



CCRDA NEWSLETTER

CCRDA Newsletter—Vol. 2 No. 4

December 2009- March 2010

Together for a Better Future!

CCRDA Successfully Re-registered with the Certified Agency

CCRDA has successfully been re-registered as consortium of Ethiopian Residents and Foreign Charities in accordance with charities and societies proclamation No. 621/2009 on February 8, 2010 and secured its re-registration certificate bearing number 1368. The name of the Association has been amended as 'Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA)'.

We take this opportunity to appreciate CCRDA members for their relentless cooperation in providing necessary condition for re-registration.

The unreserved and proactive support of the Charities and Society Agency, along with its Directors and Officers are also worth mentioning as a historic commitment to support CCRDA and the Ethiopian civil society.

In the mean time, we request members who were re-registered but not yet submitted their copy of re-registration certificate to submit soon.

Once again congratulations and together for a better future!

(See Certificate on P.11)

The CCRDA 230th Annual General Assembly Approved the Newly Revised MoA and 2010 Annual Operational Plan

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The CCRDA 230th Regular General Assembly (GA) unanimously approved the newly Revised Memorandum of Association (MoA) and the 2010 Annual Operational Plan (AOP) on January 22, 2010. Members of the GA meeting also endorsed the move taken to re-register CCRDA as Consortium of Ethiopian Residents and Foreign Charities. Minutes of the 229th General Meeting was also approved.

Ato Feyera Abdi, Chairperson of GA, said that the Meeting was historic, as it determines the continuity and future status of the Association. He said in view of the new Charities and Societies legislation, CCRDA has been continuously preparing to adapt itself to the new situation and re-register in a most inclusive



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Dr. Meshesha (left), Ato Feyera (Left 2nd) , Ato Yabowerk (Right 2nd), Ato Ataklti (Right)



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If you have any news items and features from members and non members, please send us. You are also welcome to use articles or excerpts from CCRDA Newsletter with due credit to the newsletter and the contributor.



CCRDA Donates over 100,000 Birr Worth Books to Youth Center

The Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA) donated more than 400 books valued at over 100,000 Birr to the Nefas Silk Lafto Sub-City, Kebele 16/17 Youth Center on September 15, 2009. The books collection is in diversified areas of discipline including development, health, gender and human rights, among others.

The donation of the books took place at a ceremony organized at the Resource Center of CCRDA Secretariat in the presence of CCRDA staff members and senior management officials, partners, as well as members from the recipient youth center.

During the handing-over occasion, CCRDA Executive Director, Dr. Meshesha Shewarega said that the books, which had been part of the collection of the Resource Center, are timely and indispensable to help enhance the reading culture of the young generation.

“Although the donation sounds a small contribution, it is an expression of CCRDA and its member Organization’s goodwill and gesture towards nurturing the culture of reading and creating a well-read and enlightened younger generation. CCRDA will press ahead with its endeavors towards strengthening such supports to the Youth Center,” Dr. Meshesha said. The Executive Director also appreciated the initiatives taken by the Center for requesting the donation to meet the felt needs of the youth.

Ato Andualem Kidane, General Manager of Kebele 16/17 Youth Center, on his part thanked CCRDA for its swift reply to the request and the priceless gifts offered to them. He also assured that the collection of the books would reach its set target and serve its purpose at most.



The CCRDA Executive Director handing over the donation

The setting-up history of the Resource Center of CCRDA goes back to the establishment of the Association itself. The Association initially served as a center of information exchange for the relief operation during the great famine of Ethiopia surfaced in 1973/74.

The Resource Center, which also manages a high -tech internet cyber café, currently serves more than 350 CCRDA member organizations, researchers, college and university students, media practitioners and other interested members of the society.

Together for a better future



The CCRDA 230th Annual General Assembly Meeting Approved

and strategically viable status. Accordingly, a team of legal experts and senior staff of the Secretariat were scrupulously working to revise CCRDA's Memorandum of Association. The Board has also repeatedly convened and discussed on the matter. The comment of CCRDA members were collected through e-mail and other channels.

He said, thus one of the tasks predetermined for this Meeting is discussion and approval of the Association's Memorandum of Association as a prior requisite for CCRDA to re-register with Charities and Societies Agency (CSA) in the coming few weeks.

Ato Yabowerk Haile, Board Chairperson of CCRDA and Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CCRDA on their part told the gathering that based on the recent organizational repositioning and strategic planning, CCRDA has been working hard to revise its Memorandum of Association.

The document has been critically revised by legal experts and other professionals who have direct, first-hand experience to the matter they said. The Board and the Management have repeatedly reviewed, commented and debated on the MoA before bringing it to this Meeting for approval. They also made it clear that CCRDA has intended to re-register as a Consortium of Ethiopian Residents Charity due to its above 10% income generation from foreign sources.

Moreover, Ato Jima Dilbo, representative of the MoA revising team, delivered the rationale (why) the law was presented, the source documents like the CCRDA SPM, the Charities and Societies proclamation and other important documents. He said the issue with regard to the naming of the Association, setting organizational objectives, the (full, partial) membership status, particulars that govern the General Meeting, Board and the Secretariat were reviewed and presented.

The Board Chair and the Executive Director responded to queries raised by the members in relation to their presentation. They reiterated that though advocating for others would fall out of the proclamation's stipulation, CCRDA will continue to represent and advocate for members, and attributes a

paramount importance to more programmatic issues like capacity building, information service and fundraising than direct relief operations.

They also made clear that CCRDA would maintain its very name except the inclusion of "C" presented in CRDA to refer 'Consortium'. This, they said, would help CCRDA to maintain its highly visible brand and image with which CRDA is known among international donors locally and abroad.

Following a thorough discussions and deliberations, members of the General Assembly unanimously endorsed the, Memorandum of Association with some amendments.

The report presented to the meeting by Ato Feyera Abdi, Chairperson of General Assembly showed that CCRDA was undertaking various activities to adapt itself to the changing legal and operational situations. It established an ad-hoc technical support taskforce and served many members in adapting themselves and fulfilling requirements for re-registration over the past six months. In this regard, the Chair solemnly acknowledged the Charities and Societies Agency (CSA) for the continued support it rendered to the Association in smoothening up the process and making it conducive for member NGOs/CSOs to re-register. He said so far 278 (till January 2010) CCRDA members have successfully registered.

On the occasion, Ato Ataklti Gidey, Deputy Director General of CSA on his part presented a brief report on the progress of the re-registration process. He said the Agency started the re-registration process with multifaceted preparations including mobilization of qualified human resource, investigation to determine active and inactive NGOs/CSOs, preparation of manuals, guidelines and procedures with an initial outlay of 4 million Birr allocated by the government.

"At present [till January 20], 1259 CSOs/NGOs are re-registered and 13 are already in the pipeline. Utmost effort is being exerted to making quality service, transparency, effectiveness and easy accessibility as the guiding values of the Agency on which it is living on," he said.

According to the Deputy Director General, inadequate preparation of NGOs when they come to re-registration was the main challenge. Recently, a consultative meeting has been conducted with 24 networks on the draft directive that defines the re-registration of consortiums, he said .

In due course of deliberation, the D/Director General made clarifications on queries and uncertainties raised by the participants. While presenting the highlights of the 2009 performance report, Dr Meshesha said CCRDA has registered a modest success of above 75% in regular programs and 95% in joint poverty alleviations programs.

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The CCRDA 230th Annual General Assembly Approved

(...Contd. from p.3)



Partial view of the meeting

He said while drafting the 2010 Annual Operational Plan, both the negative and positive trends were reviewed at the sectoral, national and international levels, as well as the potential implications of the implementation of the Charities and Societies law; the global financial crisis and its effect on existing and new donors were considered.

With regard to the financial plan, CCRDA has budgeted Birr 18,813,343 for regular programs and Birr 35, 300, 004 for joint poverty alleviation programs planned with Sida, Irish Aid, Geneva Global, PCI and others, Dr. Meshesha said.

In due courses of deliberations, some members commented on the need to bolster CCRDA's image building activities, streamline GO-NGO Forums, and balance regional presence of CCRDA. And the concerns and comments raised by the members were duly accepted for incorporation. Finally, the motion to approve the 2010 CCRDA Annual Operational Plan presented by the Chairperson, and was approved unanimously.

Furthermore, Dr. Meshesha gave briefings on the background preparation and environmental scanning made to design the 2010 Annual Operational Plan.

Agency Adopting Draft Directive on CSOs 70/30 Operational, Administrative Costs

In an exclusive interview he held with CCRDA/PIMCT early January 2010, Director General of the newly established Charities and Societies Agency (CSA) says his Agency has embarked on drafting guiding directives deemed instrumental in realizing the 70/30 programmatic

and administrative expenditures of charities and Societies as stipulated in the Proclamation No. 621/2009. The Publication and Information Management Core Team (PIMCT) of CCRDA asked the Official on the aforementioned and other related issues, which are believed to be the concerns of many member charities and societies operating in the country. Following are the excerpts:

Ato Ali: The proclamation stipulates that any charity or society shall allocate not less than 70 percent of the expenses in the budget year for the implementation of its purposes and an amount not exceeding 30 percent for its administrative activities. The administrative costs are those expenditures incurred for emoluments, allowances, benefits, purchasing goods and services, believe that the draft directive would be an essential tool to dispel traveling and entertainments necessary for the administrative activities of a Charity or Society. We strongly believe that the draft directive would be an essential to dispel the widely shared misconception. In fact, any sort of misconception about such provision of the Proclamation can not be proved workable or not unless it is tested on the ground. Accordingly, a five-member committee drawn from the Agency has meticulously been working on the draft directive.

CCRDA/PIMCT: Amongst the lack of clarities reigned in the CSOs/NGOs circle, one is about the dichotomous lot of 70/30 of programmatic and administrative expenditures. What do you comment on it?



Ato Ali Siraj

Director General of Charities & Societies Agency

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Agency Adopting Draft Directive on CSOs 70/30 (...Contd. from p.4)

CRDA/PIMCT: Are members of the Committee coining the directive all drawn from the Agency or does it constitute members from other stakeholders? And when was it established?

Ato Ali: The Committee was established a month before. The members are drawn from the Agency itself. However, exemplary experiences of pertinent government sector organizations and NGOs in programmatic and administrative expenditures were taken as a benchmark in due course of adopting the draft directive. Upon finalization, the draft directive would be tabled for discussion among representatives of charities and societies and other core stakeholders with a view to gathering inputs to further develop and refine the same. The CS taskforce and other network organizations are expected to continue playing their facilitating role in organizing a platform in a bid to further enrich the directive among with their constituencies.

CCRDA/PIMCT: Would you please clarify yet another lack of clarities about issues related to advocacy?

Ato Ali: "Advocacy", in the strict sense of the word, is not mentioned in any provisions of the proclamation. In fact, there are well articulated stipulations which delimit the activities of CSOs/NGOs which fall under the categories of Foreign charities /

societies or Ethiopian residents charities/societies. However, these categorized charities and societies can unrestrictedly engage in any development & service delivery activities that would expedite the development endeavours of the country with the income they generate from foreign sources. Truly, this government strongly believes that right and democracy related issues are solely matters of citizens.

We wouldn't let foreign aid or income from foreign sources to dictate our democratic process. Citizens can fully exercise their constitutionally enshrined rights and engage both in the development endeavors and democratic processes provided that they are able to generate the overwhelming amount of fund for the implementation of their activities from local or internal sources. No right of citizens is stifled, and nor their activities are constrained by this Proclamation. Citizen's rights in such matters are unequivocally guaranteed by the FDRE Constitution, and all the same, by the Proclamation, which now come into force.

CCRDA/PIMCT: How is the current status of the process of re-registration of charities and societies?

Ato Ali: The re-registration process of charities and societies is being effected under the Proclamation No. 621/2009 issued in the *Negarit Gazeta* on Yekatit 6, 2001 (February 13, 2009). The Agency used various platforms and CSO/ NGO networks like CCRDA, PANE, NEWA and CORHA to brief member organiza-

tions and associations about preconditions that need to be fulfilled for the re-registration process. We believe such deliberation held between stakeholders has contributed a lot for the smooth facilitation of the re-registration process. The Agency has also made repeated media announcement for the charities and societies to be re-registered in accordance with their set schedule. Accordingly, 1200 charities and societies have successfully been re-registered till late December 31st, 2010. [as at January 31st 1563 Charities and Societies registered]

CCRDA/PIMCT: Could you please specify major problems witnessed in due course of the re-registration process ?

Ato Ali: Inability or a protracted delay to convene their general assembly meetings (for those NGOs/CSOs whose higher decision-making organ is the General Assembly), growing tendency to rely on foreign aids, which manifest itself in the majority of locally operating charities and societies choice of categories, are some of the apparently observed problems.

The Agency, however, created a platform to deliberate on the issue with some indigenous NGOs and encouraged them to re-register and get legal personality as an Ethiopian charity/ society so that

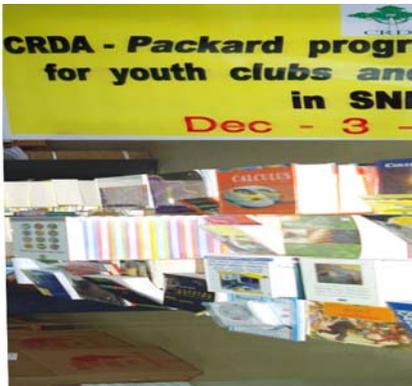
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CCRDA -Packard Program Grants over 35, 000 Educational Books, Valued at 2 Million Birr to Youth Initiatives in SNNPR

The Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA)-Packard Foundation joint program donated 35,000 educational books valued at nearly 2 million Birr to youth centers and school clubs found in five zones of the South National, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR).

The donation of the books took



Partial display of the books donated

place at a handing-over ceremony organized at the CCRDA Resource Center, located at Kaliti Square, on December 3, 2009.

The latest editions of the books collections are in various areas of disciplines which include health, family planning, reproductive health, medicine, science and technology, environment, among others.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony, Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CCRDA noted that the reference books would empower the youth and particularly girls and women to have informed knowledge on family planning and sexually reproductive health, and thereby enhancing their life choice decisions.

“Apart from capacitating the youth centers and school clubs, the books collection would complement the regional government’s endeavors toward expanding reproductive health education deliveries, rural development, youth support packages,” he said.

According to Dr. Meshesha, CCRDA-Packard Program exerted unrelenting efforts to secure the books for free from Books for Africa, a charity organization based in the United States of America.

The Executive Director, however said, while the Ethiopian Government has exempted from tax, Packard Foundation spent over 15,000 USD for the transportation cost and CCRDA incurred 100,000 Birr for facilitating import-related activities.

Dr. Meshesha has also underscored the need to keep the books in good shape and to serve their intended purposes.

W/ro Yemisirach Belayneh, Country Coordinator of Packard Foundation on her part said that the youths need to have empowered with adequate knowledge and information on family planning and reproductive health if they are to play a proactive role in the development discourse in the region.

She said Packard Foundation has been engaged in integrated family planning and

reproductive health, and other programs that would augment women and girls overall participation and empowerment in the country in conjunction with local implementing partners for the last several years.

The representative has lauded, *Books for Africa*, a US-based philanthropist organization, for showing keen interests in collecting and donating the books. She also appreciated the Ethiopian government for allowing the importation of the books tax-free.

While receiving the donation, representative of SNNPR’s Education Bureau, Ato Alemayehu Tesfaye said that the books are highly valuable and would help bridge the desperately needed information gaps particularly in the areas of family planning and reproductive health in the region.

Ato Alemayehu said that his Bureau would continue extending supports for the smooth implementation of CCRDA-Packard joint program in the region and assured that the donation would reach the target groups as soon as possible.

CCRDA-Packard Program Coordinators, partners, representatives of youth centers and school clubs from five zones of SNNPR and other invited guests were in attendance at the handing over ceremony.

The CCRDA-Packard Foundation Program has successfully been implemented in four regional states during the years 2003-2008, and the Program is now extended till 2011.



Government –CSOs Partnership Said Bedrock to Ensure Improved Sanitation and Hygiene

Government and non-government actors need to streamline their joint efforts towards ensuring sanitation and hygiene in the country, a high-ranking government official said.

In his message read out at the opening of the 2nd National and Hygiene Festival held from November 18-20, 2009 at the CCRDA auditorium, State Minister of Health, Dr. Kebede Worku noted that apart from the government efforts in the sector, non-state actors are all dedicating money and human resources towards improving sanitation.

“This year’s festival is organized with the objectives of appreciating the existing efforts and achievements on urban sanitation, drawing lessons and opening up discussions with the concerned government and non-government actors as well as creating the opportunity for regional groups to share experiences



While Ato Tesfaye Zewde (top right) conveying State Minister’s message

and enhance their commitment in the sector in general and on urban sanitation in particular,” he said The State Minister said MDG sanitation’s goal aims to halve the current population without access to sanitation by 2015. In Ethiopia alone, it is estimated that about 35 million people do not have access to sanitation and over half a million children under the age of five die

every year from diarrhea. He, however, said owing to the concerted efforts of state and non-state players, the country has made a progressive achievement from 11.5 % 2003 to 54.8% sanitation coverage in the current year in strengthen our attempt towards bringing about change in the approach of urban sanitation. He affirmed that his Ministry has made the issue of urban sanitation, specially the sewerage part, to become part of the water resources management policy and strategy .

The state minister has underscored the need to bring all the stakeholders on board and renew commitment to ensure safe and adequate water supply, improved sanitation and hygienic practices, as it can save thousands of children’s lives each year.

Representative of Ministry of Water Resources, Yohannes Gebre-Medhin, said on his part that the selection of “Urban Sanitation” as the theme of the year would strengthen our attempt towards bringing about change in the approach of urban sanitation.

He affirmed that his Ministry has made the issue of urban sanitation, specially the sewerage part, to become part of the water resources management policy and strategy .

“ More than 50 small, medium and large towns have sanitation studies that made along the water supply project,” he noted.

The festival included a number of presentations from government and CSOs, field visits, children’s performances, and display of artworks, poems, essays, as well as sector actor’s experiences, and films developed on the subject of sanitation and hygiene in the urban settings of Ethiopia.

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Agency Adopting Draft Directive on CSOs 70/30 Operational, ... *(...Contd. from p.5)*

they would be able to unconditionally engage in the development endeavors and democratization process of the country in accordance with the provisions of the Proclamation.

CCRDA/PIMCT: Would you please comment on the fate of charities and societies not yet re-registered for whatever reasons?

Ato Ali: The Agency would remain committed as ever before to create conducive situations that would enable

charities and societies to resolve their problems and re-register accordingly. Our service and assistance is always at their disposal, and even go to extra miles to address the challenges they encountered so long it falls under the jurisdictions and powers vested in us. The Agency, however, can’t have any authority to transcend the provisions stipulated by the proclamation and regulations adopted to execute the same.



CCRDA/Sida Program Convenes Bi-annual Review Workshop

Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Associations (CCRDA) and Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) organized a bi-annual review workshop on the implementation of HIV/AIDS Control and environmental protection and management programs on December 17-18 at the auditorium of CCRDA.

According to Ato Mesfin Mengistu, CCRDA/Sida program coordinator, the objective of the workshop is to gauge project plan versus achievement of each project, identify the cumulative successes so far registered with each of the Project Implementing Partners' (PIPs') projects as well to share inter-project experiences and draw lessons for the future project designing efforts.

Ato Mesfin noted that the workshop has two distinctive features, for both HIV/AIDS and Environment Area Programs are undertaking a joint Project Review Workshop whereby a higher inter/intra learning opportunity is expected as well as participation of high number of beneficiary representatives who have observed livelihoods changes within each project targeted areas are expected to be witnessed. While officially opening the workshop, Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, CCRDA Executive Director said that the CCRDA-Sida program has been undertaking

various projects in the areas of HIV/AIDS control and prevention as well as in environmental development and management in partnership with 22 project implementing partners (PIP) in seven parts of the country since 2004.

Dr. Meshesha noted that the aforementioned interventions have long been Sida's thematic development areas, and are focused on the key results areas of increased community participation, enhanced income generating options, and improved communities' overall

as in facilitating various income generating schemes for the people living with HIV/AIDS. He also lauded the activities being undertaken to protect the degrading environment, reverse the worrying trends of climatic change and ensuring food security of the target populations.

The Executive Director has underscored the need for participants of the meeting to share their experiences, thoroughly revisit their performance, assess impacts and see the possibilities of scaling up best practices in other areas in the years ahead.

Some 100 participants including heads of PIP Organizations, project and finance officers and representative beneficiaries of each project were in attendance at the Workshop.



Participants in partial views

economic, social and health situations. He said since the launch of the HIV/AIDS prevention and control Program, encouraging results have been achieved in terms of awareness, strengthening house based care and supports, as well

ZOA Refuge Care , VSI Donate Books to CCRDA

ZOA Refuge Care, a Dutch-based NGO and member of CCRDA, donated 85 latest editions of books largely on Conflict Resolution worth 3, 758 Euros to CCRDA on October 6, 2009 at a ceremony organized at the CCRDA Resource Center.

Handing over the books to CCRDA, representative of the ZOA Refuge Care Country Director said in line with the consensus reached at the last year's workshop of Good Governance Forum, ZOA has imported such books, which he said are valuable for the capacity building endeavors of CCRDA and its affiliate member charities and societies.



ZOA handing over the books

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ZOA Refuge Care , VSI Donate Books

(...Contd. from p.8)

He said the books would help CCRDA to have a resource center of excellence and serve as potential reference materials for researchers, readers from the academic circle, government bodies and NGOs engaged in peace promoting and building efforts. The books are also intended to promote peace and peaceful co-existence within the Ethiopian society by identifying, analyzing and resolving the root causes of conflicts, he said.

Ato Regassa Aboma, CCRDA Membership Development and Networking Core Team (MDNCT) Director said the initiatives taken by ZOA Refugee Care to work on such common areas of interest is quite exemplary for the rest of the members. He told the gathering that the books will in fact enrich CCRDA’s Resource Center with updated study and research outputs. CCRDA shall promote and facilitate effective utilization of the books to support the members’ engagement in the areas, he said. The Director further assured CCRDA’s commitment towards complying with the modality of cooperation.

In a related development, CCRDA received a collection of books from Venture Strategies Innovations (VSI) , a civil

society organization based in California, USA, on November 06, 2009.

According to a press release issued by the donating organization, the books are in a diversified area of discipline which include, among others, Health and Development, Training for English Teachers, Accounting and Occupational/Career Development.



The VSI delegation visiting CCRDA’s Resource Center

Government –CSOs Partnership Said Bedrock.....

(...Contd. from p.7)

Around 250 participants from GOs, NGOs, religious institutions, renowned personalities and other stakeholders attended the three day festival organized by the Wash Ethiopia Movement.

WASH Ethiopia Movement is part of the Global WASH advocacy Campaign - Water Supply Sanitation Collaborative Council which was initiated in 2004 by a voluntary coalition of government and non-governmental institutions to contribute to the reduction of the death of millions of children as well as other health crisis due to lack of safe and adequate water, poor sanitation and hygiene practices.

It is learnt that CCRDA’s Water and Sanitation Forum is an active member of both

the steering and technical committees of the National Wash Movement.



Partial view of participants in the symposium

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CCRDA-Irish Aid Program Holds Experience Sharing, Annual Review Meetings

The CCRDA - Irish Aid (IA) Collaborative HIV/AIDS, Prevention and Care and Support Program convened experience sharing and annual activity review meetings from December 07- 11, 2009 at the training hall of CCRDA.

According to W/ro Abeba Amare, CCRDA-IA Program Unit Coordinator, the good practice experience sharing was held among some vibrant sister organizations operating in the Addis Ababa City administration. Peer education, self-help initiatives, local resource mobilization, package service approach, documentation, among others, are key areas from which valuable experiences were drawn.

In due course of the annual review meeting, Project Implementing Partners (PIPs) have presented their 2009 activity reports, revisited their own and other partners performances, experiences, good practices and success stories. They have also compared and contrasted various project implementing strategies and captured the better ones for further scaling up and replication.

Moreover, the PIPs got ample opportunities to share problems encountered in the course of project implementation and learnt from each other on the mechanisms /strategies devised to redressing problems in the context of their respective project areas. The Meeting was also considered as a potential gateway to interact and get to know each other among the implementing partners.

While setting the way forward, the Meeting underscored the importance and capacity building as the three core issues to be stressed as future



CRDA/Irish-Aid Reviewing Progresses with PIP Projects

of scaling up good practices, and considered networking, coordination direction/2010 Action Plan. Participants of the Meeting have also underscored the need to efficiently utilize the untapped potential of the private sector in the fight against HIV and AIDS. They have also reached consensus that gender issue be prioritized in the 2010 Action Plan.

Three trophies were awarded from project beneficiaries to Irish Aid and CCRDA-Irish Aid Program Coordinating Officers, for exhibiting outstanding performance and leadership during the 2009 project implementation year.

Some 48 participants including directors, program coordinators and beneficiaries took part at the five-day experience sharing and annual review workshop.

CCRDA, Irish Aid and the Tigray and SNNP Regional HAPCOs have been working in partnership since 2002 on HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support program, in Tigray and SNNP Regional States through 17 project implementing partners (six

in Tigray and 11 in SNNPRS). The typology of the project implementing partners include, two PLHIV associations, seven civil society/ community development associations, one professionals' association, one faith-based organization (FBO), one local regional radio and five local implementing NGOs.

Moreover, one regional forum of NGOs working on HIV/AIDS, plus one network of associations of PLHIV have been strengthened through CCRDA/IA capacity building program.

In connection with the World AIDS Day commemoration /campaign, the Program provided small grants ranging from Birr 50,000-80,000 to seven organizations in this year's alone.



The current partnership covers the period 2009-2011 with a three year earmarked fund amounting to Birr 14,305,120.00

Together for a better future



CCRDA Partakes in IGAD-NGO/CSO Forum's Meeting

Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Associations (CCRDA) took part at a three-day IGAD-NGO/CSO Forum's meeting held in Addis Ababa from November 30 - December 2, 2009. CCRDA was represented by Ato Regassa Aboma, CCRDA's Membership Development and Networking Core Team (MDNCT) Director.

According to CCRDA's internal source, the Forum's meetings were of a two-type in nature whereby that of the first day (Monday 30, 2009) was the 4th Regional Steering Committee meeting while that the following two days (1-2 December, 2009) was being the 2nd General Assembly meeting of the Forum. All IGAD but Eritrea had attended both meetings through their respective NGOs and government representatives.

The 4th Regional Steering Committee Meeting, among others, deliberated on the reports regarding the election of the National Steering Committee members by each country. Accordingly, only Ethiopia and Sudan had reported a proper organization of the National Steering Committee meetings on the basis of which they had elected their representatives for the Regional Steering Committee as well as for the General Assembly of IGAD-NGO/CSO Forum. Others reported that they either are in the process or just been assigned by the governments to fill the gap.

The source said the 2nd GA Meeting deliberated on a number of issues including hearing of the reports of the Regional Steering Committee on the performances since the third Regional Steering Committee meetings, hearing of reports on the situation in Sudan-Darfur and Somalia (particularly with regard to facilitating the election of the National Steering Committee in other countries by the IGAD Secretariat), presentation of the study conducted on strengthening of the IGAD-NGO/CSO Forum, amendments of the statute of the Forum, and group-breakouts to discuss on IGAD's priority thematic areas.

The Assembly has unanimously amended the statute of the Forum, and strongly recommended for the establishment of the NGO Desk in the IGAD Secretariat to coordinate and facilitate the activities of the Forum. The IGAD Secretariat Executive Director and Ambassador Brouk (Ethiopia's special envoy to IGAD) promised to facilitate the establishment of the Desk as

soon as possible, it said.

According to the source, the meeting saw an extensive debate on the need for the establishment of another Permanent Secretariat to facilitate the activities of the Forum instead of having it rotating along with the chairing country. Sudan was fast for volunteering to host the Permanent Secretariat by covering all the necessary costs. Finally the meeting agreed to see it in the future in line with the expected duties of the recommended Desk under the IGAD Secretariat. The Regional Steering Committee has been assigned to look into it.

In due course of the meeting, through Ato Regassa Aboma, CCRDA took the privilege of chairing the first General Assembly meeting for the whole day and co-chairing the second day with Wz. Saba of NEWA, and people from the IGAD Secretariat and COMESA, the source said.

CCRDA Successfully Re-registered with the..... (...Contd. from p.1)





Excerpts from the NGOs Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct is a set of norms, principles and values to standardize the conduct, action and behavior of NGOs, and which recognizes NGO as a voluntary, not-for profit, non-self-serving, non-governmental, non-partisan and an independent organization or association involved in the promotion of social justice and development. NGOs may thus, be national as well as international; secular as well as “faith-based”. Code of Conduct in general is a mechanism whereby NGOs self-regulate themselves.

What is the Purpose of the Code?

The Code of Conduct will:-

- ◇ Ensure transparency and accountability in the operation of NGOs by voluntary self-regulation;
- ◇ Improve the quality of services provided by NGOs by helping NGOs to adopt high standards of conduct and to devise efficient decision making processes;
- ◇ Improve communication between the NGO community and the various stakeholders;

- ◇ Improve the performance of the NGO community by encouraging the exchange of experiences among its members and learning from proven best practices.

What are the standards of Code of Conduct?

The Standards of Code of Conduct shall refer to the way in which signatories behave and work and the following are samples of standards:

- People-centered
- Fairness and Equity
- Moral and Ethical Integrity
- Transparency and Accountability
- Good Governance
- Independence
- Communication and Collaboration
- Gender Equity
- Environmental Consciousness
- Sustainability
- Impact

What is New?

Incoming & Outgoing Staff Members

Incoming		Outgoing	
Name	Position	Name	Position
Ato Solomon Tsegaw Dessie	Senior Administrative Officer	WZ. Rahel G/Mariam	PCI & GG Program Coordinator
Ato Nardose Mengesha Wendafrash	Easter Region Coordination Officer		

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Newly Arrived Reference Materials



CCRDA

- ◇ Textbook of International Health, 2009
- ◇ Essential Global Health, 2007
- ◇ The Practice of Nursing Research, 2008
- ◇ More: Population, Nature, and What Women Want, 2008
- ◇ Strategies for Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language Tutors
- ◇ Bookkeeping for Non-profits, 2005
- ◇ New Guide for Occupational Exploration, 2005
- ◇ Working with Conflict
- ◇ Wetlands and Natural Resource Peace
- ◇ Demobilization in Sub-Saharan Africa
- ◇ Science and Policy in Natural Resource Management
- ◇ Mediation in International Relations
- ◇ Managing Our Natural Resources