



CONFERENCE REPORT

National All-Women Conference ‘Women in Academia’ on the theme “Health and Development” at the Faculty of Social Sciences Bahir Dar University

held on March 8-9, 2019

at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia



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This Report was compiled by Dr. Sonja John

Reporters at the conference were Mulunesh Dessie, Dr. Sewmehon Demissie and Dr. Sonja John

15 May 2019

Bahir Dar University

Bahir Dar, Ethiopia

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Dean's Message

As the academic year is closing fast, the Faculty of Social Sciences at Bahir Dar University in many respects had a successful academic year. We have had series of seminars, done various activities (even at the university level) and created international networks and much more. Nothing, nonetheless, was like the remarkable all women conference we had on March 8-9, 2019 (GC); the first of its kind at our faculty and university. Inspired by other similar all-women events – such as the all women flights by Ethiopian Airlines – this conference brought together women academics from many corners of Ethiopia to deliberate on a range of matters regarding the topic “health and development.”



As set out when conceived, the conference served as a platform for knowledge sharing and academic discourse. Plus, it offered a chance for women scholars to network among each other and interface with policy makers, and practitioners. Most of all, the fact the conference was happening on the occasion of the International Women's Day (March 8) where the whole world pauses for a moment and (re-)thinks the role of women in society has rendered flavor and meaning to the whole exercise.

The conference organizers have done a wonderful job. They have raised finance and prevailed over the challenge of organization and logistics of the conference. And now they are inviting us to read the report of this conference. Of course, mentioning the organizers and forgetting our partners, would not be fair at all. Taking this opportunity, I would also like to extend my special gratitude for all our partners who have put their trust on and financed the conference. Guess what, I am already looking forward for the second edition next year! In the meantime, though, I invite all of you to have a good reading of this conference!

Dr. Kalewongel Minale, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, BDU

Report “Women in Academia“ conference 8-9 March 2019, Bahir Dar University

Message from the Organizing Committee

The conference “Women in Academia” with the theme “Health and Development” provided a platform for all women and women academicians to exchange knowledge, share experiences and develop collaborations. The organizing team wanted to celebrate the International Women’s Day (IWD) and embrace its main goal and function of giving recognition to women’s achievements and encouraging women to participate and excel. This conference was held for the first time with a selective program covering many academic aspects. The conference was intended to involve various research areas, including health, agriculture, development, gender and politics. The major objective of the conference was to produce innovative and relevant knowledge across many fields and disciplines and bring the participants into discussion. The conference helped women in academia to connect, cooperate and collaborate. The primary goal was to open a space for female academicians to present their work. In bringing excellent researchers together resulted in knowledge exchange and produced future solidarity and multidisciplinary and collaboration work. As a result of this conference, female scholars at BDU organized themselves and some participants paired up to engage in research projects together. This is more than we hoped to wish for.

The **Organizing Committee** thanks all presenters, audience, sponsors, the faculty and university for input and support.

Dr. Sewmehon Demissie, Gender and Development Studies, BDU

Dr. Sonja John, Political Science and International Studies, BDU

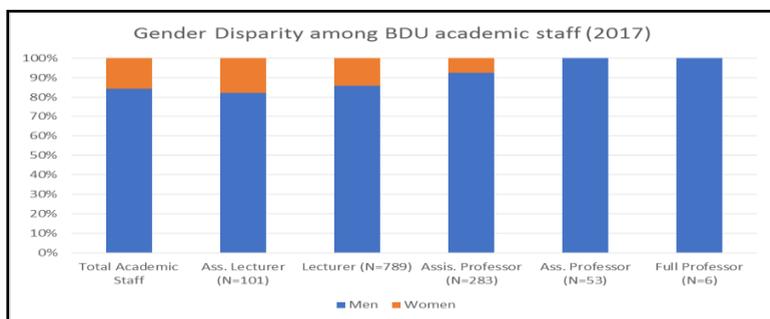
Selamawit Kassew, Gender and Development Studies, BDU

Mulunesh Dessie, Political Science and International Studies, BDU



Rationale of the All-Women Conference

The International Women’s Day is a global and collective day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Affirmative measures and women’s rights to equality in employment are enshrined in the FDRE Constitution of 1995 and the national education policies. Affirmative action prescribes policies that counteract the historically and socio-politically underrepresentation of non-dominant groups like women and members of certain ethnic groups; it intends to promote their access to education and employment. It also aims at redressing the negative effects of current discrimination. However, the policy and practical implementation have so far proven to be ineffective. According to the Gender Inequality Index of 2017, Ethiopia ranks 121st of 189 countries. Similar statistics can be found on the university level. Education is a key for personal development and means for the social economic and political development of country, region, families and individuals. Accordingly, Bahir Dar University (BDU) also has strategies to include female staff in research and publication projects, in addition to their teaching duties.



However, evidence shows that female staff members are still underrepresented in research projects and publication activities. In effect, due to an exclusion from essential academic career activities, female staff members receive by far fewer promotions. For

example, in 2016-2017 a total of 172 staff members were promoted, the majority (157 or 91.3%) of which, were male. The published articles are also almost exclusively written by men (97.9%). The organizing committee chooses a pro-active approach to open a room for female scholars to present their research findings.

The broad overarching topics – health and development – were purposefully selected to allow many female academicians from all fields to connect their research and submit paper proposals. Both health and development were understood in their broader conceptions. Under *health* we understand everything that has to do with well-being, be it individual, societal, internationally, globally, culturally. And under the term *development* we understand every kind of change, be it progressive, regressive, inwardly, outwardly, the development of mindsets, ideas, research, infrastructure, societies, academia or women lives. The various papers selected, taken together, highlight the interrelationship, interconnectedness and overlap of health and development in Ethiopia.



Outcomes

The primary goals of the conference were achieved. It opened a space for female academicians to present their work. It brought researchers together for knowledge exchange and even produced collaboration and multidisciplinary work in solidarity. For several young scholars it was the first time to present their work at an academic conference. Their papers are appearing in the conference proceeding, thus giving opportunity and experience in preparing manuscripts for publication.



As a result of the initiative and impulses of this conference, W/ro Gedame Mandefro, Vice-President for Business and Development, called all female BDU staff members attending the event and discussed the need to establish a BDU Female Academicians Association. As a result, this organization was formed, and an email list created. W/ro Birhane Mengiste, BDU Gender Director, keeps the members informed and coordinates trainings and events.

In general, this all-women's conference was well received. Speeches, panel discussions and interviews were broadcasted in Amhara TV, photos and remarks shared on social media.

Dr. Frew Tegegne, BDU President, congratulated the organizers and the Faculty of Social Sciences for having this event during the university-wide half-year assessment held in late March 2019. He mentioned that more must be done to close the grave gaps between opportunities given to men and to women at BDU. The university leadership will help us much as possible to have a second all-women's conference "Women in Academia" in March 2020.



When FDRE President Sahlework Zewdu visited BDU on 5 April 2019, she explicitly wanted to hear female voices. Again, Dr. Frew Tegegne, BDU President, took the opportunity to praise this all-women’s conference “Women in Academia”. After he concluded his report, which made evident the huge gender gap in student composition in postgraduate programs and among staff members, especially the higher ranks, FDRE President Sahlework Zewdu wanted to hear only female students and staff. She recommended that BDU must take actions to achieve gender equality in education by including women and opening more opportunities for and participation educational affairs. This, she said, is a necessary condition for the overall development of the country. BDU should stimulate gender equality and empower female staff and students through giving fair distribution of resources, opportunities and encouragement with attention to different needs. In general, she concluded, the all-women conference, organized from the bottom-up serves as a stepping stone to open a space for female academicians to discuss their research, for knowledge exchange, to create collaboration, multidisciplinary work and solidarity. However, the university has to more actively promote gender equality and women empowerment through affirmative action. Mentoring and tutoring programs should be given to female staff; policies should be changed to accommodate women’s circumstances; hiring and appointment policies and procedures should change to give equal chance to female candidates. Only in this way will Ethiopia one day have its first female university president.

Program

Time	Paper Presentations	Friday, 8 March 2019
02:30-03:00	Registration	
03:00-03:45	Welcoming Speeches and Opening Remarks BDU and Faculty of Social Sciences Officials, Sponsors and Partners Welcoming: W/ro Gedame Mandefro, Vice-President for Business and Development Opening: Dr. Frew Tegegne, BDU President, Dr. Tesfaye Shiferew, Vice-President of RCS. BDU Officiating: Birhane Mengiste	
03:45-04:45	<p align="center">Session 1 Empowerment of Female Academicians – The Way Forward</p> Panel Discussion with Wollela Mebrat (Bahir Dar, social affairs advisor for the regional president), Tigist Kebede (Hawassa), Ababayehu Yirga (Bahir Dar), Dr. Almaz Gizaw (Bahir Dar), Eden Amsalu (Bahir Dar) Moderator: Dr. Seblewongiel Ayenalem, Reporter: Mulunesh Dessie	
04:45-05:00	Coffee Break	
05:00-06:00	<p align="center">Session 2 Lake Tana Fishing</p> 1. Brehane Mohamed, Bahir Dar: <i>Gender Analysis in the Fisheries of Lake Tana, Ethiopia</i> 2. Marshet Kebede, Bahir Dar: <i>Lived Experiences of Fishers at Lake Tana, Bahir Dar</i> Moderator: Dr. Seblewongiel Ayenalem, Reporter: Mulunesh Dessie	
06:00-08:00	Lunch Break	
08:00-09:00	<p align="center">Session 3 Health</p> 3. Dr. Seblewongiel Ayenalem, Bahir Dar: <i>Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilations: Prevention and Responsive Efforts and Challenges of Different Sectors in Amhara Region</i> 4. Woinshet Muhie, Mettu: <i>The use of Eucalyptus camaldulensis and Moringa stenopetala to improve the Shelf life of Injera</i> Moderator: Dr. Sewmehon Demissie, Reporter: Dr. Sonja John	
09:00-09:20	Coffee Break	
09:20-11:30	<p align="center">Session 4 Conflict Resolution</p> 5. Amaru Adane, Bahir Dar: <i>Exploring the Causes of Conflict and Viability of Peace between Amhara-Tigray Regional States: the case of Tegeдие and Tsegедие Woreda</i> 6. Nafkot Shawl, Bahir Dar: <i>Civil Society and Peace Building in Ethiopia: The Case of Borana and Guji Conflict</i> Moderator: Dr. Sewmehon Demissie, Reporter: Dr. Sonja John	
12:00	Conference Dinner	

Time	Paper Presentations	Saturday, 9 March 2019
02:30-03:00	Registration	
03:00-04:30	<p>Session 5 Networking for Women Academicians</p> <p>Panel discussion with Gedam Mandefro, Tiruwerk Zelalem, Loza Tsegaye (Setaweeet)</p> <p>Launch of the BDU Female Academicians Association</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Almaz Gizaw, Reporter: Mulunesh Dessie</p>	
04:30-04:50	Coffee Break	
04:50-06:00	<p>Session 6 Family Planning</p> <p>7. Bilen Mekonnen, Gondar: <i>Fertility Desire and Factors Associated among HIV Positive Women in Amhara Region Referral Hospitals Northwest Ethiopia, 2017</i></p> <p>8. Meselech Dessie, Gondar: <i>Folic Acid Usage and Associated Factors in the Prevention of Neural Tube Defects among Pregnant Women in Ethiopia: Cross-sectional Study</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Almaz Gizaw, Reporter: Mulunesh Dessie</p>	
06:00-08:00	Lunch Break	
08:00-09:30	<p>Session 7 Farming and Politics</p> <p>9. Semira Nasir, Bale Robe: <i>Influenced of Clove Weight and Depth of Planting on Yield and Yield Components of Garlic (<i>Allium sativum</i> L.) at Madawalabu University experimental Site, Bale Zone, South Eastern Ethiopia</i></p> <p>10. Mulunesh Dessie, Bahir Dar: <i>Factors Affecting Women Farmer's Participation in Agricultural Extension Education Services: A Case Study of two Woredas in ANRS</i></p> <p>11. Eden Fissiha, Bahir Dar: <i>Who speaks for whom? Parliamentary Participation of Women in the Post-1991 Ethiopia</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Sonja John, Reporter: Dr. Sewmehon Demissie</p>	
09:30-09:50	Coffee Break	
09:50-11:30	<p>Session 8 Developmental Effects</p> <p>12. Abebech Chekol, Gondar: <i>Gendered Effects of Climate Change on Health in the Case of Jannamora District, North West Ethiopia</i></p> <p>13. Hellen Messel, Bahir Dar: <i>Urban Expansion Dynamics and Its Effect on the Livelihoods of Peri-Urban Community: the Case of Bahir Dar</i></p> <p><i>Closing remarks:</i> Dr. Kalewongel Minale</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Sonja John, Reporter: Dr. Sewmehon Demissie</p>	
11:30	Conference End	

Summary of Opening Remarks and Panel Discussions

Friday, 8 March 2019, 03:00-03:45 LT

Welcoming Speeches and Opening Remarks by BDU and Faculty of Social Sciences Officials Welcoming:

W/ro Birhane Mengiste, BDU Gender Director, officiating this opening session. W/ro Gedame Mandefro, Vice-President for Business and Development gave a welcome speech in which she stressed the importance of celebrating March 8 to initiate women to have equal right for participation and be strong to struggle for their rights.

Then, Dr. Tesfaye Shiferew, Vice-President of Research and Community Service at BDU, gave a key note speech on the overall performance of female academicians at BDU. He appreciates this year's March 8 celebration with the first and incredible conference with academic paper presentations by female academicians only. It is the first All-Women in Academia conference at BDU. He gave an assignment for the conference organizers to immediately start preparing for next year's all-women conference. Dr. Tesfaye Shiferew stressed that he is strongly committed to work with the concerned bodies to have fruitful conference in 2020.



Friday, 8 March 2019, 04:45-05:45 LT

Panel Discussion I Empowerment of Female Academicians – The Way Forward
with Wollela Mebrat (Bahir Dar, social affairs advisor for the regional president),
Tigist Kebede (Hawassa), Ababayehu Yirga (Bahir Dar), Dr. Almaz Gizaw (Bahir
Dar), Eden Amsalu (Bahir Dar)

Moderator Dr. Seblewongiel Aynalem led the discussion around these questions: *What do we understand under empowerment, especially in the academic context in Ethiopia? According to laws and policies, the state already prescribes women empowerment. But the reality still shows a huge gap. From your personal and professional experiences, why is that so? Which constructive actions have been taken? Also, which actions have been taken in the form of community service to empower women outside academia? What are missions and visions for the future to for female academicians' empowerment?*



Ethiopia's policies and strategies for women empowerment were mentioned and assessed. Trainings given about women empowerment does not fit the knowledge and culture of society; and is given only to women. Thus, all-inclusive training would be essential to empower women. Ethiopian policies planned as inclusive of all without any discrimination, but lacks practice starting from politicians and policy makers to women

themselves and lack clear way of mainstreaming. It was also mentioned that laws regarding women empowerment were made *for* women but not *by* women.

As a way forward, awareness must be created starting from politicians and policy makers to ordinary community in a democratic manner to enact law, to interpret and to implement. Women themselves should be committed for their rights and struggle for them. Female academicians should role models for other females in different dimensions. Equally, universities should be model institutions to realize equality and equity between different parts of society. And female academicians should have their own organization to be sounded by government and their institutions.



Saturday, 9 March 2019, 03:00-04:30 LT

Panel discussion II **Networking for Women Academicians** with Tiruwerk Zelalem, Loza Tsegaye (Setaweeet) and Gedam Mandefro (left to right)



Moderator Dr. Sewmehon Demissie led the discussion around these questions: *From your experiences working for women empowerment, how can women (academicians) better network? How to support each other, how to practice solidarity in a competitive university environment? Which programs/funds are available?*

Women in academia lack networks for cooperation and sharing experiences (challenges, opportunities and success). Our universities practice does not support or encourage women. For example, criteria for the selection of higher administrative positions totally supports men. Networking should fit goals and objectives of the institution and should improve achievement. Female academicians must become more self-confident. And we should break the patriarchal system.

Network can be formed by inviting all women in academia and by giving clear idea about its advantage for all who are not found in the panel. A formal network should get recognition from concerned bodies since forming a network without owners cannot be beneficial and effective.

List of Presentations

Erkie Asmare, Bahir Dar: Gender Analysis in the Fisheries of Lake Tana, Ethiopia

1. Marshet Kebede, Bahir Dar: Lived Experiences of Fishers at Lake Tana, Bahir Dar
2. Dr. Seblewongiel Ayenalem, Bahir Dar: Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilations: Prevention and Responsive Efforts and Challenges of Different Sectors in Amhara Region
3. Woinshet Muhie, Mettu: The use of Eucalyptus camaldulensis and Moringa stenopetala to improve the Shelf life of Injera
4. Amaru Adane, Bahir Dar: Exploring the Causes of Conflict and Viability of Peace between Amhara-Tigray Regional States: the case of Tegedie and Tsegedie Woreda
5. Nafkot Shawl, Bahir Dar: Civil Society and Peace Building in Ethiopia: The Case of Borana and Guji Conflict
6. Addisalem Bayeh, PLACE: Assessing the Enforcement of Principles of Good Governance in Amhara National Regional State: The Case of Debre Tabor Town Urban Development and Houses Construction Department
7. Tinsae Berihun, PLACE: The Role of Women`s Socioeconomic Empowerment to Improve Family Planning Methods Use: theCase of North Gondar Zone
8. Bilen Mekonnen, Gondar: Fertility Desire and Factors Associated among HIV Positive Women in Amhara Region Referral Hospitals Northwest Ethiopia, 2017
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12. Eden Fissiha, Bahir Dar: Who speaks for whom? Parliamentary Participation of Women in the Post-1991 Ethiopia

13. Abebech Chekol, Gondar: Gendered Effects of Climate Change on Health in the Case of Jannamora District, North West Ethiopia
14. Hellen Messel, Bahir Dar: Urban Expansion Dynamics and Its Effect on the Livelihoods of Peri-Urban Community: the Case of Bahir Dar



1. Gender Analysis in the Fisheries of Lake Tana, Ethiopia

by **Brehan Mohamed**, Bahir Dar Fisheries and Other Aquatic Life Research Center, BahirDar (co-authors: Erkie Asmare and Sewmehon Demissie)

Until the last few decades, the issue of women in general and their position in and contribution to society in particular had deserved very little attention. This study, aimed to (1) investigate ranges of activities performed by men and women in the domestic and fisheries, (2) assess gender differences in access to and control over productive resources and (3) identify gender differences in workload and decision making in the households. The study was carried out in five districts that surround Lake Tana from February 2014 to December 2015. The sampled respondents were interviewed using a pretested structured questionnaire and checklist. Descriptive statistics, t-test, and chi-square test were used. Fishing is usually considered as occupations of men, while, fish post-harvest processing and domestic works are mostly for women. The type of engagement in the fisheries is highly dependent on sex ($\chi^2=54.3$, $p<0.01$). Although a substantial number of women are involved in the fisheries of Lake Tana, their management and decision-making powers are negligible. Because of women who go to fishing lonely or with other men are considered as a prostitute, they don't go to fishing practically. These could negatively affect the contribution of women to the social and economic aspects in general and in the fisheries sector in particular. It was found that the workload is more serious on women than men. However, due to gender-biased ideology, "let women go to their kitchen, but men to the court", women are restricted to the homestead. Moreover, women enjoy little independent decision making role on most individual and family issues.

Keywords: Gender equality, fishery, fish processing, decision-making power, control over resources

Question and Comments

Q: How fishing can be done without access?

A: Even though it is not enough there is limited access but not fairly distributed

Q: What is illegal fishing?

A: Illegal fishers are those who have no legal right to fish in the area, who rob others' caught fish, who try to violate rights of girls and women

Q: How do you see skill of females to fish?

A: If they get awareness and environment is comfortable they can do equally as male

2. Lived Experiences of Fishers at Lake Tana, Bahir Dar

by **Marshet Kebede**, Department of Social Anthropology, Bahir Dar University

Fishers are the community who engage their livelihood on fishing and fish processing. Fishers found in developing countries are among the poorest communities; as a result of different reasons including distinct seasonal cycles of fish abundance as main reason. In addition, fishing frequency even during better fish abundance season also affects their income. This study has attempted to examine lived experiences of fishers at Lake Tana fishery in Bahir Dar town. In accordance with qualitative research approach and phenomenological study design, both primary and secondary data were used. Based on these methods, 21 participants are participated in this study. Result of this study indicates current fishery trend on Lake Tana perform individually or as member of different cooperatives that in turn has effect on their income as a result of different opportunities found in cooperatives. Lake Tana fishers contribute 11,000-12,000 ton fish product yearly for food consumption and they are also primary participants for conserving the environment especially contributing for tackling of Enoch weed. The finding of the study reveals also that fishers perform their fishing activity using different types of fishing materials in which the number and type of fishing equipment they have determine the level of their income. Their indigenous knowledge regarding necessary preparation and required ability for fishing, fish processing techniques, preparation of fish dishes and ways of getting fish stock are also explored. Lake Tana Fishers also experience both cooperative and conflicting relationships with each other; and they vary to different living standard ranging from low to high earners with medium dwellers. Fishing materials and techniques, seasonality of catch, eating culture of surrounding communities, membership of cooperatives, income diversification strategies they used and fish species types are among the most common reasons result in income diversification.

Keywords: lived experience, fishery, fishers, Lake Tana

Question and Comments

Q: Why do you use phenomenology?

A: In order to understand the lived experience of fishers in a short time.



3. Child marriage and Female Genital mutilations: Prevention and responsive Efforts and Challenges of different sectors in Amhara Region

by **Seblewongiel Ayenalem** (PhD), Department of Social Work, Bahir Dar University

Harmful traditional practices (HTPs), such as female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) and child marriage constitute the most prevalent manifestations of violence against women and children in Ethiopia. Despite the wide-ranging intervention efforts, harmful traditional practices continue to challenge the wellbeing and integrity of women and girls in Ethiopia. This study was conducted as an input to prepare a Regional Early marriage and FGM Prevention and Response Strategic Document. The purpose of the study was to explore the knowledge of experts regarding the existing policies, strategies, ongoing prevention and intervention efforts, and challenges of different institutions to combat child marriage and FGM. Qualitative data through interview guide was collected from 50 directors and program offices at Amhara regional bureaus of health, Justice, Education, and Plan International. The findings revealed that, though the practice lacks coordination and is fragmented, there have been different interventions at various levels. Interventions undertaken to address child marriage and FGM include: Awareness raising and social mobilization, Empowerment of girls and women, Enhancing integrated service delivery to ensure the accessibility and quality of formal schooling for girls and women, availability of limited psychosocial and health support to victims, and enforcement of the law offering economic support and incentives for them and their families, and religious based interventions to clarify the stand of religion regarding HTPs and using religious leaders for teaching their constituencies. Experts shared structural and operational challenges facing at different level. The study concludes that efforts within just one sector cannot solve this deep-rooted phenomenon instead it demands attention collaborative work from multiple sectors. Services need to be integrated across various sectors to create a comprehensive strategy for reducing and mitigating the effects of child marriage and FGM.

Keywords: Child Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation, Prevention, Response

Question and Comments

Q: 50% child marriage found in Amhara. What is short-level to change this?

A: Understand the patterns. Weddings used to be in January and March. Now they give their children among other ceremonies.

Q: Are the laws being implemented?

A: Develop and regional holistic framework. Prevention and Protection. Institutionalized the issue of CM/FGM.

Q: What makes your research different from others? In which stages do you tr to investigate?

A: Come up with the efforts that were going on, before: studies challenges. Little on what can be done. Ours is different: institutional analysis. What is being done, what can be done. What effects does it have?



4. The use of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and *Moringa stenopetala* to improve the Shelf life of Injera

by **Woinshet Muchie**, (MSc. in Genetics) Mettu University (co-author: Niguse Aweke)

Injera has a short shelf life time due to mold spoilage. Therefore, this study was aimed to obtain information on the improvement of injera shelf life using eucalyptus and moringa and show the chemical composition of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and *Moringa stenopetala*. The chemical composition of the natural products was analyzed by GC-MS. The molds from injera were identified by potato dextrose agar isolation technique. The main constituents of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* leaf oil were 1, 8-cineole (57%) and α -Pinene (22%) followed by p -Cymene (5.2%) respectively and the constituents of *Moringa stenopetala* leaf essential oil were 1-Hexacosane (47%) and Tetracosane (12%)

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followed by Octacosane (11%). In this Study, the influence of one commonly used chemical preservative Benzoic acid was used as a control group and also the Eucalyptus camaldulensis leaf oil, Moringa stenopetala leaf oil and crude were used for improved the shelf-life of injera prepared from different grains composition. The preservatives were added immediately before baking. Three fungal species; Aspergillus Spp, Penicillium Spp and Rhizopus Spp. found to be responsible in injera spoilage. Antifungal activities of preservation were ranked as Benzoic acid > Eucalyptus camaldulensis leaf oil > Moringa stenopetala crude > Moringa stenopetala oil. The natural product of Eucalyptus camaldulensis leaf oil was most effective one in this study. It should be practiced so as to save a significant amount of injera that is lost due to mold spoilage based on the further study should be conducted has to measure the effect on health and nutritional status of Eucalyptus camaldulensis.

Keywords: Injera, Eucalyptus camaldulensis, Moringa stenopetala and Shelf life

Question and Comments

Q: When do you apply the preservatives?

A: Essential oil add in the stage of *mazoria*

Q: Does the taste change?

Q: Do you have permission from concerned bodies to use natural preservatives?

5. Exploring the Causes of Conflict and Viability of Peace between Amhara-Tigray Regional States: the case of Tegedie-Tsegedie Woredas

by **Amaru Adane**, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Bahir Dar University

The theme of this study focuses on exploring the causes of conflict and viability of peace between Amhara-Tigray Regional States over Tegedie and Tsegedie Woreda borders. In the pre-1991 regimes, Tegedie and Tsegedie Woreda were peaceful. However, their post 1991 relationship is manifested either peaceful or conflictual. Their peaceful relation is manifested through their economic interdependence, as well as, shared socio-cultural practices. The central objective of this study was to explore the causes, actors, and conflict management mechanisms, impacts of conflict and viability of peace over the 2017 peace agreement/border demarcation between Amhara-Tigray ethnic groups over Tegedie and Tsegedie Woreda conflicts. The study was undertaken to explore the nature of Tegedie and Tsegedie Woreda relations after the restructuring of the country along ethnic lines. Methodologically, the researcher employed qualitative research approach with case study research design. The researcher highly relied on primary sources of data; however, secondary sources of data were also used for triangulation purpose. The tools used to collect data were in-depth interview, telephone interview, observation and document analysis. Purposive sampling, a type of non-probability sampling was also used to select the participants for in-depth and telephone interview. The analysis of qualitative data was made in thematic Analysis. As per the finding of this study, in the study areas, conflicts mainly caused by; political, economic, social and security factors, good governance problems, boundary and weakening of traditional mechanisms of conflict resolution. The actors involved in the conflict were direct and indirect actors. Moreover, the study revealed the impacts of the conflict as; economic, social and political. To manage the conflict and build peace, formal and customary mechanisms of conflict management and peace building were undertaken. However, the attempts failed to address the root causes of the conflict and build lasting peace. Thus, as the finding of this study indicated, there is no guaranty for sustainability of the peace since the root cause of the conflict is not resolved.

Keywords: Conflict, Ethnic group, Viability, Peace, Amhara, Tigray, Tsegedie, Tegedie

Question and Comments

Q: Population has been exchanged. – a) Referendum unproductive/unfair after population exchange. b) Is it a case to look at through a lens of indigeneity and settler colonialism? c) is it possible to have a joint peace conference and committee (like in Borena and Guji)?

A: Authorities forced Tsegdie to be under Tigray only and speak Tigringna only. Have interviewed Tsegdie and Tegede community members; may be biased. No referendum conducted.

Q: Citations are not recent. What is “grassroots level”?

Q: Which one is the main reason of conflict? What are the new findings?

A: Forceful change of Amhara people to Tigray. Without Tigray language they don't have access to basic services. identity and border are primary issues/causes of conflict. immediate: 2004 conflict: extent of unclear border between the two woredas.

Q: Too judgmental; should be objective. It is peace research



6. Civil Society and Peace Building in Ethiopia: The Case of Borana and Guji Conflict

by **Nafkot Shawol**, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Bahir Dar University

Civil societies play a key role in processes of peace building between antagonistic communities. Particularly in Ethiopia, there are few legally recognized and modern civil society organizations that involved in the area of peace. The central objectives of this study were to explore the roles of civil society actors in peace building in Ethiopia with particular reference of Borena and Guji conflict. Therefore, to achieve the objectives, the study employed qualitative research method and case study design through

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involving both primary and secondary data sources. Purposive sampling method is employed. The required primary data were collected through semi structured, in-depth key informant interview, personal observation and document review. The data was analyzed by thematic analysis method. There are selected civil society actors that engaged in the peace building through providing trainings about the importance of peaceful conflict resolution and the impact of conflict. They also organize meeting and dialogue sessions to discuss on the roots of the Borena-Guji conflict and provide food and non-food items for victims of conflict and reintegrating internally displaced persons as the result of the conflict. Civil Societies have made achievements through the establishment of joint peace committee, reconciliation, rebuilding of social relationship, compensating victims of the conflict, return of refugees and bringing attitudinal changes. Moreover, civil societies also work in cooperation with governmental bodies to achieve lasting peace between the two communities. Despite, civil societies are facing various challenges like shortage of food and non-food items, the prevalence of non-religious peoples, and Complicity of the cause of conflict. In sum up, as compared to the internationally accepted civil societies function in peace building, their role in peace building is limited.

Keywords: Peace Building, Civil Society, Guji, Conflict

Question and Comments

Q: Is money really needed if people want peace?

A: Yes! Reparations and reconciliatory and for victims; Ethiopia doesn't have enough money that is why Ethiopia needs money from the international community to build peace in Ethiopia.

Q: How can CSO resolve in conflict resolution; that is not their mandate; they have to bring development. Government groups are not allowed in engaging in this.

Q: Where is the area? what is the source of the conflict? What was the gender aspect in the peace building? Who are the CSO actors?

A: In Oromia. They share one border. Historically, they were fighting over honor and resources. Now they are fighting over political matters. Borena town was part of Borena zone but after the reform it was included into Guji zone; that is the source of the conflict. Until today there is solution. I am more interested in the peace-building process, less in the root. – I didn't contact any women. there were some women attending in the conference. Local woman elders were involved.

Q: Qualitative research. But what specific? And what recommendations specifically?

7. Fertility desire and factors associated among HIV Positive Women in Amhara Region Referral Hospitals Northwest Ethiopia, 2017

by **Bilen Mekonnen**, Department of Clinical Midwifery, University of Gondar (co-author: Amare Minyihun)

Objective: Ethiopia is characterized by the culturally valued high fertility, high HIV prevalence, low level of contraception and increased intention to have a child. The current total fertility rate is 4.8%. Therefore, the objective of this study was to assess the Fertility desire and associated factors among sexually active HIV positive reproductive age women attending ART clinic in Amhara region referral hospitals, Northwest Ethiopia.

Results: The finding indicates that 39.9% (95% CI; 35.21%, 44.6%) of the participants reported a desire to have children in the future. Variables such as women in the age group of 15-24 (AOR= 2.63, 95% CI; 1.01, 6.86) and 25-34 (AOR= 2.79, 95% CI; 1.67, 4.66), having one or more alive children (AOR=0.19, 95% CI; 0.09, 0.39), having sexual partner (AOR=3.5, 95% CI; 1.36, 9.32), having no formal education (AOR= 0.51, 95% CI; 0.29, 0.91) and being married (AOR=2.3, 95% CI; 1.05, 5.13) were associated with fertility desire. Therefore, Programmers and policy makers need to expand PMTCT service and consider the effects of these factors for HIV-positive women as they develop interventions.

Keywords: Fertility desire, ART clinic, sexually active, Amhara Region, Northwest Ethiopia, Referral Hospital

Questions and Comments

Q: How can we protect women from HIV? Which form of contraception better fits HIV positive women?

A: Through awareness creation and minimizing unemployment. Blood testing is important. Condoms are best to prevent the spread of HIV.

8. Folic Acid Usage and Associated Factors in the Prevention of Neural Tube Defects among Pregnant Women in Ethiopia: cross-sectional study

by: **Meselech Ambaw**, Department of Anatomy, University of Gondar (co-authors: Ayanaw Worku, Ejigu Gebeye and Shimelash Bitew)

Background

Neural tube defects are among the most common birth defects, contributing to miscarriage, infant mortality, severe congenital abnormalities and serious disabilities. It is burdensome to patients, caregivers, healthcare systems and society. It could be

reduced if women consume a folic acid supplement before and during the early weeks of pregnancy. This study assesses folic acid usage and associated factors for the prevention of neural tube defects among pregnant women in Ethiopia.



Methods

Institution based cross-sectional study was conducted on 417 systematically sampled, consented pregnant women that visited Adama hospital medical college for antenatal care during August to November 2014. Pretested interviewer administered questionnaire was used to collect socio-demographic, obstetric characteristics and folic acid usage of women.

Result

About 48.4% of women took a folic acid supplement at different period of pregnancy; but, only 1.92% of women took the supplement at a protective period against neural tube defects. Age, the early timing of antenatal registration, was a preconception consulted, previous unsuccessful pregnancies and level of folic acid awareness were significantly associated with folic acid usage for prevention of neural tube defects.

Conclusions

Folic acid usage during the protective period against neural tube defects among women in Ethiopia is very low, so healthcare plan to improve intake of folic acid is required.

Keywords: Neural tube defects, Folic Acid, Pregnancy, Birth defects, Prevention

Question raised and Comments forwarded

Q: Do you think that health care givers by themselves have clear understanding about Folic acid(its use and usage)?

A: Yes it is a problem especially for those who work in rural areas, so I recommend that awareness should be created first for health care givers and then for all women. To do this plans and strategies should be well prepared.

9. Influenced of Clove Weight and Depth of Planting on Yield and Yield Components of Garlic (*Allium sativum* L.) at Madawalabu University experimental Site, Bale, SE Ethiopia

by **Semira Nasir**, Plant Science Department, Madawalabu University, Bale Robe (co-authors: Tefera Regasa and Mihret Yirgu)

The study was carried out to determine the effect of clove size and planting depth on yield and yield components of garlic (*Allium sativum* L.) in Bale zone Madawalabu University experimental site during the 2016 autumn cropping season. The treatments consisted of three cloves Weight: large (3.6-4.5 g), medium (2.6-3.5 g) and small (1.5-2.5 g) and four planting depth (1.5cm, 2.5cm, 5cm and 7 cm) using Kuriftu variety. The experiment was conducted using a randomized complete block design in a factorial arrangement with three replications. The results of this study revealed that interaction effects of clove Weight and planting depth significantly influence plant height, mean bulb weight, total bulb yield and bulb diameter. The highest plant height, mean bulb weight, total bulb yield and bulb length obtained when medium cloves weight and 2.5-5 cm planting depth, whereas the lowest plant height, mean bulb weight, total bulb weight and bulb diameter obtained when small cloves weight and 1.5 cm and 7cm planting depth was used. The main effects of clove size had significant influence on days of emergency, leaf length, leaf number per plant, total bulb weight, un-marketable yield and marketable yield. For all parameters the highest and lowest result was observed for plants that were raised from medium weight cloves and small clove Weight respectively and highest result was observed in 5cm and lowest result were observed in 7cm depth of planting. The results of this study indicated that, using medium clove Weight (2.6- 3.5g) with 2.5-5cm planting depth produced higher vegetative growth parameters ,maximum garlic bulb yield and bulb quality (bulb diameter and average bulb weight). Therefore, it is suggested that planting medium clove weights with planting depth of 2.5-5cm produces higher bulb yield and enhances the quality of garlic.

Keywords: Bulb yield, Clove weight, Garlic, Planting depth

Questions and Comments

C: Your conclusion is a bit general and does not show bottom up approach.

10. Factors Affecting Women Farmer's Participation in Agricultural Extension Education Services: A Case Study of two Woredas in ANRS

by **Mulunesh Dessie**, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Bahir Dar University (co-author: Chalachew Tarekegn)

This paper explores the dominant factors that contributed to low participation of women farmers in the agricultural extension education services provided by DAs. Two woredas (districts) were taken randomly in Awi and West Gojjam zones. Development agents (DAs) are assigned in the local administrations called Kebeles to provide training/advising services to smallholder farmers (both males and females). In this contribution, factors that contributed to low participation of women farmers were explored using document review, interviewing experts and DAs selected purposively and FGDs with farmers in randomly selected Kebeles (localities). Then, it was followed by prioritizing factors that contributed to low participation of women farmers through getting their perceptions using five point Likert scale questionnaire. The study discovered the participation of widowed/divorced women farmers in the training/advising services provided by DAs and those who are bachelorettes or married are ignored. Particularly, all women who are married are represented by their husbands. Eleven reasons (factors) were identified for low participation of women farmers. The means computed from the five-point Likert scale questionnaire revealed that illiteracy, poor mainstreaming of gender in the agricultural sector and priority to widowed or divorced women farmers as the first, second, and third (respectively); important factors to contribute to low participation of women farmers in the training/advising services provided by DAs. Thus, largely, women farmers' participation was found nominal. This has practical implication for the agricultural extension education services provided by DAs. The advising and training services provided by them have to consider all women farmers (widowed, divorced, married, and bachelorettes). In the study context, women of all social status are participating in the farming activities of planting, during-planting, and after-planting. And, there is a need to design a training program in line with these activities for women farmers of all social status. The study will have theoretical implication to adult learning theory and gender mainstreaming or development. It is the first study to explore factors that hinder women farmers' participation in the district level agricultural extension education services provided by DAs. Thus, it urges the necessity of having large scale survey and intervention studies and strategically plan an inclusive agricultural extension education so that women farmers can be active participants in the sector.

Keywords: Agricultural Extension Education, Ethiopia, Factors, Gender, Women Farmers

Questions and Comments

C: The presentation style is a bit limited to include all the contents of the paper like objective, methodology rather focused more on theories.

C: In the result you present literature review first followed by your findings but if it was in the reverse it is good to see what finding you got then how it relate with others works.

C: Your recommendation stated that adult education is required. But as your issue is on the extension service it is better to recommend, extension service education, skill training and other service related issues than adult education.

C: Do you think that only two woredas represent the region extension service? Please revisit the similarities and service delivery differences among different woredas in the region.



11. Who speaks for whom? Parliamentary Participation of Women in the Post-1991 Ethiopia

by **Eden Fissiha**, School of Law, Bahir Dar University

The claim that women are half the sky is more than a cliché when it comes to real political representation and rendering true women agency. Ethiopia has embarked on the recognition of women empowerment and representation, and indeed has achieved substantial changes in light of the statistical share of women in lower parliamentary houses. Although this is a token much praise among academics, however, in light of its sustainability and what their presences in these houses constitutes and the real power of representation and women agency, there is a lot not yet achieved. Because, their representation is not cognizant of the realization of their real capabilities and free women agency to stand for themselves and is not because of an obligation imposed on the political parties through mandatory legislation.

This study based on the secondary literature survey of women parliamentary representation in Ethiopia contends that the subaltern status of women, despite substantial statistical presence in lower parliamentary houses which is also the result of absence of strong political parties' competition, has not been significantly changed that they still cannot speak for themselves. On the other hand, the sustainability of the current women's parliamentary participation in Ethiopia might be at stake in the upcoming promised to be free and democratic. Since the political and social stigma against women is still prevalent and the election competition is expected to be tough, the political parties may not propose women candidatures as they are not legally required to do so.

Keywords: Women, parliamentary representation, capabilities approach, making a difference, Ethiopia

Question and Comments

Q: In your presentation, there is no policy issue of Ethiopia. Where do you have Women Policy in the parliament?

Q: Where are different protocols related to women in political participation and parliament? Better to include all.

12. Gendered Effects of Climate Change on Health in the Case of Jannamora District, North West Ethiopia

by **Abebech Chekol**, Department of Development and Environmental Management Studies, University of Gondar

The effects of climate change are likely to affect men and women differently. The overall objective of this study was to analyze gendered effects of climate change on health in the case of Jannamora district, North West Ethiopia. Both primary and secondary data sources were used. Cross-sectional research design with multi stage sampling procedure was used to select 341 respondents. Descriptive statistics and correlation were used to analyze quantitative data. Narration was also used to analyze qualitative data. The result indicated that the major effect on climate change were drought, increasing temperature, decreasing quality and quantity of water, and decline access food crops. Such effects were more affected women than men through water born disease, malaria, stress related illness and abortion incident due to their triple roles, over load, sexual harassment and domestic violence, lack of information, travel long distance to fetch water, and lack of enough access of food. So, I recommended that any intervention of the local government should consider the gender specific effects of climate change in the study area.

Keywords: Gendered effect of climate change, health, triple roles, sexual harassment and domestic violence

Questions and Comments

Q: Your research concludes that Climate Change has impact on health, but was the result from the respondents crosschecked or confirmed with evidences from medical history? How do you know or how can you be certain that the health defects from the respondents were resulted from climate change or not? Because there are different factors other than climate change that affect human health. What was your stand in analyzing relationship of weather condition and health?

Q: How did you see the gender perspective effect of climate change on men and women separately? Your work does not show this.

13. Urban Expansion Dynamics and Its Effect on the Livelihoods of Peri-Urban community: the Case of Bahir Dar, Ethiopia

by **Hellen Messel**, Department of Geography and Environmental Study, Bahir Dar University

This paper evaluated the dynamics of urban expansion and its effect on the livelihoods of peri-urban community living in the near urban fringe of Bahir Dar in northwest Ethiopia. Primary data collection methods including household survey, key informant interview, focus group discussion and observation were employed. Landsat imageries of 1986 (Thematic Mapper) and 2017 (Operational Land Imager) were used to analyze the dynamics in urban expansion over the period 1986–2017. Analysis of the annual rate of change of urban area between the survey period (1986–2017) showed that the urban area expanded by 10.55% (71.65 ha year⁻¹) mainly at the expense of cropland. A total of 138 households were surveyed. The state and causal factors of urban expansion were analyzed using Driver, Pressure, State, Impact, Response framework. The study demonstrated urban expansion significantly affected the livelihoods of peri-urban community in terms of their land size ($t=21.182$ and $p< 0.05$), livestock assets (at $t=12.366$ and $p\text{-value} <0.05$), income ($t=21.81$, $p<0.05$). The result revealed that, communities were displaced from their property for development activities without the fulfillments of infrastructural facilities with delay compensation payment. And also training accessibility and accessibility of credit services for rehabilitation were not applicable and most of the respondents got low compensation. The common livelihood strategies for displaced farmers in the study area were engagement on farm and off farm activities. The possible recommendations for these households could be; infrastructural facilities must be fulfilled before communities were displaced for development intervention, paying appropriate compensation early, arrange job opportunities or rehabilitation measures for evicted community by training and micro finance institutions for credit service accessibility to bring sustainable urban expansion and integrated urban expansion applied depending on research with integrated sectors.

Keywords: Urban expansion dynamics, peri-urban community, DPISR, livelihoods Assets, Livelihoods Strategies

Questions and Comments

Q: What is your opinion about the current practiced strategy of urban expansion through displacing productive farm lands by residential areas?

Q: Displacement has multidimensional outcomes and effects on the displaced community. It is more than money or land or any physical property. How do you see this? In your analysis it does not touch all. So it was good if you look at from the livelihood perspective using livelihood analysis approach too.

Q: It is mentioned that the driving forces and causes of urban expansion are population increase and urban development. But urban expansion takes many forces, how do you limit yourself on these two issues only?

C: Geo special analysis method is used for the data after 1986 dynamics on land use. Which color in your resolution shows which year and dynamics is not clear.



Closing and Certification

Then after, closing remarks was delivered by Dr. Kalewongel Minale, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, BDU. In his speech, since this conference is the first of this kind at Bahir Dar University, this is just a beginning and don't want to say closing. He mentioned that this conference must be continued in the coming years by better improving the coverage, participants' diversity, and other quality things which we learnt from this conference. There need to be also started from now as of tomorrow. Other important points were mentioned by him were:

- Language Issue; as mixture of languages (English for paper presentation and Amharic for panel discussion) were used, some discomforts was observed and reflected, especially for few foreign participants. So, this needs to be an issue to think about for the next time as participants will come from all federal states of Ethiopia.
- Men involvement was limited, especially active involvement in paper presentation, moderation and other activities, but the main objective of the conference was to bring women academicians on board for presenting their paper and promote their work for.
- As academic exercise is not enough, there need to be some outcome plan to do beyond. For this network establishment though women academicians' association was one target and emails were collected from volunteer female staff participants and establishing the association and networking has started.

He also gave his gratitude to the organizing team and all partners who supports for the successful reality of the conference.

General Comments by the Audience:

- Most of the presenters were from Gondar University and Bahir Dar University.
- The paper call was not well communicated, even at Bahir Dar University.

Following the closing remark and some forwarded general comments from participants, certificates of appreciation was handed to all paper presenters by W/ro Berhane Mengiste, Director of the Gender Directorate of Bahir Dar University.





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