

ETHIO Ageways

Editorial

Over the past months, many new happenings have occurred at HelpAge International in Ethiopia.

To begin with, HelpAge's Ethiopia programme office has re-registered itself in line with government requirements, thereby, securing the continuity of its operations to support older people within the country.

Moreover, a new Country Director was recruited, Mr Feleke Tadele, whose previous position was that of Country Representative of Oxfam Canada-Ethiopia. Mr Tadele brought with him a wealth of INGO experience, seasoned leadership and rich networks. Mr Tadele garnered senior programme management experience working for international organisations in-country as well as abroad. In addition, he highly contributed to the growth and development of the civil society sector and professional societies in the country.

In conjunction with the new leadership, HelpAge dwelt on revisiting its strategic direction for the upcoming three years.

More on these milestones is featured in text of this 2nd edition of the Ethio Ageways newsletter.

Towards securing the future of Ethiopians: An Ageing inclusive Nation

In close collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, HelpAge International organised two break-through workshops revolving around the situation of older people and social protection policy in Ethiopia. With vital significance in building the capacity of members of parliament as well as governmental ministries and agencies, the national workshops aimed to contribute towards the achievement of major policy frameworks designed to mitigate the problems faced by Ethiopian older people.



Left: State Minister, H.E. Mr Ramadan Ashenafi, speaks during the Inter-ministerial Coalition Forum for the Implementation of NPAOP in March 2013.

Right: Mr Feleke Tadele, Country Director of HelpAge International

Continued on page 8

Contents

<i>Events</i>	2
<i>Strengthening the National Ageing Movement</i>	3
<i>Blog: The Endurance of Ethiopian Older People</i>	4
<i>Honoring Senior Citizens: Commemorating the Hilton Humanitarian Prize and Launch of the Ageing Report</i>	5
<i>Showcasing the Lives and Contributions of Older People in Ethiopia</i>	6
<i>New management and the future strategic direction of HelpAge</i>	7
<i>Towards securing the future of Ethiopians: An Ageing inclusive Nation</i>	8
<i>Exploring the Role of Traditional Health Practitioners in Health Development and HIV & AIDS Response</i>	9
<i>Partners' Consultative Meeting: In Photographs</i>	10
<i>Table 1: An Overview of the Four Programmes/Thematic Areas in Light of their Respective Key Policy Issues, Key Areas of Action and Key Priorities</i>	11
<i>Staff Updates and Upcoming Publications</i>	12

Events

20 September 2012

HelpAge International organised an awareness raising workshop on the contributions and challenges of older people in Ethiopia for journalists. The event was attended by 14 media houses.

01 October 2012

The Ethiopian Elderly and Pensioners National Association (EEPNA) celebrated the International Day of Older Persons in Addis Ababa and Adama, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Social and Labor Affairs (MoLSA) and the Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs, respectively. The celebrations, supported technically and financially by HelpAge, were attended by over 500 representatives of government, non-governmental organisations and older people associations.

26 November 2012

HelpAge organised for over 200 older people and their supporters to participate in the Great Ethiopian Run.

11 November 2012

HelpAge International participated and exhibited its work on the eve of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction during the Conference on Capacity Development for Integrating Disaster Risk Management into Urban Settings in Africa. Organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Urban Development and Construction and attended by over 200 participants from UN agencies, government ministries, international and national development sector and media.

07 December 2012

HelpAge organised a high profile event Honoring Senior Citizens, Commemorating the Hilton Humanitarian Prize Recipient 2012 and Launching the Ageing Report jointly produced with the UNFPA (see page 5).

25 January 2013

As part of the visit to attend the regular sessions of the African Union, Regional Director of the HelpAge's East West Central Africa Regional Development Centre, Mrs Nesta Hatendi, paid a visit to the operations of programme office and partners.

HelpAge participated in the 13th Ethiopian Pastoralist Day celebrations in Borena Zone by displaying its work during the exhibition, visited by Oromia Regional State Vice President, H.E. Mr Abdulaziz Ahmed and Minister of Federal Affairs H.E., Dr. Shiferawu Tekle Mariam.

29 January —02 February 2013

HelpAge conducted its annual retreat for the purposes of strategic and annual planning (see page 7).

11—15 February 2013

HelpAge in Ethiopia organised a study tour to India for a delegation composed of representatives from MoLSA Addis Ababa Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs, EEPNA and its own staff. The aim of the tour was to share experiences of the affiliate HelpAge India so as to develop a national domestic resource mobilisation strategy.

06—07 March 2013

A media field visit to Dire Dawa was organised for different media houses (see page 6).

14 March 2013

HelpAge launched the ECHO-funded E-LEAP (Strengthening of Intergenerational Linkage to Increase Resilience and Reduce Vulnerability to drought in Borena Zone) project in Yabello Town in the presence of the government and non-governmental stakeholders.

18—19 March 2013

HelpAge and MoLSA organised a national workshop for the Inter-Ministerial Coalition Forum (see page 8).

25—26 March 2013

HelpAge organised the first bi-annual partners' consultative meeting for its implementing partners under the new management.

01—02 April 2013

With support from HelpAge, EEPNA conducted its Annual General Assembly, electing two new persons to the board.

02 April 2013

HelpAge hosted a national workshop on traditional health practice in Addis Ababa (see page 9).

04 —05 April 2013

HelpAge and MoLSA organised a national workshop for the House of Peoples' Representatives (see page 8).



During a partner visit, Mrs Nesta Hatendi, Regional Director of HelpAge, observes work of the older beneficiaries.

Erna Mentemot Hinz/HelpAge International/2013

Strengthening the National Ageing Movement

HelpAge International played a significant role in the establishment and vibrancy of the national umbrella association known under the name the Ethiopian Elderly and Pensioners National Association (EEPNA). Since 1999, HelpAge has dedicated its support to the national umbrella association distinguishable for its active involvement in various forums at different levels and continued growth in membership base. With funds obtained from the European Commission, EEPNA in cooperation HelpAge is working to strengthen the capacity of older people associations to deliver the intended services to older people in terms of facilitating access to basic services and increasing inclusion in social protection schemes.

Under the title 'Empowering older people and their associations to have a lasting Impact on the welfare of vulnerable older people in Ethiopia', EEPNA targets to reach 2.99 million older people associations as well as policy makers, leaders of government civil society organisations, technical working groups and media in four regions—the regional states of Oromia, Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples' and Amhara as well as Addis Ababa City Administration.

Aman Wabe/HelpAge International



Aman Wabe/HelpAge International/2013

Left: Conference on establishment of Oromia Regional Umbrella Older People Association in progress.

Middle: Oromia Region older people and community leaders speak during the conference.

Over the past few months, EEPNA have seen to government officials, older people associations leaders and their members receiving training on leadership, local resource mobilisation and advocacy as well as awareness raising on the lives and challenges of older people in Amhara Regional State and Addis Ababa.

Besides, EEPNA conducted its annual assembly and supported its member regional umbrella associations to conduct its own. For instance, the General Assembly of the Amhara Regional State Older People Association was instrumental in bringing together its members surpassing

previously encountered financial barriers. Mr Ayalew Gobeze, President of the Regional Government, attended the meeting and pleaded support to the association. He expressed his government's commitment to address the rights of older people and help millions of older men and women to improve their lives through promoting dignity of older people, to support their associations financially and technically, as well as to establish care and support facilities for vulnerable older people.

These recent efforts of EEPNA have been paying off well. Today, there are 180 capable older people associations pushing the, previously often marginalised, agenda of ageing forward at both national and regional levels. EEPNA is strongly moving towards strengthening the national older people movement with a continuously increasing member base and attracting attention of the its vital stakeholders.



Ensa Mentenot Himiz/HelpAge International/2012

Right: Older people from older people associations in Addis Ababa's City participating in the 1st October 2012 march.

"A man's age is something impressive, it sums up his life: maturity reached slowly and against many obstacles, illnesses cured, grieves and despairs overcome, and unconscious risks taken; maturity formed through so many desires, hopes, regrets, forgotten things, loves. A man's age represents a fine cargo of experiences and memories."

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1939-1944)

Blog: The Endurance of Ethiopian Older People

On Sunday 25 November 2012, the Great Ethiopian Run was held in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital. This 10 km fundraising race, themed "Running for a Child", brings together thousands of people from all over the world every year. Last year, HelpAge took with a team 150 older people and supporters. This year, HelpAge participated with over 250 older people. These included Nesta Hatendi, HelpAge's Regional Director in East, West and Central Africa, members of the Age Demands Action delegation, as well as older members and staff from more than 30 older people's associations and partner organisations.

The pre-race magic

On the morning of the race, the runners gathered at the starting point at Meskal Square. After putting on their runner numbers, the older men and women and their supporters, gathered in a circle and did some warm up exercises. The warm up was led by ADA delegate, Getachew Kiflu, 66, and turned into an energetic and colorful performance of traditional dance by the older participants!

The older people, in the midst of a crowd of an estimated 37,000 were then ready to run - to run for the child. This is fitting because it is estimated that Ethiopian older people, raise 50% of children in the country who are orphaned or vulnerable.

As the start signal was given, some of the older people charged forward with the rest of the crowd whilst others preferred to stay at the back and take it slowly. But all had a common motivation, to prove that older people can. They were, are and always will be active and contributing members of society.

Crossing the finish line

One hour and 40 minutes into the race, older people started crossing the finish line in a crowd of green t-shirts.

One of these older people was Ayele Bashaw, 69, a long-term staff member of HelpAge in Ethiopia, wearing the number 001. "It was wonderful being part of this huge event once again. I improved my time by 15 minutes, finishing at 1 hour 42 minutes. I look forward to next year," he said

Another older runner on HelpAge's team was Abera Tessema, a staff member of the Bole Sub-City Older People Association. Coming in briefly after Ayele, he said: "HelpAge gave us the opportunity and motivation to participate. And here I am having completed the race. Thank you HelpAge."

Like Abera, Tesfaye Bilecha 63, was excited to participate. Tesfaye is HIV positive and has been exercising for a long time to keep up his health which came in handy at the race. "Here is my medal. I have finished the race fair and square," he said.

And yes, there were older women too, including the Support A Grandparent spokesperson, Bayush Woldearegay, who is 64 and from Eneredada Elder People Association. It was the first time Bayush participated and it took her a little over two hours to complete the race. "I did it," she said. "It was tiring, but I did it."

There were many other older men and women who successfully completed the race, received their yellow-ribboned medals and proudly went on home to share their accomplishments with their loved ones. I wonder how many older people the Great Run will bring together for children in 2013.



Group photo of participants taken before the starting of the Great Ethiopian Run 2012.

One of the participants was Mrs Nesta Hatendi, Regional Director of HelpAge International (at centre holding flag). To her left, Mr Tilahun Abebe, the Vice President of EEPNA.

Honouring Senior Citizens: Commemorating the Hilton Humanitarian Prize and Launch of the Ageing Report



Abraham Gelaw/UNFPA/2012

President of EEPNA (left) receives the certificate of recognition from the Special Advisor to the President's Office (right), at the centre Country of HelpAge International.

On the 7th day of December 2012, HelpAge International in collaboration with UNFPA and the Ethiopian Elderly and Pensioners National Association (EEPNA) hosted a high profile event in the presence of over 70 of the most prominent individuals in Ethiopia; including senior government officials, the diplomatic corps, heads of UN agencies, NGOs and private organisations as well as prominent senior citizens and media.

The objectives of the evening's sessions were to commemorate the prestigious Hilton Humanitarian Prize recipient of 2012, to launch the Ageing in the 21st Century report as well as to honor senior citizens through new initiatives in collaboration with like-minded organisations and individuals within the limits of Help Age's jurisdiction.

The event commenced with an introduction of the programme for the evening by prominent radio programme producer, Mr Maheder Bekele, of Sheger FM. Mr Feleke Tadele, the Country Director of HelpAge International's programme office in Ethiopia, took to the podium next to deliver the welcome remark. Mr Tadele encouraged prominent young and senior scholars, business people, writers, journalists, and musicians to join the global Age Demands Action campaign and promote the cause of older people. He also proposed to tap into the wealth of experiences; knowledge and material resources senior citizens have to offer by starting new initiatives in collaboration with like-minded organisations and individuals. The following lists the proposed initiatives:

- Intergenerational knowledge transfer through write shops and publication of children story books.
- Identification of role models, documentation of their lifelong experiences and dissemination of

their contributions.

- Strengthening of the linkage between IKS and 'Modern'/Western Knowledge in medical fields, agriculture and disaster risk management in the university system.
- Institutional and individual sponsorship of grandparents and parents who are less fortunate to meet their basic needs.

Mr Tagel Seifu, a renowned poet and writer recited two exclusive poems in entitled *Azawuntu Abat* and *Yehind Abat Fird* looking at older people in the light of their contributions as repositories of traditions, wisdom and history.

Thereafter, the UNFPA Country Representative, Dr Benoit Kalasa, delivered a statement on behalf of his agency to mark the launch of the report *Ageing in the 21st Century* co-produced by HelpAge. In his speech, he drew attention to the demographic shift, which is occurring in the developed world and increasingly, in the developing world. It is estimated that by the year 2050, the population +60 will outnumber the population of children under 15 and eight out of 10 older people will be living in the developing world. Populations are growing older as a result of factors such as increased life expectancy, better sanitation, nutrition and diet, medical advances and folding of fertility. He noted this is a success, however the decrease in fertility rates and the increase ageing of populations brings with its challenges for all countries, especially developing countries, which must be addressed now in order to take perspective measures and to cope with it before becoming a serious problem in the years to come. Commending the government for its efforts to address the ageing issue in their policies, plans and strategies, Dr Kalasa closed his statement by reassuring the commitment of the UNFPA and other UN agencies to continue working for a better world as we move to the Post-2015 Development Agenda inclusive social development, equity and empowerment of the older people. Consecutively, the President of EEPNA, Mr Tilahun Gebrekristos, called upon participants to join hands to provide all rounded support to older people by the construction of a Senior Citizen Center on a plot of land in Addis Ababa secured from the government. The national association has been instrumental in facilitating access to financial, technical and material resources to address the basic needs of targeted older people in both urban and rural areas since the 17 years of its establishment.

Continued on next page

Showcasing the Lives and Contributions of Older People in Ethiopia

As part of its media work, HelpAge International in Ethiopia organised a field trip entitled “The lives and contributions of older people in Ethiopia” for a number of print and broadcast media houses.

This field trip, held from 5th to 7th March 2013 for 12 journalists, was aimed at providing the real picture about the contributions and challenges of older people in Ethiopia and how HelpAge and its partners work together to support older people live better lives, with the ultimate goal of inducing media coverage on matters pertaining to ageing . The field visit was follow up on the workshop organised for the media by HelpAge in September of 2012.



Erna Mentenot Hintz/HelpAge International/2013

Assegedech Asfaw, 74, gives an interview to reporters from Addis Ababa during the HelpAge organised field visit.

The visit showcased the work being undertaken at grassroots level in terms of care and support as well as advocacy for older people on HIV & AIDS, benefiting nearly 1,500 older people in the city of

Continued from previous page

Delivering the final statement on behalf of the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, was H.E. Mr Assefa Kessito, Advisor to the President’s Office, forwarded his congratulations and appreciation to HelpAge and its stakeholders for their achievements in the betterment of the lives of older people. The guest of honor stated the government understood the value and importance of having reliable data and knowledge concerning older people in the country. In this regard, he called attention to a country-level collaboration between the government departments and concerned non-governmental organisation in efforts toward improved quality and reliability of ageing data which will contribute in future decisions making and effective implementation of

Dire Dawa. The collaborating partners were Assgedech Asfaw Dire Dawa and its Surroundings Aged Persons’ Aid Rehabilitation Centre and Dawit Aid for Aged Persons’ Association.

Following interviews and site visits, the media representatives recognised the immense contribution and potential of older people to their communities and the many unobserved challenges they face everyday.

Concluding the field visit, pledges were made to sensitise stakeholders, such as policy makers, private organisations and the community, on issues of ageing and social protection so as to enlist their support in reviving traditions, investing in the transfer of skills and knowledge embedded in this ‘library’ of the past generations, and linking the efforts of like-minded organisations and individuals for maximum impact.

It is worth mentioning that HelpAge garnered media coverage on ageing following this successful field visit in the Daily Monitor, Addis Admas, the Capital, the Ethiopian Herald Deutsche Welle Radio and Oromia Radio Agency to mention a few.

"Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity & strength."

Betty Friedan (1921-2006)

age-friendly policies. He ended his statement by encouraging collaborations between the organisers, their stakeholders and the government to attain the Growth and Transformation Plan.

Concluding the sessions, certificates were presented by the guest of honor to HelpAge’s partners acknowledging their achievements and contributions to the wellbeing of older people in Ethiopia. Closing the event Mr Tadele invited the guests to the cocktail reception courtesy of the Hilton Addis Ababa. This provided opportunity for introductions and information exchange among the diverse composition of participants while viewing a display of HelpAge’s interventions including income generating and HIV and AIDS awareness raising activities complementing the short video screenings in the course of the previous sessions.

New Management and the Future Strategic Direction of HelpAge

In light of the new management, HelpAge International in Ethiopia held an annual retreat for its staff to set the direction for the upcoming three years. The retreat, comprised of strategic and annual planning summit sessions, was held at the Ethiopian Livestock and Meat Institute in Babogaya from the 29th day of January to the 2nd day of February 2013.

The first two days were allotted to the strategic review of programmes and resource development in the presence of top management and the senior programme staff, and was concluded by planning the future direction of the HelpAge programmes.



An overview of the four programmes areas in light of their respective key policy issues, key areas of action and key priorities is available in the table on page 9.

The consecutive days concentrated on annual planning. This was attended by the staff of the country programme office and the staff members active in the field. Following brief reviews of the strategic plans, presentations on plan versus achievements for the year 2012/13 were delivered on each programme, finance and support services, resource development and communications by the lead of each specific area. Moreover, the Humanitarian Accountability Framework (HAP) was revisited. To shed light on what the HAP is, it is a set of “definitions, procedures, and standards” that specify how an agency will ensure accountability to its stakeholders.

Wrapping up the four day retreat, the following action points were set forward. These were to share responsibility for visibility, to improve internal infrastructure, to keep up a high standard of reporting, enhancing resource mobilisation efforts in the highly competitive environment, to preserve the status of budget utilisation as per the Charities and Societies Agency standards, to improve working relations with government and to strictly

follow up on high risk projects.

In addition to the successful review and planning sessions, management ensured for staff bonding during a campfire-lit dinner where acknowledgement of long term staff service also was highlighted.



Left: After the review on the programmes, resource development, partnership and communications activities, Mr Tadele concludes the strategic summit appreciating the active participation of staff members.

Top right: Mr Tadele presents a gift to recognise the long-term service of Programme Officer, Mrs Sofia Mohammed.

Bottom right: Members of the team during the annual summit.

“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”

C.S. Lewis Quotes

Towards Securing the Future of Ethiopians: An Ageing-Inclusive Nation

Continued from front page

The Situation of Older People in Ethiopia and the National Plan of Action for Older Persons

In 2005, Ethiopia formulated the National Plan of Action for Older Persons (NPAOP). Its main purpose is to take coordinated effort to tackle the multidimensional problems of older people and bring about visible changes by governmental bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as well as civic societies and organisations. The Inter-Ministerial Coalition Forum for the Implementation of NPAOP was formed where the role of each network member rested in mainstreaming ageing issues into annual plans. Although some changes have come about, the majority of governmental and NGOs have not given the due attention to the NPAOP. Hence, this called for efforts to raise the awareness of decision makers with membership in the inter-ministerial forum.

To this end, a national workshop under the title of The Situation of Older People and NPAOP was organised by HelpAge and MoLSA from 18th to 19th day of March 2013 at the Tommy Hotel in Bishoftu. The aim of this workshop was to review the implementation of the NPAOP in light of the importance of social protection policy and reduction of poverty. It was attended by 37 members of inter-ministerial forum. In addition to the governmental representation, the national umbrella older people association, the EEPNA and a number of older people focused associations were amongst the attendees. Various presentation were delivered including on the general situation of older people in Ethiopia and the NPAOP. This was followed by group discussions and presentations.

Having ratified the issue of ageing amongst the 19 ministries and agencies present, the workshop bore fresh and promising commitments from the inter-ministerial forum members in mainstreaming ageing into their plans and programmes aiming to deliver better services and support to older people. For HelpAge, the event has paved the road for future collaborations with government line departments such as the Federal Police Commission in matters pertaining to abuse, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission on protection of rights, the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction on issues relating to housing and the Ministry of Transport in matters of accessible transportation.

The Situation of Older Persons and Social Protection Policy of Ethiopia

On the 4th and 5th day of April 2013, a national

workshop on The Situation of Older Persons and Social Protection Policy : Its Importance for Sustainable Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction was organised by HelpAge, in close collaboration with MoLSA, at the Babogaya Resort in Bishoftu. Aimed at increasing understanding and facilitating the endorsement of the draft social protection policy and its implementation, the workshop was attended by 26 participants drawn from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia House of Peoples' Representatives of the Social Standing Committee members.

The first day focused on technical presentations covering the concept of social protection, social welfare workforce, experiences of different countries and the in-country experience of the social cash transfer programme in Tigray Regional State by HelpAge .



Tesfaye Abreha/Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs/2013



Left: The State Minister of MoLSA and the Director of the Social Welfare Promotion Secretariat (left) during the workshop for the parliamentarians.

Right: Standing Committee members during the workshop.

The second day was dedicated to group discussions on two topics concerning the role the members of the House of Representatives in the process of development and endorsing the National Social Protection Policy as well as mainstreaming ageing issues and the NPAOP in different development programmes of the country.

The discussions were concluded with mutually endorsed action points, amongst which the important action points set forward were:

- Ensure the universal understanding and inclusion of the Social Protection Policy by standing committee members.
- Ensure inclusion of ageing in the checklist and agenda of parliament's annual consultation with respective constituents.
- Mainstream ageing matters in different laws, proclamation to be developed by the government.

Wrapping up the event, a decision was made for the Social Standing Committee to coordinate and follow up on the implementation of the action points.

Exploring the Role of Traditional Health Practitioners in Health Development and HIV & AIDS Response

On the 2nd day of April 2013, HelpAge International organised a national workshop entitled The Role of Traditional Health Practitioners (THP) in Health Development and HIV & AIDS Response at the Hilton Hotel Addis Ababa.



Erna Mentseot Hintz/HelpAge International/2013

EEPNA's vice president (2nd from left) delivers opening remark. On far left, HelpAge's Country Director, and on far right, Deputy General Director Food, Medicine and Health Administration and Control Agency with Professor Dawit Shiferaw on his left.

As stated by HelpAge's Country Director, Mr Feleke Tadele, in his welcome remark, the workshop intended to bring the THP together with modern science, research and policies and hence, over 80 representatives of different government institutions, professional associations, various non-governmental and community based organisations and research institutions had been invited. The workshop hoped that the consultation among the different sectors and professionals would mark the start in bridging the field of modern and traditional medicine and build a spirit of mutualism. There is no monopoly of knowledge but only of resources and thus, the event focused on how to build awareness on the issues and to bring change about the negative conception towards traditional health practice. Other speakers at the workshop were the President of the EEPNA, Mr Tilahun Gebrekristos, and Deputy General Director of Food, Medicine and Health Administration and Control Agency, Mr Dawit Bikaso, delivering the opening remark and keynote address, respectively.

Various presentations were given by authorities in the field of traditional medicines by prominent researchers and practitioners from government, academic institutions, professional associations and non-governmental organisations, each proceeded by in-depth discussions. Amongst the papers presented was the HelpAge commissioned study on The Roles and Contributions of THP, Traditional, Community and Religious Leaders in Health Development and HIV & AIDS Response for Senior Citizens.

Concluding the workshop, the following ways forward were agreed upon:

- The event acted as a spring board for implementing consecutive activities to promote traditional health practices, raise awareness among the public, issue supporting regulations and policies for effective functioning of the practice.
- Subsequent discussion forums should be established to enhance collaboration between modern and traditional health practices. Traditional health practice is an alternative and complimentary practice and thus, each sector should be tolerant of the other.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) should lead in initiating collaboration through sensitisation workshops. HelpAge should compliment this by organising forums to bring more traditional health practitioners, government ministries and research institutions on board.
- At policy level, there needs to be more concerted effort in seeing to the ratification of the draft legislation that has been presented to the Council of Ministers.
- THP mostly use medicinal plants in their practice and therefore, efforts should be exerted towards preserving these plants.
- The MoH should give emphasis to building the capacity of THP to improve the practice and the quality of service provided.
- More research is necessitated on traditional practice and medicinal plants using the bottom-up approach.
- Establishing an umbrella institution to promote the practice and encourage experience exchange among practitioners.
- Building public awareness on the benefits of traditional health practices is crucial to dissipate wrong perceptions and promote indigenous knowledge.



The national workshop in session.

Erna Mentseot Hintz/HelpAge International/2013

Partners' Consultative Meeting: In Photographs

25th and 26th March 2013

Tegen Hotel

Addis Ababa

Photos (From top down, left to right):

1. A view of the conference room at Tegen Hotel, where HelpAge International held its bi-annual partners' consultative meeting.

2. HelpAge's Country Director, Mr Feleke Tadele, opens the meeting with a welcome speech. Sitting next to him on the right, Mr Adugna Tafa, former Finance and Support Services Manager.

3. Partner representatives during the meeting. Left to right: Mr Tesfaye Oyicho (Chencha Woreda Older People Association), Endeshaw Woldemariam, (Ethiopian Elderly and Pensioners National Association) Mrs Sofia Mohammed (HelpAge International) and Teshome Dega (SOS Sahel).

4. HelpAge presented on topics of financial and grant management. Seen here: Mr Tesfaye Yimer, Resource Development Officer during his presentation.

5. One of the many discussion sessions following the presentations.

6. The coordinator of Medhin HIV Positive Older People Association presents on the key achievements and challenges as well as the key priorities of the coming year for Hawassa-based projects.

7. Senior Fundraising Officer of Relief Society of Tigray presents on the key achievements and priorities of the HelpAge-REST joint projects revolving on livelihoods.

8. M & E Officer of Pastoralist Welfare Association presents on the work being implemented in the refugee camps in Dollo Ado.

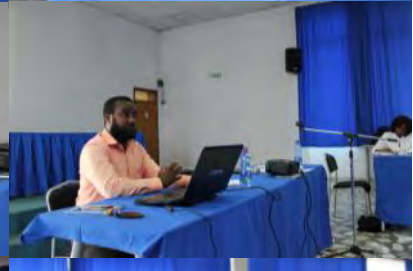
9. Mr Tadele elaborates on the group discussion covering care and support, social protection and humanitarian response.

10. Group discussion in progress.

11. Mr Tadele comments on the group work presentation. Seen here, Elshadaye Fekadu, Project Officer at Community Based Integrated and Sustainable Development.

Organisation, presents on behalf of the group on care and support.

12. Group photo of the participants.



Erma Mentenot Hintz/HelpAge International/2013

Table 1: An Overview of the Four Programmes/Thematic Areas in Light of their Respective Key Policy Issues, Key Areas of Action and Key Priorities

	Key Policy Issues	Key Areas of Action	Key Priorities
SECURE INCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issuance of Social Protection Policy • Health Policy with the motto health-care for all • Health Sector Development Plan (HSDP) and the Growth Transformation Plan (GTP) • Influencing Millennium Development Goals and other development dialogues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy change and influencing • Care and support • Income generating activities for older people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in age-friendly income generating activities • Active involvement in the various forums and platform meetings such as the National Social Protection Platform • Collaboration with government bodies, civil society organisations and consortiums such as Poverty Action Network Ethiopia (PANE) • Implementing care and support interventions
HEALTH AND HIV & AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VISION 2020 -The Right to Sight National Five-Year Strategic Plans for Eye Care in Ethiopia • Health Sector Development Strategy (HSDP) • WASH Sector Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eye care • HIV and AIDS • Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) • Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in eye care outreach - training ophthalmic professionals and establishing eye care units • Collaborating with like-minded governmental and non-governmental organisations • Advocating for free and age-relevant health services and promotion • Initiating curriculum changes and supporting programmes on geriatrics and gerontology as well as prevention of NCDs
EMERGENCY AND DISASTER RISK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Disaster • Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livelihood support (Access to age-friendly foods and accurate registration, access to adequate shelter, access to safe water and basic services) • Self - implementation • Providing technical support to field level inter-agency forums to increase the age and disability friendliness of programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older refugees and older people with mobility challenges • Strengthening consortium approach, • Working on quality programme delivery and budget management • Strengthening HelpAge's participation in proactive key policy dialogue
GLOBAL/LOCAL MOVEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Plan of Action on Ageing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the global and local network • Building capacity of national umbrella association • Raising awareness on the issue of older people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the technical and financial capacity of national umbrella older people association - Ethiopian Elderly and Pensioners National Association (EEPNA) • Utilising cost-effective and appropriate media channels in different regions of the country • Developing the effectiveness of Technical Working Groups and Age Demands Action for improved policy influencing activities • Strengthening partnerships with government bodies, non-governmental organisations and professional associations • Actively involving in forums and platforms meetings - National Platform for Older People

Staff updates

Meet the HelpAge International team in Ethiopia



Erna Mentenot Hintz/HelpAge International/2013

Farewell

Adugna Tafa
Finance, HR and Admin Manager

Welcome

Feleke Tadele
Country Director

Tsegaye Tadesse
Project Coordinator—Yabello Field Office

Kassahun Elias
Child-Centered DRR Specialist — Yabello Field Office

Abera Abebe:
Project Officer—Yabello Field Office

Daniel Jarso
Project Officer—Yabello Field Office

Endashaw Taye
Project Officer—Yabello Field Office

Diramu Dub
Cashier and Admin Assistant— Yabello Office

HelpAge International

age helps

“Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been.”

Mark Twain

In May 2013, HelpAge International in Ethiopia will be launching three publications:

- **The State of Older Peoples' Health in Ethiopia: The Needs and Challenges of Older People**

This is the first ever national study exploring specifically the health needs and challenges of older persons in Ethiopia.

- **The HIV & AIDS Peer To Peer Education Manual : Amharic Language Version**
- **The HIV & AIDS Peer To Peer Education Manual : Afan Oromo Language Version**

This manual focuses on HIV and AIDS counseling for older persons. It was published at regional level in 2012. The translations were produced in collaboration with the Federal and Oromia Region HIV & AIDS Prevention and Control Offices.

The contribution older women and men make to society – as carers, advisors, mediators, mentors and breadwinners – is invaluable. But growing older is not without its problems. HelpAge International helps older people to overcome poverty, so that they can lead dignified, secure, active and healthy lives. Our work in over 75 countries is strengthened through our global network of like-minded organisations – the only one of its kind in the world.

For further information on our work, go to

www.helpage.org

Feedback from readers are welcome. Please forward your comments to:

Editor: Erna Mentenot Hintz
Email: erna@helpageethiopia.org

HelpAge International
GMA Building, 3rd Floor,
PO Box 3384
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

Kindly include your name, organisation (if any) and contact details.

Upcoming Publications

Funded by



European Union Commission