

WORKSHOP ON EAS STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2020 HELD

EAS held a two- day Workshop to evaluate the Strategic Plan 2011-2015 of EAS on 2-3 October 2015 at Asham Africa Hotel and Resort in Bishoftu.

The Workshop began by evaluating the EAS Strategy Plan 2011-2015 based on the summary evaluation prepared by EAS Secretariat. Deliberation on

evaluation of the Working Groups of the same period and SWOT analyses were also carried out. The Vision, Mission, Values and Core Programs of 2011-2015 were revisited and long-term Strategic Objectives for EAS were set in the course of the Workshop.

On the second-day, participants of the Workshop discussed at length and set new core programs for 2016-2020 period.

Finally, a committee was set up to draft the EAS Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and distribute it to members of the Working Groups based on the outline developed at this Workshop.



A total of 13 participants, including the EAS President, members of the EAS Board, chairs and secretaries of the Working Groups and the Executive Director of the Secretariat attended the Workshop.

A MILESTONE LAUNCHING WORKSHOP ON THE SEVEN VOLUMES OF THE FIRST ASSESSMENT REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN ETHIOPIA



The Ethiopian Panel on Climate Change (EPCC), one of the projects under the Ethiopian Academy of Sciences (EAS), held a Launching Workshop on the First Assessment Report on Climate Change in Ethiopia on 31 August 2015 at Elilly International Hotel in Addis Ababa. In the Workshop, seven volumes of the First Assessment Report, and two books on Policy Recommendation Summaries (one in English and one in Amharic) were officially launched. The Workshop was officially opened by Prof. Demissie Habte, the President of EAS.

The preparation of the First Assessment Report took almost a year. The Report constitutes seven volumes that deal with the *Physical Basis of Climate Change* (Vol I), *Agriculture and Food Security* (Vol II), *Biodiversity and Ecosystems* (Vol III), *Water and Energy* (Vol IV), *Health and Settlement* (Vol V), *Industry, Transportation and Infrastructure* (Vol VI) and *Policy and Institutional Framework for Addressing Climate Change* (Vol VII).

In the Workshop, two separate round table discussions aimed at presenting the Policy Brief/ Summary Reports from the First Assessment Report on climate change in Ethiopia were held. The participants actively engaged in the question - answer sessions.



Positive feedback was also gained from donors (Danish and Norway Embassies and FAO Representatives) on the way forward for EPCC. The donors were impressed with the outcome of the project and expressed their willingness to support EPCC in the future.

It was believed that the seven reports of the First Assessment Report would support the CRGE strategy of the nation through evidence-based findings.



A total of 75 Stakeholders drawn from different government ministries, research institutes and universities, organizations working on environment and climate change discussed the summary recommendations and findings of the reports.

A CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON EAS SCIENCE CENTER HELD AT EAS HEADQUARTERS

EAS convened a Consultative Workshop with various stakeholders on the establishment of EAS Science Center on Wednesday, 5 August 2015 at

its Headquarters. The objective of the Workshop was to discuss and enrich the presentations on the component parts that would constitute the Science Center. The Workshop was opened by Prof. Bahru Zewde, Principal Vice President of the Academy.



At the Workshop, Dr. Samantha Tang from the University of Nottingham, UK, an expert in science communication, shared international experience on the roles and features of science museums and science centers in the UK.



Prof. Masresha Fetene, the Executive Director of EAS, highlighted the intended objective of the Science Center which is to become a venue that provides an experiment based learning setting to inculcate a spirit of inquiry and scientific interest in the community.

He added that the Science Center will have a hands-on exhibit approach mostly for school age

children and the youth. It shall be an informal induction tool, combining entertainment and education, a place for waking curiosity and helping intellectual development – thus creating a passion for science.

Six presentations on major components of the EAS Science Center were delivered by representatives of the respective Working Groups. The titles of the presentations were: Geology and Geomorphology, Paleanthropology and Archaeology, The Animal World and The Plant World, The World of Chemistry and The World of Physics. Architect Fasil Giorghis presented the architectural plan of the EAS Science Center which includes the renovation work of the existing structures. It was indicated that the EAS Science Center would have a planetarium, an aquarium and a medicinal garden as a general attraction especially to the youth.

Prof. Kibret Mequanint, from the Western University of Canada, also joined the Workshop and shared the experience of developed nations in this regard, particularly that of Canada.

Participants discussed at length on whether the science center should be organized thematically or on disciplinary basis. It was agreed that the approach should be a hybrid one, including attractive presentations from the various disciplines of science, while linking the sciences thematically whenever possible. A total of 43 people from universities, research institutes, and government offices, Fellows of the Academy and members of EtYAS attended the Workshop.

EAS CO-HOSTS THE 'FORUM ON INVESTING IN YOUNG CHILDREN GLOBALLY' WITH US NATIONAL ACADEMY

The Institute of Medicine (IOM), the health arm of the US National Academy of Sciences in partnership with the EAS organized the Forum on Investing Young Children Globally on 27-29 July 2015 at the Hilton Hotel in Addis Ababa. The Forum aims at connecting the best sciences on how to support children's growth and development with practices and policies on the ground around the world.

The Forum activities highlighted the sciences and economics of family and community investments in children and their caregivers using coordinated approaches across the areas of the health, education, nutrition, and social protection. The Workshop also addressed the impacts of acute disruptions on investments in young children and their caregivers across three broad areas: human-induced disasters (e.g., armed conflict– Sierra Leone, DRC, Syria, Rwanda), natural disasters (e.g., earthquake, Tsunami, drought) and outbreaks (e.g., Ebola, SARS, AIDS).

In his welcoming address, Prof. Demissie Habte, the President of EAS, stated that traditional wisdom professes that the future of human kind depends on its children, and he underlined that the



growth and development of children for such a role is critical, and this in turn is deemed to be the primary responsibility of families and the community. Prof. Demissie also expressed that societies develop beliefs and practices to undertake this responsibility in accordance with the state and art of science of the day. He further illustrated his

points with some examples from Ethiopia.

Ethiopia's policy perspectives were discussed in light of the benefits and costs for the financial and human capital investments in young children and their caregivers. H.E. Ato Kebede Worku, State Minister of the Ministry of Health and representatives of the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs represented government policies as regards the subject.

The three-day event brought together more than 70 participants from more than 20 countries around the world, and provided opportunities for researchers, policy makers, program practitioners, and other experts in early childhood development to discuss best practices and ways to coordinate the investments in young children.



The three-day event brought together more than 70 participants from more than 20 countries around the world, and provided opportunities for researchers, policy makers, program practitioners, and other experts in early childhood development to discuss best practices and ways to coordinate the investments in young children.

Prior to the official opening of the Forum, participants had visited a public school in Sebeta, 30 Kms west of Addis Ababa, one of the sites of the Ethiopian School Meal Initiative Program and Selam Children's Village.

TWO EAS STAFF MEMBERS ATTENDED A TRAINING WORKSHOP IN NAIROBI

Two EAS Staff members attended a Training Workshop on Writing Fundraising Proposals and Financial Reporting hosted by the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC), in collaboration with the German National Academy Ministry of Education and Research, on 1-3 September 2015 in Nairobi, Kenya. It was a follow up Workshop of the first training workshop on fundraising that was held in Nairobi, Kenya on 7-8 August 2014. The second Workshop had intended to focus on writing fundraising proposals as well as financial reporting.

The objectives of the Training Workshop, among other things, were to familiarize with characteristics of grant makers and grant seekers; to understand basics of strategic resource mobilization; to design a potentially winning proposal using the Logical Framework; and to familiarize with tools for grant management.



Twelve Academies were represented out of 21 member countries of NASAC, and a total of 23 trainees were in attendance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- EAS General Assembly will be convened on 24 October 2015 at EAS Headquarters.
- The Symposium on *Nature and Qualities of Traditional Education: Lessons for modern education* will take place 25 November 2015 as a pre-congress event of the Second Science Congress.
- This year's theme of the Second Science Congress is *Re-envisioning Higher Education and Research in Ethiopia*. The Congress is a joint venture by EAS, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Science and Technology, Educational Strategy Center and Consortium of Public and Private University Presidents and will be convened on 26-27 November 2015.

Contact Address

Gulele Sub-city, Woreda 9, House No. 199
Behind Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, Gulele Branch
P. O. Box: 32228, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tele: +251 112 595745/50
E-mail: eassecretariat@gmail.com
Website: www.eas-org.et