



ዓገርመንና ኔጉዳጅ ስጋዊ ማህበር

Dezentrale Wasserkraftnutzung

Decentralized Micro Hydropower Schemes in Ethiopia

Dirk Hillerkus¹

Introduction

For many countries in the southern hemisphere, the vital role of modern energy services is all too clear, especially for low-income groups. Access to energy is essential to meet vital needs. Economic growth is inhibited, and many economic activities are simply not possible if energy is unavailable. Electricity and modern fuels enable poor households to engage in income generating activities. Electric light enables households to work during the evening hours or pursue social and other activities, such as studying. Electrically driven machines contribute to increase production outputs. Information, telecommunication and healthcare improve through availability of electricity.

For Ethiopia true and lasting improvement in socio-economic development relies on the preservation and enhancement of natural resources. As cited in many literatures, environmental degradation in Ethiopia undermines development efforts, threatens livelihoods, which is already vulnerable and eventually deepens poverty. Most pressure, especially on natural forest comes from energy demand for which no significant alternative sources are available, particularly for communities living in remote villages. Rural communities in Ethiopia make more than 80% of the total population and most of them live far away from any modern sources of energy depending entirely on natural resources - particularly forest - which is on rapid depletion.

Overexploitation of forest for fuel and other domestic use highly contributes to environmental degradation, which in turn contributes for climate change increasing vulnerability of people to different shocks and disasters. In rural areas, women are using biomass fuel for cooking whereby the smoke affects their health. It is also women's and children's task to collect fire wood that consumes most of their time which otherwise would be

¹ Socio-economic Development Advisor of Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus – Development and Social Services Commission (EECMY-DASSC)

used for other productive purposes such as income generation, school attendance etc.

In most cases poor access to energy for the majority of rural community in Ethiopia is not due to lack of renewable natural energy sources, but because of lack of support in areas of introducing and availing village level managed technologies, which can use natural energy sources to produce power. For example the use of river water for decentralised energy generation is hardly considered to support rural communities to improve their living standards.

Overview of Ethiopia's energy potentials, production and utilisation

In the year 2006 Ethiopia produced approximately 752 MW power, whereby 670 MW were generated from water sources (large hydropower plants), Geothermal sources contributed with 7,3 MW and gasoil (diesel) generators produced 75 MW. Between the years 1999/2000 and 2003/2004 power production has increased by 37%. Around 400 towns were connected to the national grid in the period between 2002 and 2006. The Ethiopian Electric Power Cooperation (EEPCCo) (government owned company) is the owner of the national grid and transmits 98% of the generated power. The electrification rate on national level reaches 15%, whereby 50% of the produced electricity is used in Addis Abeba and 20% in Nazareth. Only 1% of the rural areas are electrified. The Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation counted 777,000 customers in 2004, composed of private households (85%), commercial customers (14%), and industrial users (1.3%). The tariff charged for private households per kWh amounts approximately to 0.78 ETB/kWh, equal to 0.04 Euro per kWh (in 2010). Ethiopia ranks last with 28KWh consumption per capita and year among the Sub-Saharan countries.

Inhalt:

Decentralized Micro Hydropower Schemes in Ethiopia.....	1
Untersuchung zur Kultivierung und zum Nutzungspotential von Moringa oleifera.....	7
SELAM – Eine Pioniereinrichtung der Beruflichen Ausbildung	9
Aktivitäten von Äthiopien-Initiativen.....	11
Bücher	12
Links	15
Nachrichten	17
Verschiedenes.....	19
Aufruf.....	20
Press Review.....	20

The status of renewable energy sources

The enormous potential of water resources Ethiopia possesses can be tapped for hydropower production. The theoretical hydropower potential of the country reaches 30,000 MW, which could be converted to 160,000 GWh electricity. Big size hydropower plants are the main power producers in Ethiopia. Decentralised micro hydropower plants for power generation are rarely found in the southern and western parts of the country, where sufficient annual rainfall up to 2400 mm is guaranteed.

Solar, wind energy and biogas are other potential renewable energy sources, which utilisation should be further expanded.

The complexity of decentralised micro hydropower schemes

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) Development Department and later Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus-Development and Social Services Commission (EECMY-DASSC) are pioneers in installing and operating micro hydropower schemes with more than two decades of experiences as presented in this article. Micro hydropower schemes are often only viewed from a technical point of view, how to identify appropriate water sources to be utilised, how to design the power plant and how to transmit electricity to consumers. Within this scenario management, administration, maintenance of established schemes, gender and environmental aspects are often not recognised as important factors to ensure functionality and long-term sustainability of micro hydropower schemes. Designed government policy frameworks have to be taken into consideration, too, to be able to act within legalities. Subsequently, before reporting field experiences made and lessons learnt by EECMY Development Department

and EECMY-DASSC, important aspects essential for a successful implementation and sustainability of micro hydropower schemes are described.

Government policies

Ethiopia's national energy policy supports the installation of decentralised renewable energy systems and allows feeding in power produced by decentralised renewable systems into the national grid. Issued policies on environmental protection give alternative sources of energy their due place in the energy development of the country. The need for the use of alternative energy sources (solar power, hydroelectric etc.) for towns and villages located faraway from the national grid has also been well recognised, by adopting inter-sectoral processes of planning and development, integrating energy development with energy conservation, environmental protection and sustainable utilisation of renewable resources. National regulations encourage investments by providing rules that are broadly perceived to be fair. The electricity production and transmission sector has been liberalised and investment opportunities for private businesses are created. As far as the electricity generation from hydropower sources is concerned, both domestic and foreign investors can invest in the sector with no capacity limit. With regard to electricity power generation from non-hydropower sources, there is a limitation up to 25 MW. Furthermore, a power feed in tariff is established to attract private investors to participate in the generation of electricity from renewable energy sources.

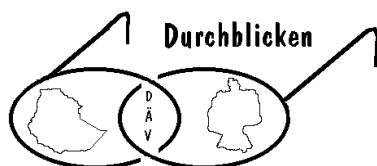
Technical aspects

When the EECMY-DASSC Micro Hydropower Program (MHPP) commenced in the 1980s, micro hydropower schemes were not much known in the country. Subsequently only SELAM-Vocational Training Center and Ethiopian Basic Metal Engineering Agency in Addis Ababa were manufacturing cross flow turbines for the MHPP program. In 2004 EECMY-DASSC began to manufacture turbines by itself in the MHPP workshop in the Multipurpose Training Center (MTC) of EECMY in Mekanissa, Addis Ababa. In the following years training on turbine manufacturing was conducted in the MHPP workshop and graduates opened private enterprises to manufacture water turbines. Since recent years more organisations are involved in micro hydropower activities and subsequently more professionals manufacturing turbines are on the market.

Observations made by EECMY-DASSC MHPP staff over years on the functionality of turbines under practical conditions resulted in modifications such as improvement of efficiency by up to 60 % of cross flow turbines and easing maintenance. Water turbine technology becomes by now attractive for enterprises, different organisations, government offices and universities. The MHPP program contributed to disseminate the technology to these institutions and interested groups. University students are doing their research papers on technical aspects of turbine technology and on economical aspects. Designs of turbine types produced and tested in Indonesia are brought to Ethiopia and are produced by the MHPP workshop and tested under field conditions.

Strategic alliances have been set up with organisations such as German Technical Co-operation (GTZ) implementing a program of rural electrification with micro hydropower and solar technology.

Other technical parts like penstocks are produced locally. So called load controller to avoid over voltage at the power production site are still imported. The knowl-



Herausgeber:

Deutsch-Äthiopischer Verein e.V.

c/o Rudolf Schoppmann, Am Bildstock 31
48317 Drensteinfurt

Redaktion: G. Kopf, H. Storck, Layout: R. Mohn

Redaktionsanschrift:

Hauptstr. 89, 77746 Schutterwald

Tel: +49 (0)781 57875

E-Mail: georg.kopf@t-online.de

Die „Informationsblätter“ des Deutsch-Äthiopischen Vereins erscheinen 3 Mal im Jahr.

Die Kosten pro Ausgabe betragen 5,50 Euro inkl. Porto, das Abonnement 16,50 Euro. Mitglieder erhalten die „Blätter“ kostenlos.

Namentlich gekennzeichnete Artikel geben nicht unbedingt die Meinung des Vereins wieder.

Spendenkonto: Postgiroamt Hamburg

BLZ 200 100 20, Kto. 771680-201

IBAN: DE 93 2001 0020 0771 6802 01

edge, experience and availability of technical items have drastically increased over the last years.

Environmental issues

To ensure perennial sufficient water availability of water sources tapped for micro hydropower plants it is essential to protect the areas where rainfall surface run-offs drain into one common river, so called watershed. Capacity building and sensitisation of target communities on natural resource management including land use management has to be conducted when installing a micro hydropower scheme. Besides theoretical lessons practical activities have to be carried out to ensure appropriate watershed management (establishment of tree nurseries, tree planting, introduction of forage grasses, soil and water conservation). Multi-purpose cooperatives



Water turbine manufactured in the EECMY-DASSC renewable energy workshop in Addis Abeba. By EECMY-DASSC renewable energy project

will operate, maintain and manage micro hydropower power supply schemes. These co-operatives will establish joint committees comprised of local institutions (Iddir), Kebele administration and concerned line ministries (water/agriculture) to develop a community based sustainable natural resource management.

Another aspect to be taken into consideration to combat climate change is to increase energy efficiency. The construction of fuel wood saving stoves from mud blocks significantly contributes to energy efficiency through fuel wood saving.



Fuel wood saving stove constructed from mud bricks with three fire/cooking places. Around 40-50% fuel wood can be saved with by using this improved stove. By Dirk Hillerkus, 2009

Gender and social matters

The sustainability of micro hydropower schemes is ensured through multi-purpose co-operatives and strengthening community-based organisations. The term community development encompasses technical aspects, but also gender and social matters leading to behavioural change of the community. Family affair issues, avoidance of harmful traditional practices and HIV/AIDS aspects are essential to be addressed in the course of a community based development project, to achieve behavioural changes within the society.

Scheme management and ownership development

Multi-purpose co-operatives (legal entities) are to be established jointly with all stakeholders at the time when commencing hydropower supply schemes. As a start up for co-operatives activities, membership fees have to be collected and an initial seed capital should be provided through a project partner for example. The co-operative will generate income from the production, transmission/distribution and sales of electric power. Households, public institutions and commercial consumers applying to be connected to the power supply scheme should have to pay an agreed connection fee. The co-operative administration is responsible to collect agreed tariffs on monthly base. Different tariffs will be charged for households and commercial consumers. The payment mode for private households should be based on installed capacity, whereas for public institutions, commercial and industry electricity meters should be installed. The sales of electricity will be the main income of the co-operatives to cover operational and maintenance costs. They are in charge to organise the supply chain for spare parts needed. Trained scheme operators and technicians for maintenance should be employed on agreed terms. Small maintenance could be undertaken by employed technicians, whereas larger repairs should be carried out jointly with Ethiopian Electric Power Co-operation (EEPCo).

Micro Hydropower Program of EECMY-DASSC

EECMY and EECMY-DASSC

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) was established as a national church in January 1959 working in the areas of health, education and community development activities under its Development Department as part of the Mission of the church. This gave birth to a full incorporation of the "Holistic Ministry" concept of the church developed and communicated to the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in 1972. The holistic Ministry concept is based on the broad understanding of human needs (physical, social and spiritual). The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus Development and Social Services Commission (EECMY-DASSC) which is a legally registered faith-based development agency has taken over the responsibility of the former Development Department of the Church since the year 2000 as required by the national policy of the government.

Water turbine driven grinding mills program Overview of the program

The program started at the end of the 1980s aiming to bring grinding mill service and later electric power to remote rural villages. The program concept was based on existing church structures of EECMY, synods, presbyteries and congregations. Overseas partners of EECMY supported the program.

Rural communities apply for water driven grinding mill through EECMY structures forwarded to EECMY-

DASSC, the development wing of the church. Local administration and line ministries are involved in project planning, implementation and monitoring.

Besides providing grinding mill service for the community, the program aimed to generate income for local church structures. As a basic principle the church contributed labour, local materials and 25% of the total installation costs in cash.

Identifying of project sites

Local communities confirmed that selected rivers are perennial. Calculations on water discharges per seconds are undertaken by professionals to ensure that the discharge will be sufficient for hydropower production. To develop a better picture on the technical aspects of a micro hydropower scheme average technical figures are presented, varying from scheme to scheme: Diversion weir (wall across a river) will be constructed (local material), canal excavation be undertaken (~100-500m length), riverheads (waterfall) are ~40m-50m, forebay (reservoir) construction with a volume of ~30m³. Penstocks are manufactured in the EECMY-DASSC owned workshop with a diameter of ~27 cm and installed at sites. Power-/distribution house (~4mx4mx 2.60m) construction. Turbine type T15 cross flow (manufactured in EECMY-DASSC workshop) are installed.



Water reservoir or also called forebay. From there the water flows through the penstock into the water turbine, by Dirk Hillerkus, 2009



Grinding mill house with penstock and would fit with the forebay/water reservoir as a logical sequence. By Dirk Hillerkus, 2009.

Impacts on women's workload

The installation of water turbine driven grinding mills contributed significantly to reduce the workload of women and girls. Prior to the availability of these grind-

ing mills, cereals were manually grinded with stones, which is a heavy work for women and time consuming. Grinding mills operated by diesel were often only found at locations close to bigger rural towns. Women had to walk for 7-10 km one way to get their cereals grinded. Water turbine driven mills are placed in the surrounding of remote villages and walking distances are shortened. In addition the operational costs of a water turbine driven mill are lower compared with a diesel driven mill, resulting in less charges per kg grain grinded, reducing livelihood expenditures of households. This aspect became important within the last years, because of increasing fuel prices for diesel.



Grinding mill driven by a water turbine in Begi Gedami Synode. By Begi Gedami Synode

Capacity building of stakeholders

The capacity building of stakeholders is as important as the implementation of program activities to ensure sustainability. Different kinds of training, such as orientations, workshops, field days and experience exchange were conducted throughout the project lifespan. During turbine installation local mill operators received on job training to learn and internalise turbine installation, mill operation and repair. MHPP technicians supervised mill operators when executing repairs such as changing bearings, millstones and turbine and provided assistance and upgraded shortcomings. Target communities were capacitated on gender issues and environmental aspects such as cutting of trees, soil erosion and loss of soil fertility.

A successful case study

The Begi Gedami Synod is located in Western Wollega of Oromia Region, around 700 km from the capital city Addis Ababa. The Synod was established in the year 2005 with a membership of 44,073 and emerged from an church area work. Fifteen years ago, the first micro hydro driven turbine mill was installed by the MHPP program within Begi Gedami area work. A strategic concept was designed that grinding mills are administered and operated by committees comprised of church congregations and parishes and supervised by the synods administration. Revenue is utilised to pay mill operators, supporting staff and allocated for maintenance costs.

Profit made is shared between congregations, parishes and synod. The strategic concept includes also that water sources driving the turbine are utilized to irrigate vegetable and to raise tree seedlings in nurseries. The vegetable gardens and nurseries are operated by congregations/ parishes. Vegetables are sold to the community, tree seedlings to individuals, schools, churches, mosques and other interested groups. Sugar cane and

coffee plantations have been established as cash crops contributing to cover the synods and congregations administrative expenditures.

Networking

During the first program years networking and cooperation was mostly related to local organisations and private workshops, directly involved in the MHPP program, like SELAM Vocational Training Center and turbine manufacturer. Later on when the number of synods participating in the MHPP program increased, synods technicians have been sent to upgrade their technical capability to the Handicraft School in Soenderborg, Denmark. A relationship was established with the Research Department of Electrical Engineering of Nottingham Trent University (UK). Research fellows from the University of Darmstadt, Germany, did research work for their MA and PhD on micro hydropower in Ethiopia by closely consulting EECMY-MHPP.

Electrifying remote rural villages through decentralised micro hydropower schemes

During MHPP program assessments the question of utilising renewable energy sources to bring electric power to rural villages was discussed. A pilot phase of a new project called "renewable energy project" was initiated based on the experience and lessons learnt from the Micro Hydropower Program. The project is based on requests forwarded by communities to local church structures and forwarded to EECMY-DASSC the development wing of the church. District zonal administration and line ministries (water and rural development and agriculture, energy and mining) are consulted and actively participating in project development. A project agreement is signed with concerned government bodies on regional level.

The pilot project

Subsequently a survey was carried out and three appropriate sites identified in Dano woreda, 20 km away from Ijajii town, West Shoa zone. Two sites were suitable for micro hydropower plant installation whereas the third site is equipped with photovoltaic.

The pilot phase was implemented from January 2008 until June 30, 2009.

The applied strategies are similar to that of the MHP program. Local communities contribute with labour and materials. EECMY-DASSC technicians did the technical installation. The community was trained on scheme management, environmental protection, social and gender issues.

The electrification schemes supply private households, public services such as schools, health posts, Kebele offices and EECMY congregations. To ensure community ownership, committees were established for community mobilisation, decision-making on tariffs to be paid. A management committee is established to collect monthly tariffs, supervise and ensure the benefit packages for local electricians being employed for scheme maintenance.

The technical features are comparable with the data reported under the MHPP program. In addition a generator with a capacity of 13 kW was installed at micro hydropower plants for electricity production.

What has changed in people's lives?

The micro hydropower schemes supply electricity for private households, public services such as schools, health posts, Kebele offices and church congregations, delivering better services for the community. New job opportunities were created for locally trained electricians.



Training and installation of transmission line pilot phase renewable energy project, by EECMY-DASSC, 2008/2009

The two villages equipped with electric power generated by micro hydropower reported that they received the first time light in June 2008, which had a great impact on their lives. One significant change is the positive impact of light on health. Before houses were mostly lighted by kerosene lamps. If

students were reading or writing in the evening their eyes became inflamed due to the produced smoke from the kerosene lamp. Secondly the smoke also affected household member's respiratory system. The smoke creates layers of soot on furnitures and other inside parts of the house. Subsequently, the electric power supply improved the hygiene situation of houses the health of family members became better and studying with electric light eased the situation for students. By today the villages connected to electric power possessing two to three TVs, music is played in shops and restaurants and the number of radios has increased. The communication to outside improved drastically since the inception of electricity supply. On market days more customers from surrounding villages are joining and services are extended due to the availability of electricity. Community meetings are held and other social gatherings take place during evening hours.



Electric poles provided and erracted with community participation and the btransmission line in the village of Bachani, Dano woreda, West Shoa zone. By Dirk Hillerkus, 2009.

The health post professionals reported that they are able to bring vaccine from the nearby health centre (Ijaji) and cool it overnight in the refrigerator to provide vaccination service the next morning.

The community stated another very important issue that has been improved since electricity came to the villages. It is the charging of mobile telephones, which was difficult before and long distance walks were needed to charge mobiles. By today dwellers from surrounding villages are coming to charge their mobiles and pay a charge fee of ETB 2.00 per mobile. Mothers reported that since it is possible to charge their mobiles in the village, they can easier communicate with their children studying elsewhere.

Woreda representatives highly appreciated the initiative of EECMY-DASSC to bring these technologies to remote villages and forwarded their request to further support remote villages with such technologies.

It could be concluded that electrifying project villages has contributed to bring a significant change in lives of the community and is a start up for further development activities such as workshops and new services requiring electric power. Electrified villages will grow overtime to economical rural centres.

Networking with other institutions

The renewable energy team and EECMY-DASSC established a close co-operation with different institutions like German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Jimma University and private enterprises. Recently a working group between the renewable energy project of EECMY-DASSC and the GTZ team for renewable energy has been formed with the objective to develop a management model for micro hydropower schemes. In November 2008 the GTZ invited the renewable energy project coordinator to attend a workshop in Indonesia for experience sharing in the field of micro hydropower. Lessons learnt are translated into practice by adapting and manufacturing of a new cross-flow turbine in the MHPP workshop. Jimma University undertakes research in collaboration with the renewable energy team to increase the efficiency of cross-flow turbine.

Way forward

Experience and lessons learnt in the water driven grinding mill program and the pilot phase project of micro hydropower to electrify of rural villages evidenced that such projects and programs are complex and include far more than technical aspects.

Rural villages interested to install a decentralised micro hydropower scheme to generate electricity have to analyse the economical situation of households and commercial consumers. A comparison with actual household expenditures for kerosine and other fuels utilised for lightening and other activities have to be carried out ahead. It has to be expected that rural areas/villages generating cash income from sales of cash crops will be in a better position to cover costs such as house connections to the electric grid and monthly tariffs to be paid, than villages with less cash income. Furthermore, ac-

cess to surrounding markets has to be proven, if a village will become attractive for local businesses through availability of electricity and an economic development is to be expected. Subsequently, it has been learnt that decentralised micro hydropower scheme generating electricity will only be economically viable if besides private consumers a larger number of commercial and industrial consumers are connected. Different tariffs for private households and commercial consumers should be applied to generate sufficient income from the sales of electricity to cover all operational-, maintenance- and replacement costs.

Long-term sustainability of micro hydropower schemes generating electricity will only be ensured through a participatory community approach, training of local technicians to operate/maintain supply schemes and by establishing community-based organisations (multi-purpose co-operatives) for a successful management of implemented schemes. Thus, the project beneficiaries have to become the ultimate owners of the micro hydropower schemes.

Expected Impacts

Looking on long-term impacts, it is expected that well functioning co-operatives could have a positive impact on the development of the social behaviour of the community. Communities will realise that working together on community-based level can make a difference. They will be enabled and motivated to identify and tackle problems, plan necessary actions, implement activities on their own and develop more independence from outside support. Assuming that natural resource management will improve within the area, increased agricultural production and thus food security is to be expected. Increased off-farm activities will contribute to continuous economical development of the area. Finally, villages equipped with electricity based on renewable energy sources serve as a role model to be visited by neighbouring communities to share lessons learnt.

References

- GTZ**, Fact Sheet- Aethiopien, (2009), Projektentwicklung Ostafrika
- Hartung, Hans**, FAKT (February, 2010), Renewable Energy Community Based Development Project, Report of a visit to Ethiopia, DASSC, Stuttgart
- Dalelo, Akliu (PhD)**, 2006, Rural Electrification in Ethiopia, Opportunities and Bottlenecks, Addis Ababa University, College of Education, Department of Geography and Environmental Education, P.O.BOX 45, Code 1032, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- EECMY-DASSC**, Micro Hydropower Program, Project documents, reports, 2000-2009
- EECMY-DASSC**, Renewable Energy Community Based Development Project, Pilot Phase, project documents, reports, field observations (2008-June 2009)
- EECMY-DASSC**, Renewable Energy Community Based Development Project, First Phase, project documents, reports (2010-2012)

**Untersuchung zur Kultivierung und
zum Nutzungspotential von *Moringa
oleifera*
sowie die Trinkwasseraufbereitung –
Moringa und SODIS kombiniert – für den
alltäglichen Haushaltsgebrauch in Ent-
wicklungsländern**

Sonia de la Cruz

Moringa oleifera ist ein Baum, der in den Tropen und Subtropen beheimatet ist. Dieser hat ein beträchtliches Nutzungspotential. So zum Beispiel dienen die Blätter mit ihrer Vitaminvielfalt als Nahrungsergänzung. Die Samen können für die Trinkwasseraufbereitung – auf die genaue Anwendung wird anschließend eingegangen – genutzt werden.

Nach Troups (1981) ist *Moringa* in Indien, im Gebiet des Sub-Himalayas heimisch. Dort wachsen die Bäume massenhaft auf kürzlich überschwemmtem Land, aber auch auf sandigen oder kiesigen Flussbeeten sowie an den Ufern von Fließgewässern. Zudem wird der Baum in ganz Indien als Gartenpflanze kultiviert, da er sowohl Menschen wie auch Tiere ernähren kann. Nicht zuletzt weist er aber auch eine bemerkenswerte Resistenz gegen Schädlinge auf.

Zwei wissenschaftliche Arbeiten (Semester- und Bachelorarbeit), welche sich mit der Kultivierung und dem Nutzen von *Moringa oleifera* auseinandersetzen, wurden verfasst. Dabei wurde die erste Arbeit „*Untersuchung zur Kultivierung und zum Nutzungspotential von Moringa oleifera*“ Sonia de la Cruz 2008 – in zwei Hauptthemen gegliedert: die Aufzucht der Pflanzen unter verschiedenen Wachstumsbedingungen (um die Pflanzen besser kennen zu lernen) und Versuche zur Trinkwasseraufbereitung. Die zweite Arbeit „*Trinkwasseraufbereitung – Moringa und SODIS kombiniert – für den alltäglichen Haushaltsgebrauch in Entwicklungsländern*“ (Sonia de la Cruz 2010), befasste sich mit der Umsetzung der Trinkwasseraufbereitung in der Praxis.

Die Pflanzen wurden jeweils mit verschiedenen Düngensätzen und unterschiedlicher Wassermenge aufgezogen. Die Ergebnisse der Bodenanalyse und des Vitamin-C-Gehalts sowie die Messungen an der Pflanze selber bestätigten, dass das Wachstum und der Vitamingehalt von den genannten Parametern beeinflusst wird. Wie die meisten Pflanzen produziert auch *Moringa* unter Stressbedingungen (weniger Wasser sowie weniger Dünger) prozentual mehr Vitamin C. Auch die Blattmasse nimmt zu.

Bezüglich der Trinkwasseraufbereitung handelt es sich gemäß Mähler (2004) bei dem verantwortlichen flockungsaktiven Wirkstoff um einen kationischen Polyelektrolyten, heute bekannt nach Dörries (2005) als „Flo“. *Moringa* wird demnach eine keimreduzierende Wirkung zugeschrieben. Diese entkeimende Wirkung scheint nach verschiedenen Untersuchungen eindeutig zu sein. Nach Versuchen von Lori (2007) und de la Cruz (2008) nimmt jedoch die Keimzahl der untersuchten *E. coli*-Bakterien nach Behandlung mit *Moringa* nicht signifikant ab, aber der Trübungswert wird signifikant gesenkt. Das Wasser wird klar. Nach Mähler (2004) und Urbaschock (2005) ist allerdings unverkennbar, dass der Flockungsprozess einen wesentlichen Anteil an einer Keimreduzierung hat. Im Wasser befindliche Keime werden demnach in die sich bildenden Schmutzflocken eingeschlossen und sedimentieren mit ihnen zu Boden,

oder sie werden von den sedimentierenden Schmutzflocken mitgerissen.

Mit anderen Worten, das Pulver bindet sich aufgrund der Ladungsdifferenz an Schmutzpartikel oder Bakterien; es entsteht ein Koagulat, welches aufgrund der Schwerkraft absinkt. Als Resultat wird unten im Wasser, der Schlamm sichtbar, oben hingegen befindet sich das klare Wasser, das abgeschöpft werden kann.

Verbleibt aber das zugegebene Samenmaterial über einen Zeitraum von 24 Stunden im behandelten Wasser, kommt es zu einer dramatischen Erhöhung der Gesamtkeimzahl, da der Samen Nährstoffe für die krankheitserregenden Mikroorganismen bietet (Urbaschock, 2005). Dies bestätigen auch die Resultate von Lori und de la Cruz. Die Untersuchungen zeigen, dass es sich bei der keimreduzierenden Wirkung der Samen vielmehr um ein Hemmen als um ein Abtöten der Keime handelt.

Hier kann nun das Weiterbehandeln des Wassers mit der sogenannten Methode von SODIS dienlich sein: SODIS macht sich die Sonnenstrahlen bzw. die UV- und Infrarot-Strahlen zu Nutze, um krankheitserregende Mikroorganismen abzutöten. Die Organismen sind gegen diese Art von Strahlen nicht resistent. Die SODIS-Methode ist eine effektive Methode, sofern sie richtig angewendet wird. Sie ist allerdings nicht schwierig zu handhaben. Zu beachten ist unter anderem, dass das Wasser, das gereinigt werden soll, einen bestimmten Trübungswert nicht überschreitet. Die Idee der Wasser-Desinfektion durch Sonnenstrahlen (Solar Water Disinfection; SODIS) wurde erstmals von Aftim Acra in einem Informationsschreiben von UNICEF im Jahre 1984 bekannt gemacht.

Die meisten menschlichen Krankheitserreger sind adaptiert, um im Inneren, also im Magen-Darm-Trakt des Menschen, zu leben. Diese Umgebung ist dunkel, feucht und hat eine Temperatur zwischen 36°C und 37°C. Ausserhalb des menschlichen Körpers reagieren diese Mikroorganismen äußerst empfindlich auf sich verändernde Umweltbedingungen: Sie sind bei Temperaturerhöhungen nicht fähig, zu überleben. Ausserdem besitzen sie auch keinen Schutzmechanismus gegenüber UV-Strahlen. Eine der wenigen Ausnahmen ist *salmonella*, die aber zum Überleben ganz spezielle Bedingungen verlangt.

Demzufolge können Temperatur und UV-Strahlen verwendet werden, um die Mikroorganismen zu inaktivieren. Anzumerken gilt aber, dass SODIS kein steriles Wasser herstellt. Andere – nicht krankheitserregende Mikroorganismen, wie zum Beispiel Algen, – sind hingegen sehr gut an die Bedingungen in der SODIS-Flasche angepasst. Sie könnten auch dort wachsen, gefährden indes den menschlichen Körper nicht.

Tabellarisch sollen nun die hauptsächlichen Vor- und Nachteile beider Methoden einzeln sowie der kombinierten Methode aufzeigt werden (s. Tab. 1).

Das Hauptaugenmerk der zweiten Arbeit (Bachelorarbeit) lag nun darin, die Methoden so zu kombinieren und zu konzipieren, dass sie im Feld eingesetzt werden kann: *Moringa* als Vorstufe zur Reinigung bzw. um die Trübung zu senken und SODIS zur Elimination der Mikroorganismen.

In den Versuchen hat es sich bewährt, *Moringa* als Vorstufe zu nutzen, um die Trübung zu senken: In allen Versuchen wurde das Ziel, unter 30 NTU zu kommen, erreicht.

Während zwei Monaten wurde die neu kombinierte Methode (KM) in Supe (im Südwesten von Äthiopien) eingesetzt und bei 15 Familien, die außerhalb des Dorfes in Ursa wohnen, auf ihre Anwendbarkeit hin getestet. Nebst der Trinkwasseraufbereitung wurden die Familien in den weiteren Nutzen von Moringa sowie in die Kultivierung dieses Baumes eingeführt.

Die Einführung der Methode erfolgte anhand einer Bilddokumentation, die in der Schweiz erstellt wurde. Die Familien von Ursa wurden Schritt für Schritt mit Hilfe eines Übersetzers in die KM eingeführt. Die Bilddokumentation wurde zudem wasserdicht verpackt und den Familien abgegeben, damit sie – wenn sie einen Schritt vergessen würden – auf diese zurückgreifen könnten.

Die Auswertung der Einführung der KM hat gezeigt, dass nach 14 Tagen nicht alle Familien die KM einsetzen, dies jedoch nach 40 Tagen tun. Nicht ausgeschlossen ist, dass ein Gruppendynamikprozess die Motivation

kann. Dies könnte auch bei der KM der Fall sein, da die Spätfolgen unterschätzt werden. Gemäss UNICEF (www.unicef.com, 18.12.2009) sind 88% der Krankheiten, die in Entwicklungsländern vorkommen, auf unsauberes Wasser und fehlende hygienische Einrichtungen zurückzuführen. Im Zeitungsartikel vom 23.08.2009 jedoch kann nachgelesen werden, dass die Menschen aus Bolivien, die an der Studie über SODIS teilnahmen, das anders sehen: Erstens sei sauberes Trinkwasser nicht ihre Hauptsorge, zweitens sei SODIS für sie zu wenig glaubwürdig und drittens zu aufwändig, da für die ganze Familie viele Flaschen an die Sonne gelegt werden müssten. Es besteht aber ein nicht zu unterschätzender Unterschied zwischen Moringa und SODIS: Der visuelle Effekt, den die Menschen nach der Behandlung mit Moringa erfahren (Schmutzkuchen am Grund und oben klares Wasser), ist enorm. Das Vorreinigen des Wassers hat einen starken psychologischen Effekt.

Wenn Menschen mit ihren eigenen Augen eine Verände-

	Vorteile	Nachteile
Moringa	Der Samen enthält starke koagulationsfördernde Eigenschaften, so dass Schwebestoffe (so wie Schmutzpartikel) schnell ausgefällt werden.	Das antibiotische Prinzip des Samens ist zu gering um eine grosse Anzahl von Mikroorganismen im Wasser abzutöten. Zudem besteht nach kurzer Zeit die Gefahr der Wiederverseuchung.
SODIS	Die Methode reduziert sehr stark (bis zu 4 log Stufen) krankheitserregende MO, so dass das Wasser als Trinkwasser verwendet werden kann.	Das Wasser darf für die SODIS-Methode einen bestimmten Trübungswert (NTU 30) nicht überschreiten, da sonst die UV-Strahlen aufgrund der Schmutzpartikel zu stark gestreut werden und so die Wirkung der Elimination verlieren.
Kombinierte Methode (KM)	Durch das Vorklären mit Moringa wird das Wasser ideal für SODIS vorbereitet. (Es wird kein Brennholz verwendet, damit wird einem weiteren Problem in Entwicklungsländern, der Abholzung, entgegengewirkt).	Zeitaufwändiger als eine Methode alleine.

Tab. 1

zur Teilnahme veranlasst hat. Vielleicht haben sich die Familien gegenseitig positiv beeinflusst. Vielleicht haben sie auch den Nutzen des Baumes bzw. des Samens erst später erkannt. Den wahren Grund herauszufinden, ist schwierig. Mit Gewissheit kann aber gesagt werden, dass die Zeitspanne der Beobachtung viel zu kurz war, um zu beurteilen, ob die KM tatsächlich weitergeführt wird. An dieser Stelle soll auf die Zeitungsartikel der NZZ vom 23.08.2009 „Ein Flop aus Plastik“ und vom 30.08.2009 „Der 'Flop' kann Leben retten“ verwiesen werden. Darin wird verdeutlicht, dass die Methode von SODIS zwar nützlich ist, es aber an der Umsetzung bzw. der konsequenten Anwendung mangelt, da das Eliminieren der Mikroorganismen nicht direkt beobachtet werden

wahrnehmen können, sind sie eher gewillt, die Methode einzusetzen. Die Familien waren zum Teil äußerst überrascht – und dies animierte sie zum Weitermachen. SODIS dagegen hat keinen mit bloßem Auge sichtbaren Effekt. Somit könnte das visuelle Ergebnis dazu beitragen, ein Weiternutzen der KM zu fördern. Dies könnte so der „Unglaubwürdigkeit“ (zweiter Grund), der im Zeitungsartikel über SODIS genannt wird, entgegenwirken und wiederum die Menschen dazu motivieren, den Aufwand (dritter Grund) weniger stark zu gewichten und die Methode schließlich anzuwenden. Nur durch eine weitere, beständige Sensibilisierung kann der Meinung entgegengewirkt werden, dass sauberes Trinkwasser nicht die Hauptsorge sei.

Die Resultate zeigen, dass die KM felddauglich und in Gebieten zu empfehlen ist, in denen das Wasser eine höhere Trübung als 30 NTU aufweist, da *Moringa* zum einem das Wasser vorklären und zum anderen als Nahrungsergänzung – für Menschen sowie als Futterquelle für Tiere – dienen kann. Nun wäre es nötig, gewisse Schritte weiterzuentwickeln und weiterreichende Untersuchungen durchzuführen.

Abschließend kann gesagt werden, dass die KM ein großes Potential hat, da sie in Entwicklungsländern zwei Grundbedürfnisse – Essen und Trinken – zu verbessern vermag.

Nachwort

Das Projekt hat in der Stiftung „learning for life“ eine grosse Resonanz gefunden. Aus diesem Grund wurde mir ein weiterer Aufenthalt in Äthiopien finanziert. In dieser Zeit konnte ich eine weitere Sippe in der KM einführen, wobei ich mich sehr bemüht habe, alle Schwierigkeiten, die während des Pilotprojekts entstanden sind, zu beheben. Ich bin daran, die KM so zu ändern, dass sie keine Schwierigkeiten mehr aufweist. Das Konzept soll zudem so überarbeitet werden, dass es auch in anderen Gebieten eingesetzt werden kann.

Ein solch positives Echo zu erhalten, war und ist für mich eine wunderschöne und energiegelbende Erfahrung. Ich hoffe, dass das Projekt weiterhin so viele positive Rückmeldungen erhält.

Quellen:

Printpublikationen und Skripte:

- de la Cruz, S. (2008): Untersuchung zur Kultivierung und zum Nutzungspotential von *Moringa oleifera*, Semesterarbeit, ZHAW
- Dörries, S. (2005): Coagulants of *Moringa oleifera* Lam. Seeds purification & characterization, Dissertation, École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne.

Fuglie, L.J. (2001): The miracle tree – the multiple attributes of *Moringa*; Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)/ Church World Service (CWS), Dakar, Senegal

Lori, Ch. (2007): Anbau und Nutzungspotential von *Moringa oleifera* in der Trinkwasseraufbereitung und als Nahrungsmittel, Semesterarbeit, ZHAW

Mähler, S. (2004): Vergleichende Untersuchungen zur wasserreinigenden Wirkung der Samen von *Moringa oleifera* und *Moringa stenopetala*. Deutsch Äthiopischer Verein, Informationsblätter; Ausgabe März 2004, Seiten 6 – 8

Meierhofer, R., Wegelin, M. (2002): Solar water disinfection a guide for the application of SODIS, Swiss Federal Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (EAWAG), Department of Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries (SANDEC), SKAT, St. Gallen

Urbaschock, J. (2005): Weiterführende Untersuchungen zur Verwendung von *Moringa stenopetala* als Wasserreinigungsmittel. Kurzbericht der Diplomarbeit in Deutsch Äthiopischer Verein, Informationsblätter, Ausgabe Februar 2005, Seiten 18 – 19

Troup's. (1981): The silviculture of indians tree. Forest Research Institute & Colleges, Debra Dum. Volume 3, Seiten 300 – 303

Zeitungsartikel:

NZZ: ein Flop aus Plastik, 23.08.2009

NZZ: der „Flop“ kann Leben retten, 30.08.2009

Internet:

www.sodis.ch (20. 04. 2009)

www.treesforlifeorg/moringa/book (10.07.2009)

<http://www.peter-hug.ch/lexikon/behenoel?q=Moringa%C3%B6> (17.08.2009)

<http://www.moringa-europe.com/partner.html> (03.09.2009)

<http://www.moringatoday.com/moringa-blog.html> (04.09.2009)

<http://www.mobot.org/gradstudents/olson/> (04.01.2010)

www.unicef.com (04.10.2010)

**SELAM – Eine Pioniereinrichtung der
Beruflichen Ausbildung
- in Erinnerung an David Röschli -**

H. und I. Welte

Als David Röschli 1961 nach Addis Abeba kam, wurden gerade Leute mit breitgefächertem Wissen in Planning und Metalwork für den Bau des Haile- Selassie-I-Airport gesucht. Deshalb bekam er rasch eine Arbeitserlaubnis und konnte sich in Äthiopien einrichten.

Schon ein halbes Jahr, nachdem Marie-Luise mit der Familie (4 Kinder) zu Beginn des Jahres 1963 nach Addis nachgekommen war, nahmen beide die sieben Jahre alte Tsehay in ihre Familie auf.

Von 1963-68 arbeitete David als Workshop Master an der Haile-Selassie-Universität in Addis Abeba und war Adviser am Technical College in Addis.

Von 1968-74 fand er als Produktionsmanager für eine amerikanische Metallbau- Firma eine interessante Betätigung.

Im Januar 1975 kehrten ‚die Röschlis‘, die inzwischen weitere fünf äthiopische Waisenkinder adoptiert hatten, wegen der Revolutionswirren in Äthiopien in die Schweiz zurück.

Die Hungersnot 1984 sollte das Schicksalsjahr für die Familie werden. Tsehay, die älteste Adoptivtochter, kehrte mit der Absicht, ein Waisenhaus zu gründen, nach Äthiopien zurück, und erhielt rasch für dieses Unternehmen eine Genehmigung der Regierung, die auch Land zur Verfügung stellte und alle notwendige Hilfe gewährte. Die Waisenhausgründung erhielt den Namen SELAM.

David Röschli erstellte die Baupläne und organisierte von der Schweiz aus den Aufbau des Kinderheims. Von Anfang an war er der Ansicht, dass es nicht genug war, Kinder vorm Hungertod zu retten. Man macht sich für sie verantwortlich und muss für eine Schule und eine Ausbildung sorgen, sei es im Handwerk oder im Studium. Deshalb kam Herr Röschli 1989 nach Addis Abeba zurück und baute zu dem Kinderheim das SELAM Technical and Vocational Center (TVC) auf.

Das SELAM Children's Village und das TVC zogen bald die Aufmerksamkeit hoher Regierungsbeamter verschiedener Provinzen und sogar der Staatsspitze auf sich. Auch hohe Gäste aus dem Ausland besuchten die Einrichtungen und waren erstaunt darüber, was in Äthiopien durch die Leistung von Herrn und Frau Röschli und ihrem gutgeführten Team, das ausschließlich aus Äthiopiern besteht, möglich ist.

Unermüdet arbeiteten ‚die Röschlis‘ am Aufbau und Ausbau dieses einzigartigen Projekts. Durch Brunnenbohrungen, Energieerzeugung, Einrichten von Garten- und Landwirtschaftsbetrieben, sogar von einer Bäckerei und eines Ladens konnte das Hilfswerk auf eine gute Grundlage gestellt werden.

Herr Röschli erwies sich immer als besonders experimentierfreudig und stark realitätsbezogen. So wurden alle Gebäude mit selbst gefertigten Ziegeln gebaut, deren Materialzusammenstellung eigens erprobt wurde. Die Gebäude wurden zweckmäßig den städtischen Lebensbedingungen in Addis Abeba angepasst, funktional, einfach und sauber eingerichtet. Heute ist das SELAM Heim-, Wohn- und Ausbildungsstätte für mehr als 6000 junge Menschen und Arbeitgeber für 1400 Äthiopier.

Herr Röschli leistete echte Pionierarbeit. Für die Errichtung und Ausstattung des TVC, das heute etwa 800 junge Menschen ausbildet, zeichnete er selbst die Pläne. Die Zufahrtsstraße und eine Brücke wurden die ersten infrastrukturellen Maßnahmen in diesem Stadtbezirk von Addis Abeba. Bereits 1991 konnte mit der Ausbildung von Schlossern begonnen werden. Heute werden Mechaniker, Automechaniker, Elektriker, Biogas- und Solarenergie-Spezialisten, Metall- und Leimbau-Fachleute, auch Konstrukteure für Brückenbau und Spezialdächer ausgebildet. Nicht nur die Schulausbildung bis zur Universitätsreife zählt zu den besten in Äthiopien (wie viele erste Plätze hat das Selam schon belegt!), auch die Berufsausbildung steht (mit) an der Spitze und ist als Technische Hochschule von der Regierung anerkannt.

Unter der Leitung von David Röschli hat sich das SELAM zu einem allumfassenden Hilfswerk entwickelt. Nicht nur für die engere Selam-Familie, sondern für über 3700 Schüler und mehr als 800 Lehrlinge trägt man die Verantwortung. Dazu kommen Straßenkinderprojekte, Witwenprojekte, Ausbildung junger Menschen und erwachsener Frauen im Staatsgefängnis.

Möglich wurde diese bewundernswerte Leistung durch Herrn Röschlis besondere Gabe. Von Anfang an arbeite-

te er mit großer Bescheidenheit mit den Azubis zusammen, von denen inzwischen viele in leitender Position im SELAM tätig sind. Sein Geschick, mit Menschen umzugehen, Mitarbeiter auszuwählen, Aufgaben und Verantwortung an Äthiopier zu delegieren, verdient große Bewunderung. Sehr realitätsnah griff er die Nöte und Schwierigkeiten in seiner Umgebung auf, um sie zu beseitigen.

Bei der On-the-Job-Ausbildung, bei der die Auszubildenden zur Wertschöpfung und damit zur Finanzierung ihrer Ausbildung beitragen, werden verschiedene Wasserpumpen und Bewässerungssysteme hergestellt und erprobt. Ausbildungskurse für Kleinbewässerung stoßen auf großes Interesse sowohl bei den Farmern als auch ganz besonders bei der Regierung. Die Herstellung einfacher und bezahlbarer Pflüge, Eselskarren, Wasserbehälter usw. tragen ebenso zur Verbesserung des Lebens auf dem Land bei wie Solarkocher oder Handmühlen. Herr Röschli zeigte immer ein besonderes Gespür, die Bedürfnisse der Menschen zu erfassen und wirklichkeitsnah zu befriedigen. Das SELAM errichtete nicht nur den ersten biogasbetriebenen Stromerzeuger in Äthiopien, es richtete auch kleine Solar- oder Biogasanlagen für Farmer oder Schulen ein.

Im Jahre 2005 erhielten Frau Marie-Luise Röschli und Herr Röschli in der Schweiz die hohe Auszeichnung des Adele-Duttweiler-Preises für ihre humanitären Dienste. Herr Röschli wurde in Äthiopien mehrfach ausgezeichnet und auch zum Ehrenmitglied der Universität Addis Abeba ernannt.

Nachdem David und Marie-Luise Röschli im Jahre 2007 die Leitung im SELAM abgegeben hatten, machten sie sich auf, in Awasa ihre segensreiche Arbeit fortzusetzen. Herr Röschli engagierte sich dort als Berater eines Lehrlingsausbildungszentrums.

Viel zu lange hatte er notwendige medizinische Untersuchungen hinausgezögert. Als er zwei Tage nach einer Operation in einem Schweizer Krankenhaus am 20. März 2010 im Alter von 77 Jahren verstarb, ging ein erfülltes Leben zu Ende. Sein Wunsch war es, sein Leben ohne langes Siechtum abschließen zu dürfen. Dies war dem immer Tätigen, mit echtem Pioniergeist Ausgestatteten, unermüdet für andere Arbeitenden vergönnt.

In seinem kurzen Aufsatz „Stabwechsel aus Schweizerischer Sicht“ schreibt Christoph Zinsstag, Vorstand von SELAM Schweiz: „David Röschli war ein begnadeter Motivator, er hatte die seltene Gabe, Kindern, Jugendlichen und Mitarbeitern Vertrauen in die eigenen Fähigkeiten zu ermöglichen.“ Es bleibt zu wünschen, dass die von der Adoptivtochter Tsehay 1984 ins Leben gerufene, von Marie-Luise Röschli mitgetragene und von Herrn Röschli auf eine beeindruckende Weise zu einem bedeutenden Bildungs- und Ausbildungsort in Addis Abeba herangereifte Hilfsorganisation auch weiterhin im Geiste von Herrn Röschli fortgeführt werden kann.

Aktivitäten von Äthiopien-Initiativen

Kinderdorf Awassa - Beverungen

Verein Dritte Welt und Umwelt e.V., Beverungen,²

Das Kinderdorf AWASSA-BEVERUNGEN ist eine Gründung von Dr. Hunzinger, der vor ca. 12 Jahren begann, eine Straßenküche für Waisenkinder in Äthiopien zu unterstützen. Diese Idee wurde von dem Verein Dritte Welt und Umwelt e.V. aufgenommen und zu einem Kinderdorf ausgebaut. Gleichzeitig unterstützte Dr. Hunzinger die Gründung von zwei weiteren Vereinen mit gleicher Zielsetzung in Freiburg und Chicago. Alle drei Vereine sind anerkannte gemeinnützige Vereine, die ausschließlich ehrenamtliche Mitglieder und Verwaltungsorgane haben. Die Spenden werden über Patenschaften, Veranstaltungen und Presseaktivitäten akquiriert.

Daneben halten wir Vorträge in Schulen und Vereinen, bei denen wir unser Motto

BROT – BILDUNG – BÄUME

in den Vordergrund stellen.

Unser Ziel ist also eine nachhaltige Erziehung der Kinder, die weit über die Ernährung hinausgeht. Alle Kinder werden in gleichem Maße gefördert und nach Maßgabe ihrer Lernfähigkeit nach der achtklassigen Schule auf weiterführende Fachschulen oder die Universität geschickt. Dabei ergänzen wir die staatliche Förderung durch einen speziellen Ausbildungsfond.

Praktische Ausbildung wird in unseren Werkstätten für Metallbau, Holzverarbeitung, Elektrotechnik und Computerwissen vermittelt, die vor ca. 3 Jahren angegliedert wurden. Da unser Dorf für dieses Projekt nicht genug Kinder betreut, kommen Jugendliche aus sozial schwachen Familien und aus umliegenden Kinderprojekten hinzu. Es wird in einjährigen Kursen ein handwerkliches Grundwissen vermittelt. Ein besonderer Schwerpunkt liegt dabei auf der Ausbildung von Frauen und Mädchen.

Im Umfeld unserer Einrichtung haben wir in den vergangenen Jahren Bäume angepflanzt. Auf dem Gelände des Dorfes wurde mit Hilfe der Kinder ein Garten angelegt. So zeigen wir den Kindern in der Praxis den Wert der Umwelt für das eigene Leben.

Die Stadt Awassa hat uns vor ca. 10 Jahren ein Grundstück zur Verfügung gestellt, auf dem sofort mit dem Bau eines Dorfes für Waisenkinder begonnen wurde. Heute betreuen wir dort 70 Kinder zwischen drei und sechzehn Jahren.

Die gute Betreuung garantieren afrikanische Mitarbeiterinnen und Mitarbeiter. Die Leitung hat ein qualifizierter Äthiopier, der einen erfolgreichen Umgang mit den Behörden gewährleistet.

Die finanzielle Kontrolle übernehmen anerkannte Wirtschaftsprüfer vor Ort. Gesunde Ernährung, Ausbildung und Unterbringung werden auf regelmäßigen Reisen von Mitgliedern der Vereine überprüft.

Man kann in unserem Verein soziales Engagement zum Anfassen und Mitgestalten erleben. Wir planen nicht nur unsere regelmäßigen Veranstaltungen, sondern wirken auch bei der Verwendung der Mittel zugunsten der Kinder von Awassa mit.

² c/o Werner Lüdtko, 37697 Lauenförde, Lange Str. 41 a

Wenn Sie mehr wissen möchten, kommen Sie doch zu unserer Dampferfahrt am ersten Advent, den 28.11.2010 um 14 Uhr, am Dampferanleger in Beverungen. Dort erwartet Sie u.a. ein Vortrag über das Dorf, der auf der letzten Reise unseres Vereinvorsitzenden nach Awassa im Oktober 2010 basiert.

Niedersächsische Bingo-Umweltstiftung unterstützt Menschenrechtler Rüdiger Nehberg im Kampf gegen Genitalverstüm- melung

Pressemitteilung vom 28. September 2010

Hannover – In seinem engagierten Kampf für ein Ende der Genitalverstümmelung von Mädchen und Frauen erhält der Menschenrechtler Rüdiger Nehberg (75) mit seiner Organisation TARGET e.V. Unterstützung von der Niedersächsischen Bingo-Umweltstiftung. Die Stiftung fördert die aktuelle Aufklärungskampagne in Äthiopien. Basis ist DAS GOLDENE BUCH, das TARGET als Predigtgrundlage gratis an Vorbeter der Moscheen verteilt. Es ist in Arabisch, Französisch und Englisch verfasst. Die Stiftung hat für 18.600 Euro zusätzliche Übersetzungen in den äthiopischen Stammessprachen Afaraf und Somali finanziert. 23.250 Schriften wurden gedruckt.

„Die Begleitschriften bringen unser Kampagne entscheidend voran,“ sagt Rüdiger Nehberg. Die Vorstandsvorsitzende der Stiftung, Anne Zachow, betont: „Als Frau ist es mir ein ganz wichtiges Anliegen, dass diese Grausamkeiten gegenüber den betroffenen Frauen endlich ein Ende finden.“ Die Genitalverstümmelung von Mädchen und Frauen ist in Äthiopien, einem der ärmsten Länder der Welt, weit verbreitet. In manchen Regionen sind mehr als 90 Prozent der Frauen betroffen. Weltweit gibt es nach WHO-Angaben etwa 140 bis 150 Millionen genital verstümmelte Frauen. In Deutschland leben etwa 20.000 Opfer. 5.000 Mädchen, meist aus Migrantenfamilien, gelten hier als bedroht, weil die Gefahr besteht, dass sie für eine „Operation,“ in die Ursprungsländer ihrer Familien geflogen werden. In 35 muslimisch geprägten Ländern Afrikas und Asiens wird das archaische Ritual noch praktiziert. Missbräuchlich wird es meist mit dem Islam gerechtfertigt. TARGET will die blutige Tradition mit der Kraft der Religion beenden. DAS GOLDENE BUCH enthält die „Fatwa von Kairo,“ (Rechtsgutachten), das 2006 während einer TARGET-Konferenz an der Al-Azhar-Universität von höchsten Islamgelehrten verfasste religiöse Verbot des Brauches. Es erklärt die Beschneidung weiblicher Genitalien zu einer schweren Sünde gegen die Grundsätze des Islam.

Weitere Infos:

www.bingostiftung.de,

E-Mail: umwelt@bingostiftung.de

www.target-nehberg.de Printmedien finden unter „Medien,“ honorarfreie Fotos zum Download,

E-Mail: buero@target-nehberg.de

Die roestbar

Niemand weiß, wann es tatsächlich passierte. Doch wir wissen genau: Es muss ein magischer Moment gewesen sein, damals vor ungefähr 600 Jahren, irgendwo im Hochland Äthiopiens. Als zum ersten Mal ein Mensch entdeckte, dass die Bohne der Kaffeebaumfrucht nicht nur betörend duftet, wenn man sie röstet. Nein, er stellte sogar fest, dass sie zu Pulver gemahlen und mit kochendem Wasser aufgegossen einen verführerischen Trank zaubert. Schwarz wie die finsterste Nacht und gleichzeitig belebend wie die Strahlen der aufgehenden Sonne. Und ganz nebenbei gelang ihm damit eine Erfindung, die den Lauf der Welt verändern sollte: die Kaffeepause.

Im westfälischen Münster erinnert rein gar nichts an das äthiopische Hochland. Und doch war es ein ähnlich magischer Moment, ungefähr 600 Jahre später. Genau der Moment nämlich, als bei uns das erste Mal aus selbst gerösteten Kaffeebohnen Kaffee aufgebrüht wurde.

Tiefschwarz, kräftig, aromatisch dampfte er in der Tasse – und er schmeckte einfach viel intensiver und besser als der Kaffee, den wir bis dahin kannten.

Kurz gesagt: Dieses tiefschwarze Erlebnis hat uns nicht mehr los gelassen. Schnell war für uns klar, wir wollen es mit anderen teilen. Die Idee zu unserer eigenen Kaffeerösterei und Münsters erster roestbar war geboren. Und mit ihr begann eine Erfolgsgeschichte, die wir uns nicht erträumt hätten. Aus diesem Grund und weil wir äthiopischen Kaffee besonders lieben, haben wir und das gesamte roestbar-Team uns sehr auf die äthiopische Woche gefreut. Eine Woche lang hat der DÄV uns mit äthiopischen Exponaten ausgestattet und uns mit zahlreichen Live-Kaffeezeremonien erfreut. Eine Woche lang buntes Treiben in der roestbar!. Es hat uns und unseren Kunden sehr viel Spaß gemacht. Wir sagen Danke!

Zege Waldkaffee

Im traditionellen Verfahren unter Einhaltung der Qualitätsbestimmungen der Deutschen Röstergilde hergestellt.

Rund um den Tanasee wächst seit Urzeiten Kaffee. Dennoch gehört diese Region nicht zu den klassischen Anbaugebieten Äthiopiens. Ursprünglich waren es Waldkaffees, aber der Holzeinschlag der letzten Jahrzehnten hat leider dafür gesorgt, dass dieser historische Waldkaffee rund um den Tanasee fast nicht mehr vorkommt. Eine Ausnahme stellt die Halbinsel Zege dar. Es ist das größte, noch zusammenhängende Waldgebiet am Tanasee, in dem der Kaffee in seiner Ursprungsform gedeiht. Zu verdanken hat er das seiner einzigartigen „heiligen“ Herkunft.

„Betre Maryam“, der Name des Heiligen, teilte einst seinen Priesterstab in drei Teile. Aus dem Kopfteil entstanden die ersten Kaffeepflanzen. In einem der sieben Klöster von Zege ist diese einmalige Geschichte in Wandbildnissen verewigt. Zudem existiert auch ein altes Buch, indem diese besondere Begebenheit niedergeschrieben wurde. Noch heute gibt es auf Zege aus diesen historisch religiösen Gründen keine echte Landkultivierung im herkömmlichen Sinne. So schützt der „heilige“ Kaffee den Wald und der Wald den „heiligen“ Kaffee.

Traditionell beschäftigen sich die Einheimischen und die Klöster ehrfürchtig mit der Kaffeekultivierung für den Eigenbedarf bzw. für den lokalen Markt. In den letzten vier Jahren (Erntezyklen) hat InterAmerican (Importeur) die Ernte und Aufbereitung in Zusammenarbeit mit den einheimischen Kaffeepflanzenbauern und Klöstern optimiert, um einen wunderbaren Zege Waldkaffee von höchster Qualität zu kreieren.

Unser Rohkaffee Importeur beteiligt sich finanziell, logistisch und technisch an diesem außergewöhnlichen Kaffeeprojekt. Das erst ermöglicht diesem Kaffee seinen verdienten internationalen Auftritt. Unterstützt und gefördert wird dieses Kaffeeprojekt auch durch World-Habitat-Society, die sich seit Jahren vor Ort auf Zege für den Schutz des Waldes, der Regionalentwicklung und den nachhaltigen Tourismus einsetzt.

<http://www.roestbar.de/>

Bücher

Dropout in First Grade as an Indicator for Learning Difficulties in Ethiopian Government Primary Schools

An investigation of intercultural and international comparative education for students with individual needs

von Jana Zehle

€ 39,00, ISBN : 978-3-8325-2439-5

Verlag : Logos Berlin, 10.04.2010

Dropout can be considered as severe hindrance to fight poverty in many countries. Children dropout from school without minimal education. In Ethiopia, dropout in first grade primary school is a widespread phenomenon and

incompatible with the Millennium Goal 'Achieving universal primary education'.

The researcher investigates the relation between dropout and learning difficulties while as learning difficulties are discussed as a comprehensive concept going beyond the institutional framework of school. The investigation took place in Addis Ababa and in rural areas in Southern Ethiopia.

The findings of this investigation led the researcher to draw consequences and formulate recommendations relevant in a global context. Thus, the research paper provides a far-reaching contribution to the intercultural and international comparative education for individual needs within the framework of qualitative development co-operation.

Äthiopien

- Reisen durch ein unbekanntes Afrika

von Günter Klatt

Vorwort von Asfa-Wossen Asserate € 49,00, ISBN : 978-3-940926-09-8

ihleo verlagsbüro, 3. Auflage 12.2010

Äthiopien nimmt eine Sonderstellung in Afrika ein: Die ältesten Hominidenfunde stammen von dort ebenso wie der zweite christliche Staat überhaupt, zuvor schon ein biblisches Land; der Islam hat heilige Stätten in dem Vielvölkerstaat, tribalistische Stammesverbände leben bis in die Gegenwart neben Jahrtausende alten Hochkulturen. Es ist das höchstgelegene Land Afrikas, das klimatisch abwechslungsreichste, mit endemischer Fauna und Flora – eine Welt, vergessen im Schatten von Kriegen und Krisen, die das Land isolierten. Nun aber bricht die Moderne ein in diese Welt und verändert sie rasant.

Dieses Buch spiegelt die persönlichen Erfahrungen des Autors wider, gibt dabei einen Blick frei auf die überbordende Vielschichtigkeit dieses Landes – und schließt ein echtes Desiderat der deutschsprachigen Literatur. Denn hier liegt erstmals eine bildliche Dokumentation über den Wandel eines des ärmsten und an Kultur reichsten Länder Afrikas im Zeichen nivellierender Globalisierung vor; über ein Land in Afrika – wie es war, was es durchlitten hat, wie es ist und niemals wieder sein wird, dargestellt mit Hilfe umfangreicher Literatur, beschrieben und fotografiert unter teils strapaziösen Bedingungen von Günter Klatt.

Herrschaft und Armut in "Äthiopien".

"Äthiopien": "Supermacht" am Horn von Afrika

Untersuchung zur Dominanz von Stämmen, Herrschaft, Unterdrückung, Diskriminierung und Armut

von Musa M Omar

€ 21,00, 21,00, ISBN : 978-3-86573-509-6

wvb Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Berlin, 1. Aufl. 2010

"Äthiopien", das "Land der verbrannten Gesichter", bekannt als Abessinien "Al-Habascha", führt seit jeher Kriege gegen benachbarte Völker und Stämme, die nie ein Ende haben.

"Äthiopien" möchte sich als „Supermacht“ am Horn von Afrika darstellen.

Das Buch bietet einen historischen Überblick über die Entwicklung der kriegerischen Auseinandersetzungen und Konflikte der Amharen, die ihren Herrschaftsanspruch aus der Legende der "Salomonischen Dynastie" legitimieren, und der Tigray gegen andere Volksgruppen innerhalb "Äthiopiens" sowie gegen ihre Nachbarvölker. Der Preis, den die "äthiopischen" Herrscher für ihre Machtideologie zahlen, ist eine "absolute Armut" ihrer Bevölkerung, die immer wieder in katastrophalen Hungerkatastrophen gipfelte.

Der Autor fordert die Verantwortung der Industrienationen zu einem Waffenembargo gegen die "äthiopischen" Machthaber.

Draußen nur Kännchen

- Meine deutschen Fundstücke -

von Asfa Wossen Asserate

€ 18,95, ISBN : 978-3-502-15157-9

Verlag : Scherz, 1. Aufl. 12.08.2010

Wie ein äthiopischer Prinz lernte, sich mit deutschem Filterkaffee zu arrangieren Asfa-Wossen Asserate zeichnet ein Porträt seiner deutschen Wahlheimat, ihrer Bewohner und ihrer Eigenheiten – ganz persönlich und aus vielen überraschenden Blickwinkeln, in unterhaltsamen Anekdoten und Ausflügen in die Geschichte. Seine Sichtweise ist keineswegs unkritisch, aber immer wohlwollend. Mit Nachsicht blickt er auf unsere Schwächen, stolz unterstreicht er Stärken, und aus jeder Zeile spricht seine Zuneigung zu diesem Land, das er in der Zeit seines Exils kennen und schätzen gelernt hat. »Draußen nur Kännchen« ist eine Hommage an Deutschland aus der Sicht eines »Zugereisten«, der hier Wurzeln geschlagen hat.

Econometric Analyses of Small-Scale Banana Markets in Southern Ethiopia

A New Institutional Economics Perspective

von Getachew A Woldie

€ 28,00, ISBN : 978-3-8236-1593-4

Verlag : Margraf, 27.05.2010

A rapid growth of high value crops in the international trade is becoming an incentive for a significant rise in production and export of these crops, especially in developing countries. In the Ethiopian case, given the declining export earnings from traditional exports, policy makers as well as donor agencies have shifted their attention towards diversification of export crop production for potential income growth. To this end, major rural development strategies of the country envisage significant scope for achieving greater diversification and commercialisation of smallholders. The move towards high value crop production and marketing, however, requires a huge role of markets and institutions. This study investigates the Ethiopian banana market from a New Institutional Economics (NIE) perspective by using both econometric and mathematical models in order to identify intervention points that accelerate market integration. The result among others reveals that the market is characterised by existence of high transaction costs related to information and search, negotiations and bargaining, as well as monitoring and enforcement. It is learned that households with better bargaining power, better access to transportation, information, as well as members of farmers of organisations are better off in terms of income generation. Result from a mathematical programming model also showed that farmers' current market channel choice decision is sub-optimal. Hence, enhancing high-value crops production and marketing and in turn im-

proving the livelihood of smallholders highly depends on minimising the market imperfections. This may require policy makers to focus on: establishing appropriate institutions, improving market information systems, developing rural infrastructure, strengthening farmers organisation, resolving financial constraints through credit, enhancing value added capacity, encouraging competition, as well as encouraging investment that accelerate future vertical and horizontal integration.

Rural Poverty, Land Management Practices and Agricultural Productivity in Ethiopia

von **Bamlaku A Alemu**

€ 28,00, ISBN : 978-3-8236-1598-9

Verlag : Margraf, 13.09.2010

The study examines linkages among rural poverty, land management practices and agricultural productivity. In separate chapters, the book covers several issues. In the introductory part, it touches upon the magnitude of poverty, land degradation and low agricultural productivity both at international and local levels. The book deals with theories concerning poverty-land degradation linkages. A major emphasis is also placed on rural development policies and land tenure systems in Ethiopia, in general and the study area, in particular. Using data collected from 254 randomly selected farm households, the book considered three agro-ecological zones. It then analyses poverty incidence and major triggering factors. It also analyses the major factors affecting the use of sustainable land management practices. Last but not least, the study gauges technical efficiency level of farmers and identify factors causing inefficiency.

The book explicates that the above-mentioned problems are in a quagmire of causality as far as the study area is concerned. This implies that poverty, land management practices, and low agricultural productivity influence one another and are jointly influenced by several independent factors. Findings in this book suggest that the usual assumption of targeting poverty per se does not help much. Instead, efforts should be made to target both land management issues and agricultural productivity simultaneously. In fact, given the bulk of the population dwelling in rural areas (earning incomes directly from agriculture), agriculture is an essential component in the fight against poverty. In this regard, both short-term productivity gains and long-term transformation issues need to be considered.

ÄTHIOPIEN - von innen und außen, gestern und heute

von Marie-Luise Kreuter, Historikerin, Dr. phil. Und Rolf P. Schwiedrzik-Kreuter, Berufsschullehrer, Dipl. Soz., Erwachsenenbildner, Berater in der EZ

426 Seiten, bebildert, € 33,00, ISBN 978-8391-9534-5

Verlag: Books on Demand, Norderstedt (erscheint im Dez. 2010)

Das Buch wendet sich an eine Leserschaft, die mehr über Äthiopien wissen will als Reiseführer und Hoch-

glanzbücher verraten. Es schaut hinter Klischees und gängige Deutungsmuster. Es vermittelt Einblicke in Geschichte und Gegenwart einer komplexen Gesellschaft, deren historisches Erbe zugleich Motor wie Hindernis von Entwicklung ist.

Wessen Geschichte ist äthiopische Geschichte? Ist Äthiopien eine „christliche Insel“? Was bedeutet Ethnisierung versus „Amharisierung“? Warum war Äthiopien Vorbild im Dekolonisierungskampf? Warum ist Gudit für Beta Israel eine Heldin und warum Ahmed Gragn für Muslime bis heute ein Held? Welche Rolle spielten Armenier in Äthiopien? Was wollten Europäer dort? Warum wurde Lij Iyasu abgesetzt? Was erhofften sich die Nazis vom „Abessinienkrieg“? Wieso nutzt Äthiopien das Wasser des Blauen Nil fast nicht? Welche Rolle spielt Äthiopien im Kampf gegen islamischen Fundamentalismus? Wie funktioniert eine „revolutionäre Demokratie“? Und wie Entwicklungszusammenarbeit?

Der Blick auf das Land und seine Menschen erfolgt von innen - aus äthiopischer Perspektive, und von außen - durch Fremde. In die Darstellung fließen Erfahrungen aus Alltag und Beruf ein, die die Autoren während sieben Jahren in Äthiopien gemacht haben.

Tadias! Kommt mit nach Afrika

Lieder, Spiele, Tänze & Musik aus Afrika

CD, Booklet, 16 S., Spielzeit: 56 Min., € 13,37, ISBN-10: 3-86702-109-0

Oekotopia Verlag, 03/2010

Die neue Afrika-CD für alle Karibuni- und Weltmusik-Fans.

Musik spielt im täglichen Leben der Menschen in Afrika eine herausragende Rolle.

Sie gibt den Tanz-, aber auch den Arbeitsrhythmus vor, sie wiegt die Kinder in den Schlaf, erzählt Geschichten, ist voller Freude oder Trauer und fast immer mit Bewegung verbunden. Sehr oft sind die Kinder dabei, imitieren die Bewegungen der Erwachsenen und entwickeln früh ein ausgezeichnetes Rhythmus und Körpergefühl. Es liegt ihnen nicht im Blut, die Kinder nehmen einfach mehr teil am Leben der Erwachsenen und lernen Tanz und Musik wie das Laufen und Sprechen.

Für diese CD wurde eine lebendige Lieder-Mischung aus verschiedenen afrikanischen Ländern und Kulturen ausgewählt:

Wechselgesänge, Spiellieder, Klatschspiele, Bewegungslieder sowie Lieder, die eine Geschichte erzählen oder in den Schlaf wiegen. Die Musik, von Karibuni gemeinsam mit afrikanischen Freunden eingespielt und in den Originalsprachen und der deutschen Übertragung gesungen, setzt die Kinder in Bewegung und fordert sie auf selbst zu singen und zu tanzen. Afrikanische Geschichten und Weisheiten ergänzen die Lieder und runden die liebevoll arrangierte Produktion ab.

Biografien

Pit Budde: Pit Budde ist Musiker und Autor und produziert CDs und Radiosendungen mit ethnischen Musiken. Als Interpret, Musiker und Produzent hat er zahlreiche Tonträger veröffentlicht

Josephine Kronfli: Diplom Biologin, Autorin, geboren in Addis Abeba, Äthiopien, lebt seit 1982 in Deutschland.

Freie Mitarbeiterin im Westfälischen Museum für Naturkunde in Münster

Links

Demokratie - Menschenrechte - Entwicklung?

http://www.eed.de/fix/files/doc/1008030_Aethiopien_De_mokratie_final_web.pdf

18 Jahre nach der äthiopischen Wende: Dokumentation einer Fachtagung am 10. Dezember 2009 in Berlin

„Demokratie – Menschenrechte – Entwicklung?“ lautete der Thema eines Fachgesprächs über Äthiopien am 10. Dezember 2009, dem Internationalen Tag der Menschenrechte, in Berlin. 18 Jahre nach dem Sturz der Militärdiktatur und ein gutes halbes Jahr vor den nächsten Wahlen schien es an der Zeit, einen Rückblick zu machen.

Herausgeber: Arbeitsstelle Frieden und Konfliktbearbeitung (AsFK), Ulrich-von-Hassell-Str. 76, D-53123 Bonn

Tel: +49 (0)228 8101-0; E-Mail: arbeitsstelle.frieden@eed.de; www.eed.de

Bonn, 16. August 2010

welt-sichten, magazin für globale Entwicklung und ökumenische Zusammenarbeit

<http://www.welt-sichten.org/artikel/art-08-010/riskantes-grossprojekt.html>

Frankfurter Rundschau Specia vom 02,09.2010

<http://www.fr-online.de/wirtschaft/wasserkraftwerk-ohne-anschluss/-/1472780/4612816/-/index.html>

Kritische Beiträge zum im Bau befindlichen dritten Damm am Omo-Fluss, dem zweitgrößten seiner Art in Afrika. Bei Menschenrechtlern und Umweltschützern löst das Projekt heftige Kritik aus. Sie sehen die Lebensgrundlagen von mehr als einer halben Million Menschen in Gefahr. Der Staudamm Gibe III in Äthiopien gefährdet empfindliche Ökosysteme

Electricity - Gibe III

BBC World News Part 1 + 2, 17.6.2010

<http://www.skyscrapercity.com/showthread.php?p=58115473>

Sustainable Hydro Electrical Development (Video)

Interview: Dr. Tewelde Berhan G. Egziaber, PM Meles, EEPCo, Dr. Richard Leakey

Right Livelihood College

<http://www.epo.de/>

Bonn, 17. 9. 2010 (epo.de). - Das Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung der Universität Bonn (ZEF) wird offizieller Campus des "Right Livelihood College", der internationalen Bildungsinitiative des "Right Livelihood Award". Dies wurde bei der Konferenz zum 30-jährigen Jubiläum

des "Alternativen Nobelpreises" in Bonn zwischen der Universität Bonn, dem Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung (ZEF), der Right Livelihood Award Foundation (RLA) und dem Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienst (DAAD) vereinbart.

Bonn wird damit zum dritten Partner der internationalen Bildungsinitiative des "Alternativen Nobelpreises". Bislang gab es weltweit zwei weitere RLC-Standorte in Malaysia und Schweden. Ein Campus an der Universität Addis Abeba, Äthiopien, befindet sich im Aufbau. Die vier internationalen Universitäten werden kooperieren, um Projekte der Preisträger weltweit zu stärken. ...

Äthiopien: Entwicklungshilfe fördert Unterdrückung

Geber sollen Entwicklungshilfeprogramme prüfen und Einsatz von Geldern überwachen

<http://www.hrw.org/de/news/2010/10/19/thiopien-entwicklungshilfe-f-rdert-unterdr-ckung> (London, 19. 10. 2010) - Die äthiopische Regierung nutzt Entwicklungshilfe zur Unterdrückung der Opposition, indem sie den Zugang zu grundlegenden staatlichen Leistungen von der Unterstützung der Regierungspartei abhängig macht, so Human Rights Watch in einem heute veröffentlichten Bericht. Human Rights Watch fordert die internationalen Geber auf, einen verantwortungsvollen und transparenten Umgang mit den Mitteln sicherzustellen. Zudem soll überprüft werden, dass die Hilfe nicht als politisches Druckmittel eingesetzt wird.

Der 105-seitige Bericht „Development Without Freedom: How Aid Underwrites Repression in Ethiopia“ dokumentiert, wie die äthiopische Regierung Spenden und Hilfsgüter instrumentalisiert, um die Vormachtstellung der regierenden Revolutionären Demokratischen Front der Äthiopischen Völker (EPRDF) zu sichern. ...

Diasporas and Peace: A Comparative Assessment of Somali and Ethiopian communities in Europe

von **Andrea Warnecke (ed.)**

<http://www.bicc.de/index.php/publications/briefs/brief-42>

DIASPEACE Working Paper

In recent years, following the political upheavals in Ethiopia, Somalia and what later became Eritrea, large-scale migration from the Horn of Africa has to a significant extent been conflict-induced. Conflict-generated migration is usually large, rapid and includes entire extended families or communities. It is assumed that these migrant communities tend to be predominantly characterised by the source of their migration or flight which subsequently continues to shape the communities' identities in their new residence country and serves as a focal point for community mobilisation.

Nonetheless, while diaspora groups or networks originating from the same homeland are frequently referred to as "the diaspora", it is evident that diasporas are neither homogeneous nor static entities but composed of rather diverse and dynamic groups, factions and ethnic, religious, political, etc. identities. In addition, the social, political and economic framework conditions that influence and shape the perceptions and activities of diaspora groups on different levels are subject to permanent change. Accordingly, the engagement of diasporas in conflict processes has to be analysed by simultaneously assessing both diasporas' aims and activities and the ensuing framework conditions in the countries of origin, residence and on the transnational level.

Taking up this conceptual approach, the study investigates the context in which diasporas in Europe act and adopt or dispose of certain strategies and objectives. Based on extensive fieldwork, including both qualitative and quantitative data, on Ethiopian and Somali diaspora communities in Europe (Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, United Kingdom) the study describes and analyses diaspora activities and modes of engagement towards peace and stability in the origin country and develops a first typology of factors influencing diaspora engagement.

Hiob Ludolf Zentrum für Äthiopistik – Uni Hamburg

<http://www1.uni-hamburg.de/ethiostudies/index.html>

Eine der weltweit wenigen Forschungseinrichtungen für die wissenschaftliche Untersuchung des Horns von Afrika, seiner Geschichte, Kultur und Kunst, seiner Sprachen und Literaturen, seiner Völker und gesellschaftlichen Entwicklung ist das Hiob Ludolf Zentrum für Äthiopistik, das organisatorisch mit dem Asien Afrika Institut der Universität Hamburg verbunden ist.

Es wurde 2002 als FORSCHUNGSSTELLE ÄTHIOPISTIK gegründet, um internationale Forschungsvorhaben zu koordinieren und durchzuführen, eine Fachbibliothek aufzubauen und für Studierende, Promovierende und auswärtige Wissenschaftler Arbeitsmöglichkeiten zu schaffen, Workshops durchzuführen und die gewonnenen Forschungsergebnisse zu veröffentlichen. 2009 wurde die Forschungsstelle - auch wegen zunehmender Aufgaben - in HIOB LUDOLF ZENTRUM FÜR ÄTHIOPISTIK umbenannt.

Arbeitskreis Äthiopistik - FU Berlin

http://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/e/semiarab/semitistik/Arbeitskreis_äthiopistik/index.html

Das Seminar für Semitistik und Arabistik hat sich als eines der weltweit bedeutendsten Forschungszentren der Äthiopistik etabliert. Eine umfassende Sprachausbildung, die die Hauptsprachen Altäthiopisch, Amharisch, Arabisch, Tigrinisch, Tigre und Oromo (unter Einbeziehung des Arabischen und Griechischen) beinhaltet, ist nur noch hier möglich.

Um Lehre und Forschung zu verbinden und die aktuellen Fragen der Fachdisziplin Äthiopistik in einem interdisziplinären Rahmen zu verfolgen und zu diskutieren, wurde unter Leitung von Rainer Voigt der Arbeitskreis Äthiopistik gegründet. Mitglieder sind Wissenschaftler,

Doktoranden, Studierende und Lehrbeauftragte unterschiedlicher Fachgebiete mit einem Forschungsschwerpunkt in der Äthiopistik im Speziellen und den Studien zum Horn von Afrika im Allgemeinen.

Koordiniert werden die akademischen Aktivitäten des Arbeitskreises durch Hatem Elliesie.

Interdisziplinäre Perspektiven

Ziel des Arbeitskreises Äthiopistik ist es, Forschungsdiskussionen und -ergebnisse zum Horn von Afrika zu bündeln und zusammenzuführen, die die Erkenntnisse rein fachbezogener Einzelforschung in der Regel überschreiten. Hierzu finden unter der Leitung von Rainer Voigt regelmäßige Sitzungen im Seminar für Semitistik und Arabistik statt, in die nicht nur die festen Mitglieder, sondern auch Hochschullehrer aus anderen Fächern der exzellenten Forschungslandschaft Berlins, je nach der zu behandelten Thematik, mit eingebunden werden.

Forschungskolloquien zu den Studien am Horn von Afrika

Im halbjährigen Rhythmus veranstaltet der Arbeitskreis Äthiopistik Forschungskolloquien zu den Studien am Horn von Afrika, welche sich u.a. mit linguistischen Aspekten der semitischen und kuschitischen Sprachen sowie zu Kultur, Gesellschaft, Religion und Recht Äthiopiens, Eritreas und sowie den angrenzenden Staaten beschäftigt. An dem fächerübergreifenden Diskurs nehmen Wissenschaftler aus vielen Ländern teil, um ihre Forschungsergebnisse vorzutragen, sie mit den Mitgliedern des Arbeitskreises Äthiopistik zu erörtern und sich an den gemeinsamen Debatten zu beteiligen.

Von allen Beteiligten wird dabei die Öffnung für regional-spezifische Fragestellungen und Perspektiven erwartet. Nachwuchswissenschaftlern mit Regionalkompetenzen in Disziplinen wie der semitischen und kuschitischen Linguistik, Philologie, Ethnologie, Musikwissenschaft, Geschichtswissenschaften, Religionswissenschaften, Rechtswissenschaft und Politikwissenschaft soll damit die Möglichkeit gegeben werden, sich aktiv in die Diskussionen einzubringen. Die Forschungskolloquien leisten damit einen wichtigen Beitrag zur Weiterentwicklung der Disziplinen wie auch zur Internationalisierung der deutschen Wissenschaftslandschaft im Allgemeinen und dem Wissenschaftsstandort der Freien Universität Berlin im Speziellen.

Bekleidungshersteller steigert Produktion

SES aktuell 2 | 2010

www.ses-bonn.de

Arbeitskleidung, Schürzen und Schuluniformen für den Export sind das Kerngeschäft der ‚Nazareth Garment Share Company‘. Das äthiopische Unternehmen war unzufrieden mit der Qualität seiner Ware und dem Output. Kurz, es benötigte Hilfe bei der Verbesserung des Produktionsmanagements. SES-Experte Johann Vaessen hat 2009 bei zwei Einsätzen in dem Betrieb viel erreichen können. Er regte neue Arbeitsgänge an, Korrekturen an Maschinen, eine Kontrolle der Stückzahlvorgaben und ein Bonussystem für gute Leistungen. Das Ergebnis ließ nicht lange auf sich warten: Testläufe belegten einen Produktionsanstieg von rund zehn Prozent.

Development and aid in Ethiopia

<http://www.dagethiopia.org/>

Aid Management and Utilisation in Ethiopia: A study in response to allegations of distortion in donor-supported development programmes, 13.10.2010

Ethiopia has made impressive development progress in recent years. Since 2000, Ethiopia has recorded the second fastest improvement in human development in the world (UNDP Human Development Report). Economic growth has accelerated on a sustained basis from around 2003, despite the global economic crisis.

Significant progress is being made towards the Millennium Development Goals, with Ethiopia on track to meet Goal 1 (eradicate extreme poverty and hunger), Goal 2 (achieve universal primary education), Goal 6 (combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases) and Goal 8 (develop a global partnership for development). Good progress is also being made towards Goal 4 (reduce child mortality) and Goal 7 (ensure environmental sustainability).

External aid has played a significant role in helping to deliver this development progress and growth, saving lives and improving livelihoods. These achievements are an important measure by which donors assess the overall effectiveness of their support to Ethiopia.

Allegations of distortion in donor-supported development programmes

In January 2010, in response to allegations that some donor-supported programmes in Ethiopia were being used for political gain – with aid allocated according to political affiliation, rather than solely need – the Development Assistance Group (DAG) commissioned a study to assess the rigour of the programme systems and safeguards that are designed to ensure that aid is spent effectively.

The main allegations, reported by the Ethiopian opposition, international NGOs and the media, were that targeting of beneficiaries and recruitment of public service employees within a number of donor-supported programmes were being influenced by considerations of political affiliation; in short, that aid allocations were subject to political distortion.

The allegations referred to programmes including the Productive Safety Nets programme (PSNP), the Protection of Basic Services programme (PBS), the humanitarian Relief programme, and the combined Enhanced Outreach Strategy-Targeted Supplementary Feeding programme (EOS-TSF). Development Partners provide approximately \$1.5 bn per year through these programmes, delivering essential resources in support of Ethiopia's Government-led efforts to reduce poverty.

Nachrichten

"Ohne Wasser kein Leben"

250.000 Konso in Südäthiopien kämpfen erfolgreich gegen Wassermangel

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMliCumm5Ww>

The DAG study: Approach and findings

Development Partners have a clear responsibility to ensure that aid is spent effectively and reaches its intended beneficiaries – and will do all that is necessary in this regard. The DAG's approach has therefore been to examine the robustness of the systems and safeguards that are in place to prevent, detect and address distortion together with available data on how effectively aid is spent and who it reaches. Further work, which could include detailed fieldwork, will be considered as part of a potential second phase.

At the same time, given the importance of external aid in a resource scarce country like Ethiopia, the DAG was keen to make sure that programmes with a track record of development impact were not thrown off course without due cause.

The Government of Ethiopia shares the responsibility for ensuring aid spent through government programmes is spent effectively and reaches its intended beneficiaries and, moreover, has the lead responsibility to investigate specific allegations through appropriate administrative and legal channels where this is justified.

The study included a thorough review of the existing systems and safeguards for each programme, and consultation with development partners, civil society and the Government of Ethiopia. The study found that all four programmes have accountability systems in place that provide checks on distortion, including distortion for political gain, but that all four programmes should be further strengthened by giving more attention to transparency (through the generation and dissemination of information), independent monitoring, and the incentives which drive performance.

Next steps

The Government of Ethiopia has followed the progress of the DAG study with interest, and from the start has signalled its intent to work with Development Partners to act on any recommendations to improve the systems and safeguards in the programmes concerned, including investigating where appropriate. The DAG is now working with the Government to act on the recommendations for continued strengthening of safeguards, ultimately to maximise the developmental impact of all donor-supported programmes in Ethiopia.

To read the full report of the DAG study (July 2010), please follow this link:

http://www.dagethiopia.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=123&Itemid=120

Along Mekong Productions,

Dr. Elke Werry,

www.alongmekong.com, ew@alongmekong.com

Der Film wurde von Mekong Productions für die jährliche im Advent beginnende Spendenaktion von Brot für die Welt im September 2009 gedreht. Ich habe das Team bei den Dreharbeiten begleitet, da ich als technischer

Berater das Projekt regelmäßig besuche. Das Konso Projekt wird seit 2004 von Brot für die Welt und seit 2006 gemeinsam mit dem EED finanziert. Es fing 2004 mit 50 ha bewässerte (Spate Irrigation) Fläche an (jede Familie hat ein ha) und dieses Jahr werden ca. 4.500 ha bewässert. Es wurde eine neue Phase bis Ende 2012 genehmigt, bis dann werden ca. 7.000 ha bewässert und damit hat etwa knapp ein Viertel (ca. 55.000 Leute) der gesamten Konsobevölkerung ausreichend Einkommen aus der landwirtschaftlichen Produktion. Bis 2012 (seit 2004) werden von den Geldgebern ca. 2,5 Mill. € bereitgestellt werden. Ein große Leistung kommt von der Bevölkerung bis heute wurden etwa 30 km Hauptkanäle als Eigenleistung gegraben.

Das Konso Projekt ist wohl das erfolgreichste Projekt in Äthiopien. Im Fernsehen und den Zeitungen wird häufiger hierüber berichtet. Der Erfolg des Projektes liegt bei der Eigeninitiative der Bevölkerung; sie haben von sich aus mit der Spate Bewässerung angefangen.

<http://www.spate-irrigation.org/librar/ethiopia.htm>

Helmut Spohn

NABU begrüßt Anerkennung des ersten UNESCO-Biosphärenreservats in Äthiopien

Addis Abeba/Berlin - Der NABU begrüßt die offizielle Aufnahme des Kafa Biosphärenreservats in Äthiopien, Ursprungsregion des Arabica-Kaffees, in das Weltnetz der UNESCO-Biosphärenreservate.

Gemeinsam mit der äthiopischen Regierung und weiteren deutschen Partnern hatte sich der NABU seit 2006 für die Aufnahme der Region in das Schutzgebietsnetz der UNESCO eingesetzt. „Es handelt sich um einen wichtigen Erfolg für Naturschutz und nachhaltige Entwicklung in Äthiopien“, sagte NABU-Vizepräsident Thomas Tennhardt, zuständig für Internationales. Umfassendes Engagement sei über Jahre erforderlich gewesen, da es in Äthiopien bislang noch keine Biosphärenreservate gab und das Konzept weitgehend unbekannt war.

Das Kafa Biosphärenreservat ist mit rund 760.000 Hektar etwa halb so groß wie Schleswig-Holstein. Der Großteil der Fläche ist mit immergrünen Bergnebelwäldern bedeckt, Heimat für den wilden Arabica-Kaffee und zahlreiche seltene Tier- und Pflanzenarten. Ein Mosaik aus Feuchtgebieten, heißen Quellen und Waldgebieten sowie die historische Vergangenheit des Kafa-Königreichs machen das Reservat zu einem Tourismusmagnet. Im November 2009 startete der NABU mit Unterstützung der Internationalen Klimaschutzinitiative des Bundesumweltministeriums (BMU) in der Region ein Klima- und Waldschutzprojekt, das unter anderem nachhaltige Entwicklung und Umweltbildung für das Biosphärenreservat bis 2013 vorsieht. Seit März 2009 ist das zuständige äthiopische Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Technologie in einem trilateralen Abkommen mit dem NABU und der UNESCO verbunden. Im Rahmen des Abkommens berät der NABU die äthiopische Regierung bei der Ausweisung weiterer Biosphärenreservate.

„Langfristig erfolgreich kann das Biosphärenreservat allerdings nur mit Unterstützung der lokalen Bevölkerung sein“, sagte Marcel Kruse, NABU-Referent für Afrika. „Regional- und Lokalregierung standen hinter der Nominierung und die Bewohner des Gebietes haben aktiv da-

bei geholfen, das Biosphärenreservat zu planen“, so Kruse weiter. Die wissenschaftlichen Datenerhebungen, unermüdliche Arbeit der äthiopischen Kollegen und der Austausch mit Experten aus anderen afrikanischen Ländern brachten nun den ersehnten Erfolg. (nabu)

<http://www.proplanta.de/Agrar-Nachrichten/Umwelt/>

[NABU-begruesst-Anerkennung-des-ersten-UNESCO-Biosphaerenreservats-in-Aethiopien_article](http://www.proplanta.de/Agrar-Nachrichten/Umwelt/NABU-begruesst-Anerkennung-des-ersten-UNESCO-Biosphaerenreservats-in-Aethiopien_article)

[1275677969.html](http://www.proplanta.de/Agrar-Nachrichten/Umwelt/1275677969.html)

Unterstützung des BfN für Biosphärenreservate in Äthiopien gewürdigt

Bonn - Im Juni 2010 wurden vom Internationalen Koordinationsrat des UNESCO Programms „Der Mensch und die Biosphäre“ die ersten beiden Biosphärenreservate in Äthiopien anerkannt.

In den Bergregenwäldern im Südwesten des Landes gelegen, können sie zum Schutz der letzten verbliebenen Wildkaffeepopulationen beitragen. Um auf die Bedeutung dieses wichtigen Instrumentariums für Naturschutz und nachhaltige Entwicklung hinzuweisen, fanden mit Unterstützung des Bundesamtes für Naturschutz (BfN), das die Nominierung aktiv begleitet und unterstützt hat, in der letzten Woche in Äthiopien verschiedene Veranstaltungen statt.

Auf einem hochrangig besetzten Workshop des BfN in Addis Abeba bedankte sich Staatspräsident Girma Woldegiorgis, einer der prominentesten Umweltaktivisten des Landes, für die langjährige Unterstützung verschiedener deutscher Organisationen, die zur Anerkennung der Biosphärenreservate beigetragen hat. Damit wurde Äthiopien im „Internationalen Jahr der Biodiversität“ Mitglied des Weltnetzes der UNESCO-Biosphärenreservate. „Biosphärenreservate sind der wichtigste Ansatz, der den Erhalt von biologischer Vielfalt mit nachhaltiger Entwicklung verbindet“, so der Präsident. Im Rahmen der Veranstaltung wurde deutlich, dass auch weitere Gebiete in Äthiopien, insbesondere die für Klimaschutz und Wasserversorgung wichtigen Waldgebiete für eine Anerkennung als Biosphärenreservate in Frage kommen.

Bei der Grundsteinlegung zum neuen Bildungs- und Forschungszentrum im Yayu Forest Biosphere Reserve beglückwünschte Prof. Beate Jessel, die Präsidentin des Bundesamtes für Naturschutz, die anwesenden Vertreter aus Kommunen und Landesregierung für ihren Mut und ihre Weitsicht, diese für Äthiopien neue Schutzgebietskategorie zu etablieren. „Damit ist eine Grundlage geschaffen, einen Beitrag zum Schutz der für Äthiopien und für die Welt so wichtigen Ressource des Wildkaffees zu leisten und gleichzeitig die nachhaltige Entwicklung der Region voranzutreiben“, so die Präsidentin. (BfN)

Proplanta®, 04.06.2010

<http://www.proplanta.de/>

Universität Stuttgart und centrotherm photovoltaics bringen Photovoltaik-Wissen und Technologie nach Äthiopien

Pressemitteilung, 14.10.2010

Erste „Summer School“ für Photovoltaik im zehntgrößten Staat Afrikas

Sponsoring für größte Solaranlage des Landes

Blaubeuren, 12. Oktober 2010 - Die Universität Stuttgart und die centrotherm photovoltaics AG machen sich gemeinsam für Äthiopien stark: In einer einmaligen Aktion unterstützen das Institut für Physikalische Elektronik und die Photovoltaik-Experten aus Blaubeuren die Bahir Dar Universität in Äthiopien. Die Universität, die zu den größten Hochschulen des Landes zählt, wird mit Fachwissen über Sonnenstrom und einer Photovoltaik-Anlage ausgestattet. Während der einwöchigen „Summer School“ Mitte Oktober unterrichten Fachleute von der Universität Stuttgart und von centrotherm photovoltaics Studierende des Technik-Instituts in den theoretischen und praktischen Grundlagen der Photovoltaik (PV) - von der Solarzellentechnologie über das Systemdesign bis zu den ökonomischen Aspekten von PV-Anlagen.

„Die Photovoltaik ist Zukunftstechnologie und eignet sich gut, um die dezentrale Energieversorgung Äthiopiens zu verbessern“, sagt Professor Jürgen H. Werner, Direktor des Instituts für Physikalische Elektronik an der Universität Stuttgart. „Wir sehen es als unsere wissenschaftliche Pflicht, zusätzlich zur Technologie auch die dazugehörige Lehre weiterzuvermitteln.“

Als besonderes Highlight werden die Experten gemeinsam mit den Studierenden der „Summer School“ eine 10-Kilowatt-Anlage auf dem Campusgelände installieren.

Möglich wurde dieses Projekt durch die großzügige Unterstützung der centrotherm photovoltaics AG und des Solar2World-Programmes der SolarWorld AG. Das Unternehmen Papendorf SE unterstützt das Projekt mit Messtechnik, die eine wissenschaftliche Verwertung der erhobenen Daten ermöglicht. Positiver Nebeneffekt: Die Computer- und Technikräume der Bahir Dar Universität verfügen künftig über ein autarkes Stromnetz. Äthiopien hat große Probleme mit der geregelten Stromversorgung. Es ist keine Seltenheit, dass über mehrere Stunden der Strom ausfällt.

Über das neue Stromnetz und über das installierte Anschauungsmaterial freut sich Professor Gerald Higel. Der Furtwangener Hochschullehrer, Initiator und Co-Organisator der Summer School, hat vor einigen Semestern das Technologische Institut der Bahir Dar Universität gegründet und unterrichtet dort seit knapp einem Jahr. Der Studiengang sollen künftig um die Fächer Solartechnik und Erneuerbare Energien erweitert werden.

„Wir unterstützen dieses Pilotprojekt in Äthiopien gern als Beitrag für nachhaltiges Wirtschaften und als dauerhaft sinnvolle Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe“, erklärt Dr. Peter Fath, Technologievorstand der centrotherm photovoltaics AG, weltweit größter Technologielieferant und Anlagenbauer der Photovoltaikbranche.

<http://www.bva-solar.de/sww/content/>

[pressemitteilungen/artikel.html?id=586&rubrik=ss1](http://www.bva-solar.de/sww/content/pressemitteilungen/artikel.html?id=586&rubrik=ss1)

Verschiedenes

Reiseangebote unseres Mitglieds Helmut Falkenstörfer, Remsstr. 58, 73614 Schorndorf; Tel. 07181-64 3 99; Fax und Anrufbeantworter 07181-25 67 33; E-mail: <ihd.falkenstoerfer@t-online.de>

Kulturen der Wüste – Khartum, Meroe und nubischer Sudan

15 bis 20. Januar 2012 (15 Tage)

Ca. 2800 € all inclusive: Bahn ICE nach Frankfurt und zurück; Flüge, Transport, Übernachtung; Vollpension; Trinkgelder; Eintrittsgelder; Guide.

Khartum und Omdurman am Zusammenfluss von Blauem und Weißem Nil. Millionenstadt zwischen arabischer und afrikanischer Welt. Fahrt auf dem Nil bis zum 6. Katarakt; dann mit Geländewagen durch die nördliche Wüste zu den antiken Ruinen von Meroe, Dschebel Barkal, Nuri und Kerma. Zu den ägyptischen Tempeln von Soleb und Sadenga; Festung auf der Insel Sai. Freitags-tanz der Derwische in Omdurman. Nationalmuseum; völkerkundliches Museum; Museum der Mahdizeit. Übernachtung teils in Zelten, teils in einfachen Gästehäusern. Mitreisender Koch. Meist Winterwüstenklima von 25 bis 30 Grad. Begegnung mit Menschen in Wüste, Niloase und Großstadt.

Ostern in Äthiopien

Klassische Route in den Norden; Rift-Valley-Seen im Süden; Harar im Osten

14. April bis 7. Mai 2011 (24 Tage). 2460 € all inclusive, Einzelzimmer + 250 €. Bahn nach Frankfurt und zurück; internationale Flüge; zwei Inlandflüge in Äthiopien; Bus; Hotels; volle Verpflegung einschließlich Getränken; Eintrittsgelder; Trinkgelder; Guides. Die Reise kann individuell auf zwei Wochen verkürzt werden und kostet dann 2220 €, Einzelzimmer bei verkürzter Reise + 190 €.

Eine Reise um Kultur und Religion; Politik und Entwicklungspolitik; Geschichte und Aktualität ebenso wie um die Landschaften und deren Geologie.

Historische Route im Norden; schwarzafrikanisches Äthiopien im Süden; islamisches Äthiopien im Osten. Die grüne (sic!) Hauptstadt Addis Abeba; die Schluchten des Blauen Nil und des Tekkeze; Nilfälle; Tanasee; die Schlösser von Gondar; Simien-Gebirge; Osterfest (Orthodoxer Termin) in der alten Hauptstadt Aksum; die Stelen und Felsengräber; der arabische Mondtempel von Yeha; die Felsenkirchen von Lalibela; Seen im Rift Valley; Tiere im Awash Park; die urislamische Stadt Harar. Und überall Begegnungen mit den Menschen des Vielvölkerlandes, ihren Möglichkeiten, Anstrengungen und Problemen.

Die Megastädte von morgen im Blick - Internationales Symposium junger Forscher in Essen

DAAD-Symposium

Das Leben in Megacities bringt besondere Herausforderungen mit sich, vor allem wenn es um Energie, Abfall, Wasserressourcen, Transport oder Lebensmittelsicherung geht. Am 9. und 10. Oktober diskutierten in Essen rund 120 Nachwuchswissenschaftlerinnen und Nachwuchswissenschaftler aus Vietnam, China, Indien, dem Iran, Äthiopien, Südafrika, Marokko, Peru und Deutschland über mögliche Lösungen.

Das "Young Researchers' Symposium", das vom Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienst (DAAD) in Zusammenarbeit mit der Universität Duisburg-Essen organisiert wurde, fand im Vorfeld der internationalen Konferenz "Future Megacities in Balance - New Alliances for Energy- and Climate-Efficient Solutions" statt.

Die meisten Teilnehmer am Nachwuchs-Symposium am 09. und 10. Oktober waren Doktoranden. Sie forschen im Rahmen der zehn vom BMBF geförderten Forschungsprojekte, die die künftigen Entwicklungen ausgewählter Großstädte in den Blick genommen haben. Diese "Megacities von morgen" sind Ho Chi Minh-City, Shanghai, Urumqi, Hefei, Hyderabad, Karaj-Hashtgerd, Addis Abeba, Johannesburg, Casablanca und Lima. Au-

ßerdem beteiligen sich Nachwuchswissenschaftlerinnen und Nachwuchswissenschaftler aus zwei weiteren Projekten: von der Forschungsinitiative "Risk Habitat Megacity" (Schwerpunkt Chile), die von der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft gefördert und vom Helmholtz-Zentrum für Umweltforschung (UFZ) koordiniert wird, sowie vom Projekt "Megacities-Megachallenge: Informal Dynamics of Global Change", das von der Universität zu Köln federführend geleitet und von der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) finanziert wird.

Eine besondere Gruppe bilden 38 Doktoranden und Postdocs aus Vietnam, China, Indien, dem Iran, Äthiopien, Südafrika, Marokko und Peru, die derzeit im vom BMBF mit insgesamt 2,9 Mio. finanzierten und vom DAAD betreuten Fachprogramm "Studien- und Forschungsstipendien von heute für Megacities von morgen" gefördert werden. Insgesamt wird mit 100 wissenschaftlichen Beiträgen gerechnet, die im Anschluss an das Symposium in einem umfassenden Dokumentationsband veröffentlicht werden. Neben dem Austausch der aktuellen Forschungsergebnisse soll das Nachwuchssymposium vor allem ein Forum für die Entwicklung nachhaltiger Kooperationen und Netzwerke unter den "Megacity-Forschern von morgen" sein.

Weitere Informationen zur Konferenz finden Sie unter folgendem Link:

www.emerging-megacities.de/seiten/tagung/startseite/startseite-de.aspx

Aufruf

Bitte um Unterstützung

Ich möchte mich mit diesem Aufruf insbesondere an die ehemaligen Entwicklungshelfer des DED im DÄV wenden. Ich denke, Ihr alle erinnert Euch an Asnakech, die mindestens 30 Jahre lang als ‚Mamite‘ im sog. Teacher-House“ gearbeitet und ganze Generationen von EH's verwöhnt hat.

Asnakech ist seit drei Jahren schwer erkrankt. Ihr Zustand hat sich in der letzten Zeit so sehr verschlechtert,

dass Manfred Salomon und ich darüber nachdenken, sie zu einer Behandlung nach Deutschland zu holen.

Dabei würden nicht unerhebliche Kosten entstehen. Auch wenn die Behandlung selbst zu einem erheblichen Teil von einer Ärzteorganisation übernommen werden würde, fallen allein für den Flug und eine Aufenthaltsversicherung ca. 1000 € an.

Es wäre eine große Hilfe für uns, wenn einige von Euch bereit wären, sich an den Kosten zu beteiligen. Für diesen Fall würde ich Euch bitten, mir mitzuteilen, mit welcher Summe Ihr Euch beteiligen möchtet.

eggert.goetsch@web.de

Press Review

Extracts from ETHIOPIA Seven Days Update³

compiled by
Harmen Storck

³ Waag Communications News Digest Service, Addis Ababa

- Conflict with Somalia -

Ethiopian troops have detained five people in the area of Baardhooya'a in the county of Baladweyn, central Somalia, following a series of military operation that the soldiers have reportedly been carrying out over the past few days. Those who have been arrested include elders and youth of the community. The local media reports also add that the foreign soldiers backed by the forces of the Interim Federal Government of Somalia have made their several military bases in the area. - The region, Hiraan, has a long border with Ethi-

opia. Earlier in this month the Islamist militants engaged serious clashes with the Somalia government forces in the region. The region is one the prone areas of country for inter-tribal clashes. Also the region is the latest in the country that declared itself as an autonomous region (*Africa News, Sep. 30*).

Clashes between Somali villagers and Ethiopian forces in a border area where the foreign forces carried out an operation left at least 16 people dead, witnesses said on July 11. Residents of El-Dibir, where the fighting erupted late on July 10, grew angry over a week-long operation conducted by the Ethiopian troops and took up arms, local elders said. An official of the Sufi sect Ahlu Sunna wal Jamaa in the region said the Ethiopian soldiers targeted civilians. (*AFP, July 11*).

- Economics, Finance, Commerce -

GNP, Economic Growth, Budget

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said that Ethiopia was one of the five countries in sub-Saharan Africa that are in the process of developing a strong economy with a growth rate of 8%. Ethiopia has greatly improved its industrial and services sector that had been lagging behind over the past years (*Mesenazeria, Nov. 2*).

The IMF has projected that the Ethiopian economy could grow by 8% in 2011. However, the Ethiopian government says the growth will be 11% (*Sendek, Oct. 27*).

Sufian Ahmed, Minister of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), revealed Ethiopia's five-year macroeconomic projection on August 5, 2010, which envisages the economy to grow, at least, by 11% every year and, at best, to double by 2015. The projection forecasts growth across sectors, with agricultural production expected to double, ensuring for the first time food security in the country. The plan, consistent with the government's plan to make Ethiopia a middle-income country, also envisages the GDP per capita to be 689 dollars by 2015 (*Fortune, August 8*).

Ethiopia passed a record 77.2 billion birr annual budget that targets infrastructure development to drive growth in one of Africa's poorest but fastest-growing countries. The 2010/11 budget is up 20% from 64.5 billion birr in 2009/10 and is the biggest budget ever approved by the country's parliament. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi told MPs that Ethiopia had budgeted a bigger slice of its total budget - 70% - on poverty reduction and infrastructure development programs than any other country in Africa. Of the total budget, 35.9 billion birr will go on development spending, a rise of 23.4%, while regular spending is up 17.2% to 17 billion birr. Just over 24 billion birr will go to Ethiopia's nine federal regions to spend locally. The development budget will mostly go on roads and electrification, with the country's road network getting a 12 billion birr boost, Meles said. - Domestic revenue accounts for 41 billion birr of the budget, 15 billion birr is from aid and the 21 billion birr deficit will be paid by external loans and grants (*Reuters, July 1*).

The Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Sufian Ahmed, said Ethiopia's GDP has shown a growth rate of 11.18% on average over the last four years. In a 5-year performance report he presented to the federal parliament, Sufian said the agriculture sector of the economy has been growing by an average of 8.5% during the reported period. Sufian said the industrial sector has grown by 9.9% per annum on average, which, he said, has a meaningful contribution to the economic growth of the country. - The contribution of the service sector to the economic development of the country accounts for 14.65%, he said. Sufian said the investment sector's growth stands at 31.5% while its contribution to the GDP amounted to 24%. Sufian added GDP per capita has increased to 217 USD now from only 164 USD five years ago, showing an average growth rate of 7.2%. He said the price hike has now been stabilized (*ETV, June 3*).

Inflation, Exchange Rate

Ethiopia's inflation rate rose to 7.5% year-on-year in Sep. from 5.3% in August, the Horn of African country's statistics office said. The Central Statistical Agency (CSA) said the overall food price index increased 1.4% in Sep. from a year earlier, with all food components rising. The agency said non-food inflation rose by 17.2%, with primarily imported goods such as cigarettes, construction materials and clothing showing significant increases (*Reuters, Oct. 15*).

Ethiopia's inflation rate slowed to 5.3% in August from 5.7% in July, helped by a 22.3% year-on-year decline in the cost of cereals, the statistics office said in a statement. The Central Statistical Agency said the overall food price index fell 1.0% in August from a year earlier, although, with the exception of cereals, most other food components rose. The agency said non-food inflation was running at 15.6% in August, down from 17.7% in July and the lowest rate since October 2009 when it was 14.8% (*Reuters, Sep. 28*).

The Ethiopian birr was devalued by 16.7% on Sep. 1, according to exchange rates published on the central bank. The birr was quoted by the National Bank of Ethiopia at a weighted average of 16.3514 against the dollar compared with 13.6284 before. Devaluations can spur economic growth and reduce current account deficits to the extent they boost exports and discourage imports, although they carry the risk of importing inflation. Ethiopia's inflation rate slowed to 5.7% in July. Ethiopia has operated a managed floating exchange rate regime since 1992 (*Reuters, Sep 1*).

Ethiopia's year-on-year inflation rate slowed to 5.7% in July from 7.3% in June, helped by easing food prices, official data showed. The food index showed a decline of 1.5 percent, the Central Statistical Agency (CSA) said. Non-food prices generally increased (*Reuters, Aug. 16*).

Debts, Grants, Loans and Credits

Multilateral aid and loan to Ethiopia decreased in 2002 (E.C.) while bilateral aid and loan increased significantly, according to information from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED). China has become Ethiopia's top creditor. In the 2002 (E.C.) budget year, China provided Ethiopia with a loan of 10.9 billion birr and gave 203m birr in aid. MoFED's information on the flow of aid and loan in the past two fiscal years shows new loans and aid amounting to over 41.22 billion birr were obtained in the 2002 (E.C.) fiscal year from various countries and bilateral sources. - The total amount received from both bilateral and multilateral sources in 2002 (E.C.) was 41.22 billion birr out of which 18.08 billion birr was in aid and 22.54 billion birr in loan, showing a 67% increase compared to the 2001 (E.C.) budget year's (*Reporter, Sep. 29*).

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, announced that it is partnering with Nib International Bank (NIB) to set up a risk sharing facility to support Ethiopian coffee farmers. According to the agreement, IFC is expected to assist NIB to increase the scale of its lending to 70 Ethiopian farmers cooperatives which is expected to generate approximately 17m USD of export revenues. The agreement is to share these risks associated with lending to the cooperative, with technical assistance proved by TechnoService. The facility can be renewed twice to a maximum of 10m USD. The initiative will help farmer's cooperatives to improve coffee quality, increase production yields and obtain access to credit. Over the life of the facility, the volume of coffee processed by the cooperatives is projected to jump from nearly 500 MT now to 4,000 MT, and produce employment for 2,000 people, more than half of which will likely be women (*ENA, Sep. 17*).

Ethiopia and USAID signed a grant agreement amounting to 229.3m USD for the implementation of ongoing programs in Ethiopia. It was noted that the accord has two main objectives. The first objective is to work on health and education and the second on ac-

celerated agricultural based economic growth as a critical pathway to prevent drought in Ethiopia (*State media, Sep.23*).

Ethiopia obtained around 780m USD from remittances from Ethiopians in the Diaspora in the past ten months, the Ethiopian National Bank said. The bank said this year's earnings from remittances exceeds that of last year by about 9%. An estimated one million Ethiopians are estimated to live outside their country, mostly in the United States and Europe. The bank said that the amount of remittances Ethiopia is getting each year is on the rise, especially since the past three years (*APA, Aug. 18*).

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development said Ethiopia secured over 41.22 billion Birr in new development assistance and loan during the previous budget year. The Public Relations and Information Director in the Ministry said 18.68 billion Birr of the total sum was secured in development assistance while the remaining was in the form of loan. The amount exceeded by 67% that of the same period last year. He said 19.7 billion Birr of the total fund was secured from the multinational sources - Ethiopia has benefited from debt reduction programs of G-8 countries, he said, adding, the country has benefited from the programs, which reduced over 142.8m Birr debt. The director said the African Development Bank, the International Fund for Agriculture Development and the Nordic Development Fund reduced debt for the country. The new development assistance and loan will be used to implement poverty reduction programs (*State media, Aug.12*).

KfW German Development Bank signed an agreement with the Ethiopian government to provide 4.5m € for guarantee facility to encourage banks to provide loans to Microfinance Institutions (MFIs). According to the agreement, KfW also provided an additional 1.5m € for technical assistance to banks and MFIs. There are 30 MFIs in the country serving close to two million clients. The MFIs provide a range of financial services to various sectors, among others, trade, agriculture, construction, manufacturing, and service. The demand for microfinance in Ethiopia has been estimated to be more than nine billion Birr (*ENA, July 7*).

Ethiopia and the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) signed a loan agreement amounting to 20m USD, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said. The fund will be used to support the various development activities being undertaken in Ethiopia including the expansion of electric power service in Jijiga and Degehabur towns (*ENA, July 8*).

Ethiopia and the French Development Agency (AFD) signed a 5.4m Euro grant agreement in support of a solid waste management system in Addis Ababa. The agreement will also help modernize the Addis Ababa Sanitation Management System. Part of the fund will be used for the construction of a new sanitary land-fill in an area known as Sendafa and remove the garbage from Repi to the new site (*ENA, June 26*).

Ethiopia and the World Bank signed a 100m USD loan agreement. According to the agreement, Ethiopia will be able to fill its financial shortfall in completing various road projects. As per the agreement, the money will be used to fill shortage of funds in the execution of on-going road projects that occurred as a result of different variation orders and increased quantities, as well as to mitigate the effects of high price escalation and inflation (*ENA, June 3*).

Foreign Trade

The export of leather and leather products, has plummeted for the third year in a row. During FY 2009/10, some USD 56.4 million was collected from the export of leather and leather products, which is USD 19m short of the figure registered for past year. Much worse is the difference with FY 2007/08, which is about USD 37m. According to the data, the dive in the earning is mainly attributed to the fall in the volume that is exported (*The Reporter, Oct. 16*).

Ethiopia will start supplying power to its neighbor, Sudan, beginning October 2010. Various power connection works were undertaken between the two countries since the past few years with the support

of the World Bank, which has allocated over \$100 million for the power interconnection works. (*APA, Sep. 10*).

Resurgent coffee sales and diversification into other products lifted Ethiopia's exports to a record \$2 billion in 2009/2010 from \$1.5 billion in the previous year, the trade ministry told. Trade ministry spokesman, Amakale Yimam, told said the Horn of Africa nation projected \$3 billion in export revenue for 2010/2011 based on growth in new export commodities. Coffee has bounced back to \$528m this year, Amakale told. Despite the rebound, coffee exports amounted to little more than a quarter of the total in 2009/2010, the figures showed. Flower exports accounted for \$158m in 2009/2010, an increase of 20.9%, Amakale said. Vegetable exports were just \$32m, but the sector is seen by the government as an industry with strong potential growth. Ethiopia's exports were also boosted in 2009/2010 by growing sesame exports and by buoyant foreign sales of a narcotic leaf known as khat, Amakale said. Ethiopia this year earned \$209m from khat, a 50% increase on 2008/2009, and \$129m from sesame -- a boost of 30%. Gold exports tripled to \$300m in 2009/2010, Amakale said. The only export commodity that showed a fall in revenue was leather. We earned \$56.5m from leather this year, which was a 25% decrease, Amakale said (*Reuters, Aug. 6*).

Revenue of 1.9m USD was secured from the export of garments during the just-ended Ethiopian fiscal year, the Micro and Small-scale Business Agency said. The amount of foreign currency gained during the reported period is greater than that of the preceding fiscal year by 128%. The garments were exported by 300 garment producers' cooperatives operating in Addis Ababa, Axum and Chencha (*ENA, July 26*).

Over 354m USD was secured from the export of horticultural products in the just ended Ethiopian budget year, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development said. The ministry said horticulture development for export purposes was undertaken on 2,905 ha. The cultivation reached over 4,000 ha at the end of 2002 E.C of which over 1580 ha was covered with flowers while more than 2470 ha was covered with vegetables, fruits and herbs. (*ENA, July 11*).

Ethiopia's trade deficit continues to be high, an official report by the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) indicated. The imbalance in the first nine months of the current fiscal year stood at 4.89 billion USD, according to the NBE report submitted to the parliament this week. The last year figure was 4.91 billion \$. 6.2 billion \$ worth of commodities were imported into the country in the nine months of the fiscal year. The figure is a 3.8% higher from the same period last year. It was driven predominantly by imports of transport related items. Import share in this sector has grown by 29.4%. Semi finished item imports also have escalated by 27%, followed by other growth items such as industrial products. Ethiopia obtained only 1.268 billion \$ from exports, a 24% boost from last year revenues of the period (*Capital, July 2*).

Ethiopia has witnessed a five-fold increment in the export earnings from gold and gemstone produced locally, a local media reported, quoting government officials. Ethiopia's earnings from gold and gemstones exports rose steadily to US\$ 85m over the last 11 months. The earnings were obtained from the export of 2,485 kg of gold and 2,000 kg of gemstones, according to the Ministry of Mines and Energy officials. Ethiopian officials attribute the increased earnings from international gold shipments to a local crackdown against illegal gold trade. The gold and gemstone mining is mainly done by traditional gold dealers (*WIC, June 25*).

Investment and Investment Policy

Egypt's investments in Ethiopia hit 1 billion USD this year, and are expected to double in 2011, which will help boost cooperation between the two sides, Egyptian Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources, Mohamed Nasreddin Allam, said. Allam said that efforts currently exerted by Egypt aim at activating cooperation with the Nile-basin countries, pointing out that cooperation among the Nile-basin countries is a strategic goal. According to Global Arab Net-

work, Allam underlined the necessity of cooperation between the riparian nations and understanding each country's need to water (*WIC, Oct. 12*).

NBE's Chief Economist and Deputy Governor for Monetary Stability, Yohannes Ayalew, said the flow of FDI during the period increased by 141.8m USD. The amount of the FDI flow in 2007/08 was 814.6m USD, he said, adding, in 2008/09 the amount reached 893.7, USD. Yohannes said the amount of foreign direct investment flow of 2009/10 had reached 956.4m USD (*ENA, Sep. 5*).

An Ethiopian investor, Aklile Berhan Haile Selassie, signed an agreement with the Ethiopian Privatization Agency to build a four-star and five-star hotel in Addis Ababa at a cost of 7 billion birr. Dinkinesh Company, which belongs to the investor, will have an 80% share and the Ethiopian government a 20% share. The investor was introduced as Aklile Berhan Mekonnen, grandson of Emperor Haile Selassie. Dinkinesh Company, which competed in the bid with 12 other foreign companies, won the bid. - The new hotel will be called Grand Ghion Hotel and will be built on the grounds of the present Ghion Hotel. According to Ato Aklile Berhan, the four-star hotel will be completed after a year and four months, and the five-star after three years and-a-half. As soon as the four-star hotel is finished, the current Ghion Hotel will be completely demolished to build the five-star hotel. The Privatization Agency, which estimated the value of the Ghion Hotel grounds and property at 100m \$, will have a 20% share in the hotels (*Reporter, Sep. 1*).

A Chinese cement company, Hung Shen, inaugurated its cement plant built around Mojo town 75 km from the capital at a cost of 500m birr. In just a few months the company will be able to double its cement production to about 2 million tons per year. The plant, which began production a year ago, just completed expansion and increased its production capacity. Currently, it produces 2000 t of cement per day. - The company has completed phase two of the cement plant expansion around Gebre Guracha, 165km northwest of Addis Ababa, at a cost of 3 billion birr. When the plant starts production scheduled in the next three months, it is expected to increase the production capacity of the company to 4 million t per year. Currently the total production capacity of cement factories in Ethiopia is 2 million t (*Capital, Aug. 16*).

The tallest building in Ethiopia will be constructed following a land agreement between Chinese based Guangdong Chuanhui Group and the Addis Ababa City Administration. The 58 floor, five star, Chuan Hui International Hotel, one of five proposed luxury hotel projects, will take up 50,000 sq. m of land and will cost 2.4 billion birr. Plans are for construction to begin right away and finish in 18 months, according to officials (*Capital news, Aug. 16*).

Mining

As the Malaysian oil and gas giant, Petronas, which has been prospecting for petroleum reserves in Ethiopia since 2003, winds up its operation and is in the process of pulling out from the country, an Ethiopian oil and gas company, South West Energy, announced that it had agreed with Petronas to buy all the former's petroleum exploration concessions including the Calub and Hilala gas fields found in the Ogaden basin. The transaction is expected to be completed during the first quarter of 2011 following the fulfillment of certain conditions precedent, including regulatory approval. - The blocks and contract areas covered by the PSAs are in the Ogaden Basin, which covers 350,000 sq km and is the largest proven hydrocarbon bearing sedimentary basin in Ethiopia with proven gas reserves of 2-4 TCF (*The Reporter, Oct. 9*).

Tullow Oil has announced the acquisition of a 50% operated interest in six adjacent licenses covering the East African Rift Basins of Kenya and Ethiopia, an area of 97,000 sq. km. A press statement said Tullow has signed agreements with Africa Oil Corp to gain a 50% interest in five licenses; Blocks 10BB, 10A, 12A and 13T in Kenya and the South Omo Block in Ethiopia. Under the terms of the agreements with Africa Oil, Tullow will reimburse pro-rata past costs in each of these blocks and will carry Africa Oil for future net ex-

penditures up to US\$23.75m. According to Tullow, the East African Rift Basin acreage shares many geological attributes with Tullow's Lake Albert Rift Basin position in Uganda but it is appr. ten times larger (*East African Business Week, Sep. 7*).

Egypt's ASEC Company for Mining (ASCOM) said on Aug. 30 it had found two gold mining targets in an Ethiopian concession with enough tonnage and grade potential. ASCOM plans to start drilling on the 800-sq. km Assosa concession in Western Ethiopia in October. 39% of the company is owned by Egyptian private equity firm Citadel Capital (*Reuters, Aug. 30*).

A new opal deposit was discovered in 2008 near the village of Wegel Tena, in the volcanic rocks of Wollo Zone of Amhara State, according to Geology.com. Unlike previous Ethiopian opals, the new ones are mostly white, with some brown opal, fire opal, and colorless "crystal" opal. The proportion of gem-quality material in the Wegel Tena deposit seems unusually high, and 1,500 kg have already been extracted using rudimentary mining techniques. The deposit may extend over several kilometers and could become a major source of gem-quality opal (*WIC, Aug. 26*).

The Ministry of Mines and Energy and the Ethio-China East Cement Company signed an agreement for mining pumice by the company with a capital of more than 20.7m birr in Oromia State. According to the agreement, the company is expected to mine 295m tons of pumice in Dire district of East Shoa Zone on more than 56,000 sq. m in the next ten years. Mines and Energy Minister Alemayehu Tegegnu said the ministry is providing all the necessary support for investors engaged in the sector (*ENA, Aug. 5*).

The Ministry of Mines and Energy signed small size mining agreements with local and foreign companies. Accordingly, the ministry signed the agreement with Three M Marble and Terazo Manufacturing P.L.C with a capital of nearly 3.8m Birr to produce limestone from 29,000 ha in Meta Robi district of Oromia State. Similarly, the ministry signed an accord with Hua Yi Cement PLC to produce pumice from 7,300 ha with Ethio-China Company in Adulala locality of Adama woreda of the state. The two companies will create job opportunities for 54 people (*State media, June 11*).

Transport and Communication

The Managing Director of Ethiopian Shipping Lines (ESL) S.C., Ambachew Abreha, returned this week from China after signing a term sheet for 234m \$ loan to build nine heavy duty vessels. The Chinese government guarantees the loan that will be obtained from two Chinese banks this week, according to the report. He also contracted with Chinese shipping yards for the construction of the nine vessels out of which two are for transporting fuel and other liquid imports to the country. Two out of the remaining seven will be heavy lift carrying vessels that will load and discharge up to 200 t of cargo on their own (*Capital, Sep. 30*).

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi said the construction of the Addis-Adama Expressway will open a new chapter in the history of the country. Visiting the project, Meles said the construction of the 80-km expressway would further speed up the development of the country. Meles said the expressway, which is estimated to cost 612m USD, is part of the Five Year Growth and Transformation Plan. Work and Urban Development Minister, Dr. Kassu Illala, said some 350m USD will be secured from the Chinese government in loan while the balance will be covered by the Ethiopian government. The construction of the expressway is expected to be finalized within three years. The route will be the busiest in the country. The construction of the route will enable drivers to reach Adama in less than 50 minutes. More than 20,000 vehicles commute along the Addis-Adama Road (*ENA, Sep. 17*).

The Export and Import (EXIM) Bank of China reached an agreement with the Ethiopian Railway Corporation (ERC) to finance its Light Railway Network project in Addis Ababa. The bank signed an agreement with ERC a few months ago. However, it still has to get final approval from the Chinese government, which is expected in four to six weeks. The light Railway Network project is expected to

transport 20,000 passengers per day and is hoped to be a solution for Addis Ababa's transportation problems. The Chinese government has also given its green light for the funding of the Addis Ababa - Djibouti project. In line with this agreement, ERC signed a contract with the Chinese Railway Corporation (CRC) two weeks ago to undertake the Addis Ababa-Me'eso Railway Projects, which is part of the line from the capital city to Djibouti (*Capital, Aug. 23*).

The installation of an underground electric cable covering 150 km is being undertaken in Addis Ababa City, the Ethiopian Electric Corporation (EEPCo) said. The installation of the cable is estimated to cost 77m USD. It will help provide fast and efficient maintenance service whenever an electric line is damaged or becomes dysfunctional, the corporation's Communications Officer, Misiker Negash, said. The installation of the cable, which is being carried out by a French company, will be completed by October 2010. The project has created 1,500 new jobs. - Ato Misiker said the installation of the cable is also being carried out in regional cities and towns. Misiker said the corporation plans to reach out to all kebeles in the country with electric service in the next five years. More than 5,000 kebeles have had access to electric power in the last five years. Access to electric power will increase from the existing 40% to 100% (*ETV, Aug. 3*).

The Ethiopian Roads Authority (ERA) and five local contractors signed an agreement for the implementation of various road projects amounting to over 4.1 billion birr in different parts of the country. The Ethiopian government will cover the cost for the construction of all the road projects, which include upgrading and renovation and construction of new roads covering 425.7 km in Tigray, Afar, Oromia and Somali States. The agreement will also include the heavy renovation work of the 268 km Addis-Mojo-Hawassa road and the construction of the Bezeto River Bridge along the Alem Ketema-Akesta road. The road project includes the construction of the Agula-Berahile and Berahile-Dalol, Dolobay- Dollo-Oda, Menbegna Lemlem Berha roads. The total road length covering 366 km at a cost of 3.6 billion birr will be carried out by the local contractors. All the road projects are expected to be completed within three years (*State media, Aug. 3*).

Ethiopia and Japan signed a 10.5m USD grant agreement providing for the operation and maintenance of the Truck Road project from Gohatsion to Dejen across Abay Gorge. Finance and Economic Development State Minister, Ahmed Shide, said the agreement will help maintain the road that is being threatened by a landslide caused by geological and topographical nature of the area. He said the Gohatsion - Dejen road is part of the key network that connects the well known agricultural area of north western part of the country with the center. Japan has, since 1998, provided a total of 15 billion yen for the rehabilitation of the Addis-Gohatsion-Dejen Truck Road including the newly constructed Abay Bridge (*State media, June 26*).

France Telecom has commenced pre-assessment on structural, technical and service management of Ethiopian Telecommunication Corporation (ETC). The experts will evaluate ETC's operation systems until the end of July and expect to submit their report before France Telecom starts its management operation in mid-August 2010. It signed an agreement with ETC three months ago after winning over the other two final bidders from South Africa and India. The agreement will enable France Telecom to take 49% of ETC's management on a revenue-sharing scheme for the next four years, according to sources. The company will be responsible for introducing new practices on how the state-run telecom company carries out its key operations ranging from service providing to infrastructural maintenance (*Capital, June 18*).

The Ethiopian Government has approved a South African-based company to operate the existing Addis Ababa-Ethiopia railway, but it has to be accepted by its Djiboutian counterpart. The Ministry of Transport and Communication has directed it to try and secure Djibouti's acceptance. The owners of the company are now in Djibouti, the source added. The European Union has lent 50m € to rehabili-

tate 114 km of the railway that sustained damage during the Ethiopia-Somalia war in the 1970s and from floods (*Capital, May 30*).

Energy Supply

The African Development Bank (AfDB) is to provide USD 230m loan for the development of the Ethiopian electric power transmission network. According to Solomon Asfaw, energy specialist with AfDB, the bank is expected to extend the loan to support the power transmission network. Solomon said the fund will be used for the installation of 948 km long power transmission line that transmits 230 KV of electricity. The fund will finance four power transmission projects (*The Reporter, Oct. 23*).

In places like Addis Ababa, Nazareth and Debre Zeit, there are repeated power interruptions during the week, giving the impression that the Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCo) has, without any public announcement, started power shedding. - The head of EEPCo's public relations office, Ato Misikir Negash, said the interruptions had nothing to do with shortage of power supply. The solution, he said, was to replace the old electric power distribution lines and increase power by ten-fold. For this, he added, up to two billion dollars was needed annually for electric power investment. (*Reporter, Oct. 17*).

The Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCo) plans to undertake seven new hydroelectric power projects over the next five years. Nile basin projects are not included in the five year Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP). According to some sources, the government will inaugurate seven new hydroelectric projects as well as wind and geothermal power plants. - Currently, a feasibility study funded by the Norwegian government is being carried out on the river Abay (Nile). This is expected to provide power for northern Nile basin countries (Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt). All three countries support the plan. Gibe III is expected to surpass Gilgel Gibe II's generating capacity by 1,870MW, and Fincha Amerti Neshe will generate 100 MW. The corporation is in the process of constructing Genale Dawa III, Gibe IV/V, Beko Abo (Caradobi), Halele Worabesa and Chemoga-Yeda. They will be able to generate 6,000MW. Chinese firms are constructing most of these dams. Ashegoda, Tigray's wind power project will produce 120MW, and a geothermal project in Afar region, is reportedly under proposal (*Capital, Aug. 21*).

The five-year plan envisages huge hydropower projects to increase the current 2000MW of power to 10,000MW, and promises to increase its coverage from the 2 million subscribing clients to 4 million at the end of the target year. The plan also intends to establish a 2,395 km railway network stretching from Addis Ababa to Djibouti, Mekele in Tigray, Galafi in Afar, Bedele in Oromia and Wyetoi in the Southern Region. The infrastructure sector, which is currently controlled by Chinese and other foreign companies, will cede control to local companies (*Capital, August 8*).

The Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCo) said the construction of Gilgel Gibe III hydropower dam project is well in progress. The head of EEPCo's Public Relations Office, Misiker Negash, told that some 38% of construction of the project has been completed so far. The project will raise the country's power generating capacity by 50%, thereby alleviating the electric power shortage due to the country's rapid economic growth. Gilgel Gibe III hydroelectric plant is being constructed with over 1.4 billion € allocated by the Ethiopian government and will have a lion's share in the country's electric power export plan. Over 6,000 local and foreign professionals are participating in the construction process (*WIC, July 24*). - China has provided 500m \$ in credit for Ethiopia for the completion of the Gilgel Gibe III hydro-electric project. The agreement of the Chinese government to give the loan came in the wake of the reluctance shown by western countries to supply the loan. The 1.8 MW power project is expected to cost an estimated 1.7 billion \$. Unable to finance this single-handedly, Ethiopia has been seeking funds from various banks and countries. Western countries have been expressing fear that the project may have a negative impact on Ethiopia-Kenyan relations as the diversion of the Omo River could reduce the

amount of water flowing into Lake Turkana in Kenya (*Ethio-Channel, July 24*).

An Ethio-German Joint Venture known as Aethiopic Energy Plc will launch a wind energy development project in Ethiopia which is estimated to cost 600m USD, the company's general manager said. It also targets to establish a wind industry in Ethiopia that can produce wind turbines locally. Dr. Peer Ederer, general manager of the Joint Venture, said that so far, two memorandums of understanding (MoUs) have been signed. He said the first MoU that was signed between his company and the Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EPCo) would provide for the development of wind energy in "Aisha" in eastern Ethiopia close to the Djibouti border. About 300 MW of electricity which will be enough to produce 10 terra watt hour can be generated from the Aisha area, he said. According to Dr. Ederer, the 2nd MoU would help Ethiopia enjoy the transfer of wind turbine technology on its soil. This will help produce wind turbines locally through the involvement of a joint venture consisting of a consortium of many Ethiopian and European private companies and the German Technical Cooperation Agency (GTZ). This costs approximately 300 million USD plus four billion Birr, Dr. Ederer said (*ENA, July 22*).

The European Investment Bank (EIB) confirms that it is no longer involved in the Gibe III hydroelectric project as the Ethiopian government has found alternative sources of finance. Prior to any financial engagement the European Investment Bank, the long-term lending institution of the European Union, carries out detailed technical, environmental and social assessments. (*Afrik, July 20*).

The World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved an International Development Association (IDA) credit of 180n USD in additional financing to the government of Ethiopia in support of its efforts to provide adequate and cost effective electricity supply and rapidly scale up electricity coverage and access for all its citizens. The Energy Access project is rehabilitating the distribution network in Addis Ababa. The project has also started implementing its renewable energy component and so far has installed 300 Photovoltaic (PV) systems in Schools and Health Posts, benefiting about 3,000 people. The project further supported manufacturing, training, and disseminating improved cooking stoves and so far more than 1 million stoves have been installed in rural areas (*ENA, July 2*).

A German company, Deutsche Unternehmensfinanzierung, will raise USD 120m for the financing of the Aysha wind farm project. The company will facilitate the financing of the pilot project of the wind farm project which will involve the installation of 60 wind turbines with an aggregate power production capacity of 60MW. The first phase of the Aysha wind farm project, which will involve the installation of up to 40 wind turbines, each producing 1MW, will be completed in the middle of next year while the rest will be finalized in 2012 (*The Reporter, June 26*).

Tourism

Ethiopia secured an over 3.061 billion Birr from foreign tourists who visited the country this year, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism said. The revenue was obtained from over half a million foreign tourists who visited different attraction centers the country, Culture and Tourism State Minister, Tadelech Dalecho, said. She said the amount of revenue Ethiopia gets from the sector showed a growth rate of 22% in the last five years. The number of tourists who visited the country in the last five years increased by 13.5%, according to the state minister. Tadelech said over 400,000 tourists had visited Ethiopia in 2009. The amount of revenue secured during the reported period accounts for 17% of the country's total export revenue secured during same year, she said (*ENA, Aug. 18*).

Other Issues

The Ministry of Trade and Industry announced revised tariffs on various petroleum products effective from Oct. 7 until Nov. 9, 2010. Accordingly, ethanol-blended benzene will sell for 13.88 Birr per liter,

white naphtha for 11.90 Birr, kerosene at 10.58 Birr, light black naphtha at 11.00 Birr, heavy black naphtha at 10.63 Birr and super benzene (for aircraft) at 13.63 Birr (*ENA, Oct. 6*).

A strategic five-year Growth and Transformation Plan has been prepared by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) under the direction of high ranking government officials.

Food security; fertilizers: The plan, labeled as exaggerated by experts, has the vision to ensure food security on the family, regional and national levels. In order to realize this vision, the current food production of 18.08 million t of food production will be more than doubled to 38.5 million t in 2007 (E.C.). s.

Industrial growth: The five-year plan will have industrial growth rise from 10.2% registered in 20002 (E.C.) to 21.4%. The sector will give focus to raising the current sugar production of 314.5 tons to 2,250 tons in 2007 (E.C.). - The other plan is to increase the production of textiles and earn one billion dollar a year; to increase the income from hides and skin from the current 75.73m \$ to 496.5m \$; and to increase cement production from 2.7 million q to 27 million q.

- Agriculture, Food Aid, Drought -

Agricultural Input and Output

More than 14m birr has been obtained from the sale of honey in Ho-ro Guduru Wollega Zone of Oromia State in the previous Ethiopian budget year, the district's animal resource, health and market development office said. The head of the office, Birhanu Tilahun, said the money was obtained from the sale of 890,100 kg of honey supplied to the central market. The volume of honey supplied to the market surpassed the target by more than 26%, he said. He said some 22,135 farmers have been engaged in the apiculture development (*ENA, Sep. 4*).

According to Ethiopian government statistics, the country's key agricultural sector has grown at an annual rate of 10% over the past 15 years; much faster than population growth. Ethiopia has periodic problems of feeding itself – best illustrated by the dramatic 1984-85 famine that spurred the international Live Aid action. Since then, the country has experienced similar droughts, which however not resulted in mass-killing famine. At the same time, Ethiopia's population growth has dropped from the record level of 3.4% in 1992 to a still high current growth rate of 2.6% annually. Combined with the agricultural sector's growth, this means more food is produced per capita each year (*Afrol News, July 15*).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) said 196 million quintals of agricultural output is expected to be harvested this meher season. Agriculture and Rural Development Minister, Tefera Deribew, told the harvest is expected to be reaped from 12 million ha to be developed in Oromia, Amhara, Tigray, Benishangul Gumuz, SNNP and other states. He said 8 million quintals of fertilizer and more than 700,000 quintals of select seeds are being distributed among farmers for the success of the plan (*WIC, June 26*).

Agricultural Investment

Ethiopia plans to rent out 3 million ha of farmland to private investors for growing rice, cotton and other crops over the next five years, Abera Deressa, minister of state for agriculture, said. Ethiopia's government has identified agriculture as the "major source" of the 11% growth rate targeted by the Finance Ministry in a five-year economic plan unveiled in August (Bloomberg, Oct. 26).

Saudi Star group, an agricultural company founded by the Saudi-Ethiopian business tycoon Mohammad Hussein Alamoudi has succeeded in acquiring an additional 129 ha of arable land in the Gambella regional state. Though the company requested some 300,000 ha in the region, The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

(MoARD), which has taken over vast agricultural land issues from regional land administration bureaus, approved the 271,000 ha. Previously, Saudi Star received 10,000 ha in the region which, according to the director general, would be fully put to use in the current Ethiopian fiscal year, while the additional farm land is expected to be operational by next year, at the latest. The overall plan of the company is to acquire a 500,000 ha of agricultural farm in Ethiopia (The Reporter, Oct. 2).

Karuturi Global Limited, India's largest private investment company in Ethiopia, is expecting to generate USD one billion in export revenues. The amount (which is half of the country's export income of the previous year) is expected to be earned from the 311,000 ha that it will be cultivating in Ethiopia the founder and managing director of the Indian conglomerate told. The company acquired about 300,000 ha in Gambella region where it will cultivate maize, rice, palm and sugarcane while it received the balance around Holeta area for a rose farm project, according to Karuturi (The Reporter, Sep. 25).

Horizon Plantation Ethiopia Company, established by Sheikh Mohammed Alamoudi, and two other local companies are waiting for the decision of the Ethiopian Privatization Board to buy state-owned coffee development organizations. Horizon Plantation is eyeing the Bebeke Coffee Development Organization, which has over 8,000 ha and is under the Southern Nations and Nationalities Regional Government. Although Horizon wants to take this land and plant rubber trees, the government gives priority to coffee development and wants the coffee farms to continue with plans to eventually transfer to rubber tree plantation. - Horizon was initially established to plant rubber trees on 250,000 ha, obtain biofuel from jathropa plants and engage in tea plantation. - The company had plans to obtain large tracts of land for the development in the Southern Region, Gambella and Benishangul Gumuz states. The company failed to obtain 100,000 ha in Godere woreda in Gambella State because of protests by the local population who claimed the Godere forests are the foundation of their existence. - The second company is Green Coffee Company, engaged in coffee investment in the Southern Region. This company negotiated to administer the 10,000 ha Tepi Agricultural Development Organization in a joint venture. The third company that wanted to buy government coffee farms is Ato Umer Bagersh who wants 5,000 ha held by the Limu Coffee Organization (Reporter, Sep. 22).

In a bid to boost the capacity of Ethiopian coffee farmers, the local NIB International Bank is setting up a 10m \$ guarantee facility with the assistance of the International Financial Corporation (IFC), the private sector lending arm of the World Bank. The guarantee facility, which is expected to support the Ethiopian Coffee Initiative, will be run by TechnoServe (TNS), a business solutions organization funded by the Gates Foundation. TNS has been tasked to work with coffee farmer cooperatives to touch up their business management skills by providing them with adequate training to improve the quality of their coffee production. The Ethiopian Incentive targets up to 160 cooperatives which represent some 90,000 local farmers. Apart from assisting farmers to acquire wet mills for processing "cherry" coffee, the credit facility will also help them to acquire new wet coffee beans processing machines in order to raise the current 1.0 ton washing capacity per hour to 2.4 tons per hour. In addition, the program is expected to help farmers meet their working capital needs and facilitate their access to credit for wet mills (washing mills). According to the IFC, the guarantee facility will enable NIB bank to provide a 12.5m \$ credit within the 2010 coffee season. The program will be extended to 2013, enabling farmers to acquire 25 to 30m \$, according IFC (Afrik, Sep. 10).

Gambella, one of the nine regional states of Ethiopia is fast growing into what the local media has described as "a land grabbing" hub among Indian companies. Gambella's new tag as a land grabbing hub comes as BHO Agro Plc becomes the third Indian firm to begin operations in the region after two other Indian companies, Karuturi and Ruchi Group, moved into Gambella in 2008 and early 2010, respectively. Official reports have indicated that Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, responsible for the regulation of

land acquisition by foreign entities, has allowed the lease of 27,000 ha of land to BHO Agro Plc. - In 2008, Karuturi became the first Indian company to lease 300,000 ha [an area larger than Luxembourg], in Gambella, for the production of wheat which is to be exported to its home country. Like BHO Agro, Ruchi Group, the second Indian firm to take advantage of the Gambella land grab, is expected to cultivate bio-fuel seeds on its allotted 25,000 ha (Afrik, Aug. 26).

The Ethiopian government plans to develop sugar cane plantations on 200,000 ha and build three sugar factories in the next five years. The sugar development projects estimated to cost of close to 20 billion birr are planned to be carried out around Tana Beles basin in Amhara State, Dedessa Valley in Oromia State and around Amorati in South Omo Zone in the Southern Region. The planned factories will be crushing 10,000 t of sugar cane a day, Minister of Trade and Industry, Ato Girma Birru, told. The current sugar cane plantation development is no more than 30,000 ha. - In accordance with the five-year strategic plan, the government has allowed the three sugar factories - Wonji Shoa, Metehara and Fincha'a -- to develop an additional 30,000 ha. In addition, the government is building a factory that has the capacity to develop 64,000 ha in Tendaho, Afar State. 16 billion birr has been spent on the factory but it has not been completed according to schedule (Reporter, Aug. 18).

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi announced that the five-year Growth and Transformation Plan would make large tracts of land available for commercial farms through the Federal government. In order to carry this out under favorable conditions, the Federal government has acquired land from the regional governments by representation to give to investors. Land for commercial farming have been allocated in Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella states, he said, adding that asphalt roads and other infrastructure are being built to create favorable conditions for investors. - The Prime Minister also revealed there are plans for vast livestock development in Afar and Somali States. Experience in this area has been gained from the activities carried out in Borena and Bale areas (Goggle, Aug.13).

The Endowment Fund for the Rehabilitation of Tigray, one of the biggest conglomerates owned by ruling-party-affiliates in Ethiopia, short listed five companies for its brand-new irrigation project which is going to be undertaken by one of the subsidiary Hiwot Agriculture Mechanization plc in Tigray Regional state. The project, which is going to operate on 4,000 ha, will produce rice, sesame, soya bean and cotton by diverting the Angarab and Kaza rivers in the Humera area in Kebeba and Banat Districts (The Reporter, July 17).

Karuturi Global Ltd (KGL), the world's largest organized player in the floriculture industry, said that it would invest 100m USD for setting up a sugar-cane crushing plant in Ethiopia. The first phase of the plant is expected to be operational by October this year, KGL's Promoter and Managing Director said. The plant will have a capacity to crush 7,000-tonnes per day, he said. The company will use 15,000 ha in Ethiopia for sugar-cane plantation (WIC, July 7).

Drought, Flood, Famine and Food Aid

Thousands of people have been displaced and infrastructure has been destroyed following the overflowing of the Loggia River, the main tributary of the Awash River, which flows through Afar and some areas in Amhara State. The government has said it does not have the exact number of people who have been displaced and the extent of the damage caused by the floods in the past two weeks. However, the *BBC* reported that over 25,000 people have been displaced (*Fitih, Sep. 8*).

Heavy flooding in the Amhara region of northern Ethiopia has displaced more than 8,000 people, say officials. Nineteen people are reported to have died. Some 53,237 households in Oromia, South Wollo, North Wollo, South Gondar, North Gondar and North Shoa zones in Amhara have been affected, with 1,960 households temporarily displaced, stated a 23 August update by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). It warned of the risk of flooding in western, southwestern and central parts of Ethiopia in

September. - Crops planted on about 6,132ha of land have also either been inundated or washed away, requiring replanting in some cases, added the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (*IRIN, Aug. 25*).

The Food Security Risk Index 2010 is compiled by a British risk analysis firm, Maplecroft, on the basis of 12 factors drawn up in collaboration with the UN's World Food Programme. The criteria include cereal production, GDP per capita, risk of extreme weather events, quality of agricultural and distribution infrastructure, conflict and effectiveness of government. Ten countries were rated as being at "extreme" risk, starting with Afghanistan, and followed by Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Burundi, Eritrea, Sudan, Ethiopia, Angola, Liberia, Chad and Zimbabwe (*AFP, Aug. 19*).

Environment

The total forest cover of Ethiopia has tripled in size since 2000 as a result of large-scale reforestation campaigns, the authorities announced. Ethiopia, which suffered from chronic droughts and famine in the past, has in recent years undertaken massive tree-planting campaigns to help reduce land degradation and improve its biodiversity. Ethiopia was able to increase its forest coverage to 9% now from only 3% previously. Ethiopia planted more than 700 million trees in 2007 alone, according to the UN (*AFP/Independent, July 18*).

Rare animal species particular to Ethiopia and once considered at risk of extinction have been successfully protected and have increased in numbers. The Horn of Africa nation is known for a wide variety of animal species, but many have been threatened with extinction due to large-scale poaching and loss of their natural habitat due to human activity. A recent census, however, has revealed that the numbers of the endemic walla - a chestnut-colored wild goat - the Ethiopian wolf and the Gelada baboon at Semien National Park have increased dramatically (*AFP, June 4*).

- Social, Cultural and Political Aspects -

Internal Conflicts

Leaders and members of the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) were released from jail in accordance with the recent peace agreement signed between the government and the ONLF, the Somali State Prison Commission said. State Prison Commissioner Abdi Bedi said the human rights of the prisoners were respected as per the constitution of the country during their stay in prison (*BBC, Oct. 19*).

The Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF), which had been fighting against the Ethiopian government for the last 18 years, signed a peace agreement with the government on Oct. 12, 2010. Federal Affairs Minister, Dr. Shiferaw Teklemariam, said that according to the agreement, former members of the rebel group who are accused of committing crimes would be pardoned and detained leaders and members of the front would be released. (*Reporter, Oct. 13*).

President Girma Wolde Giorgis has granted pardon to Birtukan Mikdessa following a recommendation submitted to his office by the Federal Pardon Board, the Ministry of Justice said. The decision came in the wake of a formal petition submitted to Prime Minister Meles Zenawi on Sep. 15, 2010, in which Birtukan admitted that she had been released on a conditional pardon after lodging a formal petition but that she had officially denied that she had never made any request nor repented her criminal misdeeds. The statement said that she further noted she declined the government's request to retract her statement (*ETV, Oct. 6*).

Ethiopian forces have killed 123 rebels in the eastern region of the country, an official has told. The rebels are reportedly from the ONLF, fighting in Ethiopia's Somali region. A further 90 rebels are surrounded, says Abdi Mohamoud Omar, president of the Somali region of Ethiopia, and unless they surrender, further measures will be taken against them. The force of around 200 rebels landed on the Red Sea coast on Sep. 11, the authorities in Somaliland said. They were then taken by truck to the Ethiopian border. In recent months, the Ethiopian government has signed peace agreements with various ONLF factions. However, Ethiopia has not ended its conflict with the group led by the former head of the Somali navy, Admiral Mohamed Omar Osman. This is the group reported to have mounted the latest attack (*BBC, Sep. 13*).

19 members of the OLF, accused by the prosecutor of the Second and Third BPR Criminal Bench of the Federal High Court of trying to directly or indirectly have Oromia secede from the federation by force and of conspiring to launch terrorist attacks on government institutions public places and universities, have been found guilty and sentenced from 7 to 11 years imprisonment. The prosecutor had initially charged 23 defendants with attempting to destroy government institutions, disrupting meetings and public events, recruiting, training and arming youth in rural and urban areas for terror activities. Three were acquitted (*Sendek, Sep. 1*).

Ethiopian rebels said the military had killed 71 civilians in the last month as part of a growing crackdown in a region where international oil and gas companies are exploring. The government dismissed the rebel statement (*Reuters, June 11*).

Church and Religion

The Holy Synod of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC) decided at its annual meeting that the statue of the Patriarch Abune Paulos be demolished and the billboards bearing the Patriarch's image put up in church compounds be removed. At the annual meeting it unanimously decided that the Patriarch's statue erected in the compound of the Bole Medhanealem Church was against the laws of the church and that it should be destroyed, sources disclosed (*Reporter, Oct. 27*).

6,000 Ethiopian pilgrims will be travelling to Saudi Arabia for the 2010 Hajj, the Ethiopian Islamic Affairs Council said. The Council, under its Umrah Department Directorate, has established committees in Ethiopia and Saudi Arabia for the success of the pilgrimage. This is the first time that such a large number of pilgrims will travel to Saudi Arabia for the annual Hajj. Last year, around 5,000 pilgrims performed the Hajj (*WIC, Sep. 16*).

News about Culture and History

Ethiopian scientists have uncovered 22-million-year-old fossils of plants and animals that they say could lead to a better understanding of the link between human activities and climate change. They discovered the fossils at the site of an ancient lake northeast of Addis Ababa. The finding lets the scientists completely reconstruct the environment of the site and compare carbon dioxide levels 30 million years ago to today (*VOA, Oct. 24*).

Recent findings in Ethiopia have provided new evidence of early human ancestors using stones for cutting meat more than 3.2 million years ago. According to the study, published in the journal *Nature*, bones found in Ethiopia's Dikika region show that hominins used stone tools to cleave meat from animal bones more than 800,000 years earlier than previously thought. The marked bones date back to between 3.2 million and 3.4 million years ago and studies show that they were forcibly broken to remove marrow (*Press TV*).

Some 428 new megalithic stones have been found in Gedeo Zone, South Ethiopia People's State, the zonal culture and tourism, government communication affairs department said. The department told that the megalithic stones engraved with different symbols were found last week in Sode locality of Yirgachefe Woreda. It said some

7,000 of the 10,000 estimated megalithic stones in East Africa are found in Gedeo Zone. Preparations have been finalized to demarcate the new Sode archeological site and also the megalithic stone site in Tutu Fela. Over 99 megalithic stones are found in Tutu Fela. Ethiopia's Tiya stelae, located south of Addis Ababa, were registered as world heritage sites by UNESCO in 1980 (*ENA, July 9*).

A British charity revealed how it had worked to save the Gerima Gospels and set out evidence suggesting they may form one of the earliest surviving illustrated Christian manuscripts. Kept at the remote monastery of Abuna Gerima in northern Ethiopia, the two volumes had become fragile. But an Anglo-French team of specialists sponsored by the Ethiopian Heritage Fund traveled there to preserve them. The gospels are named after Abba Gerima, a monk who arrived in Ethiopia in the fifth century. In the 1960s specialists studied them and concluded they were created around 1100. Later, however, a French specialist in Ethiopian art took two fragments to Oxford and one was dated to the fifth century. But the gospels were in poor condition. An Anglo-French team was put together, including Gloucestershire bookbinder and manuscript conservator Lester Capon. He set up his "bindery" in the monastery courtyard, which attracted the attention of monkeys (*Guardian UK, July 5*).

A century-old Ethiopian prayer book stolen decades ago was returned to the African nation after the American collector who held it agreed to the restitution. The precious relic is a psalter written in the liturgical Geez language and illuminated with bright and colorful pictures of saints that belonged to Emperor Menelik, who ruled the country from 1889 to 1913. Experts say it disappeared three decades ago and was only located recently by Steve Delamarter, a visiting American scholar who made contact with several collectors of Ethiopian items in the United States (*AFP, June 3*).

Foreign Relations

Prime Minister Meles and the visiting Palestinian President, Mahmoud Abbas, jointly lay a cornerstone for the construction of a Palestine Embassy here in Addis Ababa. Ethiopia granted 4,000 sq. m area to Palestine free to build the Palestine Embassy and Residence near the Headquarters of the Ethiopian Ground Forces. Ethiopia and Palestine had signed a cooperation accord earlier on trade and investment, culture and sports, tourism and other development sectors. Palestine established diplomatic relations with Ethiopia in the 1970s (*ETV, July 7*).

Other Social and Political Issues

Ethiopia was ranked 157/169 in the latest Human Development Index for 2010, according to United Nations Development Program report on. The country was ranked 171/182 in 2009, and is among the countries showing steady improvement in the development index. According to the report of UNDP, "The HDI represents a push for a broader definition of well-being and provides a composite measure of three basic dimensions of human development: health, education and income. Ethiopia's HDI is 0.328, which gives the country a rank of 157 out of 169 countries with comparable data. The HDI of Sub-Saharan Africa as a region increased from 0.293 in 1980 to 0.389 today, placing Ethiopia below the regional average (*UN*).

The book titled "Freedom and Justice in Ethiopia" and written by Ato Siye Abraha, former Defense Minister and high ranking TPLF official and currently head of public relations of the opposition Unity for Democracy and Justice (UDJ), has been distributed for sale in Ethiopia. The book was published in the United States a few months ago. The book has 440 pages, 11 chapters and 11 supplements, and will be sold at 70 birr per copy. The first chapter deals with the outbreak of the Ethiopia-Eritrea war and the controversy it raised among TPLF members. Other chapters deal with the justice system in the country (*Sendek, Aug. 25*).

- Education -

Adama University signed a co-operation agreement with the University of Dusseldorf of Germany establishing an Institute of Tropical Medicine Research in Assela at Adama University's campus in Assela. The construction of the institute will be financed with a donation by Wolfgang Hirsch, an accomplished entrepreneur and chairperson of Hirsch Holdings, which is based in Dusseldorf. The staff of Assela's School of Medicine and the University Hospital will be direct partners, enabling joint endeavors which also entail training measures in Dusseldorf and procurement of medical devices, equipment, and tools from abroad (*Capital, Aug. 4*).

Addis Ababa University graduated more than 10,400 students with first, masters and doctorate degrees at a grand ceremony held here at the Millennium Hall. The university also honored four distinguished figures with honorary doctorate degrees for their outstanding contributions to the better livelihood and freedom of human beings and for being role models to others. Close to 8,200 students graduated with first degrees, some 2,265 with masters and 15 with PhD degrees. AAU runs 156 postgraduate, 70 undergraduate and 20 specialty certification programs (*ETV, July 24*).

The Ministry of Education (MoE) said the construction of nine new universities is underway with 8 billion birr allocated by the government to increase the number of higher learning institutions in the country. The ministry's director of External and Public Relations Directorate, Abera Abate, said the universities are being built in Oromia, Amhara and SNNP states as well as in Addis Ababa City Administration. The construction is expected to be completed within four years, and will raise the number of universities from 22 to 31 (*WIC, July 10*).

- Health -

A fistula Hospital built in Mettu town built at a cost of 12m Birr was inaugurated. The 40-bed hospital has a surgical ward and other service facilities. The hospital which was constructed by an NGO called Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia can give treatment to 60 fistula patients at a time. The newly built fistula hospital is expected to give services to over nine million people living in different areas including Gambella and South Ethiopia People's states. The cost for the construction of the hospital was covered by the Netherlands, Switzerland and England (*ENA, Sep. 30*).

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) said the construction of 14 blood banks launched in different parts of the country would be finalized soon. ERCS Blood bank Director, Dr. Girma Tesfaye, said that the number of blood banks in the country will reach 26 when the facilities fully go operational. He said some 43,000 units of blood has been collected and that 100,000 units of blood reserve is required for emergency services in hospitals across the country. (*ENA, June 13*).

The Innovative Research and Development Corporation (InRaD), an Egypt-based research and dissemination institute, announced that it would launch a biological prevention of mosquito breeding project in swampy areas of the Wolayita and Sidama zones of the state. The Ministry of Health selected the project sites that are highly prone to malaria outbreak. The tripartite project will be executed jointly by the governments of Egypt, Italy, and Ethiopia (*ENA, June 11*).