



August 2012

**Improving Statistics for Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture,
and Rural Development - Action Plan for Africa (2011-2012)**

Launching and Training Workshop on Country Assessment

27 - 29 August 2012, Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

INFORMATION NOTE

Improving Statistics for Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, and Rural Development - Action Plan for Africa

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Introduction

The objective of this General Information is to provide participants at the session with all the necessary information so as to guide them for their travel and during their stay in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

2. Venue and date

The Launching and Training Workshop on Country Assessment for Improving Statistics for Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, and Rural Development - Action Plan for Africa will be held at the Hilton Addis Ababa, conference room, from the *27th to the 29th August 2012*.

3. Registration

Registration of participants will take place online and at the Front Desk of the Hilton Addis Ababa, conference hall area.

Workshop: Monday 27th August 2012, between 8h00 and 9h00.
The opening ceremony begins at 9h00.

4. Organization of the meetings

The Government of Ethiopia, through the Central Statistics Agency (CSA) of Ethiopia and the Ministry of Agriculture, is committed to facilitate the holding of these meetings. The Hilton Addis will ensure the transport for participants through a shuttle system between the Airport and the Hotel, except for those who would have opted to stay elsewhere.

The agenda of the meeting is attached in Annex 1. Soft copy of meeting documents which are ready will be sent well in advance to participants, in particular the Africa Action Plan document of the Global Strategy as well as the Country Assessment questionnaires.

Country participants should come with their laptops as they will be particularly needed during the 2nd and 3rd days of the workshop. Participants are also encouraged to come to the meeting with required basic data that will be used for filling in the Country Assessment questionnaires.

The meeting will be conducted in English/French and a simultaneous translation will be provided at this end.

5. Entry Requirements

Entry visa - It is necessary to have a passport and a valid entry visa before travelling to Ethiopia. Participants are therefore kindly requested to contact the Ethiopian Diplomatic Mission as soon as possible to obtain a visa. An official invitation letter has been sent already to all participants at this end.

Countries where the Ethiopian Diplomatic Mission does not exist can apply for the visa in any of the following neighbouring countries (where it applies) where the Missions exist, with details on the countries they cover.

List of Countries where Ethiopian Embassy/ Agent is available around the World

No	Capital Cities (Name of Embassies)	Country	Remark
1	Abidjan	Côte d'Ivoire	
2	Abuja	Nigeria	
3	Accra	Ghana	
4	Ankara	Turkey	
5	Beijing	China	
6	Berlin	Germany	
7	Brazil	Brazil	
8	Brussels	Belgium	
9	Cairo	Egypt	
10	Dakar	Senegal	
11	Djibouti	Djibouti	
12	Dublin	Ireland	
13	Harare	Zimbabwe	
14	Havana	Cuba	
15	Kampala	Uganda	
16	Khartoum	Sudan	
17	Kuwait	Kuwait	
18	London	United Kingdom	
19	Moscow	Russian	
20	Nairobi	Kenya	
21	Delhi	India	
22	Paris	France	
23	Pretoria	S. Africa	
24	Rome	Italy	
25	Riyadh	S. Arabia	
26	Sana'a	Yemen	
27	Mogadishu	Somalia	
28	Tel-Aviv	Israel	
29	Tokyo	Japan	
30	Washington	USA	

Permanent Messenger			
1	Geneva	Switzerland	
2	New York	USA	
Preventative Agent			
1	Beirut	Lebanon	
2	Dubai	UAE	
3	Frankfurt	Germany	
4	Jeddah	S. Arabia	
5	Juba	S. Sudan	
6	Stockholm	Sweden	
7	Ottawa	Canada	
8	Los Angeles	USA	

Exceptionally, for participants who could not transit through a neighboring country situated far away or which is off their itinerary, an exemption has been made for them to be given their visa on arrival in Ethiopia. An invitation letter that was sent to them by the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia indicates their Entry Visa will be delivered to them in Addis. For that purpose, they should travel with a printed copy of that letter.

Vaccinations – No vaccination is required before traveling to Ethiopia.

Airport tax - There is no airport tax to be paid, neither on arrival nor at departure.

6. Welcoming delegates

Delegates who have earlier communicated as expected their Flight itinerary (Flight number, Arrival date and time) will be welcomed at Bole International Airport in Addis on arrival by the Hotel. This is already known for participants sponsored by AfDB. Transport will be provided from the Airport to the Hilton Addis Ababa Hotel. In case you do not find anybody after you have collected your luggage, just go straight and ask the Hilton desk where you will get information about the shuttle arrangements.

Unfortunately, other participants who did not communicate their arrival details to the organizers can not be welcomed at the Airport and would have to find their own way to their Hotel.

7. Local currency and foreign exchange

Money can be changed at the Airport, in banks, as well as in Hotels where there are Forex bureaux. The local currency is the Ethiopian Birr.

The exchange rate as of August 21, 2012 is (for information only):

- 1 USD = 17.8841Birr
- 1 Euro = 22.0082 Birr

8. Hotel accommodation

The workshops and the conference Secretariats will be situated at the premises of Hilton Addis Ababa Hotel. The address is:

Hilton Addis Ababa

Corner of Menelik II Avenue

P.O.Box 1164

Tél. : +251-11-517-0000 Fax : +251-11-551-0064

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

E-Mail: hilton.addis@ethionet.et (or Contact person: Tigist.Mulatu@hilton.com)

Arrangements have been automatically made for participants sponsored by AfDB to stay there. For those who will pay by themselves, the single room rate has been arranged at USD 160, including all charges, VAT and breakfast.

9. Badges

Special badges will be designed for this Conference and will be given to each participant. They will serve as identification for access to the venue of the meetings. Delegates are therefore required to wear them to facilitate the work for the Organisers.

10. Introduction of the host country

Area: 1.13 million sq km (437,794 sq miles)

Population: 82,101,998 (projection based on the 2007 census).

Capital City: Addis Ababa

People: Oromo 34.49%, Amhara 26.89%, Southern peoples and nationalities (Gurage Sidama/Walaita/Others) 8.85%, Somali 6.20%, Tigray 6.07%, Others (combined smaller ethnic groups) 17.5% (based on the 2007 census).

Language(s): Amharic, Tigrinya, Afan Oromo, Southern languages (eg Guragigna, Sidaminga), Somali, Arabic, other local dialects and English (the major foreign language taught in schools).

Religion(s): Orthodox Christianity 40.5%, Protestant 19.6%, Islam 35.4%, traditional 3.1%; Catholic 0.8%; others 0.7% (based on the 2007 census)

Head of State: (President) Girma WoldeGiorgis (with little formal power)

Prime Minister: Meles Zenawi (with full executive powers)

Foreign Minister: Hailemariam Dessalegn

Membership of international groupings/organizations: United Nations, African Union (AU), Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).

GEOGRAPHY

Ethiopia is twice the size of France. It shares borders with Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. It is landlocked. It is divided into nine regions plus the capital, Addis Ababa, and the city administration of Dire Dawa.

HISTORY

Ethiopia is the oldest independent country in Africa. It resisted colonization by Italy and achieved international recognition in 1896 as a traditional monarchy, led by Emperor Menelik II. For much of the 20th century Ethiopia was ruled by Haile Selassie, crowned as Emperor in 1930 and his long rule ended with the Ethiopian Revolution of 1974.

Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam emerged as the leader of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (known as the Derg) in 1977 which became a brutal Marxist dictatorship. Ethiopia was wracked by civil war for most of the Derg period, including a secessionist war in the northern province of Eritrea, an irredentist war with Somalia, and regional rebellions - notably in Tigray and Oromia. The population experienced massive human rights abuse and intense economic hardship, including acute famine in 1984-5. The Derg was overthrown in May 1991 by the Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF).

11. Useful Contacts

All correspondence related to the meeting should be sent to the following address:

Country Assessment Training Workshop

C/O: African Development Bank

Vincent NGENDAKUMANA

13 Avenue du Ghana, PO Box 323-1002, Tunis Belvedere, Tunisia

Tel +216-71 10 3140

Email: V.Ngendakumana@afdb.org

With copy to:

1. Stephen BAHEMUKA
13 Avenue du Ghana, PO Box 323-1002, Tunis Belvedere, Tunisia
Tel +216-71 10 2722
Email: S.Bahemuka@afdb.org
2. Angeset Mussie
African Development Bank
Ethiopia Country Office
Tel +251-911-403981
Email: A.MussieE@afdb.org
3. Wudalat Gedamu
Director-Public Relation
Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia
Tel: +251-911-624623
E-mail: wudalatgedamu@yahoo.com

Annex 1

Improving Statistics for Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, and Rural Development - Action Plan for Africa

Launching and Training Workshop on Country Assessment

27 - 29 August 2012, Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

Agenda – Draft

Monday, 27 August 2012		
08:30- 09:00	Registration	
Chair: Director General CSA Ethiopia		
SESSION 0: Opening remarks, meeting objectives and expected outcomes, and presentation of the agenda		
09:00- 09:30	Opening remarks	AfDB (Res Rep/Stat Dept), UNECA, Ethiopia (CSA/MINAGRI)
09 :30 - 10:00	<i>Family picture and Coffee-break</i>	
10:15 - 10:25	Introduction, meeting objectives and expected outcomes, and presentation of the agenda	AfDB
10:25 - 10:30	Proposql of rppoteurs by session	
Chair: Director General CSA Ethiopia		
SESSION 1: Introduction to the Global Strategy and Action Plan for Africa		
10:30- 11:00	Introduction to the Global Strategy	FAO/AfDB
11:00- 11:30	Governance Mechanism of the Action Plan for Africa	AfDB
11:30- 12:00	Discussions	
12:00-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:30-14:00	Technical Assistance component of the Action Plan for Africa	AfDB
14:00-14:30	Training component of the Action Plan for Africa	ECA
14:30-15:00	Research component of the Global Strategy	FAO
15:00-15:30	Discussions	
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee-break</i>	
16:00-16:30	National Agricultural Statistical Systems	Selected countries: Cape Verde/Morocco/Niger
16:30 -16:45	Discussions	
16:45-17:15	Background to the Country Assessment process	AfDB/FAO
17:15 -17:30	Discussions	

Tuesday, 28 August 2012**Chair: FAO****SESSION 2: Presentation and discussions the use of the Country Assessment questionnaire**

08:30 - 09:10	Module 1 of the questionnaire of the Country Assessment	AfDB
09:10 - 09:30	Discussions	
09:30 - 10:10	Module 2 of the questionnaire of the Country Assessment	AfDB
10:10 - 10:30	Discussions	
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee-break</i>	
11:00 - 11:40	Module 3 of the questionnaire of the Country Assessment	AfDB
11:40 - 12:00	Discussions	
12:00 - 12:30	Minimum core data sets	AfDB/FAO
12:30 - 12:45	Discussions	
12:45 -14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	

Chair: ECA**SESSION 3: Demonstration and discussions the use of the Data Input Application**

14:00 - 15:00	Demonstration of the Data Input application	AfDB
1500 - 15:30	Discussions	
15:30 - 15:45	<i>Coffee-break</i>	
15:45 - 17:00	Practice on the use of the Data Input application	AfDB
TBD	<i>Cocktail</i>	

Wednesday, 29 August 2012**Chair: ECA****SESSION 3: Demonstration and discussions the use of the Data Input Application (Cn't) and working group sessions**

08:30 - 10:00	Practice on the use of the Data Input application	AfDB
10:00 - 10:15	<i>Coffee-break</i>	
10:15 - 11:30	Operational arrangements for compiling country assessment data at country levels (on data collection and on the use of the Web-based application)	Two working groups
11:30 - 12:00	Presentation/discussions on findings and possible proposals for improvement of operational arrangements	Working group rapporteurs
12:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00 - 16:00	Drafting of main conclusions of the workshop and way forward	AfDB
16:00 - 16:15	<i>Coffee-break</i>	
16:15 - 16:30	Discussions and adoption of the main conclusions of the workshop and way forward	
16:30-17:00	Concluding remarks	AfDB/CSA Ethiopia