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**CADPR**

**Center for African Development Policy Research (CADPR)  
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**A Broader Perspective of Poverty and Inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa:**

**The Importance of Social Indicators**

**by**

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**ABSTRACT:** The ongoing globalization debate has raised awareness of international social equity issues, in particular as regards Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), where social conditions are the harshest and have shown the least improvement. And, while it is evident that poverty is widespread and made worse by glaring inequalities, the lack of income distribution statistics has made it difficult to ascertain regional historical trends. Existing research on poverty and inequality in SSA is based largely on regional aggregations that leave out, or extrapolate for, countries for which there are no data. For the most part, such research shows poverty in SSA falling slowly over time. One notable exception is Sala-i-Martin's (2002) recent landmark study arguing that poverty and inequality have increased in SSA over the past 30 years. This conclusion is based on regional income estimates, with falling medians and rising upper variances over that period, that are poignantly illustrated through pyramid-shaped distributions that perversely shift to the left and widen over time.

While reiterating the seriousness of poverty and inequality in SSA, this paper argues that the regional statistical data used to construct such pyramids are too scarce and biased to be conclusive. And, while it proposes no alternative data (because none are available), it notes that, over the same 30 years, social indicators have generally improved in SSA and that this should be taken as a sign of greater social equality. The overriding argument is that social indicators reflect human welfare priorities (like survival, immunization, literacy), which, once met, go a long way toward reducing poverty deprivation and inequality. This is particularly the case of basic needs that can be met through publicly provided social goods, which, by definition, can make everyone just as well off in terms of their consumption regardless of personal income differences. This paper acknowledges the improvement in social conditions in SSA and illustrates it by configuring alternative "social pyramids" that have moved for most of the past 30 years in the right direction. However, this perspective also means that, since the mid-1990s, poverty is getting worse and the pyramids are moving in the wrong direction. The sad reality is that social indicators in the region are being set back by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which will generate greater and more dehumanizing poverty in the years ahead even if meaningful economic growth is achieved.

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1 The author wishes to acknowledge Prof. Xavier Sala-i-Martin's (Economics Faculty, Columbia University) interesting work that inspired me to write this paper as an alternative view and the *Center for African Development Policy Research's* important initiative of organizing periodic in-Africa gatherings on key regional issues.

*. This Paper should not be reported as representing the views of the IMF. The views expressed in this Working Paper are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the IMF or IMF policy.*

# **Ethiopia in the World Economy: Trade, Private Capital Flows, and Migration<sup>2</sup>**

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***Abstract.*** Economic globalization can be evaluated with reference to at least three dimensions: trade, private capital flows, and migration. For each of these dimensions, pathways can be identified through which economic globalization can alleviate or contribute to poverty. This paper makes a preliminary examination of the pathways between globalization and poverty for the case of Ethiopia. As one of the world's poorest countries, Ethiopia's integration with the world economy takes on specific features. It is highly dependent on the exports of a few goods, has imported a large amount of arms, is largely excluded from global FDI flows, benefits from relatively large inflows of remittances, and is largely excluded from the evolving global regime of intellectual property. Despite a number of negative trends with regard to globalization and poverty, there is room for "small win" policies that would enhance the role of globalization in supporting poverty alleviation.

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<sup>2</sup> This paper draws extensively on joint work with Ian Goldin and Andrew Beath. I have benefited from helpful conversations with Sisay Asefa and Gelaye Debebe.

*From Livestock to Firewood: Pastoralists Coping with Destitution in Southern Ethiopia*

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**ABSTRACT:** The viability of pastoral livelihoods in Ethiopia today is threatened by a number of interrelated social, economic, political and ecological processes with an evident increase in livestock destitution and impoverishment amongst pastoralists. An increasing number of livestock destitute pastoralists are settling within the immediate peripheries of urban centers in order to access perceived livelihood opportunities arising from urban economic processes. Focusing on Borana pastoralists, this paper examines how pastoralists seek to cope with livestock destitution by pursuing non-livestock based livelihood strategies in peri-urban spaces. Specifically, it focuses on the sale of firewood as a key coping strategy adopted by these pastoralists and the extent to which this is a sustainable livelihood option. Accordingly, the paper explores the opportunities and constraints faced by Borana pastoralists in selling firewood and consequent implications for their wellbeing. It also considers the gendering of this activity given differentiation in Borana men and women's participation in selling firewood. Finally, it considers the implications for environmental conservation initiatives seeking to ensure sustainable use of forest resources.

**Key Words:** Borana Pastoralists, Destitution, Firewood, Southern Ethiopia

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Determining the Direction of African Trade: Contextual Determinants of the Direction of Exports  
of Sub-Sahara African Countries

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**ABSTRACT:** This article examines the determinants of 23 Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries' direction and of patterns of exports for the years 1960-2000. The study investigates whether colonial link, postcolonial African government policies or the emerging of new trade partners impact the context and direction of export patterns of ex-colony SSA. The outcome of the study indicates that, since the seventies, SSA exports to the former colonialist countries have been showing drastic decline while a significant increase of export is noticed with the new trading partner countries. The study also found that the exports of non-British ex-colonies show relatively less diversity but higher volume of export when compared with those of ex-British colonies.

## Does Conflict Explains Ethiopia's Backwardness? Yes! and Significantly\*

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**ABSTRACT:** This paper draws on the growing literature on conflict and post-conflict societies to examine conflict and economic backwardness in Ethiopia. It identifies major conflicts during the three most recent regimes and shows distinct growth episode and associated ideological and development paradigms, which have experienced periods of conflict that grew more intense and protracted. The paper identifies conflicts by their characterization in terms of their nature (agents involved and the subject of contest), the role of external intervention and their economic ramifications. The paper also examines the causes and costs of major conflict and the modality of their resolution. It argues that conflict in Ethiopia is primarily the result of pursuing violent power-sharing mechanism, has detrimental impact on economic performance and made the state unproductive and militaristic. This, it is argued, is one of the root causes of the countries backwardness.

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\* A shorter version of this paper was presented at African Economic Consortium Workshop in Kampala; which will appear in IEA-AERC forthcoming book edited by P. Collier and A. Fosu. I thank all who commented on that paper, especially Prof A. Fosu for an excellent and constructive comments. Any errors are mine.

## The Prospects of Africa's Industrialization

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The paper investigates the possible factors behind industrial development in poor economies, where savings and investment resources are very scarce. After reviewing major arguments given for industrialization, it proposes a framework that may enable one to have a close look of the driving forces behind industrial development. On the ground of the framework, it suggests enhancing the favorable factors of market failures as a possible means of improving the speed of industrialization process. Empirical evidences obtained from panel data taken from African economies support the argument the paper.

**JEL classification: L0; L1,L5**

**Keywords: Industrialization, Enterprise Clustering, Africa, Market failure, Panel data**

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# **Multiethnic federalism in Ethiopia and the Secession Clause of Its Constitution**

by

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**ABSTRACT:** In 1991, Ethiopia's new leaders established a multiethnic federation that provides for the right to secession. The secession clause was incorporated for reasons of ideology and necessity. The federation consists of largely ethnic-based territorial units, and encourages political parties to organize along ethnic lines. Comparatively, the Ethiopian case is a radical departure from most other federal systems. This analysis focuses on (1) Ethiopia's secession clause, (2) the House of Federation, and (3) state-federal relations. The future of federalism in Ethiopia is unclear. The provisions of a liberal democratic constitution conflict with the reality of authoritarian centralist practice, and therefore jeopardize the future of federalism. Although the secession clause has symbolic value, it is unlikely that any Ethiopian government would allow secession to take place.

# **The Potentials of Biotechnology Application for Speedy and Sustainable Economic Development of Ethiopia: the present Status, future Strategies and Actions**

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**ABSTRACT:** Prosperities of countries today have been basically achieved either by exploitation of the natural resources like oil and precious metals or through advancement in scientific technological knowledge or by combination of both. There are countries which lack both scientific technological know how and quickly exploitable high value natural resources. Unfortunately Ethiopia belongs to the second category of countries. However, Ethiopia is located in a geographic region which is known as rich in biological diversity and resources. These resources known as genes are of extreme importance for the present and future use in advanced highly productive agriculture, bio and biochemical industry, health care and drug development, environmental protection and environmental rehabilitation. Genes, unless harnessed and utilized through appropriate application of scientific technological tools, they might not mean much for betterment and advancement of societies. Biotechnology and associated sciences offer new opportunities to exploit the potentials of biological resources and their use in a speedy and sustainable economic development of countries such as Ethiopia. Biotechnology application is knowledge intensive business and requires basic understanding of the life forms and their complexity as well as proper application in process and/or product development. Since present and future comparative advantage of Ethiopia is its geographic location in biologically diverse and rich region, she should be able to exploit these resources through investing in biotechnology capacity building and technology development and proper transfer system. There should be a strategic approach and concrete action plan in order to exploit the existing biotechnologies through technology access and transfer mechanisms and through building capacity to discover novel genes, proteins, active molecules, develop processes or new products out of them and eventually contribute to the national economic growth. Life science and biotechnology is an area where Ethiopia could catch up with the rest of the world and secure competitive and comparative advantage in the future knowledge based global economy. Therefore, the Ethiopian policy and science leadership should give very serious attention to this sector sooner than later. Time has never been on our favor. The one, who lags behind, should take either a short cut, jump or run faster than the one ahead. Ethiopia's strategy in this race should be a very smart short cut and the how question should be worked out sooner than any thing else.

# **Integrated Agricultural Development Strategies in the ANRS: Lessons from the AMAREW Project\***

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**ABSTRACT:** The Amhara Micro-enterprise development, Agricultural Research, Extension and Watershed management (AMAREW) Project is a USAID/Ethiopia Mission funded initiative established in July 2002 to provide technical assistance in integrated agricultural development in the Amhara National Regional State (ANRS). The Project works to strengthen agricultural research, extension, watershed management, capacity building, and micro-enterprise development in the ANRS by collaborating with its ANRS partners in strategically selected two pilot watershed sites and five pilot food-insecure woredas. The Project is being implemented by a Virginia Tech led Consortium (Virginia Tech, Cornell University, Virginia State University and ACDI/VOCA) in collaboration with its ANRS Primary Partners consisting of the Food Security Coordination and Disaster Prevention Office (FSCDPO), Amhara Regional Agricultural Research Institute (ARARI), Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development (BoARD), Environment Protection, Land Administration, and Utilization Authority (EPLAUA), Amhara Micro and Small Industries Development Bureau (AMSEIDB), and Amhara Credit and Saving Institution (ACSI). FSCDPO has the overall role of coordinating Project activities; ARARI is responsible for the planning and implementation of research; BoARD plans and implements agricultural extension and watershed management activities in the pilot extension woredas and watersheds; EPLAUA has the responsibility for guiding land use and certification in the pilot watersheds; AMSEIDB and ACSI share responsibilities for micro-enterprise and micro-finance issues in the target areas of the project. The technical advisors of AMAREW work with and advise their respective line department experts in all stages of project activities.

AMAREW strives to catalyze a paradigm shift in the ANRS in strengthening research extension linkage where education, research, and extension are integrated similar to the service-oriented Land Grant University Model of the USA. The Project focuses on upgrading human resource capacities and reinforcing the institutional relations between ARARI and BoARD through joint planning and implementation of on-farm research and extension programs. Our five pilot extension woredas are planned to integrate research and extension, thereby demonstrating that effective linkage of extension and research are possible in the ANRS. Our two pilot watershed management sites (Lenche Dima in Guba Lafto and Yeku in Sekota) serve as models for integrating watershed management, research, extension, and micro-enterprise development efforts. In the long run, the promising experiences and lessons learned through the activities of the AMAREW Project should be scaled up to other sites in the ANRS as well as nationally, thus contributing to the alleviation of the food security problem of the region and the nation.

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**Do Nations with Access to Water, Economically Outperform Land-Locked Nations?  
An Empirical Study on African Countries**

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**ABSTRACT:** This study examines whether nations' access to water, specifically to sea or ocean, has an impact on their socio-economic developments. In order to answer the question, an empirical analysis has been conducted in two phases. In phase one, we compared the socio-economic, cultural and infrastructure developments of landlocked vs. non-landlocked Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries. The variables used in the study are: the size of gross domestic product (GDP), the rate of inflation, export, import, the length of paved roads, rates of adult literacy rate, life expectancy, educational enrollment ratio, and level of urbanization.

The outcome of the analysis in phase one, clearly demonstrates that SSA nations with access to water, tend to have relatively higher per capita GDP, higher volume of international trade, higher rate of life expectancy, enrolment ratio, better road infrastructure and better level of urbanization than landlocked countries. On the other hand, the study found that the rate of inflation in land-locked nations was found to be lower than those with access to water. In the second phase, a multi-linear analysis is employed to investigate how the dependent variables GDP/capita and export and import are impacted by the independent variables, access/no-access to water, enrollment ratio, adult literacy, urbanization, population growth, economic reform, privatization and political stability of African Nations.

The outcome of the regression analysis confirms that the variables import and export have strong and positive impacts on the economic performance of African countries with access to water. Furthermore, the study found that the variable, life expectancy and urbanization moderately impact the national economy of the African countries. The result of the study therefore, strongly supports the assumption that a country's access to the sea is crucial for economic development and political stability. Some might argue that, in the absence of access to sea, nations would be able to use air freight service or could use neighbor's access to see in order to conduct international trade. Such assumption however is highly speculative and doubtful in the current conditions of African countries where regional conflicts are common and economic cooperation among nations is rarely observed.

**Key Words:** *Land-Locked, Economic Development, Sub-Saharan African Countries*

## Heterogeneity in returns to schooling: Econometric evidence from Ethiopia

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**ABSTRACT:** The paper investigates whether returns to schooling in Ethiopia vary across the wages distribution of individuals. To do so it adopts an instrumental variables quantile regression framework that allows for both endogeneity of schooling resulting from unmeasured ability, and possible heterogeneity in the impact of schooling. The empirical estimates indicate that education contributes more to the earnings of the individuals at a lower end of the income distribution. Under the assumption that the wage and ability distributions are related, this result is consistent with the notion that education and ability are substitutes.

*Key Words: returns to schooling; quantile regression*

*JEL Classification: I2; J3*

## Commercialization of Ethiopian Agriculture: The Role of Extension

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*Submitted for presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EAF-EARO International Symposium on Ethiopian Development Studies, June 17-18, 2005, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

**ABSTRACT:** Transforming Ethiopian agriculture from its current subsistence orientation in to market orientated production system forms the basis of the agricultural development strategy of the Government of Ethiopia (GoE). There are critical institutional support services that are required to be in place to facilitate this transformation. The most critical role is perhaps played by the agricultural extension service, as it determines the availability of appropriate technologies and the appropriate processes of knowledge transfer to farmers. When farmers produce primarily for the market (both domestic and export markets), quality of produce becomes much more important than during subsistence production, since competitiveness depends partly on quality of produce. The preservation of quality of produce depends heavily on the use of the right technologies and methods of production, both of which are the domains of the agricultural extension service. This paper makes use of information collected using Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) techniques in five *woredas* (districts) of the four regional states of Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR in order to analyze the process of technology transfer to farmers, its relevance for the market oriented strategy of agricultural development, and identify major bottlenecks and suggest recommendations. We find that agricultural extension service which is provided almost exclusively by the government through the *woreda* level Office of Agriculture (OoA) is in transition. The most significant change in the extension service is the establishment of Farmers Training Centers (FTC), which are expected to be the center of knowledge transfer to farmers, with changes coming from input and credit suppliers, and knowledge brokers. In other words the FTCs will form the hub for improved technology and knowledge transfer, and the provision of other institutional support services. Currently, the extension service is largely based on package approach. Generally, we identified three package approaches: household, regular and minimum packages. However, the emphasis given to each of these package approaches vary from region to region. The household package is heavily emphasized in the Tigray and Amhara regions, while the regular package seems to be the focus in Oromia and SNNPR regions. Common problems of the extension system include low capacity of experts and development agents, shortage of operational budget, and the lack of clearly defined extension methodology (knowledge transfer mechanism). The paper present s some ideas on possible extension methodologies in which the role of the extension services is more on knowledge transfer and facilitating and coordination of linkages between the farmers and the different development actors.

*Please do not quote*  
**The Economics of Rotating Savings and Credit Association: Evidence from Ethiopia.**

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**ABSTRACT:** Using a unique individual level data on the membership of Rotating Savings and Credit Associations (ROSCAs) collected in 1994 from seven major urban centres in Ethiopia, we provide one of the few econometric tests of the economic theory of ROSCAs. In recognition of the heterogeneity of rosca types across space, we provide basic information about the characteristics of roscas in urban areas of Ethiopia. In addition, we use individual and household level data to describe the characteristics of both rosca participants and non-participants. The findings from the descriptive part of the analysis indicate that most of the rosca members are female, relatively richer and the major motive to join roscas is to buy consumer durables. For instance, Over 45% of households reported that they joined roscas with a purpose to buy durables. In terms of frequency of saving, most rosca members tend to save weekly and monthly, the latter being the predominant choice and a non-negligible amount is being mobilise through the informal institutions. The econometric evidence shows an inverse relationship between volume of rosca contribution and size of rosca as predicted by theory. In addition, we find an inverse relationship between frequency of rosca draw/saving and amount of saving. The welfare position of the household-food expenditure- has been found to be a significant determinant of the volume of rosca contribution but not the decision to join rosca. Most of our findings are consistent with findings elsewhere.

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**ABSTRACT:** This paper thus addresses two primary issues. What is the relationship between the types of electoral systems that have been used to govern initial elections in the democratizing states of Africa and the degree to which party systems volatility has emerged? What other factors impact on the levels of volatility? I examine the above questions using data from 31 African countries. I find that most of the factors often cited as impacting on party systems development do not account for the level of legislative volatility. However, the dominance of the ruling party in the first election following democratic transition does impact the extent of legislative volatility later. Nonetheless these cases are also less likely to lead to democratic or politically stable outcomes

**Ethno Development in Post-Conflict Ethiopia:  
The Post 1991 Period  
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**ABSTRACT:** The paper draws on the increasing analysis of the conflict and post-conflict societies in Africa such as Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, and Sudan. The paper centres on the examination of conflict and post-conflict Ethiopia as well as the ethno development in post-conflict Ethiopia. Specifically the paper examines the Dergue conflict (the 1974-1991 civil war) and the distinct growth that is associated on the ethno development in the subsequent period (1991-1997). Moreover, the paper also identifies the important role of government, private sector, and civil society in the ethno development in post-conflict Ethiopia. The paper argues that *ethno development in the post 1991 period was responsible for the good economic performance of Ethiopia during this period.*

Ethiopia's Economic Diplomacy: Challenges and Prospects

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**ABSTRACT:** In Ethiopia, so much like national experiences in numerous other countries, diplomacy had for long been confined to its traditional frontiers; state survival and security, national prestige and politics. Though the protection of national interest had been the overriding objective of diplomacy, what constitutes national interest has not been clearly defined. The demise of ideologically oriented foreign policy of the Derg regime and the multifaceted challenges of globalization gave rise to the need to legitimize Ethiopia's foreign policy on the basis of quantifiable economic gains and human security. Economic diplomacy has become the bedrock of Ethiopia's Policy on Foreign Relations and National Security. It has also made inroads into a discourse among Ethiopia's diplomatic technocrats and practitioners alike. Behind this newfound interest in economic diplomacy, there is a heightened desire on the part of Ethiopia's policy makers to inform their public service mandate with the imperatives achieving a sustained economic development. This meaningful enterprise, however, faces various problems. This brief essay aims at identifying the challenges of reorienting Ethiopia's foreign policy establishment towards a full-fledged economic diplomacy.

***Conflict of Ethnic Identity and the Language of Education Policy in Contemporary Ethiopia:  
An Evaluative Analysis.***

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**ABSTRACT:** Based on two field studies, this paper sets forth to examine the education language policy of Ethiopia that was initiated since 1991. Ethiopia being a multiethnic, multi linguistic, multicultural, and multireligion nation the question of language policy as it related to learning and teaching has been a major issue since formal, secular education was introduced to the country over one hundred years ago. Since 1941, following the country's liberation from Fascist occupation, the mantra was to lay the foundation of a solid system of education that would imbue the people to forge a united front in the battle against rampant illiteracy and backwardness. Although the necessary teaching-learning materials and teachers were not available to the extent necessary, the government decided that the language of instruction would be in the Amharic language, although provision were made for use of foreign languages such as English and French at the upper levels. Over time major progresses have been made to realize these objectives. However following the traumatic political turbulences that ensued between 1974 and 1991, the replacement provisional government promulgated new sets of policies that directly reversed the age old quest for aiming for strengthening a single national language. The new policy of 1991 went for the use of multiple nationality languages be it in the courts, schools, or other spheres of regional life. Amharic remained the common language until further clarification. Otherwise at least at the theoretical level, all languages, some 90 of them, would be used as media of instruction at the local and regional levels, the latter being defined or delineated supposedly on lines of ethnic affiliations. The present paper is limited to the analysis of some aspects of the policy and points out some of the major immediate and long-range problems that may, in the final analysis, affect the quality and quantity of education of the Ethiopian people. The merits of making learning occur in the mother tongue are not the issues here. All other things being equal humans do learn and understand better when what they have to learn is related to their immediate environments and when that environment is presented to them in the home language. But we are arguing here of formal learning in a country where the resources for such endeavor are very limited and where there are millions waiting for admission to the table of learning. The major criticism of the current policy, we argue, is that it was initiated from the top, with little if any involvement of the majority of the people of the country; There was precious little honest, informed dialogue involving the professionals available in the country; insufficient thoughts were given to the efficacy or the magnitude of what it entailed when formulating to such policies; did not take into full account the wasteful inefficiencies such as the expulsions of highly qualified and much needed teachers because they happened to have come from other ethnic backgrounds; it failed to be cognizant of the requirement of significant amount of additional budgetary allocations required for such major undertaking; it did not lay for a sound foundation by the way of preparing instructional materials and teaching aids in the various languages; did not prepare a single teacher to conduct classes in any of the languages and still it maybe the case; it did not take into full account that most of the languages of the country are not even reduced to writing; at the broader level, there is very little

evidence to show that it was aware of the longer national ramifications regarding democratic cohesion or national unity issues. The dictum that modern, developing societies are engineered in the classrooms seems to be overlooked or purposely ignored. Examining the tempo of haste and the procedures followed to put the plans of the policy to use, seem to indicate, unfortunately, the major trust behind the policy was political ideology with very little concern, or thought being given to the complex realities prevailing in contemporary Ethiopia. When it comes to cognitive development, there are evidences that show that learning concepts are better mastered and remembered longer when they are learned using the mother tongue. But the issues in our case here is that the ability of that language to convey enough concepts of the learning material in its embrace, and whether the language has developed to contain learning materials and whether the language is able to empower the children as they move onward to master further concepts and skills in that language or have switch to another language, which may be considered second or third language and compete in that language with others who happen to be native speakers. Questions of economic benefit, efficiency, effectiveness of learning outcomes are points that are included in the analysis. The questions of learning together for a community of children and sharing notions and concepts which they cannot do well when they are separated on a language bases is another important matter. The language in education policy as adopted since 1991 for Ethiopia might have some side benefit. But at this juncture it is very hard to discern such benefit. On the contrary, for a very poor country, with a burgeoning population desperate to improve their life situations in a hurry through education, the language policy is a political artifice which makes very little sense for a society such as Ethiopia. It is a very unfortunate, and uncalled for burden that was imposed in such a hurry upon the hapless population. A lot of damage might have been inflicted upon the fragile system of education already; but even at this stage it might not be too late to initiate a rigorous review with retaining redeeming aspects of it or getting rid of it altogether. The replacement would be one that could enjoy the support of the people and contains within itself scientific validity.

**Socioeconomic Impact of Export Oriented Agricultural Production on Farmers, in Eastern  
Ethiopia**

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**ABSTRACT:** This study was undertaken to assess the socio-economic impact of producing export oriented agricultural crops on the livelihoods of the farmers in eastern Ethiopia. A random sample of 305 farmers was studied. Comparisons were made between producers and non-producers using the Z-test and regression analysis. It was found that producers of export oriented crops are better off than the non-producers in terms of sending their children to school, housing conditions and ability to finance their families' food requirements. The impact of father's education, number of children and livestock ownership on the improvements in the livelihoods of the farmers and the problems facing the farmers were also emphasized. The implications of the findings for the policy makers were also pointed out.

**Key words:** socio-economic impact, export oriented agricultural production, livelihoods, farmers, eastern Ethiopia

**An Inquiry into the role of personal wealth in the pastoralist - agropastoralist conflict resolution in *Yerer and Daketa Valleys, Eastern Ethiopia*  
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**An Inquiry into the role of personal wealth in the pastoralist - agropastoralist conflict resolution in *Yerer and Daketa Valleys, Eastern Ethiopia***

**Abstract:** Capitalizing on the mobility of livestock is one of the major ways in which pastoralists have managed ecological uncertainties and risks, as it enables them the opportunistic use of the resources. However, agricultural encroachment onto rangelands by nearby agro-pastoralists has led to a shortage in grazing area and threatened the mobility of the pastoralists. As this process leads to a significant disruption and weakening of the risk-management systems of pastoralists, they seek for various institutional arrangements with agropastoralists to enable them access to common grazing land. Based on an exploratory survey and data derived from interview of 146 households in eastern Ethiopia, this paper uses an adaptation of the sequential rationality game theoretical model and institutional analysis to discrete choice models. The analytical framework, in its entirety, presents a simple model of household and community level decision-making, in which they are concerned about their welfare along many different dimensions. Choice of institutional arrangement, namely no opinion, reciprocal, sharing milk and the right to use milk, is modelled using multinomial logit discrete choice procedure. The model chi-squared statistic is significant at the 1% level of probability. For all arrangements, there are three to five observable characteristics of household that provide statistically significant predictive power for practicing a given arrangement. The paper argues resource scarcity may enhance the bargaining position of asset-poor members of an agro-pastoral society and urges the wealthier agropastoralists to comply with a non-violent resolution of competing claims towards a resource sharing arrangement.

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## DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

### Lessons from Turkey's Experience applicable to Ethiopia

by

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**ABSTRACT:** Ethiopia's development problems are not unique. Similar problems have been (and are being) encountered in many other countries. Turkey's successful transformation from a politically and economically backward, stagnant country into one of the most dynamic societies of our time offers an example of the kind of progress Ethiopia can hope for during the 21st century. How did Turkey transform itself in little over half a century? Turkey and Ethiopia have similarities. Both have complicated geography but lack major wealth in minerals and oil. Both have suffered strife and political turmoil. Both have unstable and aggressive neighbors. Both carry a heavy burden of history, but neither has ever been colonized or effectively conquered.

When the modern Turkish Republic was proclaimed in 1923, it had barely 12 million people most of whom were illiterate and lived in a countryside which had barely changed over several thousand years. The country lacked infrastructure and industry. Its exports consisted of tobacco, nuts, dried fruit and carpets, produce of traditional peasant agriculture. It was equally backward politically. A small elite class led by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk--who ruled as a benevolent but firm monarch--was determined to turn the country into an open society moving toward European civilization and modern development. Today Turkey has over 70 million people, almost all literate. All Turkish children go to school. Every Turkish village has electricity and running water. Everybody has access to doctors and medicines. Turkey's exports totaled \$60 billion in 2004 and included automobiles, televisions, and manufactured goods of many kinds, huge amounts of processed food and vast quantities of textiles and other consumer goods. A majority of Turks now live in cities and enjoy a steadily rising standard of living. More than 30 universities produce skilled specialists. Communication and transportation systems approach those of most countries in Europe. A network of super-highways is now being built. For more than 50 years Turkey has enjoyed a democratic political system, a free press, and lively cultural life. It is likely to join the European Union by 2020. Turkey's experience offers comparisons and lessons worth considering as Ethiopia embarks on a period of accelerated development.

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## **Civil Society in Ethiopia: It's Potential in Development**

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**ABSTRACT: A shift in development approach from top-down to bottom-up entails the participation of civil societies. By 'civil society' here I mean those independent organisations and associations including NGOs and Grassroots organisations. In rural dominated countries like Ethiopia, grassroots organisations are the bed rocks for civil societies. The skill, knowledge and values of the local people enhanced by these grassroots organisations are of paramount importance for effective development programmes. Thus, grassroots organisations are a sine qua non for development in the third world. However, in Ethiopia the role of such organisations has not been fully explored and the top-down approach has remained dominant. To reverse this situation the potential of this sector should be assessed and recognised. Those organisations (NGOs) which work and assist the grassroots organisations should establish close relationship with local communities or grassroots organisations. This is fundamental for the success of their work. Their organisational capacity and autonomy is also the source of their power to mobilize the people from below. This paper tries to show the relationship between civil society and development. It also discusses the potential that the civic communities have for development.**

## **The Plight of Ethiopian Refugee Women in Sudan**

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**Abstract: The past century witnessed massive refugee flows from virtually every part of the world. Often, Women constitute the largest group among these refugees and the internally displaced persons. Yet, they are also the least protected either by local NGOs or international agencies such as the UNHCR. This made them vulnerable to multitudes of problems including sexual exploitation and harassment (during their flight or in refugee camps) by fellow male refugees, nationals and officials of host countries. Women refugees' predicament becomes even worse if there are religious differences between them and the host society. By highlighting the circumstances that created the refugee crisis in the late 1970s and early 1980s Ethiopia, this paper tries to show the various predicaments that Ethiopian refugee women faced on their way to Sudan and in Sudan. The latter sheltered the largest number of Ethiopian refugees than any other neighboring countries. The paper also argues that though some countries, especially the United States, began resettling Ethiopian refugees as early as 1980, the resettlement program was gender biased and might have even opened other venues for further exploitation of Ethiopian refugee women in Sudan and in America. Finally, the paper also attempts to mirror the mechanisms that Ethiopian women, despite the multitudes of problems they encountered, used to survive and even thrive in hostile environment. They were actively engaged with their fellow refugees, officials of the host society and institutions, and international agencies. They turned, the otherwise negative circumstance, to their advantage.**

*Are the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) feasible? Can the deadlines be met particularly for education and gender?*

*The case of Ethiopia*

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**ABSTRACT:** This paper addresses the feasibility of the MDGs in Ethiopia, in general and in particular Education and Gender issues in relation with the deadlines set by the UN millennium declaration, 2015. While looking at the education issue, the possibility of achieving universal primary education by 2015, for all school age children will be assessed. The role played by parents and the community to achieve these goals will be assessed as a follow-up to my previous paper. Both for education and gender, the paper will look at the policy options which lead to the achievement of the set targets. The paper will also try to respond to these and others related questions that lead to the progress in gender equality while at the same time looking at the quality of education. Finally the problems encountered while working on the MDGS and the measures taken by the government and all concerned bodies to overcome them will be looked at and solutions proposed.

# **STANDARDISATION OF FINE AND COARSE AGGREGATES FOR CONCRETE PRODUCTION IN ETHIOPIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

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**Concrete is one of the versatile and widely used building material in the world construction industry. Fine and coarse aggregates generally make about 60-70% by volume of concrete production. It goes without saying that the quality of concrete is thus strongly influenced by aggregate's physical and mechanical properties as well as chemical composition of the parent aggregate making material. This calls for a critical identification and classification of aggregates so that they are used to meet the intended purpose.**

**In this article, the sources and mode of production of coarse and fine aggregates in the Ethiopian construction industry are reviewed. The physical properties of selected coarse aggregate types quarried around the city of Addis Ababa, where the major share of construction works are taking place, are examined. The test results are compared with the standard requirements. Concrete compressive strength data's obtained by using different aggregate qualities are evaluated. Based on the findings, conclusions are drawn and recommendations are forwarded.**

# *Solar Energy for Domestic and Process Water Heating in Ethiopia*

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**ABSTRACT:** Solar energy is becoming economically feasible for domestic water and low temperature industrial processing due to escalation of fuel and electric prices in the last few years in Ethiopia. This was caused by withdrawal of government subsidies for petroleum purchase and electric power generation. The trends shows that fuel and electricity prices will continue to increase. The performance, manufacturing cost and economic viability of solar water heating systems are variable from place to place. Thus, conclusion made elsewhere cannot be adapted to local condition. This paper presents, thus, current practice in design and manufacturing, performance testing, economic analysis and dissemination of solar water heaters in Ethiopia Finally, future directions in utilization of solar energy are also pointed

# **EXPERIMENTAL AND THEORETICAL STUDY OF PRE-CAST SLAB SYSTEMS**

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**ABSTRACT :** Fully cast-in place concrete slabs not only require extensive use of soffit formwork and props for casting, but also longer period of time for the removal of the formwork. Thus avoiding the use of formwork in slabs will have the advantage of faster construction with subsequent reduction in the cost of construction, reducing adverse effects associated with deforestation, achieving even soft finish requiring less plastering, etc.

One of the most efficient solutions, that have found wide application in many countries, is the use partially pre-cast beams with shear connectors, as formwork in lieu of timber or steel formwork. In such type of construction, the fresh concrete can be directly poured on the pre-cast beam elements and hollow concrete beam tiles, which bridge the space between them. Experimental and theoretical investigations were conducted to study the strength and deformation characteristics of two types of pre-cast slab systems. Type A slab is with 50 mm topping while type B slab is without topping.

The hollow concrete beam tiles bridge the space between the pre-cast beam elements and is as such load bearing elements. Part of the experimental program was therefore dedicated to the study of mix design for the production of suitable hollow concrete beam tiles which satisfy the minimum strength requirements at the initial stage for the first type of slab with topping and permanently for other type of slab. Based on the investigation results mix proportions with combinations of scoria and pumice was selected and used for the production of the hollow concrete beam tiles needed for the casting of the test slabs. The second part of the test program included the study of the pre-cast beam element alone in order to investigate its response under load while the cast in-situ concrete is still in its plastic state. The results of the experiments showed that the ultimate capacity of the pre-cast beam elements and thus the whole slab is governed by buckling of the top reinforcement. The third part of the experimental program was concerned with full size slab testing. The response under load of both slabs is ductile making them suitable replacements for the regular types of reinforced concrete slab construction.

Theoretical investigations were conducted parallel to the experimental investigations. Comparison of the results showed very good agreement leading to the conclusion that basic mechanics of reinforced concrete can be used for design and analysis of pre-cast beams and/or pre-cast slab systems.

*Concepts and Perspectives from the Economics of Sustainable Development:  
Views of Economists and their Policy Implications for Ethiopia and the Rest Africa\**

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**ABSTRACT:** Sustainable development is a concept about the relationship between economic growth and the environment. The term was first used in 1987 by the World Commission on Environment and Development (also known as the Brundtland Commission for its Chair, Gro Harlem Brundtland). In the Commission's report, "our common Future", it defined sustainable development as "*development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*" (World Commission on Environment and Development 1987). The aim of this paper is to explore the various dimensions of sustainability from an economic perspective by focusing on issues such as: neglected aspects of sustainability, conflict and inequality, scientific constraints on sustainable agriculture, population growth, the relationship between property rights and environmental sustainability, and sustainable natural resource management. The paper draws policy implications for Ethiopia and the rest of Africa, by reviewing the views of six eminent economists and others on these issues of sustainable development.

\*A draft paper prepared for presentation to the 2005 EAF-EARO/CADPR-WMU International Symposium on Ethiopian Development Studies, June 18-19, 2005. A version of this paper is published in the Introductory Chapter of an edited book by the author entitled, *The Economics of Sustainable Development*, published by W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Kalamazoo, Michigan USA.2005.

**Institutional Support Services for Market Oriented Development of Ethiopian Agriculture:  
The Case of Input Supply and Rural finance**

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*Submitted for presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EAF-EARO International Symposium on Ethiopian Development Studies, June 17-18, 2005, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*

**ABSTRACT:** The process of commercialization of subsistence agriculture requires the provision of enhanced institutional support services. Institutional support services of extension, input supply, rural finance and agricultural marketing play critical role in the transformation of subsistence agriculture in to market orientation. This paper uses quantitative and qualitative information collected through Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) technique in five districts (*woredas*) in the four regional states of Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR in order to analyze the processes, outputs and problems encountered by the input supply and rural finance services. We find that, generally, the input supply system is characterized by demand outstripping supply. The gap between demand and supply is especially acute for improved seeds and planting materials. Timely arrival of the available improved seeds was another major concern of farmers. The supply of improved farm implements (eg. beehives, treadle pumps etc.) has just started recently and there are attempts to involve the private sector in the production and supply of these inputs. Rural financial services are provided by credit and saving institutions organized at regional or zonal levels. Banks also provide marketing credit to farmer cooperatives or unions. As with input supply, the rural financial services system is also generally characterized by demand being higher than supply. Generally, individual households can get credit through their involvement in the household package extension program or the regular extension program. While the household package extension program requires no group collateral, the credit associated with the regular extension program is provided to groups.

## **Public Perceptions of Privatization in Ethiopia: A Case for Public Good or Private Gain?**

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**ABSTRACT:** The existing political and economic context of a country has a significant impact on the success of privatization processes and implementation. This is particularly the case when strategies for privatization are actually attempts to implement shifts in political and economic ideologies. Furthermore, one factor that is not widely addressed is a country's structural capacity to privatize. Fundamental structural elements that are needed to support privatization efforts include reform legislation that delineates changes in taxation, property ownership, and competitive arrangements. These types of structural changes may have significant implications regarding loss of political and financial control over financial gain from government assets thus prompting concerns over transparency and corruption. Consequently, as Kayizzi-Mugerwa (2003) suggests, not every country that appears eager to privatize is capable of doing so successfully. This study is an initial examination of privatization policies, processes and outcomes in Ethiopia viewed through the lens of public perception. The study surveyed a convenience sample of 500 individuals including a variety of professionals, business owners, government employees, NGOs, churches and academicians. Findings indicate that government attempts to privatized are, for the most part, negatively perceived with regard to individual citizens' welfare and that of the economy and transparency of motivations to privatize. Initial analysis suggests that economic gain from privatization is not viewed as being used for reconstruction and development of the country.

## The Role of the Private Sector in the Development of Forestry in Ethiopia

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**ABSTRACT:** The role of the private sector in forestry, including timber industry and timber trade, especially in the developing countries including Ethiopia, has not been given adequate attention and importance in the past, and was hardly mentioned in international meetings. Forest policy will not be efficient without a healthy private sector to contribute to national development and lead the change towards sustainable practices in forest management. It is particularly important to the private sector that forests be well managed on a sustainable supply basis as timber industry and investments are based on long-term projections (IFIA, 1996). The forestry sector in Ethiopia contributes 6 to 7% to the GDP and its contribution to agriculture is 10 to 13 % (Ayele, 2003), this is without accounting for the major contribution of forests as source of fuelwood and charcoal to rural households. Reports on international forest products trade show that the country had spent an average of \$17.85 million on import of different forest products from over 70 different countries. About 50% of import had been spent on panel products, wood pulp, and round wood. Since 1991, the country has adopted a market-oriented economic policy. The macro-economic reform measures that accompanied the new economic policy promote private sector to play an active role in the economic activity of the country (Befekadu and Berhanu, 1999/2000). The investment codes of the government gives provisions for forestry investment in the areas of cultivation and production of commercial forest, production and processing of non-wood forest products, manufacture of wood-based panel products, and forestry machineries. However, the participation of the private sector in these areas has so far been insignificant (Ethiopian Investment Authority 1999/2000). Ethiopian can satisfy its wood demand by expanding plantation forestry in the country. Plantation forests can be managed on a large tract of lands by private sector and by smallholder farmers in the form of farm and community forests. The productive potentials of plantation forests and woodlots on most sites across the country and the prevailing market prices of forest products indicate that forestry can be profitable business. Some studies made on the financial returns of growing trees support the existence of such opportunities. In this paper we will review the status of the forestry sector in Ethiopia from an economic perspectives and the potential role of private enterprises. We will draw lessons from other developing countries experience and existing environment for private investment in the country. We argue that the biophysical features of the country as well as both the domestic and export market opportunities can provide attractive business alternatives for the private forest production and wood processing enterprises. We will also highlight the necessary policy interventions by the government to encourage and motivate the private sector to invest in forestry.

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*Technological Changes and Institutional Arrangements in the Development of Agro-Pastoral Systems in the Lowland-Highland Interface Areas in Northeastern Ethiopia*

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**ABSTRACT:** This paper is based on data gathered for the on-going agro-pastoral development project coordinated by the author. The objectives of the study are examining the technological innovations taking place in the agro-pastoral systems, and investigating associated institutional changes induced. Technological changes are gradually and slowly taking place in the agro-pastoral areas since recently. The change in the technological system is linked with the increasing trend of shifting from livestock dominated to crop-livestock mixed system, maximizing the economic benefits from the livestock endowments of the agro-pastoral producers.

The study areas, located on the northeastern escarpment of the rift valley, include Shewa Robit, Senbete-Kemissie and Bati areas. These areas have good links with lowland pastoralists and highland farmers under the platforms of labor, land and other resources markets, exchange of experiences, technology and know-hows, and social ties involving also negative/conflicting relations. The study is embedded upon the induced innovation theoretical framework of development

The study assesses the changes in soil fertility management and erosion control technology (chemical fertilizer, compost application, agro-forestry and other cropping systems), seed technology, crop protection technology, farm implements, and irrigation/water technology. It also assesses innovations in animal breeds, feed technology and animal health protection technology. The study also investigates formal and informal institutional changes induced or implied by the process of technological innovation, in the areas of land tenure systems, technology development and extension, multiplication of technological inputs, and output, input and credit markets.

## New Partnership for Africa's Development and the Commission for Africa as New Approaches to Africa's Development in a More Globalizing World

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**ABSTRACT:** New Partnership to Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the UK-led Commission for Africa (Commission) were born out of a background of growing marginalization and widening development gap between Africa and the rest of the world at a time of increasing globalization. Despite the many benefits of globalization to other economies around the world, Africa experienced a deeper crisis characterized by growing economic insecurity. With this in the background, from post-apartheid African 'Renaissance' foreign policy emerged an ideological vision to combine collective political nationalism with economic globalization. NEPAD therefore, created simultaneously with the transformation of the Organization of African Union (OAU) to the African Union (AU), represents a new continental international approach in response to all these trends in economic and political globalization that have heavily undermined Africa's autonomy to govern itself and to be able to create economic independence and political sovereignty to move away from its global image seen as the world's capital of humanitarian crisis.

This paper looks at NEPAD and the Commission as new approaches to Africa's development efforts in the new millennium. It assesses the two approaches, aiming to show what is new in them, their departure from the 'usual old story' about Africa's development efforts. It evaluates their strengths and shortfalls. NEPAD is presented as a neo-liberal development approach based on the accelerated economic and political liberalization in African economies with Western economic and financial aid. It reflects a significant paradigm shift in theory and practice regarding the approach to Africa's development and globalization. Thus, NEPAD represents an approach for economic globalization in a collective nationalist African cover that embraces both regionalism and international globalization equally. The Commission for Africa is presented as a parallel as well as a NEPAD enhancing approach to Africa's development efforts. Although it embraces a myriad of important issues of Africa's development crisis such as governance and capacity-building, peace and security, investing in people, growth and poverty reduction and more trade and fairer trade, the Commission's approach is foreign-aid oriented. It emphasizes that *Africa must accelerate reform; and the developed world must increase and improve its aid, and stop doing those things which hinder Africa's progress*. We have just passed a phase in which the view no foreign aid was such that aid given to promote growth in Africa was seen as the same aid used to hold back growth on the continent. Thus, what is new to the aid proposals spelt out by the Commission?

The paper argues that despite continuing to present contradictory outcomes in theory and practice with respect to Africa's development efforts, NEPAD is making significant changes in the right direction. The paper concludes that both NEPAD and the Commission reflect new approaches to Africa's development efforts. Both display many new strengths and shortfalls. The two programmes must not be administered as two different sets of efforts. The Commission's proposals must compliment and enhance African Union's NEPAD programme as the new approach to Africa's development in the third millennium. Therefore, NEPAD's success will depend much on its ability to accommodate proposals of the Commission to enhance it as the new approach to Africa's development in the third millennium. More foreign aid alone is not the answer to Africa's development crisis. NEPAD must expand and create conditions that significantly reduce resource leakages in Africa to enable the continent to raise resources it needs for investment and development within itself. In addition, NEPAD must create conditions to adopt several missing links necessary for sustainable development in Africa that include issues of governance, democracy, human rights and social justice, citizenship (rather than subjectship), citizen-driven policies, viable institutions, capacity-building in all areas of life, advocacy and philanthropy.

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## INNOVATIVE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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**ABSTRACT:** Ethiopia is a battlefield of modern and traditional teaching methodologies since, the majority of the instructors implement educational products and methods that are obsolete and that rely on traditional knowledge. These educational tasks are often physically demanding, very costly in terms of time and energy, and, in many such societies, are also often carried out by priests, parents and senior members of the family. Hence, "transition into modernity in Ethiopia" remained still unfinished work due to which this article is proposing a science and technology based education to achieve cultural change as an alternative remedial solution to overcome the bottlenecks, which enables people to use nature in an organized manner, and can help them manage and beautify social processes. This article focuses on the art and method of blending traditional education with modern science and technological methodologies. Breaking loose from the "traditional society" in which the majority of the population has to cope with series deficiencies, in which man is at the mercy of vividly concern being dependent on nature with retarded socio-structure and the political system as well as the production technique; has got to be altered. The answer may arise from the awakening current of awareness through education and from cross cultural interaction which will encompass technological structuring of work and knowledge.

If development is to serve people it must aim not simply to raise material standards but also to improve the quality of their lives. These depends ultimately on satisfying their non-material needs, for instance developing their creative potential as individuals so that they can contribute to and benefit from the communities to which they belong. "Development" is a learning process, which cannot be made by others; it has to be self-generated, and is therefore not just the application of a predetermined blue print. Hence, development must aim to fulfill fundamental rather than basic human needs. I believe one of the main reasons for Ethiopia's low level of underdevelopment has been the weakness of science and technological activity within the country in one hand and the inappropriateness of our educational method/structure on the other. The major challenge is to increase the implementation of science and technology within the society and alter the quality of life over the next decade, which could be achieved through education. This new blended approach of teaching is flexible in fostering development through on line and off line pragmatic teaching activity to facilitate educational excellence, which is a new way of altering our educational culture. Unless such technology based teaching/learning condition is created we cannot cope up with advancement of the world.

When a new curriculum proposal has to be introduced, it is advisable to undertake PEDAGOGICAL SITUATION ANALYSIS, which involves review of the educational situation and an analysis of the interacting elements that constitute it. External factors and shifts, which will be incorporated within the core courses on one hand and internal factors that include the learners and their attributes, teacher and their knowledge, skills, interests, materials, resources and perceived problems would have to be explored based on which occupational standards have to be designed. It is based on the pedagogical methodologies I developed and results/findings of my teaching exposure in various universities that I have developed this article.

Theoretical or doctrinal Knowledge that manifest themselves in social science and natural science may be of help but it may equally well be a hindrance if detached from the immediate need of the society. For so as to be able to celebrate the marriage of the farmer with global technological knowledge and create cultural change our educational system must be S&T based. With this convergence blended educational effect, a more fluid and demanding labor market could gradually create an acceptable living condition. Furthermore, rural development and improvement of rural livelihood could be achieved if such educational scheme is properly designed. The main purpose of the paper is to show precisely by what types of technological changes/intervention we can diminish the vague and non-effective educational methodology of Ethiopia by ameliorating remote rural villages that are detached from formal educational institutes. The pedagogical methodology focuses on science through investigation, which creatively combines basic conception of science with devices that we use on daily bases. Every one who is educated with this methodology will not only know how to think and use his/her brain but will internalize the skill all roundly. Furthermore, undertaking in such preplanned and well-designed procedure will not only facilitate understanding of the complex principles and conceptualizations but also will safe guard the operational condition of technological devices. This article therefore, explores all possible modalities of innovative educational application of science and technology for development.

**Tree Nurseries, Forestation and Environmental Development in Semen Shewa , Ethiopia**  
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**ABSTRACT:** Semen Shewa, once considered the heartland of Ethiopia is located in the South Eastern part of the Amahara Region. It has an area of about 18,000 square kilometers and a total population of over 2 million persons. The topography of the region is characterized as high plateau and mountainous with deeply incised valleys and gorges that descend to low plains towards the west and the east. Elevations range from below 1000 meters to higher than 3200 meters above sea level. The high plateau is a watershed for numerous annual and perennial streams that drain to the Abay and the Awash Basin, the two major river basins of Ethiopia. Muger river, Chacha, Bersa, Moforwuha, Wonchit and Jemma rivers that drain to the Abay River Basin, are yet to be studied, evaluated and put into proper use for hydroelectric and irrigation development. Kassam river, Kebena, Awadi, Jewhua, Ataye, Jaraa and Borkena rivers flow eastwards draining to the Awash river. The eastward flowing rivers have been surveyed and evaluated in connection with studies conducted for the development of the Awash River Basin. The potentials of these and the other smaller perennial rivers in the region have great potential for development and environmental protection. Semen Shewa has adequate rainfall, an agreeable climate with favorable temperature, moisture and soil conditions for the cultivation of a variety of crops and the raising of domesticated animals. The land has been used, over cultivated and overgrazed for generations. It has been deforested, degraded and eroded. Only very limited areas remain with natural forest coverage on high mountains and major riverbanks. Some forestation efforts were made by previous governments with the involvement of international aid organizations that provided assistance in the form of food for Work. But many of the programs have been discontinued and abandoned with recent changes in government. The region that was once considered, the “heartland of Ethiopia”, is now a peripheral zone of the Amara Region, very much neglected and under developed. The Region is sub-divided into 20 Weredas and 390 Kebele Associations. Out of the 390 Kebeles 348 are rural and 42 urban with an aggregate population of 2.096 million persons composed of 1.051 million males and 1.044 million females. The study attempts to survey and evaluate tree nurseries in the region. It shall study the location, the area covered, population engaged in the cultivation of tree seeds, distribution and forestation activities and programs as well as an evaluation of environmental protection and development of the region.

# **The Ethiopian Writing System and Its Contribution to Cultural Development**

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**ABSTRACT: Writing is a means by which people record, objectify, and organize their activities and thoughts through polygraphs in order to facilitate and ensure existence, growth, nurturing, creativity, and continuity from generation to generation. Writing is a tool used to inscribe and print linguistic expressions. Further, writing plays an important role in the reading of the past. This means that writing facilitates the proper recording and transmissions of events and deeds from one generation to another. Moreover, the system is a truly self-sustaining or self-reliant production. All the components of the knowledge system are produced within the country - from goat or sheepskins to inks to book making. Close and careful examination of the Ethiopian writing system reveals layers of knowledge beyond language and linguistics. It could be argued that the study of writing systems may provide a new approach to knowledge creations, organizations, and disseminations as well as to cultural development.**

**The Ethiopic Writing System, a system known for its elegance and philosophy, is central to various branches of knowledge. The system was created in order to facilitate inter-generational and intra-generational interactions of the Ethiopian people. The system is founded on the cardinal principle of unity, for images have been created to represent ecological, regional, seasonal diversities. The system is an outcome of serious research and discipline. It is also an outcome of a collective effort. The system is a system of meanings - meanings about theology, the heavens, governance, ethnography - all permanently etched in signs, symbols, icons, syllabographs, thereby, not only establishing a structure of knowledge, but ensuring continuity, change and cultural development. The system is a science of language. It is a complete notation or composition of sounds in a language. It is also a marker of gender, proposition, action, possession, hyperbole, and other components of linguistics. I think, more importantly, it is a reference point. It is a center of the people's identity, historical activity, and progression. The purpose of this paper is to show the contribution of the Ethiopian writing system to an aspect of cultural development in Ethiopia and elsewhere.**

*Breaking the “Fertilizer Poverty” and Food Insecurity Traps for Sustainable Development: Experiences from Maize Based Farming System in Southern Africa*

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**ABSTRACT:** The majority of Sub Saharan African countries are faced with the challenge of meeting the Millennium Development Goals of reducing food insecurity, reducing poverty and maintaining their natural resource base. The degradation of natural resources, mining of the productive soils and recurring droughts, unfavorable development policies plus and global factors have contributed to the crisis.

Specifically, smallholder farmers in southern Africa face acute food insecurity because the productive capacity of their soils has declined. These resource poor farmers increasingly cannot afford mineral fertilizers. Farmers mention the lack of fertilizers for their depleted soils as the most important constraint- “Empty Soils, stomachs and pockets”. In response to this challenge, Soil Fert Net researchers in southern Africa have developed and promoted a range of “best-bet” soil fertility management technologies (SFMT) options for farmers. This paper presents a review of financial, adoption, institutional and policy analysis undertaken by Economics and Policy Working Group (EPWG) members on the use of SFMT by smallholders. Financial and risk analysis tools, selected econometric models and policy analysis matrix were employed to measure profitability, incidence and intensity of adoption and to understand the effects of policy instruments necessary to promote SFMTs. Financial analysis of ‘best bets’ indicates that (even with current unfavorable input and output prices) there are positive payoffs to investing in SFMTs. Adoption studies in Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique revealed that farmers need to make a significant initial investment in terms of labor, land and capital before they start to obtain benefits. SFMTs are also management and information intensive and farmers’ limited skills and knowledge are critical factors influencing adoption. Profitability and subsequent adoption decisions are sensitive to changes in maize grain price, crop yield and the cost of borrowing capital. The studies recommended institutional and policy support and advocacy for better access to credit, input availability, market linkages to scale up the diffusion and promotion of SFMTs.

The lessons from Southern Africa suggest that both inorganic and organic soil fertility management options have to be developed and promoted for the resource poor farmers to enhance food security and sustainable development. There is a need to craft an enabling environment and policy instruments to encourage the adoption of natural resource management practices in SSA.

## *The Prospects of Africa's Industrialization*

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**ABSTRACT:** The paper investigates the possible factors behind industrial development in poor economies, where savings and investment resources are very scarce. After reviewing major arguments given for industrialization, it proposes a framework that may enable one to have a close look of the driving forces behind industrial development. On the ground of the framework, it suggests enhancing the favorable factors of market failures as a possible means of improving the speed of industrialization process. Empirical evidences obtained from panel data taken from African economies support the argument the paper.

**JEL classification:** L0; L1,L5

**Keywords:** *Industrialization, Enterprise Clustering, Africa, Market failure, Panel data*

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# **A SURVEY OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND BUDGETARY SYSTEM IN AAU AND ECSC: A Comparative, Case Study**

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**Abstract:** At present there are a number of managerial issues and challenges facing higher education that need to be studied in breadth and depth. However, this paper attempts to address only some of the basic administrative and financial skills required in financing and budgeting of higher education in Ethiopia. Hence, within the framework and limits of the given time and space, the paper will be presented in three major parts focusing on the problems and challenges of Financial management and budgetary system of two H.E.Is: AAU and ECSC. The methodology of the study employed is descriptive analytical and comparative approach based on the data gathered through : (a). Empirical observation and documentary analysis; (b) The interview reports of authorities and experts from the two higher education institutes in A.A, including AAU and ECSC. The first part deals with the context, conceptual frame work and the background literature of educational financial management and budgetary system of H.E.Is, in general, and that of AAU and ECSC, in particular. The Second part of this paper focuses on the discussion and analysis of the context and the major features of financial management and budgetary systems of the two H.E.Is this part discusses briefly (a) the objectives of financial management and the rationale for government intervention, in the financial management of higher education, (b) the functions of financial management and accounting and (c) the categories of fund that are used in higher education expenditure. This is followed by the data pertaining to the problems challenges and analysis and strengths of the current financial management and budgetary systems of AAU & ECSC. The third part of the paper highlights the major findings of the study and, then forwards some viable comments and suggestions (in light of the current higher education policy and proclamation) regarding the most efficient and effective mechanism to be devised in the management of our scarce human and financial resources for quality education in higher education in Ethiopia. It also recommends the need for (a) the preparation and implementation of well organized training programs for all financial managements and budget officers to develop their financial management and budgetary skills, and (b) for the introduction and utilization of up-to-date financial management mechanism and budgetary system in light of the current MOFED financial policies.

*Fertility and the Labor Supply of Married Women in Ethiopia*

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**ABSTRACT:** This study examines the effect of fertility on the labor supply of married women in Ethiopia. When exploring the relationship between fertility and married women's labor force participation, the endogeneity problem between these two decisions must be accounted for (Nakamura and Nakamura, 1992). Quite a bit of effort has been devoted to disentangling the causal mechanisms linking fertility and female labor supply. The cases of Instrumental Variables or IV that are correlated with fertility while being exogenous to the labor supply decision is eliminate this endogeneity problem. For the purpose of this paper, an IV of sibling-sex composition is used to estimate the effect of fertility on the labor supply of married women in Ethiopia. The rationalization for this methodology is the fact that most Ethiopian families prefer male children due to socio-cultural reasons. Therefore, parents with two girls are more likely to have one more child than parents with two boys. Most of the studies undertaken to estimate the effect of fertility on the labor supply of married women find a negative correlation between the two variables. This negative correlation between fertility and the labor supply of women is plausible for developed countries because children go to school at an early age and women face a relatively higher opportunity cost from child rearing. In low income developing countries such as Ethiopia, children start working in the home quite early, which enables the mother to work for pay outside of the home, or engage in alternative employment opportunities. Therefore, in this case there may not be a negative relationship between fertility and labor supply of married women. Thus, the purpose of this paper is to test this hypothesis that the correlation of fertility and labor supply of married women in Ethiopia is positive based on data from the Ethiopian Rural Household Survey data set.

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## NGOs/CSOs in African Development – Challenges, Opportunities: planning for self extinction?

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**Background:** Among the dominant themes in discussions of development problems in Africa since the 1990s, democracy and sustainable development are becoming more and more notable. In the quest for solutions to the development problems besetting the African continent, NGOs/CSOs<sup>8</sup> are increasingly regarded as essential for empowering people, thereby leading to more effective local development services than those promoted by governments. NGOs/CSOs are seen to be in a better position to empower civil society via people's organizations and to strengthen them to act as a countervailing force to the power of the African state, bureaucracy and the local elites. They are expected to foster and support grassroots organizations to become numerous, sizeable, resourceful, democratic and self-reliant. Over the last two decades, NGOs/CSOs gained international reputation to a level that they are being consulted on matters of policy making, planning and implementation at the local, national and international levels. Although majority of them have focused on delivery of services to communities that governments have not been able to do so for various reasons, quite a number have moved to a higher level of thinking and engagement. They have identified the pressing problems facing African countries as being the undemocratic system of government and the unequal, unsustainable, misguided and inappropriate development strategies. Consequently, they have proposed strategies by which equitable distribution of the benefits of sustainable development could be achieved; these include reforming of the world's trading system, more financial resources to African countries and a reduction in military expenditures.

NGOs/CSOs are increasingly influencing their governments, mobilizing people at the grassroots level by strengthening their institutions and raising their awareness. They are instrumental in bringing to the attention of donor countries and the multilateral institutions the harmful effects of some of their policies; calling for equity-led strategies that give priority to achieving broad participatory ownership, control and management of natural resources by people to serve their own needs. More and more CSOs have come to recognise that their traditional concentration on service delivery is insufficient to overcome those structures which keep people poor and hinder satisfaction of their basic needs. They recognise that, in the light of a renewed focus on poverty eradication, the poor themselves have an equal right to be regarded as 'experts'. Local knowledge needs to be fed into national aid planning to avoid the mistakes of the past and ensure that allocations and programmes are appropriate to specific country contexts. They claim their proximity to issues of poverty, corruption, and injustice through project work gives them added insight worthy of representation to aid groups, resulting in the design of more efficient and effective programmes. Traditionally international NGOs (INGOs) have spoken on behalf of 'the poor' and of local organisations in poor countries, because they have had exclusive access to international policy makers. Under the national ownership agenda, however, donors and governments have begun to look to the variety of Southern CSOs directly to engage on policy issues, and these CSOs have grown in confidence and skills to advocate for their own interests in international fora. Southern CSOs are consequently demanding more independence from their Northern funders and they are being forced to rethink their own roles. The wealth of experience and skills available in INGOs in participatory development and policy should be fully utilised and shared with other development actors. INGOs could play a role in gathering learning from practice and developing appropriate criteria and tools of participation, in liaison with southern CSOs, governments and donors.

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<sup>8</sup> *Civil society represents a varied and fluid body of opinion of a diverse group of non-governmental organisations. It is 'neither homogenous nor consensual' and has variable links to 'the poor'. For the purpose of this paper, NGOs and CSO are used to refer to the diverse group of non governmental organizations.*

However, there is a distinct danger of over-simplification in this discourse on wider contribution of NGOs/CSO in the development processes. Civil society cannot go unquestioned and development actors do not always act in accordance with the ideals laid down in their plans.

Civil society is a catch-all term, embracing a plethora of organisations ranging in size, methodology, context and constituency: from community groups of three people, to international donors commanding millions of dollars; from political opposition parties to religious groups. It cannot be assumed that the voice of civil society is the voice of the poor: we must debunk the 'myth that every civil society organisation is a force for progress and democracy. But CSOs should still be valued for the range of possible attributes outlined above their diversity, non-governmental status, proximity to poverty and role of critique to official systems.

**The Issue:** Analysis of the contribution of NGOs/CSOs to development in Africa reveals varying levels of appreciation and criticism in terms of how much ought to have been done, or what ought to have not been done. The difference in perception/interpretation is mainly attributed to the differences in the operational environments, overriding objectives, pretexts of initial intervention in an area (humanitarian response or longer term development), of different NGOs/CSOs; and in some cases whether the engagement was demand or supply driven. Some groups argue that the measure of success in the contributions of NGO/CSOs is the speed at which they make themselves irrelevant for the purpose they have come to being in a particular context. Others however, would like to see the matter from the perspectives of localized impacts/changes made by projects and programmes. Success measurement therefore remains to be an issue, not putting the arguments of the former or the latter to be convincingly realistic.

**Objectives:** The primary objective of this paper is to examine the practical experience of NGOs/CSOs in specific countries in Africa vis-à-vis their contribution to development with a view to closely examining the arguments for and against them. The study will enrich the methodological debate around the role of these organizations related to the question of whether they subscribe to the solution of Africa's development problems or they are part of it. The paper will also attempt to look at the "what if...?" scenario, whereby development in Africa will be examined in light of two scenarios, i.e. with and without the involvement of NGOs/CSOs. The conclusion of the paper will focus on the parameters against which the success or failure of these organizations needs to be measured.

**Methodology:** Review of various authoritative literatures on related subjects, impact evaluation reports of programmes and projects run by NGO/CSOs in different countries, opinions of practitioners both at policy and programme levels, campaigning and advocacy materials produced by various organizations in support of their line of engagement in development in developing countries, will make the major sources of information for the paper. Moreover, the practical experience of the author within the donor/NGO/CSO environment in three countries in Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia) for over 12 years will be a critical contributor to the contents and conclusions of the paper.

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