

An e-newsletter  
to facilitate networking and information exchange among CSOs and researchers

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## FSS launched a new public dialogue series on Youth and Development

FSS has recently launched a new Public Dialogue Series on Youth and Development. The dialogue series aims at creating a platform for policy makers and practitioners, civil society organizations, including youth associations and scholars, to discuss the challenges and opportunities the youth face in realizing their roles in the social, economic and political development of the country. FSS believes that the dialogue series will help the making and



implementation of youth friendly policies in the country.

The series includes eight sub topics and public dialogue sessions will be conducted roughly every two months till August 2013.

The topics in the series include:

1. Youth and the legal system in Ethiopia
2. Youth, Sport and Development
3. Youth Employment/Unemployment in Ethiopia
4. Youth and Value Systems in Development
5. Youth and Reproductive Health in Ethiopia
6. Youth and Micro and Small Enterprise in Ethiopia
7. Youth and Migration in Ethiopia

### 8. Youth and Corporate Social Responsibility

So far, three workshops have been conducted. The first workshop was held on Friday, July 20, 2012, at the Semien Hotel and deliberated on 'the Youth and Legal System'. Ato Abera Degefa, a senior researcher and Assistant Professor at the Law School of the Addis Ababa University, presented a study paper entitled: 'Youth and the Ethiopian Laws'. After the presentation, participants of the forum thoroughly discussed the paper and valuable inputs that would enrich the study paper were forwarded.

The second workshop in the youth and development series: 'Sport, Youth and Development' was held on September 21, 2012 at the Semien Hotel. Ato Geneke Mekuria, a veteran sport journalist presented a paper on the challenges and opportunities of the youth and sport in Ethiopia. In his presentation, Ato Geneke outlined the role of sport in enhancing and promoting friendship, peace, good health and national development at large including challenges that limited the participation of the youth in physical exercise, mass sport and competitive games. These include lack of sport facilities and playing grounds, shortage of sufficient professionals in the field, and organizational and administrative problems. The shortage of playing grounds in particular



was emphasised as the major bottleneck in the development of sports in the country in general and the youth in particular.



The speaker also identified some positive changes in recent years as a result of the adoption and implementation of sports policy by the government.

After the presentation, Ato Tesfaye Omega, Commissioner of Addis Ababa Sport Commission, gave his input to the discussion. He in particular focused on sport policy and practical measures that the city government of Addis Ababa has so far taken to enhance the participation of the youth in sporting activities. Following the presentations, the participants

thoroughly discussed the necessary policy measures to provide opportunities for the youth to engage in physical exercise, mass sport and competitive games.

The third workshop in this series was held on Friday, November 9, 2012 at the Ghion Hotel and dealt with ‘Youth Employment and Unemployment Issues.’ W/t Martha Kibru, lecturer at the Department of Economics of the Addis Ababa University, presented a discussion paper titled ‘Youth Employment Policies’, which dealt with the realities of the job market in the country and the government policies and strategies aimed at curbing youth unemployment. The paper explored the youth labor market in Ethiopia and attempted to characterize youth unemployment in Ethiopia and identify important policy inputs in designing government interventions in the labor market that can help improve the labor market outcomes of Ethiopia.

Ato Demeke Argaw Program Adviser at Church Christ Mission, and Ato Ephram Berhanu, Managing Director of Talent Youth Association (TaYA) served as discussants. They forwarded their comments on the paper presented. Following the presentations, animated discussion ensued about the problem of youth unemployment and related issues such as educational and training policies and government strategies on combating youth unemployment.



## FSS to get own Headquarters



As part of its plans to ensure the sustainability of its services, policy research, public dialogue and outreach, FSS is planning to build its own headquarters.

FSS currently spends an exorbitant sum on payment of rentals. The planned construction of the HQ is believed to help to significantly reduce its administrative cost.

The new building to be built around Menelik II Memorial Hospital in the Arada Sub-City would also make FSS and its library more accessible to graduate program students in the various faculties of the Addis Ababa University notably, the College of Social Sciences, College of Law and the Faculty of Business and Economics.

The architectural design of the building has already been prepared by a local consulting firm Fasil Ghiorgis Consult, and the first phase of the construction will begin within a few months.



## FSS organized a Workshop on Food Security, Safety Nets and Social Protection

FSS organized a two day workshop on Food Security, Safety Nets and Social Protection in Ethiopia. The workshop was held on October 18 and 19, 2012 at the Ghion Hotel.



During the two days workshop, papers dealing with the issue of food security, safety nets and social protection were presented. The workshop marks the final stage of the Linking Emergency Assistance with Food Security (LEAFS) research conducted under a three-year collaborative program between Wageningen University's Disaster Studies and the Disaster Risk Management and Sustainable Development Department of the Bahir Dar University.

The workshop was graced with the presence of Ato Berhanu Wolde Michael Director of the Food Security Coordination Directorate at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD).

In his opening remarks to the workshop, Ato Berhanu underscored the significance of research in providing inputs to gov-

ernment policies and practices. He said the government will readily collaborate with such endeavours by research based organizations such as FSS.

The conference participants drawn from relevant government departments, universities, and civil society organizations made a lively discussion after the presentations and valuable comments that would help improve the papers were made.



The papers enriched by the inputs from the feedback gained from the workshop will be edited and published by FSS for wider dissemination. Dr. Alula Pankhurst, Ato Dessalegn Rahmato and Dr. Gerrit-Jan Van Uffelen of Wageningen University will serve as editors of the forthcoming book. The book will provide policymakers and practitioners fresh and empirically grounded insights about the challenges and opportunities of food security in general and productive safety net programs (PSNP) in particular.

**FSS Update:**

**Send your contributions to: [fss@ethionet.et](mailto:fss@ethionet.et)**

## FSS' Digital Repository goes online

The newly established FSS' digital repository (digital library) was officially inaugurated on July 27, 2012 as part of efforts to further enhance the dissemination of FSS research outputs to the wider public.

The repository is a result of close collaboration with the British Library for Development Studies (BLDS) of the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and the Royal Netherlands Tropical Institute (KIT).

In his inaugural speech of the digital repository, Dr Asnake Kefale, Director of the Research and Publications of FSS, thanked BLDS and KIT for their support in the installation of the repository and donating the necessary equipment. He also noted that the repository would play a significant role in increasing accessibility of FSS research output.

Dr Nasson Membe of BLDS also said on the occasion that BLDS decided to support FSS to build a digital repository due to the track record of the organization as a leading source of high value publications.

Dr Membe also noted that while research organizations in the developing world produce valuable outputs, their research outputs do not reach the intended beneficiaries for problems of accessibility. It is due to this problem, according to Dr Membe, BLDS ventured in supporting the establishment of digital repositories in Africa. FSS' repository forms part of this venture.

Now that FSS has a digital repository, a significant portion of FSS publications can be accessed by users.

To access FSS Digital repository – please visit FSS website at [<http://www.fssethiopia.org/>] and click the link Digital Repository



## FSS, IDS organized a workshop on stakeholder mapping on Under Nutrition, Climate Change and Gender in Ethiopia

FSS, in collaboration with the UK-based Institute of Development Studies (IDS) Knowledge Services organized a workshop on stakeholder mapping on under nutrition, climate change and gender in Ethiopia. The workshop conducted on two days was attended by more than 15 representatives of stakeholder organizations including multi-lateral agencies, local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and government higher educational institutions.

Guided by the three IDS conveners on Nutrition, Climate Change and Gender, Ms Karine Yasmina Gatellier, Ms Georgina Ellen Katherine Aboud and Ms Fatema Rajabali participants identified key role payers/actors in the country and discussed on the important links in terms of sharing information and knowledge among the actors before they ranked the actors in terms of the degree of influence.

Finally, participants reflected on the map they drew as a group mapping exercise called Net Mapping. The map shows the key actors they listed and the links they believed exist between and among the actors. Stakeholders were supportive of the overall approach and were highly complementary about the spirit in which the convenings were conducted. As a partner in organizing the convening, FSS also attended one of the convening and documented the two workshops.

## FSS to launch new capacity building project for CSOs in two regional states

FSS, in collaboration with the Civil Society Support Program (CSSP), will soon launch a new capacity building project for 12 selected CSOs operating in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) and Benishangul-Gumuz Regional States.

The project, which will have a three year period, will have two phases. In the first phase, FSS will undertake a participatory needs assessment of the 12 CSOs. Then based on the outcomes in first phase, FSS will, under the second phase, conduct various trainings and provide ongoing capacity development supports to the selected CSOs.

## FSS participated at the 18th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES)

FSS participated at the 18th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies that was held in Dire Dawa from October 29- November 2, 2012.

Various study papers were presented at the high level conference attended by academics and researchers from Ethiopia and various other countries.

Drs Asnake Kefale and Zerihun Mohammed of FSS presented their study papers to the participants of the conference.

The week-long event also offered FSS staff an opportunity for promoting their organization and further strengthening its networking

Various FSS publications were put on display and sold to the participants of the conference.



## New Acquisitions of the FSS Documentation Center

Adekeye Adebajo and Kaye Whiteman eds. (2012) EU and Africa : from Eurafrique to Afro-Europa - New York : Columbia University Press,

Alemayehu Geda (2011) Readings on the Ethiopian Economy. Addis Ababa : Addis Ababa University Press.

Asmarom Legesse (1973) Gada : Three Approaches to the Study of African Society - London Collier-Macmillan Limited.

Barry Herman, José Antonio Ocampo, and Shari Spiegel eds. (2010) Overcoming developing country debt crises. Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press.

David Lawson ed. (2010) What Works for the Poorest? : poverty reduction programmes for the world's extreme poor. Rugby : Practical Action Publisher.

Echi Christina Gabbert and Sophia Thubauville eds. (2010) To live with others : essays on cultural neighborhood in southern Ethiopia. Schlee. - Köln : Rüdiger Köppe Verlag,

Ethiopian Economic Association (2011) Report on the Ethiopian Economy 2011 : Financial Sector Developments In Ethiopia: Performance, Challenges And Policy Issues. Addis Ababa.

Fantu Cheru and Cyril Obi ed. (2010) The rise of China & India in Africa : challenges, opportunities and critical interventions. Uppsala, Sweden : Nordic Africa Insitute.

Hanlon, Joseph ; Armando Barrientos and David Hulme (2010) Just give money to the Poor : the development revolution from the global South. Sterling, VA : Kumarian Press

Henze, Paul B. (2000) Layers of time : A History of Ethiopia . New York : St. Martin's Press.

Ilda Lindell ed. (2010) Africa's Informal workers : collective agency, alliances and transnational organizing in urban Africa. London .Uppsala, Sweden] : Nordiska Afrikainstitutet.

Ivo Strecker and Jean Lydall eds. (2006) The perils of face : essays on cultural contact, respect and self-esteem in southern Ethiopia / Essays on cultural contact, respect and self-esteem in southern Ethiopia edited . - Berlin.

Le Billon, Philippe (2012) Wars of plunder : conflicts, profits and the politics of resources. New York : Columbia University Press.

Mulugeta Gebrehiwot Berhe and Butera, Jean-Bosco (2012) Climate Change and Pastoralism: Traditional coping Mechanisms and Conflict in the Horn of Africa. Addis Ababa: Institute of Peace and Security studies University for Peace.

Paul D. Williams (2011) War & conflict in Africa. Cambridge ; Malden, MA : Polity.

Paulos Milkias (2009) Developing the Global South: a United Nations Prescription for the Third Millennium. New York : Algora Publisher.

Prosper B. Matondi, Kjell Havnevik and Atakilte Beyene ed. (2011) Biofuels, Land grabbing and Food security in Africa. - London ; New York : New York : Zed Books.

Thomas Jaye, Dauda Garuba, Stella Amadi. ed. (2011) ECOWAS and the dynamics of conflict and peace-building. Dakar, Senegal : Codesria,

## Latest Publications from FSS

