



EDRI/ESSP-II Research Assistants received training on "Pocket Survey" using PDA (Personal Digital Assistants). The training has been given by Mr. Felix Schmieding from Oxford, UK and was held at ILRI Campus February 22-25, 2011.

The training focused on use of Pocket Survey for conducting surveys, including building questionnaires, getting data off PDAs and exporting data into a usable format.



Staff News:

Ibrahim Molla tied the knot with Feiruz Yimer on February 12, 2011. Congratulations to Ibrahim!

IFPRI – ESSP-II and EDRI Selected 2 PhD and 21 MA Students for Competitive Small Research Grants:

This grant scheme aims to contribute towards reducing the financial constraints to conducting economic policy-relevant empirical research in the context of graduate programs in Ethiopian public universities.

The Grants are provided on a competitive basis, depending on the quality of the proposal and the relevance of the topic to the development problems of the country.

The 23 candidates (2PhD and 21 MA/MSc students) have signed contracts with IFPRI/ESSP-II and EDRI to receive grant for their further education.

Upcoming Events!

- IFPRI/ESSP-II will host a one day session during the Ninth International Conference on Ethiopian Economy to be held at Ethiopian Economic Association (EEA) in June 2011.
- Poverty Analysis Training will be conducted in collaboration with Oxford University in April 2011.

News!

- The new Program Leader for IFPRI-ESSP II, Dr. Bart Minten, officially assumed duty in February 2011 and made an institutional visit to ESSP II at the beginning of February 2011.
- The Deputy Division Director of the Development Strategy Governance Division (DSG) of IFPRI, Dr. Paul Dorosh, visited ESSP II on the beginning of February 2011.
- The National Advisory Committee meeting of ESSP II was held on February 2, 2011.
- ESSP II Donor's meeting was held on February 4, 2011

Highlights of Presentations in January - February 2011:

Economic Impacts of Climate Change on the Livestock Revenues of Farmers in Nile basin of Ethiopia: Evidence from Ricardian Model: Meseret Molla. ILRI Campus, January 12, 2011.

- Increased temperature and decreased rainfall are the principal perceptions of the selected farmers in the Nile basin of Ethiopia; few farmers have adjusted farming to perceived climate changes; lack of information and money are the key limiting factors to adjusted farming.
- The simulation models show that climate has a nonlinear effect on net revenues, with changes in temperature and changes in precipitation giving various effects on crop, livestock and mixed agriculture.

Road Transport in Ethiopia: Trends, Stock of Achievements, and Impact on Overall and Sectoral Economic Growth: Ibrahim Hassen. EDRI Meeting Room, January 21, 2011

- Despite the growth in the last decade, the current road density is still much below the average road density of Africa; the necessary expanding requires about four fold of the existing road network.
- Asphalt roads have a significant positive influence on overall GDP growth, whereas the effect of gravel roads is statistically significant. The impact of the road network on agricultural GDP growth is less strong and addresses the issue of accessibility to the rural poor; there is a pronounced positive impact on industrial and service sector GDP growth.

Socioeconomic Determinants of Fertility in Ethiopia: Fanaye Tadesse. ILRI Campus, January 26, 2011.

- Urbanization plays a key role in reducing fertility
- Improving economic status of women leads to lower fertility
- Education of women beyond primary level has a strong effect in reducing fertility
- Lowering child mortality through better access to health services could reduce fertility

Impact assessment of the food security program in Ethiopia: Guush Berhane, John Hoddinott, Rachel Sabates-Wheeler. World Bank. February 14, 2011.

- Progress on the implementation of the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and the Household Asset Building Program (HABP).
- Discussion of institutional and logistical implementation issues, as well as several quantitative and qualitative evidences regarding the implementation of the two programs.
- Presentation of how living standards are evolving in PSNP and non-PSNP beneficiary households.

Publications:

- Zewdu, Getnet Alemu, and Mehrab Melak. 2010. **Implications of Land Policies of Rural-Urban Linkages and Rural Transformation in Ethiopia.** ESSP-II Working Paper No 15.
- Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse, Paul Dorosh, Sinafikeh Asrat. 2010. **Crop Production in Ethiopia: Regional Patterns and Trends.** ESSP-II Working Paper No 16.
- Chamberlin, Jordan, and Emily Schmidt. 2010. **Ethiopian Agriculture: A Dynamic Geographic Perspective.** ESSP-II Working Paper No 17.
- de Brauw, Alan, and Valerie Muller. 2010. **Do Limitations in Land Rights Transferability Influence Mobility Rates in Ethiopia?** ESSP-II Working Paper No 18.

Visit our website to download up-to-date working papers and presentations!

<http://www.ifpri.org/publications/results/taxonomy%3A302>

Ethiopia Strategy Support Program II

Research Initiatives 2011:

- Determinants of agricultural productivity
 - Analysis of farm-level data from Central Statistical Agency (CSA)
 - Analysis of agricultural input use, gender issues, household response to high food prices
- Evaluation of watershed management investments
- Determinants of market prices of cereals
- Operational multi-market model
- Book on Ethiopian food and agricultural policy
- Consumption, Savings and Investment Behaviors of Successful Farmers
- Rural-urban transformation
 - Rural-urban migration survey
 - CGE analysis of structural changes in the economy
 - Implications of infrastructure investments

Capacity Building Initiatives 2011:

- **Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI)**
 - Support to EDRI SAM/CGE Analysis
 - Support to short-term policy analysis on cereal markets, inflation, and economic growth
 - Joint seminar series
 - International PhD (5) training (planned)
- **Central Statistical Agency (CSA)**
 - Support to GIS analysis
 - Maintain operational geo-database
 - Federal and regional GIS training
 - Strengthen data dissemination through REKSS
- **Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)**
 - Support to agricultural and food security policy analysis
 - Creation of operational agricultural policy data base
 - Training on agricultural market analysis

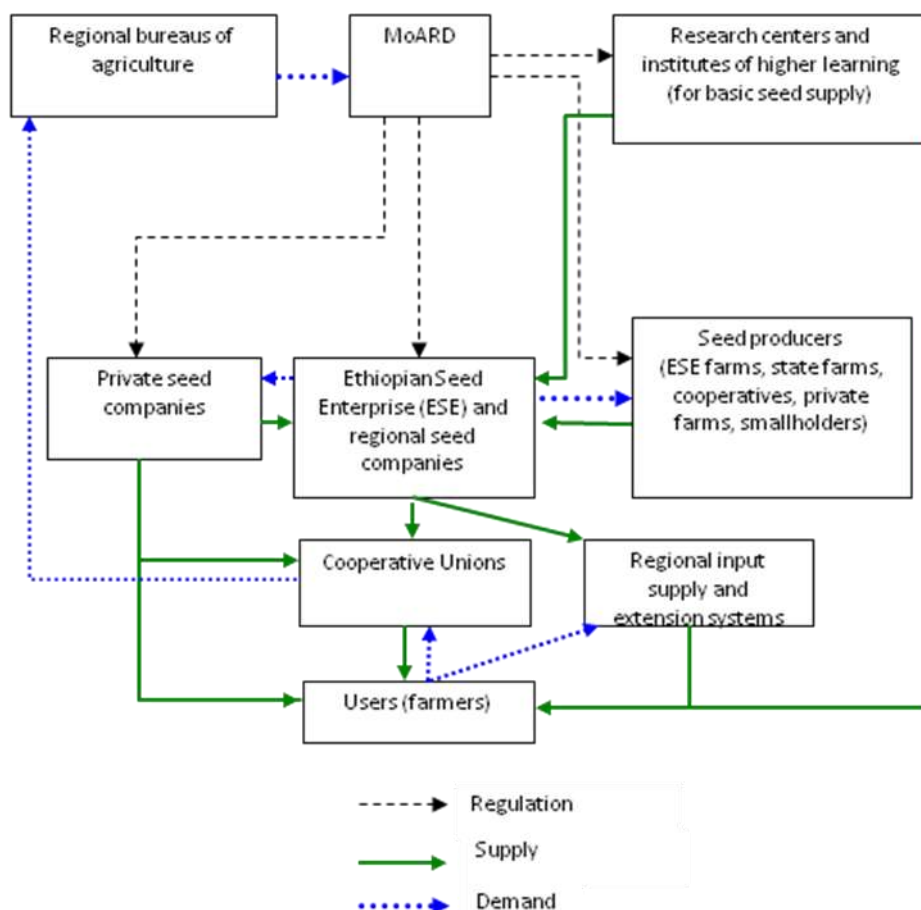
Policy Related Analysis at ESSP II:

Seed, Fertilizer, and Agricultural Extension in Ethiopia

Spielman, David, Dawit Kelemework and Dawit Alemu. 2010. ESSP-II Working Paper No 20.

- Over the past four decades, decision-makers in Ethiopia have pursued a range of policies and investments to boost agricultural production and productivity, particularly with respect to the food staple crops that are critical to reducing poverty in the country
- A central aim of this process has been to increase the availability of improved seed, chemical fertilizers, and extension services for small-scale, resource-poor farmers.
- While there is some evidence to suggest that the process has led to improvements in both agricultural output and yields, decision-makers still recognize that there is an urgent need for more substantial improvement

A schematic of the Ethiopian seed system



- This study synthesizes the lessons learned from Ethiopia's past experiences with providing smallholders with access to seed, fertilizer and extension services, identifies challenges facing the country's continuing efforts to strengthen its input systems and markets, and recommends policy solutions for the future.

IFPRI – ETHIOPIA STRATEGY SUPPORT PROGRAM

www.ifpri.org/themes/essp/essp.htm

Contact:

Bart Minten

IFPRI c/o ILRI

P.O. Box 5689, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: +251 11 6 17 25 55 Fax: +251 11 6 46 23 18

Email: mahlet.mekuria@cgiar.org

INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

www.ifpri.org

Contact:

2033 K Street, NW • Washington, DC

20006-1002 USA

Tel: +1-202-862-5600

E-mail: ifpri@cgiar.org

ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

<http://www.edri.org.et/>

Contact:

P.O. Box 2479,

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: +251 11 5 50 60 66; +251 11 5 52 53 15

Fax: +251 11 5 50 55 88

Email: exe-director@edri.org.et