



ESAP Newsletter

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Ethiopian Society of Animal Production

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26th Ethiopian Society of Animal Production Annual Conference Held in the Beautiful City of Bahir Dar



Ethiopian Society of Animal Production 26th Annual conference was held at Bahirdar from August 23-25, 2018 under the theme “Transforming the Ethiopian Livestock Sector”.



The organizing committee chaired Dr Likawent Yeheyis Director, Livestock Research Directorate, Amhara Regional Agricultural Research Institute (ARARI), brought this to a successful conference. The conference was attended by high government officials, international organization representatives,

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diverse actors from research, academia, development, and private sector as well as civil society. Dr. Ermias Abate, Deputy Director General, Amhara Region Agricultural Research Institute made a welcoming speech, which was followed by a welcome note from ESAP President, Dr Getchew Gebru. The official opening was made by H.E. Professor Fekadu Beyene, State Minister Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and the patron for ESAP Jubilee Anniversary in 2017.

Dr. Ermias of ARARI was pleased with the huge turnout, and welcomed everyone by saying “ it is a great pleasure to welcome the participants of the 26th ESAP Annual conference, a conference jointly organized by Amhara Agricultural Research institute (ARARI) Bahir Dar University, and the executive committee of ESAP”.

He added “I am delighted that so many members of ESAP, representatives of national and international livestock research and development institution have come to this



gathering to discuss and exchange experiences on pertinent issues in livestock research and development in Ethiopia. ARARI and BDU feel happy and honored to organize this spectacular event at this point in the history of ESAP”. The significance of ESAP conference is well noticed by several governmental organization, research and development partner the private sector and individuals in the profession. In view of that they have all offered technical, financial, and other logistical and moral support towards successful organization of the conference, he concluded.

The welcoming address by the president of ESAP, Dr Getachew Gebru, began by welcoming participants to the beautiful city of Bahir Dar, and he highlighted the

multifaceted role of ESAP as a professional society; as well as an umbrella organization; and as a strong arm of the development wing. Dr Getachew also emphasized on the extraordinary efforts of the executive committee of ESAP and the team spirit nurtured



with ARARI and BDU committee members to register another start of a well-organized conference. He added “We have a big turn out today by having members radiating from all corners of the country making our conference truly professional; I sincerely appreciate heads of institutions in research, academia, development, and private sector for recognizing the value of attending ESAP conference, and for logistic support for their staff to be here with us today”.

“The theme of this year’s conference”, Dr Getachew noted “is Transforming Ethiopian livestock sector. If the plans as stipulated in the LMP are successfully implemented, the projection based on the ILRI/MOA study could eliminate poverty in approximately 2.4 million livestock keeping household at the family farm and significantly adding to the agricultural GDP’.

His Excellency Professor Fekadu Beyene, State Minister, of Agriculture and Livestock Resources, officially opened the conference by highlighting that “The desired transformation has been well related to the Growth and Transformation Plan GTP I and GTP II, However, mid-term evaluation of GTP II indicates that we are far behind in achieving the target that has been set for livestock sector, and greater efforts are being made to realize the remaining target of GTP II”. He added that ESAP should build its capacity to sup-



port research, education and extension. It should liaise with all relevant development actors in order to better accomplish its mandate and realize its vision. The strength of ESAP like any society depends on the coordinated support and active engagement of its members and supporters. “My Ministry will do its best to see strong and vibrant ESAP”, said Professor Fekadu. Finally, His Excellency concluded the opening speech by saying “What makes this conference unique is that it is being staged at a time all peoples are marching for cause of change. I call upon ESAP members and supporters to play active role with regard to transforming the livestock subsector, raise its economy, and enable our country, Ethiopia attain middle-income status as envisaged in the GTP plans’.

Thirteen (13) plenary papers were presented by ESAP members and invited guests in three different parallel sessions. An ILRI side event was also staged that related to the experiences of developing the livestock master plan in Africa (Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Rwanda) and Asia (Uzbekistan and Bihar state of India). Twenty three (23) technical papers were presented by ESAP members in day 2 of the conference, followed by research visit at Andasa Research Center, organized through ARARI. The Fogera Cattle improvement and conservation, feed processing, modern poultry farming, and other scientific practices at the research center were the focus of the visit, that was organized exceptionally well by the center director, Dy Yeshwas, and his staff .

Lastly in the closing of the conference BDU and ARARI provide the award to ESAP, and Dr Firew Tegegn made the closing remarks.



Making agriculture an Attractive Business: Experiences from LIVES project

By Dereje Legesse (LIVES Agribusiness Expert)

Working with national and regional partners, the Livestock and Irrigation Value chains for the Ethiopian Smallholders (LIVES) project has designed sustainable value chain interventions to promote agriculture as a business for both livestock and irrigated crop commodities.

This article shares lessons from the implementation of these interventions. The goal of these activities is to promote market-oriented agriculture through increasing access to input/service supply and market opportunities for all value chain actors by accelerating efficiency and competitiveness in the business sector.

Each of the interventions targeted both new and existing agribusinesses engaged in input supply, service delivery and marketing or processing of commodities. Each of these businesses had different ownership structures—public, private, group, and cooperative/union.

Appropriate interventions were designed and promoted in the 31 districts in 10 zones and 4 regions—Amhara, Oromia, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNPR) and Tigray—where the project is developing commodity value chain systems for dairy, beef, small ruminant, poultry, apiculture, fodder, fruit, and vegetable commodities.

Technical and business development support was offered to value chain actors under the initiative including in basic business, organization, and leadership skills; enhancing business to business and farmer to business links to market and financial services, cost/benefit analysis, advice on alternative financing ([financial leasing](#)) and cost saving transactions (mobile banking).

Achievements

As of 31 March 2017, 2,356 agribusinesses had received support from LIVES. Out of these, 1,753 are engaged in input/service supply and 603 in marketing/processing businesses. The project has facilitated new ideas through commodity platform meetings, new technology demonstrations and other means that have led to the establishment of new businesses. Out of the total number of agribusinesses supported by the project, 589 (25%) have established new businesses, out of which 454 are engaged in input/service supply and 135 in marketing or processing.

These businesses have increased access and use of input supplies and services for smallholder farmers and enhanced value addition and market opportunities for value chain actors. In the mid-term community survey conducted by LIVES in 2016 (covering the time 2012 to 2015) about 49% and 24% of smallholders who have access to and use, the public extension service (for information and knowledge, capacity building/training and linkages support) are satisfied and very satisfied, respectively.

The project is working with partners to provide information, facilitate market opportunities (including collective marketing), link different value chain actors and promote local demand to address marketing bottlenecks.

MoA Livestock and Fisheries Sector organized a workshop on evaluation of GTP II livestock sector plan for 2019

ESAP attends the MoA Livestock and Fisher Sector organized a workshop on evaluation of GTP II livestock sector plan for 2019 at Adama from 22 - 28 October 2018. Dr Sisay Tilahun, ESAP EC member attended the workshop. Here is a brief note from his attendance of the workshop:



(photo credit Gashaw Debele, MoA)

The primary objective of the workshop was:

To evaluate the ultimate goal set by the government on the country's Growth Transformation Plan (GTP II) of the livestock sector for 2019

To find the solution for the problem the encountered in the livestock sector

According to Dr Sisay, “more than 60 participants from Regional Livestock Agency, Regional Bureau of Agriculture, Research Institute, Universities, Policymakers and different organizations have participated. The workshop was officially opened by the newly appointed MoA Minister Mr. Umer Husen. In his opening speech, he noted that series of livestock sector development strategic initiatives were taken by the government over the past few decades. He also indicated that

GTP II livestock sector program is one of the programs planned by the government to boost the livestock sector. The program has great importance and contribution to the fast growing country's economy that can ensure food security, increase the foreign currency, and create a job opportunity to the rural and urban population.”



“The two days workshop program was chaired by State Minister, Livestock and Fishery Dr. Gebregziabher Gebreyohannes. He noted the importance of livestock sector to the country development and more work needed to solve the increased demand for livestock products. He also indicated that the livestock sector provide large numbers of employment and create jobs across the various number of value chain. But, due to various natural and man-made constraints, the livestock production and productivity has remained low in turn the demands for high quality and quantity of raw materials for domestic industries and the export market have not been met.



On the opening session, the Livestock Sector Directorate presented two papers on GTP II plan for 2019. The presentation profoundly indicated the government direction on how to improve livestock production and productivity across the country. The presentation provided a wealth of information and created opportunities for discussions. The participants had different questions, ideas, comments and shared their views on how to achieve the targeted plan for 2019. In addition to this, the workshop participants advised that significant effort should be made both from the Ministry and the livestock sector employee to achieve the GTP II plan. Finally, the chairperson concludes the two-day's meeting by giving a brief remark on how to develop the livestock sector and improve the livestock production and productivity. He concluded his speech by wishing hard working time to accomplish the GTP II task that lay upon the Ministry.”

ESAP facilitates training of 7 Ethiopians at EU’s best Laboratory



Six Ethiopians from VDFACA and one PhD researcher from EIAR were among the trainees at the Wageningen University Research RIKLIT laboratory. The training was made possible with the Applied Research Fund (ARF) that



supports the healthy cow healthy milk project- a joint project between Netherlands-India and Ethiopia, that aims at management interventions that help reduce use of antibiotics and on the use of herbal medicine. The one-week training in RIKLIT was focused on milk quality assessment. The training was provided by Dr Mariel Pikkemaat.



Women and access to resources

Source: <http://bigpictureagriculture.blogspot.com/>



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When rural women have equal access to resources we will be one step close to [#ZeroHunger](#).

Today less than 15% of all landholders are [#women](#).

This needs to change.



Safety of Milk

Milk in India largely safe to drink, very few samples were found to be adulterated: FSSAI survey

Source:<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/milk-in-india-largely-safe-to-drink-very-few-samples-were-found-to-be-adulterated-fssai-survey/1381340/>. November 14, 2018

The findings come after Mohan Singh Ahluwalia, a senior member of the Animal Welfare Board of India, raised concerns that about 70% of milk sold in India is not as per FSSAI standards.

Packaged or loose, milk sold and consumed in India is largely safe to drink as only 10% of the milk is contaminated, and the prime reason behind this is poor quality of feed, irresponsible use of antibiotics and poor farm practices, said Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) in an interim report of the National Milk Quality Survey 2018. In a large number of samples that it examined, very few samples were found to be adulterated. Quality issues, however still persist, it added.

The interim report, which was released on Tuesday, has only considered liquid milk and did not include milk products. Of the total, about 41% (2607) samples were for processed milk, while remaining 59% (3825) were of raw milk.

The report showed that non-compliance on fat and solid non-fat (SNF) quality parameters is higher in raw milk compared with processed milk. “Processed milk samples had a bigger share in the number of non-complaint samples as compared to the raw ones. This survey must make private industries adhere to the standards,” said Pawan Aggarwal, CEO of FSSAI.

The findings come after Mohan Singh Ahluwalia, a senior member of the Animal Welfare Board of India, raised concerns that about 70% of milk sold in India is not as per FSSAI standards. The survey released in 2011 had shown that most Indians are consuming detergents and other contaminants through milk. “This report has been released as there was a lot of misinterpretation of information provided in the survey conducted in 2011,” Aggarwal added.

In 2011, FSSAI did not include any parameters pertaining to contaminants and just focused on quality rather than safety concerns. According to Aggarwal, the new survey found that only 638 or 9.9% of the samples were adulterated. The country’s food safety body had released a similar report recently in which it said that 25% of the food samples, including milk, it tested this year were adulterated. This survey was conducted over a period of 6 months (between May to October 2018), and is the largest systematic survey of milk till now, both in terms of sample size (6,432 samples) and the number of parameters. The food authority has considered 4 quality parameters, 12 adulterants and 4 contaminants – antibiotics residues, pesticides residues, Aflatoxin M1 and Ammonium Sulphate.

26th Ethiopian Society of Animal Production annual conference focuses on livestock development

Posted on 11 Sep 2018 by BEAMUK TESAYE

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Fekadu Beyene, Ethiopia's state minister for agriculture and livestock resources, opening the conference (photo credit: ESAP).

The Ethiopian Society of Animal Production (ESAP) held its 26th annual conference on 23–25 August 2018 at Bahir Dar University under the theme: "Transforming the Ethiopian livestock sector".

Fekadu Beyene, Ethiopia's state minister for Agriculture and Livestock Resources (MoALR), opened the conference. ESAP's president, Getachew Gebru, and Finow Tegegne, president of the Bahir Dar University, also addressed participants.

The conference fits the second Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II) agenda of the agricultural sector in Ethiopia. Livestock is one of the pillars of the GTP II, and the Ethiopian livestock master plan (LMP), whose development was led by

the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), is being used as a springboard to define the area of emphasis and the development process for the sector.

The conference featured a number of parallel and plenary sessions. Some of the key outputs from the sessions were:

- Professional associations such as ESAP can contribute to improving the quality of education, particularly by tertiary institutions by supporting curriculum development, accreditation and professional licensing among others aspects.
- Professional societies should be engaged in setting research agendas within the national agricultural research system.
- ESAP needs to engage with the MoALR in facilitating the establishing of an independent think-tank, consisting of ESAP senior members, to provide needed technical support to the ministry.
- ESAP should play a role in supporting the alignment of newly established livestock projects using the livestock development roadmap.
- The MoALR with the support of ESAP should gauge the implementation of the LMP.

Participants also discussed the development of the Ethiopian dairy sector. They identified topics for further stakeholders dialogue, which included:

- Access to land for forage, dairy production, processing and retailing.
- Milk and dairy product quality standards and regulation enforcement.
- Enforcement of contracts for delivery and payment of products and services.
- Land zoning for dairy production.
- Government programs on artificial insemination and animal health services.

During the conference, ESAP recognized the funding organizations and core organizing committee members of the previous 25th ESAP conference that included Asaye Tegegne of ILRI.

Members of international organizations, research institutes and non-governmental organizations attended the conference together with professional association presidents, private sector representatives and Amhara regional government officials.

The conference was hosted by the Amhara Regional Agriculture Research Institute, Bahir Dar University, and the Agricultural Growth Program II led project in the Amhara region, ACI/VOCA, BENEFIT, Ethio-chicken, Wageningen University Research and the ILRI-led African Chicken Genetic Gains (ACGG) and Africa RISING projects funded this year's conference.

Story by Getachew Gebru and Beamlak Tesfaye



Asaye Tegegne, deputy to the ILRI director general's representative in Ethiopia, led the first plenary discussion session (photo credit: ILRI).

SNV donated Mazzican (MTS) milk container for ARF/ESAP project farmers



SNV donated Mazzican (MTS) milk container for 30 ARF/ESAP project participant farmers. The hand over was preceded with milk handling and hygiene training. Mazzican (MTS) is a durable 10 liter food-grade plastic container that has a wide opening which makes it easy to pour milk into it. The wide opening also has made cleaning the container easy while the white transparent plastic enables farmers to detect dirt easily. A black colored milk sieve that is distributed with the Mazzican has multiple purposes: it is a tool to detect Mastitis and prevents unwanted materials from entering into the milk. Evidence from other countries also reveals some positive health outcomes from the use of Mazzican. MTS led to a dramatic reduction in the levels of microbiological organisms present in raw milk samples taken from farmers.