Ethiopian community in Frankfurt has offered some assistance (*Tobia, Sep. 27*).

The Southern Ethiopia Peoples' Democratic Coalition has complained that 14 of its members had been arrested and imprisoned when they returned to their homes following a decision by the National Electoral Board to guarantee such returns from flight. The number of arrested persons has increased in Badawacho district (Hadiya Zone) and Damot Galle district (Welaita zone). Meanwhile, Ato Zenebe Balcha Wolde Giorgis, a teacher and a member of the Coalition, was thrown out of work after being imprisoned for three months by local cadres who accused him of tearing a poster (*Ze-Press, Sep. 19*).

The opposition Ethiopian Democratic Party (EDP) has said that four of its members, who had been detained for 50 days and then released, have been rearrested by police. According to the EDP, its Secretary General, Lidetu

Ayalew, and three other senior members were taken from their homes by police in the early hours of June 24. The government had later on said they were in Shoa Robit prison camp, north of Addis. Ato Lidetu and the other top leaders of the party had previously been accused of inciting riots in April, which led to the deaths of more than 30 people. The courts, however, found them not guilty, and they were freed amidst much controversy. (*Daily Monitor, June 28*).

According to reports, 519 Oromo prisoners, five of them women, had been released this week from Zeway prison where they had been held without charges for several years. The victims were arrested on suspicions of belonging of OLF and included farmers, merchants, students, youth and even elderly persons of 90. prisoners had already died in custody the reports claimed (*Seife Nebelbal June 22*).

„Kinder in der Einen Welt- Das Beispiel Äthiopien“ :

Gymnasium St. Michael Ahlen

<http://www.dialogin.de/projekte/netdays2001/>

Ein E-Mail-Kontakt zwischen Kindern des westfälischen Münsterlands und des äthiopischen Hochlands. Partner sind Schülerinnen und Schüler der Klasse des 6b am Ahlener Gymnasium St. Michael und der German Church School in Addis Abeba. Das Projekt beginnt mit den Netdays NRW 2001 "Lernen mit den Neuen Medien". Dazu starteten wir am 21. September unseren Projekttag Äthiopien: „Rudolf Schoppmann von deutsch-äthiopischen Verein erzählte über seine Zeit als Entwicklungshelfer in Dire Dawa (450 km östlich von Addis). Wir lernten die amharische Schrift kennen, erfuhren viel über Land und Leute und schrieben schließlich E-Mails.“

Internet und E-Mail als Mittel globaler Kommunikation zu nutzen, sind zweifellos faszinierende Möglichkeiten eines Gesprächs zwischen den Kulturen rund um den Erdball – interkulturelles Lernen aus erster Hand. Der „Rohstoff Information“ ist zwar über die Welt „global“ verteilt, jedoch keineswegs überall in gleicher Weise zugänglich.

Das E-Mail-Projekt der 6b: ein Befund zum „Rohstoff Information“

Von den 30 Schülerinnen und Schülern der 6b, die z.Zt. im Rahmen ihres Politikunterrichts mit der German Church School (GCS) in Addis Abeba ein E-Mail-Projekt aufbauen, haben 19 einen privaten Internet-Zugang, von den Schülern der GCS keiner. Der Pfarrer der Kreuzkirche - Hans-Joachim Krause - vermittelt die Mails der SchülerInnen an die Gesprächspartner der GCS. Im Laufe des kommenden halben Jahres wird die GCS 3 kostenpflichtige Internet-Zugänge bekommen, was allerdings noch mit großen Schwierigkeiten seitens der äthiopischen Bürokratie verbunden ist. U.a. mit der Ahlener Projektleitung werden z.Zt. Wege gefunden, den Online-Ausbau der GCS finanziell zu unterstützen.

Interkulturelles Lernen mit den Neuen Medien: eine kritische Zwischenbilanz

Unser Regelfall ist anderswo Ausnahme: Soll interkulturelles Lernen mehr sein, als Bilder von fremden Ländern am Computer anzuklicken und dazu ein paar aktuelle Textinformationen zu finden, die hoffnungslos veraltete Politikbücher nicht bieten können, bedarf es eines langen Atems. Solche Projekte lassen sich nicht eben einfach mal so nebenbei arrangieren. Das ist eine erste wichtige Lernerfahrung: Was uns technologisch selbstverständlich zu werden beginnt, ist anderswo noch immer die Ausnahme.

Im Verteilungskampf um den „Rohstoff Information“ verliert die „Dritte Welt“: Unser Online-Projekt mit Äthiopien als einem Land der sogenannten „Dritten Welt“ lehrt uns, das Internet als eine Struktur zu durchschauen, die Ressourcen verteilt. Nur geht es dabei nicht um traditionelle Rohstoffe wie Erz, Kohle oder Erdöl, sondern um den Rohstoff „Information“. Und in diesem Verteilungskampf ziehen Länder wie Äthiopien weiterhin den Kürzeren.

Das Lalibela-Projekt der Internet-AG: Eine Reflexion zum „Rohstoff Information“

Bereits seit einem Jahr hat die Internet-AG Online-Kontakt mit Desale Mitiku aus Lalibela im Hochland von Äthiopien, der z.Zt. in Addis studiert. Befinden wir uns mit der Universität und der GCS immerhin noch in Äthiopiens Hauptstadt, ist mit Lalibela eine ländliche Bergregion erreicht -

ohne Netzzugänge. Der Ort ist allerdings eine der touristischen Attraktionen Äthiopiens, und so ergibt sich die paradoxe Situation, dass diese äthiopische Online-Wüste zu den am besten online dokumentierten Orten Äthiopiens gehört. Auch die Lalibela-Seite der Internet-AG ist dafür ein Beispiel:

www.dialogin.de/schuelerprojekte/lalibela

Sie entstand als Beitrag einer Dokumentation des UNESCO-Kulturerbes „Lalibela“, allerdings bereits im Austausch mit Desale Mitiku und zunächst in der Absicht, auf die im Spätsommer 2000 drohende Dürrekatastrophe in dieser Region hinzuweisen. Hier ist am äthiopischen Beispiel eines Weltkulturerbes die trügerische Vision eines globalen Online-Dialogs der Kulturen mit Händen zu greifen. Bunte, exotische Bilder im Internet angucken, ist kein Dialog, erweckt aber die Illusion weltweiter Verbundenheit und globaler Offenheit. Die Internet-AG wird deshalb auf ihrer Lalibela-Website eine Möglichkeit einrichten, durch die jeder mit Desale Mitiku über seine Heimat Lalibela ins Gespräch kommen kann. Ferner wird sie versuchen, in diesem Zusammenhang Internet-Ressourcen zu Problemen von „Globalisierung und Rohstoff Information“ zu erschließen.

Buchempfehlungen

Von Reinhold May

„Äthiopien- und der Westen im Mittelalter“

von **Wilhelm Baum**

Die Selbstbehauptung der christlichen Kultur am oberen Nil zwischen dem islamischen Orient und dem europäischen Kolonialismus.

Themenbereiche: Die Anfänge von Kusch/ Saba/ Habash/ der Beginn des axumitischen Reiches.

Ezanas und Frumentius: Äthiopien wird christlich/ Kebra Negast: Die Kanonisierung des Kultur. Gedächtnis/ Der Ursprung der Falaschas, u.d. Mythos der Königin Judith/ König Kaleb u. die

äthiopische Herrschaft im Jemen/ Der Islam faßt Fuß in Äthiopien/ Die Aera der Zagwe – Dynastie/ Lalibela und die Felsenkirchen / Die Anfänge der Salomoniden/ Äthiopien und der Westen/ Zara Yacob u. das Konzil von Florenz/ Die Portugiesen in Äth./ Ahmed Granje u. d. Rettung Äth. durch Portugal/ usw. usw. mit Zeittafeln, Personenregister, Bibliographie. Das sehr gut recherchierte Werk des Doz. Dr.Dr. Walter Baum beschreibt nicht allein nur alle Fakten sondern präzise ausführliche Geschichten und Erkenntnisse aus allen – teilweise auch bisher unbekanntem Quellen aus dem Orient, usw.

Spannend vom Anfang bis zum Ende – SEHR EMPFEHLENSWERT!

Paperback 280 S. mit u.a. 16 Farbtafeln, 49,-DM plus Versand Kann über ISBN 3-902005-06-8 beim Hrsg. In Klagenfurt/Austria Verlag Kitab

Oder bei unserem Mitglied Reinhold May, Reifenstuelstr. 26, 83435 Bad Reichenhall bezogen werden.

Termine

**Archeology and History of the Horn of Africa
“First International Littmann Conference”**

2. bis 5. Mai 2002

in München

Infos, Anfragen, Programme, Anmeldungen

Staatl. Museum f. Völkerkunde

Maximilianstr. 42

D-80538 München, c/o Littmann Conference

DÄV - MV 2002

Unsere nächste MV findet statt vom 15. - 17. 03. 2002

Jugendherberge Kassel

Schenkendorfstraße 18

34119 Kassel

Thema:

Äthiopien: Schöne Naturbedrohte Umwelt

Wir werden uns mit der ländlichen
und städtischen Umweltpolitik in
Äthiopien beschäftigen.
Einladung und Programm werden
im Januar 2002 verschickt.
