



IOM • OIM

IOM Special Liaison Mission, Addis Ababa

The Migrant

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The focus of this issue of SLM Addis Ababa newsletter is on the International Migrants' Day which was commemorated on 18th December 2010

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Art Exhibition to Commemorate IMD

IOM SLM Addis Ababa organized a series of events as part of celebration of the International Migrants' Day (IMD) at the close of the year, the week of December 14, 2010 culminating on the day of the International Migrant's Day on December 18, 2010. This day is celebrated every year with the purpose of highlighting issues of migration in relation to migrants' needs relevant to the country and region.

The event was organized in collaboration with the Addis Ababa University (AAU) School of Fine Arts with 33 students of the university presenting the paintings

toolkit for the first, second and third runners respectively.

Making the official opening speech, representative for Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, (MoLSA) Employment Promotion Directorate Head, Mr. Abebe Haile stressed the need for continuous sensitization to build information and knowledge base on the often untold stories of irregular migration.

Head of Mission for the International Organization for Migration SLM Addis Ababa, Mr. Josiah Ogina highlighted the role of creative arts to sensitize the public with tailored messages. The Head further stated such initiative will be further replicated at larger scale in 2011.



HoM awards a certificate of participation for one of the students

Among the events that stretched over a week, an art exhibition that was held on December 14, 2010 at the SLM Addis office attracted the international community, local partners as well as students of the Addis Ababa University School of Fine Arts.

and posters for the art competition. 31 paintings were displayed to guests on the same theme as part of an awareness raising effort to reach a wider mass on irregular migration. Judges from IOM, School of Fine Arts, and the Addis Admas Newspaper selected three winners. Awards included a Personal Computer (PC) with a printer, a PC and a painting

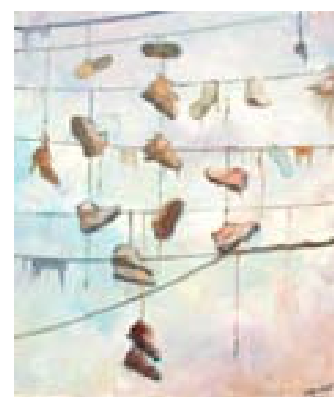
In 2000 the UN General Assembly officially approved and designated 18 December as International Migrants Day (IMD). The mission of December 18 is to promote respect for the human rights of all migrants worldwide and to advance their full participation in any society.



1st Place



2nd Place



3rd Place

IMD in Pictures...

**Acknowledge
the Benefits
of Migration
& Share that
Vision**

December 14 — Art Exhibition, Addis Ababa



December 17 & 18 — Workshop on Irregular Migration, Dessie



December 18 — Forum Theater on Irregular Migration, Amhara Region



SLM Addis Ababa organized a series of events as part of the celebration of the International Migrants' Day. The events stretched over a week with events in the capital Addis Ababa and a regional town, Dessie.

Canadian Orientation Abroad in Ethiopia



are later on granted Permanent Residence status by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC). A total of 311 migrants received COA training since the inception of the program, in January 2008. In the project year of 2010, 149 migrants received COA, which marks 61% increase from last year, when 91 migrants received COA. 35% of this year's participants were women.

In the final quarter of 2010, a total of 52 participants received training in the IOM Addis Ababa Transit Center. All participants were privately sponsored refugees of Somali nationals residing in Ethiopia.

The objective of the training was to provide immigrants with accurate information about living conditions in Canada as well as provide cultural

awareness in addition to some skills necessary for successful adaptation in their new society. These trainings are especially tailored for their first six months of stay in Canada.

The sessions in COA training cover: Canada knowledge assessments and fears/concerns of moving abroad. It provides the platform to discuss expectations about Canada. The three-day, over 12 hours long training covers all topics outlined in the COA curriculum developed by IOM together with the CIC.

Some concerns reflected during the sessions of this quarter include: possibilities for further studies, polygamy and the practice of FGM in Canada.

In a related note, in November, Mr. Erik Mjanes, Second Secretary and staff at the Canadian High Commission (CHC) in Nairobi, visited SLM Addis and had a meeting with the Operations and Migration Health Departments. On this occasion, Mr. Erik highlighted the plan to establish a procedure to conduct medicals for refugees in Ethiopia concurrent with CHC interviews. It was noted that COA during this same time would be very beneficial and efficient.

Participants show their certificates after completion of training

SLM Addis is successfully implementing a pre-departure orientation in Ethiopia, under the Canadian Orientation Abroad (COA) training program, to Canada bound immigrants. These immigrants

Statistics

Months	Training by Citizenship - 2010				Total
	ETHIOPIAN	ERITREAN	SOMALI	SUDAN	
JAN - MAR			20	1	21
APR - JUN		17	2	24	43
JUL - SEP	5	5	9	14	33
OCT - DEC			52		52
TOTAL	5	22	83	39	149

IGAD and its Member States Roll Out the RCP for Eastern Africa

The first technical workshop of the IGAD RCP (Regional Consultative Process) was held in October 2010, at the United Nations Conference Centre, in Addis Ababa.

This regional workshop was organized as part of a broader migration programme in the IGAD region, *Capacity Building in Migration and Border Management for selected IGAD member states*, funded through the IOM 1035 facility designed "to respond rapidly and flexibly to important migration challenges faced by IOM's developing Member States and Member States with economy in transition".

The Inter Governmental Authority for Develop-

ment (IGAD) organized the meeting in close collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and IOM SLM Ethiopia. Delegates with migration related functions and responsibilities from IGAD Member states of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda as well as selected neighbouring transit and destination countries, IGAD Partners Forum and relevant international partners participated in this three days consultative workshop.

The IGAD RCP was first launched in May 2008 by the IGAD Executive Secretary and the AU Commissioner for Social Affairs in Addis Ababa.

Subsequently, in December 2009, the IGAD Coun-

sel of Ministers officially adopted the RCP on migration in Djibouti during its 23rd meeting of the Council.

The October 2010 workshop addressed issues such as labour migration, Brain-drain etc. and deliberated on policy needs and gaps as well as operational challenges in migration and border management in general.

ECHO Delegation Visits IOM Project in Gambella

On October 20th, 2010 a team from the European Commission Humanitarian Office visited two IOM project sites in Lare and Itang weredas of the Gambella region. The delegates had a chance to talk to the displaced communities and gain an understanding of their situation. ECHO is currently funding the IOM project, 'Comprehensive response to IDPs in Gambella Regional State through improved data



ECHO delegation and IOM Staff talk to IDPs in Lare settlement

collection and direct assistance', the first ECHO funded IOM project in Ethiopia.

The 12 months project aims to compliment IOM's continued efforts to improve the living conditions and address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and host communities in the Gambella Regional State through improved data collection and analysis of displacement patterns. Immediate needs also include direct shelter and non-food items assistance.

The team met with the Gambella Regional State's President H.E. Mr. Omod Obang and other prominent regional government officials to discuss the ECHO project and emergency issues in the region. The team also met with wereda officials and other humanitarian organizations.

The project builds on previous IOM interventions in Gambella funded by the Humanitarian Response Fund (HRF), under which in 2010 IOM provided direct

assistance to IDPs through an innovative voucher system targeting assistance to each family and closely monitoring end use of relief assistance at the household level. With ECHO funding, the same voucher system is used to provide shelter upgrading packages for IDPs who are currently living with relatives or that are about to return to their places of origin. In addition, the ECHO funding allows IOM to continue its work to promote a more strategic response to displacement situations in the region through the design and piloting of assessment and monitoring tools, improved coordination and baseline surveys.

The relief items provided contribute to the resumption of normal household activities for displaced families who have lost their belongings during flight:

"... I am delightedly grateful for IOM. My daughters and I feel warm and safe at night now because we have enough blankets, plastic sheets and mosquito nets. I can freely cook whatever tiny

foods I have because I have cooking materials. I now feel like a woman, just like I used to be. As a woman; I can prepare food, fetch water, clean dishes and clothes." said Chol Tuach a mother of 5 currently living in Metar, one of the IDP settlements in Gambella.

Through the project IOM works closely with the regional government and wereda officials in order to build capacity to address displacement situations and resulting humanitarian needs in the region. This includes mapping vulnerabilities and needs and jointly monitoring and assessing the dynamic displacement situations. A recent health assessment conducted among IDPs by IOM migration health experts revealed significant shortcomings in access to health for displaced communities. Based on this, IOM is currently working to expand its activities in the region to include increased access to health for IDPs in selected settlements.

The Humanitarian Aid department (ECHO) of the European Union is one of the world's main humanitarian aid donors. It was established in 1992 and has funded humanitarian aid in crisis zones of more than 85 countries via its partners worth a total of more than €700 million per year.

"...I now feel like a woman just like I used to..."

"I am delightedly grateful for IOM. My daughters and I feel warm and safe at night now because we have enough blankets, plastic sheets and mosquito nets."



IDPs receive NFIs



IDPs waiting to receive NFI Kit Vouchers

Prevention of Irregular Migration



A beneficiary after receiving her goats in Bati town

already started returning the revolving loans in the form of mature offspring of the sheep and goats. This indicates the true spirit of revolving fund and a promising success to all targeted beneficiaries.

Two sets of trainings have been offered to the beneficiaries of the revolving loans; one carried out prior to receiving the loans and focussing on animal husbandry, horticulture, and formation of self-help saving and credit groups. The second one is offered immediately after receiving the loans which is focused on business management skills training that includes business idea generation, selection of alternative business, importance of business diversification financing and management of business.

SLM Addis has continued implementing grassroots programs that respond to tragic out flows of people in communities that are prone to irregular migration. In the Amhara region enhancing livelihood alternatives to irregular migration is one of the major strategies that implemented together with local partners to prevent vulnerable youth from resorting to illegal border crossing and exposure to inhumane treatment and abuse at the hands of unscrupulous people, smugglers and traffickers.

Grassroots Youth and Sport offices, secretaries of the migration taskforces together with the kebele administration and community representatives work hand in hand in the selection of vulnerable youth that received direct assistance in the form of skills training and business start-up packages, mostly revolving loans. A total of 1,240 vulnerable youth have been targeted so far as first and second round community-based revolving loan beneficiaries of which 620 have already received and began rearing goats and sheep. The ones that received the revolving loans in late 2009 have

Beneficiaries of the revolving loans have established 54 self help saving and credit groups (SHGs) that they manage themselves. These groups are governed by their own commonly identified and agreed by-laws. With minimal material support (such as saving boxes) by the project, the SHGs have continued saving their own money; with some groups already giving out loans to group members who ventured on diversifying their income generating schemes.

In partnership with Kemissie, Bati and Ataye Technical and Vocational Educational Training (TVET) colleges and Woreda Migration Taskforces, SLM Addis also supported local government and vocational training institutes in offering tailored short-term vocational skills training programs to vulnerable youth i.e. school drop-outs, illiterates and unemployed. IOM provided these TVET Colleges with materials required as inputs for the



Students undertaking practical masonry training in

trainings. As a result, 420 youth are trained for one month. Of the total trained youth 71 (17%) are female. Following the training graduates have been provided with start-up kits including hand tools as per the type of vocations they are trained in.

IOM works with different stakeholders in the Amhara region including non-governmental organizations (mainly the Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhrara - ORDA) and local government offices and technical and vocational training institutes. IOM has supported the Oromo Nationality administrative zone and four of the Woeredas to establish a migration taskforce that is now coordinating and overseeing the local response and implementation of preventive measure on irregular migration.

Regional Launch of AU.COMMIT Campaign

In early December 2010, IOM in close collaboration with the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the East African Community (EAC) gathered to deliberate on the situation of Human Trafficking in the East and Horn of Africa.

The Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children was adopted by the AUC Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development in Tripoli, in November 2006

The African Union Commission then launched the 'AU Commission Initiative against Trafficking (AU.COMMIT) Campaign' on 16 June 2009 at the

AU Commission in Addis Ababa. The Ouagadougou Action Plan being at the centre of its objective, the campaign reaches out to Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Civil Society Organizations in taking serious measures against trafficking in human beings

In 2010, taking further the continental launch, Abuja hosted the regional launch of AU.COMMIT in western Africa in collaboration with IOM, ECOWAS and other regional and international partners.

The regional launch of AU.COMMIT in East Africa was followed by a technical workshop. The forum gave RECs, IGAD and EAC as well as member states and other stakeholders the opportunity to discuss

and deliberate on the operationalisation of the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children.

Further, the regional launch was instrumental in identifying the emerging mixed migration trends specific to the region. The forum highlighted the need for a coordinated and cooperative approach among Member States, RECs and partners to address trafficking in persons in the region in a more strategic and programmatic manner.

Internship in SLM Addis Ababa

As part of SLM Addis's efforts to strengthen partnership with government institutions and enable new college graduates to experience a professional work environment, three interns were recruited during the last quarter of 2010 in collaboration with the Addis Ababa University (AAU) – the oldest higher level education institution in Ethiopia. The interns; Miraj Mohammed, Felema Amare and Solomon Tefera, graduates of the university's Sociology and Social Anthropology, Economics and Information Systems departments respectively, are currently engaged in different activities under various units including Assisted Voluntary Return—Counter Trafficking (AVR-CT), Migration for Development in Ethiopia (MIDeTh) and Emergency Post-Crisis (EPC).



Left to Right: Solomon, Felema and Miraj

The interns are able to familiarize with SLM Addis's general work environment and are learning about different computer programs. They are also gaining

knowledge on the essentials of writing reports, data entry, documentation and other tasks. In comparison to studying in the University, they have found their experience in IOM to be different from what they had

learned in school. By participating in international and local workshops and interacting with colleagues and partner organizations, they believe that they have improved their communication skills and boosted their confidence.

According to them, the internship program has taught them about professionalism and enabled them to build their career for their future endeavors. They all aspire to work as professionals in their respective field of work in IOM or other similar international organization, and plan to continue with their education.

The first intern through this new program, Alemtsehay Mebratu said "...I was able to adapt to the work environment, improve my communication skill, build and develop my confidence to work independently". After six months of hard work, Alemtsehay completed her internship in SLM Addis.

Thank you to our Partners and Donors



EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Humanitarian Aid



International Organization for Migration
Special Liaison Mission
Addis Ababa



Mission

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As the leading international organization for migration, IOM acts with partners in the international community to:

- ◆ Assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management,
- ◆ Advance understanding of migration issues,
- ◆ Encourage social and economic development

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