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Annual Report 2010

DAG

Development Assistance Group ETHIOPIA

Development Assistance Group

Established
2001

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Annual Report 2010





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Co-Chairs Message

Following the global financial crisis of 2008, Ethiopia managed to shelter itself from the worst impact, and maintain strong growth into 2010. Impressive progress in infrastructure development and access to basic services continued, as showcased at the UN MDG Summit. The Government prepared a new five year plan - the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) – with ambitious goals to double the size of the economy and achieve the MDGs by 2015. The GTP raised hopes for even faster progress, but also gave rise to some concerns about macroeconomic imbalances and the adverse social impact that could result from extremely ambitious plans implemented at speed.

Implementation of the Charities and Societies Proclamation, and important national elections, also prompted some concern, and there were allegations that donor-supported development programmes were being distorted for political gain in the run-up to the elections. The DAG conducted an Aid Management and Utilisation study, and followed it up with vigorous discussions with the Government and some critics of donor-supported programs. In 2011, further work will be done to strengthen the safeguards and systems that support effective and appropriate use of all aid resources.

During 2010, the Government and development partners shifted further towards a focus on the quality of programmes and results delivered. Given the significant strides Ethiopia has already made in access to basic services and the build-up of physical infrastructure, this is a timely and welcome shift. And it should serve Ethiopia well, as it seeks to transform itself into a country with a competitive and vibrant economy, and high-quality social services. Reflecting this, serious discussion has started in some sectors to move toward results-based aid.

The DAG also undertook a review and began to implement changes to the DAG, including new members, an enhanced Executive Committee, and streamlined technical working groups. These changes were intended to enable the DAG to work with greater efficiency, effectiveness and pace.

Implementation of GTP will likely pose serious challenges to macroeconomic management, and strain the institutional capacity of the Government. Such creative tensions, however, will no doubt open new areas of dialogue within Ethiopia, and between the Government and development partners. We hope that the re-organised DAG will be in a position to work closely with the Government and other important stakeholders to meet those challenges in the coming year.



Ken Ohashi (World Bank)
DAG Co-Chair



Howard Taylor (DFID, UK)
DAG Co-Chair



Major Activities of the DAG in 2010

The year 2010 was an eventful year for both the DAG and the Government of Ethiopia (GoE). A number of important events took place including the elections and the development of a five-year Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), which would help inform and guide development cooperation priorities in the medium term.

1. Elections

In anticipation of elections, the DAG collaborated with the Ethiopia Partners Group (EPG), a group of resident ambassadors, to provide updates and analysis of events leading up to the elections. The elections took place on Sunday 23rd May 2010 and were conducted in a peaceful manner. EU Observers were deployed to monitor the elections. The final results were announced in June with the incumbent Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) winning 499 of the 547 parliamentary seats. Opposition or independent candidates won two seats and the remaining went to EPRDF-allied parties.

2. CSO Law

The Charities and Societies Proclamation (CSO Law) came into effect in February 2010. Development Partners continued to express concern about the ability of CSOs to participate in development activities including policy dialogue and advocacy due to limitations set in their capacity and access to financial resources. In this regard, an Adaptation Facility was established to support capacity development needs of CSOs and resources were made available for training activities and grants. The EU Civil Society Fund II was designed to cover the period 2011 to 2015.¹

3. Aid Utilization and Management Study

The DAG Commissioned an Aid Utilisation and Management study in January 2010 in response to allegations that some donor supported programmes in Ethiopia were being used for political gain. The report was finalized in July and did not find any evidence of systematic or widespread distortion and noted that Protection of Basic Service (PBS) and the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) were supported by relatively robust accountability systems. The Relief Programme and the Enhanced Outreach Strategy – Targeted Supplementary Feeding programme (EOS-TSF) programmes faced some challenges in their accountability systems, in terms of safeguards and monitoring processes, and especially for EOS-TSF, in terms of the existence of processes and mechanisms for input and challenge. The review concluded that, while these programs are producing strong development results, improvements could be made to existing safeguards.

4. The Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP)

The government had developed the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), covering the period 2010/11-2014/15, as a successor to the Plan for Accelerated and Sustainable Development to End Poverty (PASDEP). A consultative meeting between the government and Development Partners took place from 29th to 30th September 2010 where the government provided a draft summary of the GTP. The meeting was chaired by Minister Sufian Ahmed of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED). A presentation of the key

¹ Refer to Civil Society Subgroup report.

elements of the plan was made by State Minister Mekonnen Manyazewal of MoFED, and the DAG and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) gave their preliminary reflections on the GTP. Development Partners welcomed the strategic focus of the plan including: achieving the MDGs, through expanded access to higher quality basic services; faster and more equitable economic growth, as the engine of sustainable development and economic transformation; promoting the role of the private sector, creating favourable conditions for industry, enhancing the quality of infrastructure development; and capacity-building, good governance, greater transparency, and the commitment to citizen participation. However, they requested elaboration in some areas such as environment and climate change, nutrition, social protection, the monitoring framework, humanitarian challenges, decentralisation, and financing of the GTP.

On the second day, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi responded in detail to the issues raised by the Development Partners, and also noting that the information requested would be available in the full English translation in due course. He emphasized that the Ethiopian government had to be ambitious in order to achieve its objective of becoming a middle income country by 2015. The DAG promised to table final comments on the GTP once the full document was made available.

5. Review of the DAG Structure

The DAG held a series of discussions over the course of 2010 to review its focus and structure. In April 2010 MoFED State Minister Mekonnen Manyazewal was invited to a DAG Heads of Agency retreat to share his perspectives. He made some candid reflections on the role of the DAG, emphasizing government ownership as key to effective development assistance. As a result of the retreat, the DAG commissioned an independent review of DAG's objectives, structure and functions in order to improve its efficiency and effectiveness, strengthening donor dialogue with government, improving harmonization, and increasing the effectiveness of aid delivery to Ethiopia. The review also examined the DAG Structure including the DAG Heads of Agency, Executive Committee (Ex-Com),

Technical and Sector Working Groups (TWGs/SWGs) and the Secretariat interms of their relationship to one another and interface with the Government of Ethiopia. The final report was presented to the DAG in September 2010 and provided a number of options and recommendations that could improve the effectiveness of the DAG structure. On this basis, the DAG began the process of redefining the role of the DAG Ex-Com and streamlining the work of the TWGs.

DAG – Ethiopia
Fast Facts

Heads of Agency

The DAG Heads of Agency (HoA) hold monthly regular meeting and act as the decision making body of the DAG.

Chair

The multilateral chair rotates each year between UNDP, the World Bank or the African Development Bank. One bilateral agency is elected to co-chair.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee comprises nine members. Current members are USAID, DFID, Irish Aid, Netherlands, CIDA, EU, as well as permanent members UNDP, the World Bank and the African Development Bank.



DAG Pooled Funds:

Contributions and Expenditure in 2010

In 2010 the DAG Pooled Funds continued to provide essential financing to enhance the effectiveness of the PASDEP implementation. The pooled funds allow the DAG the opportunity to coordinate and harmonize assistance to provide support for capacity development, technical assistance, research and policy analysis in line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Harmonization.

Key elements of support through the pooled funds are: strengthening harmonized support to the development of the national development plan; promoting the OECD DAC harmonization agenda; strengthening of the Monitoring and Evaluation system; and strategic coordinated support to focus areas of the PASDEP including education and gender mainstreaming.

This section of the report summarizes the activities supported under the DAG pooled funds from January to December 2010. Total contributions of **925,873 USD** were received from DAG members during this reporting period. A total expenditure **1,564,644 USD** was made in 2010 under the four pooled funds.

The **General Pooled Fund** supports policy dialogue structures of the DAG and the government. In 2010 the fund continued to sustain the coordination and facilitation of the activities of the DAG, including the Technical Working Groups and the DAG Secretariat. A total of **358,540 USD** was spent on these activities in the year under review including: Staff salaries for the secretariat, consultation on the development of GTP, training for Ethiopia's participation in the 2011 OECD survey and consultants' fees for review the DAG.

The **Education Pooled Fund** provided support for the implementation of the Education Sector Development Programme (ESDP) through the financing of a number of activities including: the

Annual Review Meeting (ARM) of the ESDP; the Validation Workshop for ESDPIV; the Rapid School Grants Assessment and the Study on the Teacher Development Programme, the Ministry of Education Annual Conference and Consultant fees for the redesign of the pooled fund. **232,960 USD** was spent under this pooled fund in 2010.

The **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Pooled Fund** provided support to strengthen data collection, analysis and dissemination for the monitoring and evaluation of PASDEP. The pooled fund was reviewed in 2010 and therefore there were limited financial resources available. Financing was provided for the purchase of vehicles and equipment to enable the government to undertake the Household Income Consumption and Expenditure Survey (HICES) and Welfare Monitoring Survey (WMS); experience sharing visit to Malaysia; Masters Level training for staff; and Consultants fees for the review of the M&E Pooled Fund project. **447,822. USD** was spent under this pooled fund in 2010.

The **Gender Pooled Fund** has made a significant contribution to building the capacity of the Ministry of Women's Affairs efforts to mainstream gender in the national development process. The fund facilitated support to gender equity and the empowerment of women through strengthening policy analysis, research and studies that further enhance the knowledge base on gender-related issues in Ethiopia. **525,320 USD** was spent under this pooled fund in 2010 for the following activities: Training on Gender Auditing, Budgeting and Mainstreaming, Performance Management Training, Technical Assistance to the Ministry, International Women's Forum (China), Entrepreneurial training (Israel) and the purchase of IT equipment and vehicles

Table 1: Summary of Contributions Received and Expenditures made in 2010

Pooled Fund	Balance from 2009 (USD)	Additional Contributions in 2010 (USD)	Transfers from old Projects	Refunds to Donors 2010(USD)	Expenditures in 2010(USD)	Balance Available as at 31 December, 2010 (USD)
General	331,658.08	647,451.26	-	-	(358,540.97)	620,568.37 ²
Education	590,425.28	-	17,469.99	(198,766.00)	(232,960.68)	176,168.59
Gender	505,136.20	70,088.65	-	-	(525,320.31)	49,904.54
M & E	593,000.30	208,333.33	23,497.87	(131,549.00)	(447,822.29)	245,460.21
Total	2,020,219.86	925,873.24	40,967.86	(330,315.00)³	(1,564,644.25)	1,092,101.71

Table 2: Summary of Received and Expected Contributions by Donor and Pooled Fund

Project	Donor	Contribution Received (2009)	Contribution Received (2010)	Expected Contribution (2011)
General	CIDA		300,000.00	300,000.00
	Irish Aid	142,137.56		
	SIDA	200,000.00		
	GIZ	35,971.22		
	Norway		193,548.39	
	Spain	37,650.60	34,013.61	
	USAID	100,000.00	100,000.00	
	World Bank		19,889.26	
Sub Total		515,759.38	647,451.26	300,000.00
Education	DFID			802,568.22
	Finland			272,479.00
Sub Total			-	1,075,047.22
Gender	SIDA	157,233.00		
	Spain	131,233.60	70,088.65	
	Ireland	73,964.50		
Sub Total		362,431.10	70,088.65	-
M&E	Ireland		208,333.33	
	DFID			2,407,704.66
Sub Total			208,333.33	2,407,704.66
Grand Total		878,190.48	925,873.24	3,782,751.88

1. The General Pooled Fund

The General Pooled Fund supports the coordination and facilitation of activities of the DAG. This includes support to harmonization processes, formulation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), DAG structures such as the Technical Working Groups (TWGs) as well as the DAG Secretariat. The General Pooled Fund is an un-earmarked fund that is used for core activities undertaken by the DAG that fall outside the existing theme-specific three pooled funding arrangements focusing on education, M&E, and gender.

Ethiopia is a pilot country for the OECD DAC harmonization agenda. Both Government and international partners are keen to proceed with the deepening of the harmonization process in the spirit of the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action. The commitment of the Government and its Development Partners to broad collaboration and harmonization is supported by a partnership structure, which remains the principal forum for dialogue between the Government and the Development Partners. As part of the partnership structure High Level Forums (HLF), co-chaired by the Minister of MOFED and the DAG, are held to discuss policy issues and progress on harmonization as part of the consultations on the implementation of the PASDEP (now GTP) and MDGs.

The General Pooled Fund has contributed to a strengthened partnership and dialogue structure between Government and Development Partners in the implementation of GTP and MDGs. As the primary interface between Development Partners and the government, the DAG structure is essential for donors to collaborate at both policy and technical level (through technical and sectoral working groups).

As part of its coordinated structure and support, the DAG seeks to ensure more effective delivery and utilization of development cooperation in Ethiopia. The group discusses and agrees policy on key development issues and supporting actions. It coordinates with and takes forward the work of the DAG TWGs within relevant Government and DAG forums.

The intended output of the project is "Enhanced, harmonized approach to support the

Implementation of PASDEP and the preparation of PRSP III [the Growth and Transformation Plan] in support of the MDGs."

In line with the project document, the activities undertaken in the period under review under the General Pooled Fund include:

- Consultations on the preparations of the successor plan to PASDEP (which is the GTP)
- Workshops, consultations, study tours and facilitating of training to further enhanced dialogue among the Government and Development Partners
- Institutional support to the operationalisation of the DAG Secretariat, e.g. staffing, technical facilities and travel.
- Capacity building activities through participation of Ethiopian policy makers in conferences, seminars and short study trips related to Harmonization

Support Activities and Results for 2010

i. Consultative Workshop on the Growth and Transformation Plan

The General Pooled Funds financed a two-day consultation between Development Partners and the Government of Ethiopia on the national Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), which took place at the UN Conference Centre, from 29th to 30th September 2010. The DAG provided comments and suggestions for the finalization of the GTP document.

ii. The DAG Secretariat

The Secretariat is based in UNDP Ethiopia and works under the overall guidance of the UNDP Resident Representative and the DAG Co-Chairs. UNDP supported the DAG Secretariat by providing logistical, administrative and procurement services.

The Secretariat continued to support the work of the DAG Ex-Com and the DAG by facilitating and following up ongoing issues as well as new initiatives launched by DAG. The Secretariat also liaised regularly with the TWGs to ensure smooth communication and flow of information.

Part of the General Pooled Fund is used to finance staff salaries and activities of the DAG Secretariat, Pooled Funds management and communication.

These provide strategic support to the overall development and implementation of the DAG policy agenda. The members of staff include a Programme Coordinator, Programme Officer, Communication Officer, Finance and Administration Officer and two Administrative Assistants.

Throughout the year, the four DAG Pooled Funds were managed in close consultation with relevant TWGs and government. The range of project management include financial management in Atlas (Global financial management system), planning with respective ministries, contracts and agreements with contributing donors. Other activities include reporting and supporting resource mobilization of the government partners.

Communication: During 2010, the DAG's interaction and dialogue with the GoE, other DPs and the general public was enhanced while also increasing its visibility. The DAG Communication efforts focused on DAG Website, preparation of briefing kits, brochures, minutes, the DAG Annual Report and the quarterly DAG Newsletter.

Capacity Building of the DAG Secretariat: The DAG Coordinator attended project management training in Turin, Italy, as part of the staff development programme on a cost-sharing basis with UNDP Country Office. The training would contribute to enhanced management of the DAG Pooled Funds.

iii. DAG Technical and Sector Working Groups

Technical and Sector Working Groups are provided with financial and technical support as required. During the course of the year, the pooled fund provided financing for a PSD TWG Meeting. For RED&FS, initial financing for the establishment of a Secretariat had been provided through the general pooled fund since 2008. The final instalment was liquidated in 2010. The RED&FS is now a sector working group (SWG) and the Secretariat is now independently managed through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and supporting the coordination and harmonization efforts in a sector which comprises more than 15 donors and more than US\$500M worth of programming annually.

The DAG TWGs provided a number of technical inputs during the course of the year for the DAG including analysis in the lead up the elections held in May.

iv. OECD Survey Workshop, Tunisia

In the run up to the 2011 Survey on Monitoring the Paris Declaration (PD), UNDP and OECD organized a series of regional workshops, aiming to ensure that key players involved in the management of the PD monitoring survey are briefed on the process and technical aspects of the 2011 survey. The workshops offered an opportunity for partner country practitioners to exchange experiences and best practice around the Paris monitoring processes, in order to further strengthen ownership of the aid effectiveness agenda. The workshops provided the opportunity to share progress on the preparations for the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Republic of Korea, November 2011 – "HLF4") and seek partner country perspectives on what HLF4 should seek to achieve.

The regional workshop for Anglophone Africa took place in Tunis, on 2-3 November 2010, back-to-back with the "Second regional meeting on Aid Effectiveness, South-South Cooperation and Capacity Development" organized by the African Development Bank and NEPAD aiming to prepare the African continent for HLF4. The two day OECD workshop was well attended, with 28 representatives from 16 partner countries, as well as six CSO representatives, three parliamentarians and 12 PD survey donor focal points (all donor focal points were from UNDP).

Ethiopia was represented by Admasu Nebebe as National Coordinator and, Kokeb Misrak both from MOFED, and the DAG Project Coordinator as Donor Focal Point.

v. Review of the DAG Project

The overall purpose of the Review was to examine the performance of the DAG, focusing on the review of its objectives, structure and functions in order to improve dialogue with government, enhance harmonization, and increasing the effectiveness of aid delivery to Ethiopia. The Review also offered recommendations on how the DAG objectives and structure could be improved for enhanced aid coordination. Two consultants (1 international and 1 local) were commissioned to undertake the work. The review included interviews with Development Partners and other stakeholders in July and September. The DAG Secretariat provided overall backstopping in organizing meetings, logistics and the provision of DAG documents. The Draft Report and updated recommendations were presented and

discussed during a special meeting of the DAG Heads of Agencies held on 9 September 2010.

The review provided the DAG with the information and recommendations for the redesign of the DAG Structure. Results included the reformulation of the DAG objectives, the expansion of the Ex-Com and the restructuring of the TWGs for greater efficiency.

The DAG review also highlighted the need to redesign the dialogue structures within the DAG to be more inclusive, predictable and better aligned with the national consultative systems. The study noted that quasi-autonomous structures and consultative systems within the DAG proved to be doing better and having more issues-focus and more accommodating of the Government system.

vi. Challenges and Lessons Learnt in Project Implementation

Over the years the project and the work of the DAG has evolved and therefore some activities in the General Pooled Fund were not supported in the year under review. These include:

- Strategic studies and progress reports on the MDGs
- TA and Operational Support to the PRSP Secretariat
- Short-term TA for TWGs
- TA support to preparations of the Successor Plan to PASDEP[GTP] (2010/11-2014/15)
- Institutional support to the operationalisation of the HLF Secretariat, e.g. TA and technical facilities.
- Analytical work related to specific harmonization

issues, e.g. development of new aid instruments, harmonized sector-financing modality etc.

- Support to operationalisation of AMP
- Preparation of Joint Declaration on Harmonization, Alignment and Aid Effectiveness and monitoring of progress

There are a number of reasons for this. Some elements of support are dependent on demand from MOFED and no request was made for financial support for TA and operational support to the PRSP Secretariat and institutional support to the operationalisation of the HLF Secretariat, e.g. TA and technical facilities. The last (international) TA provided to the HLF completed their assignment in 2008 and no further request was made.

The DAG did not commission analytical work related to specific harmonization issues, e.g. development of new aid instruments and harmonized sector-financing modalities. Neither the DAG nor the government sought to undertake studies on the MDGs.

The DAG also made a decision in 2008 to discontinue support to the Aid Management Platform (AMP) as donors had not been provided with access to the database.

The Joint Declaration on Harmonization, Alignment and Aid Effectiveness had been drafted in 2007 but was not signed. Therefore, in 2010, it was agreed that a new action plan would be developed by the Aid Effectiveness Taskforce as a means of establishing aid effectiveness and harmonization targets at country level.

A total of **358,540.97 USD** was spent in the year under review as detailed below.

Table 3: Expenditure detail of General Pooled Fund for the period 1 January- 31 December 2010

Description	Expenditure in USD
Allocations from 2009	(9,368.94)
Consultation on the preparation of the successor plan to PASDEP	
Growth & Transformation Plan (GTP) Consultative Workshop with Development Partners	8,725.51
Capacity Building to Policy Makers through participation in conferences	
Aid Effectiveness Workshop in Tunis, Tunisia	2,492.36
Support to DAG and TWGs	
DAG support to REDFS	10,610.50
DAG and TWG meetings	5,963.07
Support to the Operationalisation of the DAG Secretariat	
Staff Salaries	241,257.92
Costs of DAG Structure Review	31,171.05
Office Supplies and Fuel	20,997.93
Office Equipment	2882.36
Project Management Training in Turin, Italy	1,661.57
Others	
Internet charges	1,600.95
UN Clinic (per capita contribution for staff)	1,299.64
Rent charges for 2010	3,913.58
Bank Charges	390.05
Exchange rate loss	4,396.95
Miscellaneous	3,132.78
General Management Service fee (GMS)	27,377.49
Total	358,540.97

2. Education Pooled Fund

The Education Pooled Fund (EPF) Project was initiated in 2004 and established in 2005 to support activities in the Education Sector Development Programme (ESDP) and designed to respond quickly and flexibly to needs for capacity development, research and implementation under the Government's ESDP II. Moreover, it was aimed at enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of education initiatives as well as policy formulation within ESDP II in general.

A review of the EPF was undertaken by an independent consultant in 2009 and finalised in 2010. The objectives of the review included:

- Conducting an outcome evaluation of the projects funded under EPF;
- Recommending how the impact of pooled funding on policy could be improved, including presenting options for a responsive, timely, and effective pooled funding support to the project in the future.

The outcome of the review concluded that the fund had made significant contribution to the Education Sector Development Programme (ESDP) through strategic studies that fed into policy input and strategic framework development. It reaffirmed that a wide range of activities and outputs have been undertaken and accomplished, indicating that

it had made progress towards the realization of its stated purpose. The Ministry of Education (MoE), contributing donors and the Education Technical Working Group agreed to design a new project on this basis.

i. Developing Second Phase Education Pooled Fund Document

Based on the outcome of the review, the second phase EPF document, which covers the period 2010 – 2012, was developed with the technical assistance of an international and a national consultant. The new project document has the incremental value of putting in place a method of monitoring results, enhanced management arrangements for the EPF and providing for CSOs' access to the pooled fund. The new document was designed to support policy dialogue, programme implementation, and monitoring and evaluation under ESDP/IV. Its objectives are to:

- a. Underwrite the cost of policy dialogue workshops and seminars on education issues, including specifically the Annual Review Meetings and Joint Review Missions;
- b. Provide resources for commissioned policy-related studies on key sector issues; and
- c. Provide responsive resources for innovative, demand-driven policy-related small studies and action research from non state actors.

Strategic Studies

ii. Teachers Development Programme (TDP1) Completion Report

A study was commissioned in 2009 to prepare the TDP1 Completion Report in order to provide a better understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of TDP design and implementation. The study, finalized in 2010, assessed results and perceived outcomes against the aims and targets of the ESDP. The review report, in a broader context, indicated that TDP was comprehensive in its approach to addressing all the key areas of the teacher development process. The report noted that the TDP1 programme had significantly transformed the framework for teacher preparation in Ethiopia. More than 50,000 fully qualified teachers developed their capacity through

pre-service and in service upgrading programmes between 2004/5 and 2006/7. It also revealed that during TDP1 a new teacher development curriculum was completed and disseminated. A new strategy was developed and initial content was disseminated for continuous professional development. English language teachers were trained and more than 140,000 teachers completed an English Language Improvement programme. English Language Improvement Centres have been developed and staffed in the Teacher Training Institutes. Leadership and management training modules were developed and training was provided to many Woreda level supervisors and school directors.

The study also indicated significant capital investments during TDP1 which was assumed to continue to provide significant returns as they enable future strengthening of the teacher development system in Ethiopia.

iii. Rapid School Grant Assessment

The Rapid Assessment of School Grants was commissioned in 2009 and completed in 2010. It assessed the magnitude of budget utilization of the first school grant in school improvement planning process. It was intended to review and analyse the disbursement and utilization of School Grant Fund at federal, regional, Woredas and school levels across Ethiopia

The assessment revealed that there was a good understanding of fund utilization guidelines in most cases, however, delays in the transfer and utilization of grants was observed during the survey. It indicated that ETB 410, 343, 970 (over 60 per cent of the total GEQIP fund) was disbursed to nine regional states and two city administrations. The disbursement varied considerably across Woredas and schools. Tigray, Addis Ababa, Harari, Benishangul, SNNPR, Oromia, and Amhara received the Grant Fund, whereas schools in Gambella, Somali, and Afar regional states did not.

Some of the reasons for the delay of the disbursement were: lack of understanding of the whole process of the disbursement; lack of information on procedures (on the part of the Woredas), particularly on how to disburse the Fund; delay of formal letters on launching the selection of beneficiaries and determining the amount to be disbursed; lack of understanding and flexibility in financing by Woredas as per the guideline.

The study recommended that efforts should be made to give comprehensive, continuous and updating training to all staff that had a direct involvement in programme implementation. It also emphasized the need to build the capacity of the Woredas, particularly in developing regions in a transparent manner which includes: recording and/or managing project documents, using manuals and monitoring activities and the skill of receiving and dissemination of information.

iv. Public Expenditure Review

The Public Expenditure Review (PER) commissioned by the pooled fund showed that public expenditure on the education sector increased to as high as five percent of the GDP on average from 2003 – 2008, which was considered high by international standards relative to the country's level of per-capita income. Ethiopia spends significantly more than India, whose per-capita income is almost four times as much, and only a little less than South Africa whose per-capita income is more than 14 times that of Ethiopia. Expenditure on the education sector from 2003 to 2008 averaged one-fifth of total government expenditure. Total education spending in the country was about 5% of GDP in this period, of which, 4.8% was public expenditure and 0.2 private out-of-pocket spending on Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) and higher education. Of the above mentioned 4.8% public spending, 4.3% was on government budget and 0.5% off-budget funding from donors while community contributions came to 0.1%.

The trend analysis also showed that the expenditure moved in favour of general and higher education while the share of TVET fell from 13% to 4%. The spending on general education at sub national levels (region and Woredas) rose from 51% to 57% as a result of external resource inflows to sub national governments through the federal budget under PBS.

Some of important recommendations drawn by the study included providing adequate financing for regions to fulfil their TVET mandate, standardizing budget accounting practices and heads of accounts across all regions, moderating the pace of investment in Higher Education, paying greater attention to effective contract management and timely completion of all initiated projects.

v. School Improvement Programme (SIP)

The School Improvement Program (SIP) is a national programme that was developed by the MoE in 1999 to improve student results in primary and secondary schools. The SIP was implemented through the School Improvement Framework, School Improvement Program Implementation Manual and the School Improvement Guideline

After the SIP was implemented for about two years, Government and DAG TWG agreed to recruit a consultant to assist the MoE in refining the SIP process prior to the start of the second school improvement strategic planning cycle. The consultant, with active engagement of experts from MoE and Regional Education Bureaus refined the School Improvement Framework and developed School Improvement Program Guidelines. The guidelines were further refined and contextualized to the prevailing teaching and learning environment of the country.

Meetings

vi. Preparation for ESDP IV Validation Workshop

The Education Pooled Fund provided financial support to ensure that all the preparatory arrangements for ESDP IV validation workshop were successfully made. The validation workshop was held from 1-2 July 2010 in Addis Ababa. It was undertaken to bring together Government, Development Partners and other education stakeholders in order to enrich and finalize the ESDP IV document.

vii. Annual Conference

The Education Annual Conference was held in the town of Bahir Dar from July 28 to August 6, 2010 and drew participants from the education sub-sector authorities and experts, ministries, policy makers and development partner representatives. The conference helped to evaluate education sector policies and programmes, identify problems encountered, create common understanding among stakeholders scale up good practice among institutions and set future policy directions.

viii. Joint Review Mission

The 2010 JRM took place between October and November 2010. The JRM assessed the performance of Teacher Education Plan (TDP) and to identify and recommend key actions that can contribute towards continuous quantitative improvement of the teacher education at university, colleges of teacher education and schools level. The mission concluded that Teachers Development Plan was successfully implemented nationwide and encouraging achievements have been registered since the start of its implementation.

Summary of Key Results and anticipated Outcomes:

- a The EPF has been an important tool in facilitating dialogue between government and stakeholders

around sectoral issues. In this regard, key policy meetings, notably the Joint Review Missions and Education Annual Conference helped to jointly review strategies, policies and problem that need to be addressed in the course of implementing ESDPIV.

- b EPF has supported policy-related research and major studies have been funded to feed into the development of Education Sector Development Programme.
- c The involvement of all concerned stakeholders in the development of ESDP IV at various stages has helped to incorporate different perspectives and enhanced ownership of numerous institutions.

Table 4: Expenditure detail of Education Pooled Fund for the period 1 January – 31 December 2010

Description	Expenditure in USD
Allocations from 2009	(22,518.36)
Strategic Studies	
Teachers Development Programme(TDP) study	53,119.05
School Improvement Programme(SIP) Study	16,017.14
Second Phase Education Pooled Fund Redesign	618.02
Public Expenditure Review (PER)	9814.44
Capacity Building	
ESDP IV Validation Workshop	15,293.40
Annual Conference in Bahir Dar	97,470.49
9th High Level Group Meeting of MOE	28,977.91
Experience sharing tour on Fast Track Initiative	8,374.40
Designs & Preliminary Costing for MoE Office refurbishment	1,744.18
Joint Review Mission(JRM)	2,227.83
Others	
Miscellaneous	1,942.53
General Management Service Fee(GMS)	19,879.65
Total	232,960.68

3. Gender Pooled Fund

The Gender Pooled Fund was established in 2007 to support interventions and projects promoting the empowerment of women and contributing to the realization of gender equality. The DAG pooled fund has been one of the mechanisms for sector development through harmonized and coordinated support to mainstream gender in PASDEP and MDGs. In particular, the pooled fund was designed to respond to important capacity development,

policy analysis and research needs of the Ministry of Women's Affairs, now the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs (MoWCYA) and other stakeholders.

The Gender Pooled Fund focuses on providing support to four intervention areas to bring about gender equality: conducting strategic studies; capacity building; institutional strengthening; and organizing forums.

i. Strategic studies

Three studies were planned by the Ministry during this reporting period i.e. National Gender Based Violence (GBV) Assessment, Impact of Affirmative Action and assessment of challenges faced by women with disability.

However, only the assessment on challenges faced by women with disability could be conducted in 2010. The assessment study was conducted by MoWCYA in seven regional states and two city administrations. The assessment revealed that many women with disabilities were not aware of their rights. The study also established that there was a low level of awareness among government officials and the community at large about the issue of women and girls with disabilities. In addition, the assessment showed the need to revise the law and policies in line with the specific needs of women with disabilities and rectify the non ratification of the convention on persons with disabilities by the Ethiopian government. Valuable recommendations were made, including to proceed on more refined research for possible policy intervention. These findings were shared with Regional Women's Affairs Bureaus and relevant stakeholder in order to facilitate further in depth research for policy interventions in this specific area in the future.

A review of the mainstreaming and integration of gender issues in PASDEP was conducted in order to come up with recommendation for the GTP preparation has been made by a review team composed of different directorates under the Ministry and UN agencies. Accordingly the integration and the performance against PASDEP I has been reviewed and the Ministry's five year plan prepared to be an input for the GTP.

Key result

There is evidence that gender issues are now appropriately mainstreamed and are now reflected as a stand alone pillar in GTP.

ii. Capacity Building

Training

Support was provided to human resources capacity development through training in alignment with the Business Process Re-engineering (BPR). Key staff members of the ministry were trained on Human Resource and Financial Management to strengthen

the organisational management, development of human resources, government financial and budgetary control. The training is expected to have a long term impact on the Ministry's organisational as well as human resource management to address its mandate and mission.

In addition, six staff members, one from MoWCYA & five from the regions, attended a training on micro enterprises. The trainees were acquainted with the basics of micro enterprises management which is instrumental for income generation and poverty reduction. The training is expected to contribute to the ministry's vision of strengthening its intervention in the area of women economic empowerment.

75 women (forty-seven first summer & 28 second summer attendants) from emerging regions were enrolled in a five year summer undergraduate gender studies at Haramaya University. Under this programme, the women from the respective regions were expected to build their skills and enhance their implementation capacity. The course was designed to upgrade the educational status of the participants from diploma to degree level. These experts from Women's Affairs and regional offices in emerging regions will be able to engage actively in mainstreaming gender issues in all planned activities of their respective regions. Thus this programme is expected to fill the existing capacity gap and address the shortage of human resource of the emerging regions.

Key results

- The capacity of MOWCYA and regional experts working in the area of developing entrepreneurship skills of women in business management was enhanced.
- The performance of women machineries in emerging regions to mainstream gender equality has been improved.

iii. Institutional strengthening of MOWCYA

Through support received from the DAG, the Ministry has been able to enhance its work to harmonize and align its development efforts through effective and efficient utilization of all resources from Woreda to federal level. This has also promoted result-oriented interventions by creating synergy among stakeholders and Development Partners.

Accordingly, to ensure the harmonization of the various planning instruments, technical assistance was provided to the Ministry by employing a Core Plan Management Officer in 2010. Through this support the Ministry of Women's Affairs would be in a better position to create synergy among its stakeholders and Development Partners around a clearly set out plan with common priority areas and targets embedded in a Core Plan.

To enhance the capacity of the Ministry, a Management Information System (MIS) was designed and equipment such as servers and related accessories for the installation were procured. The MIS is expected to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Ministry and women's machineries at federal, sectoral and regional levels by putting in place advanced project management tools and improving communication and information sharing.

In addition, to strengthen the institutional capacity equipment, such as laptops, desktop, servers and accessories MIS, colour printer, photocopy machine, digital camera, LCD, vehicles, conference tables, chairs, Braille Machine etc, was procured for the Ministry to enhance its ability to efficiently undertake activities related to its mandate.

Since 2008, the pooled fund has financed a Technical Assistant (TA) to contribute to institutional strengthening of the Ministry. In 2010, technical support was provided in the following major activities:

- i Review of PASDEP from a gender mainstreaming and integration perspective and preparation of the five year plan of the Ministry that shaped the gender dimension of GTP.
- ii Organizing March 8, 2010 activities and taking part in the award committee
- iii Conducting the Rapid Assessment of Girl's Hostel establishment and a girls boarding school in Afar regional state.
- iv Assisting the Ministry in the preparation of project proposals for the Gender Pooled Fund including, proposals to raise funds for community mobilization on the fight against HIV/AIDS, and capacity building for the national machineries has been prepared. Technical support to the relevant directorate on the preparation of Joint Program, study on women living with disabilities etc.

Key result

The institutional capacity of MoWCYA was strengthened.

iv. Participatory Dialogue on Gender

- a. Support was provided to the Ministry's Annual Conference that was held from 22nd July to 27th 2010 in Mekelle, Tigray. Participants included regional women's Affairs bureaus, regional women associations, women affairs department heads, international and local organizations and civil society organizations. Regions presented their reports showing progress in areas of capacity building, gender mainstreaming, and mobilization of women at all levels. A compiled Report of the 25 sector ministries was also presented. In addition, Network of Ethiopian Women's Association (NEWA) representing civil societies and UNDP-DAG secretariat also reported on the support provided to the ministry.

The conference discussed in detail the 20 Year Development Programme for Children and Women, Beijing +15 reports, the draft guidelines on children's fund of the ministry and the M&E report of the ministry. The ministry acknowledged that donors' interventions played a pivotal role in addressing the gender issue at all levels. The Ministry indicated that donors' interventions were well designed to fit into the Ministry's programme and had achieved great success in addressing gender issues at all levels.

- b. A team of five participants lead by H.E State Minister Ferenesh Mekuria attended an international conference on Women in Urban Development and the 15th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women in Shanghai, China from 13-19 September 2010. Presentations and discussions were set around the themes of "Women in leadership: beyond the glass ceiling", "women and urbanization: mobility, transition and sustainable development" and "challenging the gender roles; potentials, rights and responsibilities". The forum achieved consensus and adoption of a declaration by stating major achievements and results to be shared and communicated to the summit of the world EXPO that included by heads of state and government leaders in October 2010.

- c. A three day consultative workshop on Gender Based Violence (GBV) was conducted in the town of Adama to review the status, prevalence and extent of GBV at national level. Fifty-five participants, 35 women and 20 men, drawn from civil society, police and justice offices attended the workshop. The legal department of the MoWCYA and Ministry of Justice presented the legal code relating to violence against women. This workshop was anticipated to provide input for the planned national gender based violence assessment and national GBV strategy.

Challenges faced by female university students were presented, reviewed and discussed at a workshop that was organized and conducted by MoWCYA in collaboration with Women Affairs Directorate of MoE and Addis Ababa University's Institute of Gender Studies. More than 20 government agencies, university female associations and gender office representatives and one private university representative participated in the event. The meeting discussed in details the reasons for the high attrition rate of female students and factors for the high drop-out rate of female students. Participating universities shared their experiences on the issue of providing assistance to female students in order to encourage them to then continue their education. Moreover, the newly established universities obtained experience from the well established ones in a number of related matters. As a result of this discussion, a University Female Student's Association was established to overcome the problems faced by female students in their respective universities.

- d. A half day media panel discussion on gender, children and youth was televised in collaboration with ETV on December 20, 2010 to raise public awareness on gender and youth mainstreaming. 29 (21 women and 8 men) participants from federal sector ministries' women affairs departments, planning

officials and experts, disability and cooperative association representatives and media experts took part in the discussion. The panellists discussed concepts of mainstreaming of gender, child and youth issues, opportunities, including challenges and expectations from different stakeholders. Due to the panel discussion, public awareness was raised and implementors from the government and non government organizations were sensitized on the issues raised. Feedback through the discussions provided further information on how mainstreaming of gender, child and youth issues at all levels could be strengthened.

- e. Two major events were organized to observe International Women's Day, March 8, through the support of Gender Pooled Fund. The first was Women's Run that took place on March 7, 2010 with six thousand women and girls participating under the theme "Women First" and messaging that highlighted the need for the economic empowerment of women. The second event was a national level conference that was attended by 6000 women drawn from 801 Woredas, Ministers, international organizations representatives and relevant agencies. Role models, icons, elders and pioneers were awarded for their contribution to gender equality. In addition federal, sectoral Ministers who made considerable effort to mainstream gender in their respective organizations were also recognized. Publications (folders, bulletins and brochures) that advocated for gender equality, under the theme 'Stand Up for Gender Equity' were distributed on these occasions and used as an effective instrument to popularize gender issues.

Key Result

The various meetings, events and media provided an opportunity for participatory dialogue to take place on issues related to gender.

Table 5: Expenditure detail of Gender Pooled Fund for the period 1 January-31 December 2010

Description	Expenditure in USD
Allocations from 2009	5,630.60
Strategic Studies	
Study on the "Problem of Women with Disability"	16,064.20
Assessment of Gender Perspectives of Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP)	1,261.43
Gender Mainstreaming M&E Field Report	1,202.75
Capacity Building	
Performance Management Training in Cape Town, South Africa	78,326.26
Entrepreneurial Training in Tel Aviv, Israel	22,374.00

Description	Expenditure in USD
Support to 2010 March 8	7,606.31
Annual Conference in Mekele	34,362.17
International Women Forum in Shanghai, China	12,275.66
Gender and Development Summer Trainings in Haramaya University	52,386.31
Capacity Building Training in UK	7,465.01
Leadership Training in Adama	3,677.10
The Eighth African Regional Conference in Banjul, Gambia	608.00
Institutional Strengthening	
IT Equipment for MOWA to establish MIS	95,995.54
Purchase of two vehicles for MOWCYA	100,714.05
Salary of Technical Assistant	6,298.12
Office Furniture for MOWCYA	2,523.83
Braille writing machine for MOWCYA	1,995.00
Policy Dialogue	
Media Panel Discussion on Radio FANA	7,142.99
Gender Based Violence(GBV) workshops	18,589.83
Conference Facilities for Gender Auditing, Budgeting and Mainstreaming	5,215.70
Others	
Miscellaneous	3,709.80
General Management Service Fee(GMS)	39,711.72
Total	525,320.31

4. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Pooled Fund

The Monitoring and Evaluation Pooled Fund was established in 2004 to coordinate and align support around a common M&E framework. The framework serves as a guideline for streamlined assistance towards strengthening of comprehensive M&E system building on national process and institutions.

The Memorandum of Understanding to financially support the M&E system of the previous national poverty strategies (SDPRP/PASDEP) ended in December 2009. Thereafter a consensus was reached between the contributing donors and government partners to make an assessment and review of the impact of the project. The contributing donors also stressed the need for more engagement and consultation space for themselves and the DAG M&E TWG in the management of the pooled fund. A consultant was recruited to review the project, make recommendations and draw lessons for the future operation and management of the pooled fund. The consultant was also required to contribute to

the design of a new phase of the project and update the priorities for an action plan to guide the use of M&E pooled funding from 2010 to 2014, taking into consideration the M&E needs of the new national development plan (GTP).

The assessment of the project showed a satisfactory achievement of the pooled fund objectives of creating of data and reports on poverty, increasing understanding of the determinants and evolution of poverty and dissemination of the information. It also emphasized that the use of project's poverty related research outputs in policy making was substantial at the national and regional levels. Project outputs included Household Income Consumption and Expenditure Survey (HICES), Welfare Monitoring Survey (WMS), and the Annual Progress Reports (APR). The assessment also noted the need for strengthening the dissemination of information and the management arrangement of the Pooled Fund.

The goals, purpose and outputs for the new project retained some aspects of the original project in order to consolidate on previous gains. Therefore, data base creation; information dissemination and capacity building were considered the core themes

in the second phase of the M&E Pooled Fund project document. The document was designed in such a way that it complements the GTP and the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS).

i. Support to Data Collection, Analysis and Dissemination

Since its inception, the pooled fund has been supporting a series of HICES and Household Welfare Monitoring (HWM) Surveys from which the basic development indicators of various demographic and socio-economic sectors were generated. These surveys provided poverty related data used as the main sources of information in the designing of PASDEP and GTP. Aligning with the GTP and NSDS, CSA and WMU planned to conduct a HICES and HWM for the period 2010/11 – 2011/12 in order to track the effects of the economic reform programme on poverty. In support to this plan, the pooled fund has taken two major actions that are necessary to undertake the HICES and WMS efficiently and effectively:

1. Procured survey material such as digital balances and field vehicles with the aim of capacitating CSA to undertake these surveys; and
2. Organized and financially supported study tours: The purpose of the study tours was to help CSA improve and update survey methods. It was felt that the present practice of data collection was exposed to respondents' fatigue which resulted from respondents' burden (a total of 16 interviews per respondents). In addition, the data processing had been taking too long (up to two years). Experience sharing and study tours to countries that are well known for the high quality of their official statistics were organized and sponsored to redesign of the surveys by observing survey methods, questionnaire design, data collection and field works, data cleaning, editing and validation process, proper sampling mythology, estimation procedures, analysis and disseminations. As a continuation to the study tour to Tanzania and Mozambique held last year, four staff member of CSA went to Malaysia to gain experience on the statistical system in general and the household budget survey in particular. The team visited different organizations that were responsible for statistical work in Malaysia. This has provided an opportunity to learn about different types of household surveys, and survey

designs. The tour provided an opportunity to explore issues and challenges that contributed to improve the method and design of the survey to overcome respondents fatigue, improve timeliness and enhanced data quality.

ii. Capacity Building

The seven CSA staff members that were pursuing postgraduate studies in South Africa in the field of Economics, Socio-Informatics, Statistics, Geography and Environment, and Biometry in 2009/2010 successfully completed their studies and returned home to support the organization with a higher level of capacity.

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High Level Forum

High Level Forums (HLFs) are held between the DAG and government officials at ministerial levels to dialogue on harmonization issues as well as policy and progress on implementation of the national poverty reduction strategy. The HLF is co-chaired by the Minister of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) and the DAG co-chairs.

iii. Enhanced Awareness on Poverty Reduction and MDGs

Government Consultative Workshops and Awareness Raising activities on the GTP

Following the formulation of the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) the pooled fund supported the consultative workshops that were conducted at all levels ranging from Woreda to Federal levels. The consultative workshop helped to gather inputs for the development of the GTP from various sectors, disciplines, stakeholders and the public at large.

Media advocacy was one of the tools used to raise public awareness on the implementation of PASDEP and MDGs. Radio Fana was contracted to broadcast programmes on PASDEP in four national languages, Amharic, Oromifa, Afarigna and Somali. It played a substantial role in popularizing the GTP.

Summary of Key Results and anticipated Outcomes

The core Implementing Partners of the DAG M&E Pooled Fund Project are the Central Statistical Agency (CSA) and Welfare Monitoring Unit (WMU) of MoFED. The support enabled to the Implementing Partners to adopt a new survey method which will substantially reduce the cost of surveys, improve the quality of data and make the results available in a timely manner. It also helped to measure achievements of development results and improvements in the lives of the people. In the long run it is intended to bring about the following results:

- To create necessary evidence, both qualitative and quantitative, at low levels of aggregation on welfare outcomes and inputs, via new data collection, integration of existing data and advanced analysis of all data available;
- To enhance the broad and fast dissemination and usage of data and findings related to welfare outcomes and inputs to all stakeholders; and
- Contribute to a broad based monitoring and evaluation of the development plan implementation based on high quality and widely used data and analysis.

Table 6. Expenditure detail of Monitoring and Evaluation Pooled Fund for the period 1 January-31 December 2010

Description	Expenditure in USD
Allocations from 2009	(4,958.52)
Data Collection, Analysis and Dissemination	
Experience Sharing Visit of Central Statistical Agency(CSA) staff to Malaysia	7,160.37
Digital Scale Balances for household income and expenditure survey	28,534.14
Growth and Transformation Plan(GTP) Consultations by MOFED at Regional and Woreda Levels	213,609.15
Capacity Building	
Masters degree studies for Central Statistical Agency(CSA) Staff	63,904.55
Exchange rate lose on settlement of advances	65,115.19
DAG M&E Pooled Fund Review	30,951.11
Others	
Miscellaneous	3,038.49
General Management Service Fee(GMS)	40,467.81
Total	447,822.29



Overview of Support Areas and Outcomes

Main areas of work	Support activities	Outcomes	Future Work	DAG Partners
Enhanced donor coordination and policy dialogue and support to harmonization and enhanced	Consultation on the development of GTP DAG Review	GTP Finalized DAG Structure and focus re-designed and implemented	Dialogue on Implementation through Annual Progress Review (APRs) and HLF	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED)
Strengthened monitoring and evaluation systems of PASDEP to ensure informed decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting GTP formulation process • Enhancing public awareness on GTP • Capacity strengthening of CSA and MoFED; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public awareness on GTP & MDGs enhanced through media advocacy. • Improved survey methods based on the experiences gained from different countries and provision of improved survey equipment. • Technical capacity of CSA enhanced as the seven staff from CSA completed their postgraduate training and returned. Participations of stakeholder in the GTP enhanced through the consultative workshops conducted at different levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support awareness raising on GTP performance • Capacity development of MoFED and CSA • Data creation (survey) • Data analysis and dissemination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSA, • MoFED (WMU)

Main areas of work	Support activities	Outcomes	Future Work	DAG Partners
Enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of education development initiatives and policy formulation of ESDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate studies and research; Organization of workshops and study tours Facilitate policy dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies and strategies of the Education Sector reviewed at the Education Annual Conference Joint Review Mission conducted; successful implementation of TDP identified and recommended for further improvement Feedback from participants at the ESDP IV validation workshop helped improve the quality of the document. Studies, initiated in 2009, completed in the areas of Teachers Development Programme, Public Expenditure Review, School Grant Assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Policy Related Studies Small Scale Studies by CSOs, Capacity Building through supporting international conferences, study tours, JRM, Education Annual Conferences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Education; CSOs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring Gender Equality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided Technical Assistance to MoWA Capacity building support, Facilitate strategic studies and Gender analysis Consultative workshops supported. National conference where the Core plan discussed. Public Awareness on Gender Issues raised Policy dialogue forum facilitated Support to conferences and study tours by policy makers and key implementors provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity Development Support provided to MoWA Technical Assistant Provided MIS installed Seventy-five women from Emerging Regions are enrolled in a 5 year summer degree programme on Gender and Development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the assessment of the impact of Affirmative Action. Finalize study on Gender Based Violence. Continue capacity development support for MoWA TA to assist MoWA on policy related research and innovation Facilitate participatory dialogue and networking amongst concerned stakeholders Provide support for policy analysis on emerging issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Women Affairs CSOs Women Affairs Department of line Ministries



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Working Groups

The DAG working groups provide an opportunity for technical experts within the member agencies to coordinate and provide technical advice to the DAG heads of Agency for policy dialogue with the government. Technical Working Groups (TWGs) are donor-only forums while Sector Working Groups (SWGs) are co-chaired by the government (in most cases at State Minister level).

Pooled Funds

DAG members contribute to four pooled funds. Three of the funds provide a framework for harmonizing donor activities and support to the country in the specific areas of Education, Gender Equality and Monitoring & Evaluation. The fourth pooled fund, The General Pooled Fund, provides resources for projects that support the country's national poverty reduction strategy and MDGs falling outside the areas covered by the three specific funds mentioned above.



DAG Technical Sector Working Groups:

Summary of Activities

1. Education Technical Working Group (ETWG)

ETWG has been working on the following goals since 2008: (i) More harmonized bilateral and multilateral agency support to the education sector; (ii) Financing for ESDP scaled up and increasingly channelled through government-led joint instruments; (iii) Enhanced GoE policies, plans and reports and (iv) Strengthening linkages coordination and working relationship between TWG, government, the DAG and other stakeholders.

In 2010, the Education TWG revised its ToR and with the new arrangements from April 2010, the Ministry of Education (MoE) took up the co-chair position. The other co-chair was drawn from the donor members. Another structural decision was the elimination of any outstanding task forces.

The TWG held monthly meetings were held in the MoE and visitors/ presenters from MoE and different organizations were invited to make presentations. The Education TWG also agreed to meet with the Minister of Education on a quarterly basis, and meetings were held in June and December 2010. The dialogue with the government focused on the Education Sector Development Plan and the main programs, mainly in the General Education Quality Improvement Programme (GEQIP). Initiatives and studies/reviews from different agencies and CSOs were presented and jointly discussed at the monthly meetings. While most of the work has been concentrated mainly to the General Education, the TWG recognises that there is a need to strengthen work with TVET and Higher Education subsectors.

Support for MoE was given in delivering the second Fast Track Initiative (FTI) Catalytic Fund application, which was submitted and approved in FTI meeting Washington in May 2010. Application was presented by MoE and a representative on behalf of donors. The Education Public Expenditure Review (EPER)

was used in the FTI application planning process and Education Sector Development Plan (ESDP) IV process in order to get realistic costing of ESDP financing framework. Exploratory work was undertaken with the MoE to get better harmonized financing for the Higher Education sub-sector. The Education Pool Fund project document has been revised and approved, now providing access to CSOs to submit proposals.

A Joint Assessment of ESDP IV was a major activity in 2010. MoE and the TWG conducted a Joint Assessment Exercise to enrich the document and strengthen joint ownership. After the Joint Assessment exercise a validation workshop was conducted among other stakeholders, including regions and CSOs and inputs were reflected in the final ESDP IV.

The Education TWG has been selected as one of the pilot sectors for the EU Fast Track Initiative on the Division of Labour exercise. Preliminary work was undertaken and agreement reached on the proposed approach.

A Joint Review Mission in October 2010 was conducted in six regions with the MoE, TWG members and NGOs. This year's focus was Teacher Education Development, including pre-service and in-service teacher training.

In order to enhance the Government's policies, plans and reports, several studies and training materials have been made and others are in the process of being produced. Some of these have been financed through Education Pool Fund and others through partners in coordination with TWG. These include Math and Science materials, Social Assessment of General Education including gender and equity Needs Assessment, Secondary Education Review, Early Grade Reading Assessment, School Health and Nutrition guidelines and the review of School Improvement Program Guidelines.

2. DAG Donor Group on Gender Equality (DGGE)

The DGGE supported various national activities as part of the March 8 International Women's Day commemoration and the organization of National Conference on Women's Machineries. As 2010 was the reporting year for CEDAW, the DGGE, through the Gender Pooled Fund (GPF), provided support to the Government of Ethiopia reporting.

The DGGE held an annual retreat in June 2010 to review its strategic focus, scope and modalities against the changing environment, both globally and nationally. The follow-up of agreed action is on-going and linked to the national strategy revision and restructuring of coordination mechanisms (the Ministry of Women's Affairs has now become the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs).

In 2010, the DGGE utilized the Gender Pooled Fund to respond to the request by the Ministry of Women's Affairs for assessments to be commissioned a) on women with disabilities, b) on the implementation of Affirmative Action policy frameworks and c) a national assessment on gender-based violence. The first two assessments were incorporated into Ethiopia's 2010 reporting on CEDAW, while the third activity is on-going and the report is expected to be available in the first quarter of 2011 to guide development of a national GBV strategy.

During 2010, the Ministry of Women's Affairs was engaged in the development of its Core Plan. DGGE contributed to the dialogue around the development of the Core Plan.

A selected number of DGGE members represented the wider group in the Sector Working Group held under the auspices of the Ministry of Women's Affairs (now Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs). The dominating issues in 2010 centred around the restructuring of the Ministry and multi-sectoral collaboration mechanisms. DGGE has been advocating for a broader partnership modality bringing different stakeholders together under one umbrella for increased effectiveness and transparency and would like to see these meetings occur according to the intended monthly schedule.

Despite the intention to hold a regular monthly meeting schedule, the Sector Working Group was not very active for most of the year, and where meetings were held, the participation/incentives

for participation by sectors, beyond the Ministry of Women's Affairs was limited.

3. Governance Technical Working Group

i. Conflict Prevention Sub Group (COSG)

In 2010 the COSG major activities focused on the support provided to the Ministry of Federal Affairs which is the main federal institution mandated to strategically deal with conflicts in Ethiopia. COSG, jointly with the Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA) engaged in establishing mechanisms to ensure bilateral and multi-lateral support through improved coordination and linkages which bring up synergies between conflict transformation, peace building and humanitarian aid programmes. Members engaged in supporting MoFA's conflict prevention and resolution pilot plan which is followed up by a yearly work plan. Innovative initiatives which were taken up by the Ministry are step by step transferred into a consolidated system of conflict prevention and resolution. Important components of these systems are strengthened. These are:

- Conflict Early Warning and Early Response Mechanism is established at national and regional levels. UNDP supports the national mechanism which is then taken further to the regional level by the Ministry. Capacity Building in this regard is provided by Mercy Corps including regional and national actors.
- Increased public awareness regarding culture of peace is created through strengthening peace radio, newsletter publication and the conceptual development of documentary films. COSG members engaged are USAID (Mercy Corps and Pact) and the former DED / now GIZ.
- Conflict prevention and management capacity of Ministry of Foreign Affairs' (MoFA) peace building directorate is constantly strengthened by various activities supported of COSG members.

The dialogue engagement with the government, particularly with the Ministry of Federal Affairs, the House of Federation and the regional partners which are the Regional Bureaus of SNNPR, Oromiya, Somali, Gambella and the Council of Nationalities contribute to valuable insights into ongoing projects

and activities and the overall development of peace building and conflict transformation in the country. The potentials for linkages are high and are specified and followed up especially in the regions of SNNPR and Oromiya and Somali.

In the year 2010 the following new programs were launched:

- UNDP “Conflict Prevention and peace building Program” (2010 -2013) providing technical and financial support to MoFA especially in the area of Conflict Early Warning; FoF - House of Federation (HoF) partnership on Leadership training on federalism and conflict transformation;
- Engagement of the Life & Peace Institute (Sweden) with the Addis Abeba University
- Mercy Corps “Strengthening Institutions for Peace & Development” (SIPED) began with activities in SNNP, Oromiya and Somali Regional States
- GIZ – Civil Peace Service Program (CPS) entered into its second program phase (2010 – 2013) focussing on the regions SNNPR and Oromiya.

ii. Civil Society Sub Group (CSSG)

The Charities and Societies Proclamation (CSP) came into effect in February 2010. The CSSG focused on the completion of Adaptation Facility (AF) 1 and continuation of the Adaptation Facility II, and related activities such as: a total of 54 Ethiopian and Resident CSOs were trained and/or mentored in strategic planning, domestic resource mobilization and financial planning by USAID/Pact. A total of 240 Ethiopian and Resident CSOs have been trained and/or mentored in constituency building, strategic planning, domestic resource mobilization and financial planning using Pact and other training materials. Studies on civil society contributions to national development were completed and disseminated, 24 adaptation grants given, 3 at regional level (2 organized by PANE and 1 by HUNDEE).

One national level ChSA-CSO consultations was organised through the CSO Task Force. The last Call for Proposals under the first phase (2006-2011) was finalised in the second quarter of 2010 with 14 new grant contracts for a total amount of 1.4 million EUR. The successor project, Civil Society Fund (CSF) II, will be implemented from 2011 to 2015 was agreed on with government. The objectives of this new phase are similar to the previous one, with a strong focus

on governance activities and funding will still be considered “domestic”.

The Tracking Trends in Ethiopian Civil Society (TECS) began its formal inception phase in November 2010 and was completed in January 2011, with an inception report submitted in March 2011.

During the year, the CSSG engaged directly, when appropriate, with the Charities and Societies Agency (ChSA) and the Ministries of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) and Federal Affairs (MoFA), and either mobilized or took advantage of DAG Heads of Agency (HoA) meetings to raise issues at the senior level. Civil society issues are a regular item on the agenda of the High Level Forum, but the HLF did not meet in 2010. CSSG attempts to follow up on MoFED’s suggestion to form a Civil Society Sector Working Group (CSSWG) did not bear fruit. However, there is now some movement on this front with MoFED requesting CSSG to nominate DAG members to form a planning team.

iii. Human Rights and Democracy Sub-Group (HRDSG)

Following the May 2010 elections, the Human Rights Sub-Group (HRSB) and the Democratic Representation Sub-Group (DRSB) decided to merge to become the Human Rights and Democracy Sub-Group (HRDSB), given significant overlapping mandates and membership. The HRDSB met every month as planned, engaged in substantive discussions on issues within its mandate and enjoyed briefings from a variety of invited guests.

The DRSB and HRSB considered organizing a joint electoral observation for the May 2010 elections, however, the GoE did not permit embassies and development agencies to engage in any type of electoral observation.

Several members organized joint field missions, e.g. Canada and the Netherlands visited the Amhara region together. Information about field missions by members of the HRDSB was shared in the meetings through a standing point on the agenda, often with invitations for interested members to join.

The HRSB’s also provided a follow up note to the DAG and the Ethiopian Partners Group (EPG) on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The HRSB’s dialogue engagement focused on UPR review follow up, National Human Rights Action Plan, the May 2010 elections and electoral environment,

Legal cases, Human Rights Defenders, Media environment, Refugee protection, Somali region, LGBT issues (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual), and HIV& human rights.

iv. Justice Sub Group (JUSG)

A consultative meeting was held in September 2010 at technical level between donors and justice sector institutions representatives on the Justice sector 5 years strategy (GTP). The meeting was organised by the Justice Systems and Legal Research Institute (JSLRI). In the framework of the GTP, the JUSG held technical discussions with justice counterparts on the Justice sector 5 years strategy (consultative meeting mentioned above) and with the Ministry of Justice on its specific 5 years reform strategy. The JUSG also had a thematic based meeting with CSOs working on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) issues.

4. HIV Section

The HIV/AIDS Development Partners' Forum provides a joint donor response to multi-stakeholder processes and provides a basis for collective action. The Forum seeks to share information and to coordinate donor assistance to the national response to HIV/AIDS, including the provision of support to HAPCO and the Ministry of Health.

The HIV/AIDS Partners' Forum meets once a month and comprises more than 20 bilateral, multilateral and UN organizations are members. The HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (HAPCO) is the main government counterpart on HIV/AIDS. Hence, joint meetings with HAPCO are held on quarterly basis.

During 2010, USAID and UNAIDS were the co-chairs of the HIV/AIDS Development Partners Forum. In January 2011, the Forum elected CDC and UNAIDS as Co-Chairs for the group. In January 2009, the forum developed an action-oriented work plan and identified a set of priority areas for support. In May 2010, a one day retreat was held and throughout the year participants provided regular updates on the Development Partners' Forum Work plan, which is comprised of the following six priority areas (and lead partners):

- Priority 1: Strategic Planning (UNAIDS)
- Priority 2: M&E / Strategic information (CDC)
- Priority 3: Impact mitigation (UNICEF/WFP)

- Priority 4: PMTCT (UNICEF)
- Priority 5: MARPs (most at risk populations) focused HIV prevention (USAID)
- Priority 6: Treatment, Care and Support (WHO)

Under Priority 1, the development of a five-year, multisectoral strategic plan (SPM II 2010-14), the costing of such plan, a Road Map 2010-14 and the M&E of the SPMII have been regular agenda items for the forum. Upon the request of HAPCO, the forum has provided consolidated partner feedback during the planning process. Regular follow ups were provided on Global Fund-related issues, the National Health Accounts exercise and the ongoing SPM II costing exercise.

Under Priority 2, members of the forum have worked closely with HAPCO to support the development of a community-based information system (CIS), to conduct Joint Review Meetings (JRM) and Joint Integration Supportive Supervision (JISS). The Forum has also helped the development of a 5 years Strategic Plan for surveillance and surveys by EHNRI. Moreover, throughout the year, the forum has actively shared strategic information including on the ongoing Demographic and Health Survey and other studies.

On Priority 3, the support given to the Association of PLWH for advocacy and Stigma Index study is providing evidence for policy and focus on programs that will make a difference among PLWH, policies and communities. The food and nutritional support provided by members of the TWG to PLWH has improved the efficacy of the ART program for about 17,000 PLHIV out of which 71% are women and their households. Additionally, members of the forum were actively involved in the development of the national OVC strategy and service standard package and engaged in the educational, food and shelter support to OVC.

On Priority 4, members of the forum supported a rapid analysis looking at cost and programmatic implications of adopting the 2010 WHO guidelines on the use of ARVs for PMTCT. The TWG has also supported and developed a work plan on PMTCT at national level. Priority issues identified, strategies and approaches were set and key partner's roles and responsibilities delineated.

For Priority 5, the TWG supported the development of a Minimum Package of HIV Interventions for key

populations and a national MARPs survey to be carried out in 2011.

On priority 6, members of the forum were actively involved in advocating for the adoption of the 2010 WHO ART guidelines and in the provision of technical support for scaling up ART services in the country, including at normative guidance level as well as capacity building.

Other strategic issues such as partner participation in HAPCO's annual planning process, human resources, improving donor harmonization and aid effectiveness are also included in the Forum's work plan.

Some priority issues for 2011 include:

- a. ICASA 2011. Ethiopia will be hosting the ICASA conference in December 2011. The support required and other technical matters have regularly been discussed and will be discussed further in 2011.
- b. SPM II and the new Health Sector Development Programme (HSDP IV) provide new targets and strategic direction for the national HIV/AIDS response. Forum members will be actively discussing the actions that need to be taken to align to the new documents.
- c. The national MARPs survey is in its final stages of preparation.
- d. Key programmatic challenges such as PMTCT and ART patient retention.

Overall, in 2010, the forum has successfully played its role in providing the basis for a collective partner action towards the multisectoral response.

5. Health, Population and Nutrition Technical Working Group

The Health, Population and Nutrition (HPN) Technical Working Group supports the activities of the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) under the framework of the Health Sector Development Programme (HSDP). HPN's priority area of focus was on supporting the HSDP 4, including in the area of the One Plan, One Budget and One Monitoring.

In its support to the One Plan, HPN partners worked together with the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) to use the global tool for the Joint Assessment

of National Strategies (JANS) to engage with the development of HSDP4. This JANS process brought together partners both in country as well as from HQ levels to use an agreed approach to assessing the draft 5 year strategy and providing inputs and suggestions. Expectations of the process were that it would: feed into the MOH strategy, bring more partners into the one plan and one budget, and inform decisions on technical/financial support. The process was successful in trying to draw in participation from CSOs and NGOs (included a workshop for more than 30 organizations). Follow up will include the finalization of HSDP4 and a request to partners to indicate how they will use the strategy to inform their financing and programming decisions.

In the context of supporting the One Budget, efforts are ongoing to improve resource mapping and ensure the contribution of partners is known and reflected in the budget. There was a slight increase in the proportion of the MDG Performance Fund (the FMOH preferred mechanism) in relation to the overall federal funding. Italy began contributing to the fund, while a number of partners (AusAid, WB, EKN and GAVI) are exploring how they can contribute to the MDG PF.

HPN agreed to support the MOH mainly in four key issues, as pillars of health sector development: Human Resources for Health, Health Management Information System, Logistics and Procurement and Planning in general. Task forces were established among HPN members to carry out specific tasks, in collaboration with the MoH, on the above mentioned key issues. The HPN has actively worked for the re-establishment of the National Advisory Committee (NAC) for the health information system. The NAC was officially revitalized in August 2009 (although it has not reached yet the expected functionality at the end of 2009). The TWG has also actively worked for the definition of the national Human Resources for Health strategy.

Under its Aid Effectiveness agenda, the HPN TWG focused on:

- Assessing progress and barriers to Development Partners using "One Plan, One Budget, One Report"
- Increasing % of ODA for health channelled through MDG Performance Fund (health sector funding)

- Taking forward the Health Systems Strengthening 'platform' of the World Bank, GAVI and the GFATM
- Ensuring joint governance structures for the sector function effectively

The group's policy agenda revolved around maternal health, human resource strategy, planning and budgeting – including needs based/resource based, procurement and commodity security (including for reproductive health), health management information systems, as well as health financing.

In 2010, Joint Consultative Meetings (JCM) were held periodically with the Ministry of Health (MoH), although not fully complying to the bimonthly schedule. HPN members are regular and active members of the Joint Core Coordinating Committee (JCCC) of the HSDP. Umbrella organisations representing the Civil Society continued to be members.

The "Health Pooled Fund" for MoH management requirements and technical assistance was periodically replenished and consistently used. HPN members provided technical assistance to Federal MOH for the annual District based planning exercise. As a follow up to the Ethiopia International Health Partnership (IHP) Compact commitments, the HPN worked closely with the MoH on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Appraisal was conducted on the Pooled Fund.

An Annual Review Meeting of the health sector was held in Debre Zeit in October where all HPN members participated and supported the ARM.

The HPN, through its representatives in the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) for the Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), has consistently followed the issues related to the Global Fund grants and processes in the country. The Ethiopian Minister of Health continues as the Chair of the Global Fund Board and ensured its support for this demanding task at global level. HPN members assisted the MOH in the development of GFATM Round 10 proposals in all categories, although none have been approved so far. The CCM is appealing the decision.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Technical Working Group

In 2010 the M&E TWG engaged in the review and redesign of the pooled fund. Revitalization of the group has been attempted through trying to enhance relationship with government counterparts. A Terms of Reference was revised and shared with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), and the Central Statistical Agency (CSA). The new ToR and DAG refocus on M&E in general is expected to improve the work and contribution of this technical group.

7. Private Sector Development & Trade (PSD&T) Technical Working Group

The PSD&T TWG has spent the last 18 months developing a final concept paper for a multi-donor pooled fund and once there is agreement the group plans to approach agencies for contributions. The TWG is also addressing the challenge of the management structure.

The group held a retreat in the summer to develop a two-year plan for providing input for private sector development as donors and implementors. The group agreed that the sub working groups would be reduced from 10 to 4. A successful meeting with the Rural Economic Development & Food Security (RED&FS) on private sector and Agriculture Growth Programme (AGP) was held in 2010 with plans to hold more encounters in the future. The TWG's sub working groups would also link up with the RED&FS sub working groups.

8. Rural Economic Development and Food Security Sector Working Group

The Rural Economic Development and Food Security Sector Working Group (RED&FS SWG) is the Government and Development Partners' platform established to ensure that a government strategy

of rural economic development and food security is effectively supported by Development Partners. The SWG strives to align, harmonize, and mobilize resources for the rural economic development and food security sector. The work of the SWG is supported by a secretariat based in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoRAD).

The SWG Platform meeting were held twice in 2010 (September 13 and 26 November 2010). The general objectives of the meetings was to (i) reports to the broad community of Development Partners the progress made and outstanding challenges; (ii) share information of relevance to the effective functioning of the SWG and (iii) solicit inputs from partners how to address outstanding issues.

The RED&FS SWG database Phase I was launched at the RED&FS SWG platform meeting on 13 September 2010. The platform meeting appreciated the database usefulness for the sector. The database was designed in order to map out donor support in the sector in order to improve coordination, harmonization and synergies. Some suggestions were made to refine the database and begin Phase II to add other essential elements and finalize it.

After a year of concerted effort, the Agricultural Growth Programme (AGP) design was completed and approved by the World Bank and ratified by the Ethiopian Parliament. The AGP is an important programme for Ethiopia and will initially target 83 high-potential woredas with increased participation of farmers, particularly women and youth, in defining the support they need to raise productivity and access markets.

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Compact was signed in August 2009. With the approval of the AGP mentioned above, Ethiopia now has national programmes in all the major pillars of the CAADP. Following the signing of the Compact, a Policy and Investment Framework (PIF) preparation was initiated in November 2009. PIF preparation was completed mid September 2010. The PIF is a 10 years road map prepared to assist the Government of Ethiopia to formulate and implement Agricultural Development Plan on the basis of overall national development vision and strategy. The PIF will be used as a guide for focused investments falling under the CAADP Ethiopia Compact and the agriculture and rural development sector thematic areas. It indicates budget for on-going programmes as well as the priority investment

areas in the agriculture sector to help the nation achieve its Five Years Development Plan targets.

As a follow up to the PIF the Ethiopian Post CAADP Compact review of PIF and business meeting was held on 6th and 7th December 2010 to deliberate on the post-compact investment plan/PIF review/validation, coordination and funding issues. The focus of the meeting was to share, insights on the progress, achievements and challenges in pursuit of food security and poverty eradication through agricultural-led growth. More importantly, the meeting aimed to garner support from partners, donors and other stakeholders for financing Ethiopia's PIF. The meeting was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) in collaboration with African Union Commission (AUC), NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPAC), the COMESA Secretariat and other Development Partners. A total of 151 participants from various countries, including delegates from the Ethiopian government took part in the meeting. The MoA, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) representing the Government, RED&FS co-chair representing the Development Partners and other key stakeholders signed the joint communiqué.

The World Bank and RED&FS pre-appraisal mission of the Agricultural Growth Program (AGP) took place in February 2010 and the appraisal mission at the end of March / beginning of April 2010. These two missions reviewed and (pre)-appraised the AGP design as prepared by the AGP Task Force. The mission confirmed the component structure of the programme and their outcomes.

The RED&FS SWG through its DRMFS Technical Committee engaged to support the government to draft the Disaster and Risk Management Policy. The policy is expected to be ratified by the parliament in 2011.

The Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP) regular Joint Review and Implementation Support Mission took place from 6-27 October 2010. The main objective of the mission was to assess the implementation readiness of the structures at regional, Woreda, Kebele and Community levels, tracking the progress of the implementation of activities and provide advice on technical as well as management issues. The mission was composed of representatives of the SLMP Coordination Office, World Bank, German Development Cooperation, Embassy of Finland, EU Delegation, World Food

Programme, Ministry of Agriculture and Regional SLMP Focal Persons.

A Government and Development Partners Joint Review & Implementation Supervision Mission met from 1st November–12th November 2010. The objective of the Mission was to review progress to date and determine key priorities and an action plan that will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) and Household Asset Building Programme (HABP). The Mission involved workshops at Regional and Federal level. The purpose of the Regional workshops held in Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, Tigray, Afar and Somali was to ensure input from implementors, identify and resolve Regional bottlenecks and bring strategic issues for discussion and resolution to Federal level.

The Policy Investment Framework (PIF) draft document was finalized in August 2010 after intensive engagement of the Government and its key stakeholders in the preceding months. The NEPAD/African Union Commission (AUC) technical team came to Addis Ababa and carried out the technical review of the PIF document before it is presented to various Development Partners to raise fund for its implementation. The work of the Independent Technical Review Team was supported by the RED&FS SWG and its secretariat.

In 2010 the RED&FS SWG commissioned the following studies:

- a. The Ethiopia Agriculture Sector PIF
- b. Potential Support of the Agricultural Growth Project to the Seed Sector Development in Ethiopia
- c. Agricultural Growth project
- d. Agricultural Value Commodity Selection for Oromia Region
- e. Agricultural Value Commodity Selection for SNNP Region
- f. Agricultural Value Commodity Selection for Amhara Region
- g. Global and Agriculture Food Security Programme Gap Financing
- h. A Way Forward for Development Partners to Support Disaster Risk Management in Ethiopia

The RED & FS SWG has also established communication with the DAG Private Sector Development & Trade Technical Working Group to

engage in a discussion/ dialogue on how to enhance the private sector development in the agriculture sector.

9. Transport Sector Working Group (TSWG)

The Transport Sector Working group organised two effective knowledge sharing meetings in April and November 2010.

Several sectoral studies have been carried out by TWG members, such as the Road Sector Development Plan Review for Ethiopian Road Authority ERA and the Review of Road Safety Management Capacity in Ethiopia.

At the TSWG meetings main programs/initiatives in the transport sector were presented and jointly discussed. The dialogue focused on Transport Sector Development and generally covered the weak areas of sector policy implementation. In 2010, TWG meetings dedicated constant attention to Road Safety and Rural Access and Mobility. Two specific subgroups were established to strengthen the dialogue in these two areas. Meetings envisaged a review of the status of Road Sector Development Plan presented by ERA top ranked officials, followed by a session of questions and answers from donors and stakeholders. Growing attention to crosscutting issues has been also registered, with climate change receiving attention from the group recently.

10. Water Technical Working Group

The sector as a whole is supporting a major review of the Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) Programme Implementation Manual (PIM) and associated with this, a revised UAP and a new Strategic Action Plan for Hygiene and Sanitation, also supporting the roll out of the National WASH MIS and in this context, the National WASH Inventory.

Field visit to Community Development Fund (CDF) supported communities was organised in early 2010 and enabled the DAG to look in detail at the CDF approach on the ground. The evaluation and review meetings were important milestones in securing CDF as part of a National WASH Programme, this work is ongoing in context of the Sector's revised programme Implementation manual and Universal Access Plan (UAP).



Annex 1:

Overview of DAG Events in 2010

Date	DAG Event	Major Issues Discussed	Comments and Follow Up Actions
14 January	DAG Heads of Agency meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Priorities and Scheduling for 2010 2. Governance TWG proposed 'Study on Distortion of Donor Funded Development Programme' 3. Update on Election preparedness 4. Update on CSO Law 5. Contributions to the DAG Pooled Funds for 2010 6. M&E 7. Follow up to the HLF – Harmonization Taskforce 8. AOB 	<p>DAG Ex-Com proposed an approach to the DAG review .</p> <p>DAG Co-Chairs met with Minister Sufian Ahmed. The study will proceed with Phase 1 and DAG will review the situation and agree next stage.</p> <p>DAG Chairs and EPG to engage with NEBE and Ministry of Justice on concerns over the elections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAG Governance Champions and EPG C1 Ambassadors were advised to organize a series of separate or preferably joint meetings with the MoJ/ChSA, MoFED, MFA, and NEBE to seek clarity on the above issues. • DAG Secretariat sent a letter to request contributions from members for the General Pooled Fund. Additional information on pooled funds will be provided on request. • A date was set for a Heads of Agency Meeting on M&E Pooled Fund and TWG. • DAG sent a letter with the list of agencies that will represent the DAG on the Aid Effectiveness Taskforce. • DAG Co-Chairs would follow up with Ato Sufian on process and timetable • DAG Secretariat re-circulated retreat report.

Date	DAG Event	Major Issues Discussed	Comments and Follow Up Actions
<p>23 February</p>	<p>DAG Heads of Agency meeting</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Humanitarian Requirements 2. Introduction of multilateral Co-Chair 3. Governance Technical Working Group (TWG) Chair 4. DAG Review 5. Feedback from meeting with Minister Sufian Ahmed (CSO Tracking Initiative; Distortion Study; PASDEP2 process; national climate strategy) 6. M&E Issues: Feedback and Way Forward 7. Consideration of application of new members to the DAG 8. AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Division of Labour • Education TWG • Aid Effectiveness sub-group 	<p>DAG members provided UNOCHA with updated information on their funding.</p> <p>The DAG HoAs endorsed the EC and CIDA as the new Governance TWG Chair and Vice Chair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ex-Com would hold discussions on details of the review and communicate its proposal to the DAG HoAs before the next regular monthly meeting. <p>The IMF to provide the DAG with a presentation on the impact of the global financial crisis. The EU was also launching work on the global crisis and offered to collaborate.</p>
<p>11 March</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction and welcome to new member (Turkey) 2. Updates 3. Humanitarian issues/ WFP Donor Visit 4. Preparations for elections 5. CSO Tracking Initiative 6. Study into possible distortion in donor-supported development programmes 7. Replenishment of the DAG Pooled Funds 8. DAG Structure and TWGs 9. Aid effective, Division of Labour and Harmonization Taskforce 10. A.O.B 11. Remarks on earlier planned DAG Dates (including Retreat) 	<p>DAG Co-chairs drafted letter and share with HoAs.</p> <p>Irish Ambassador to convey DAG's concerns to the EPG1.</p> <p>Ms. Victoria Chisala to draft ToR for the study and share with the DAG by 22 March 2010.</p> <p>The Secretariat to organize a meeting for the DAG members of the Harmonisation Taskforce ahead of 17 March 2010.</p> <p>Mr. Denis Thieulin (EC) to share with the DAG the EU discussions on a ToR for the Harmonisation Taskforce.</p> <p>Agencies to nominate their focal point for the DAG Secretariat to liaise with for the 2010 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness Survey. A similar survey had been undertaken in 2008 and 2006.</p> <p>The Secretariat to email Heads of Agency with proposed dates for the next DAG Retreat.</p>

Date	DAG Event	Major Issues Discussed	Comments and Follow Up Actions
<p>8 April</p>	<p>DAG Heads of Agency meeting</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Humanitarian Situation/ Coordination Architecture Preparation for national elections International Observers Harmonisation Joint Harmonisation Taskforce EU Aid Effectiveness/Division of Labour Approach CSO Tracking Initiative/Civil Society Sector Working Group Study into possible distortion in donor-supported development programmes Responses to the recent Human Rights Watch Report 2. Review of the DAG Structure and Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ToR Planning of DAG Retreat AOB 	<p>DAG members to express interest to join the EHCT should do so by Monday 12 April 2010.</p> <p>The Governance TWG's Democratic Sub Group was assigned to be the focal point for consolidating information and coordination of observers from DAG member Agencies on the day of the election.</p> <p>DAG provided comment on the government's draft ToR by Monday 12 April 2010.</p> <p>Howard Taylor followed up with MoFED on when the DAG can expect the Proposal and ToR for the SWG</p> <p>DAG met to review the final draft report and decide on next steps forward.</p> <p>DAG Heads of Agency sent their comments on draft response to the Coordinators</p> <p>DAG Heads of Agency provided comments on the draft ToR .</p>

Date	DAG Event	Major Issues Discussed	Comments and Follow Up Actions
13 May		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreement on last DAG minutes 2. Elections Preparations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel of Embassy and International Staff during elections • GTWG Elections Scenarios paper 3. DAG Retreat 4. DAG Review 5. EU Aid Effectiveness/Division of Labour 6. Civil Society Sector Working Group 7. DAG Ex-Com 	<p>DAG Co-Chairs to meet with Minister Sufian Ahmed to discuss the directive.</p> <p>HoAs to encourage qualified candidates to apply for the DAG Review consultancy.</p> <p>The DAG would look at some sectors to see how DoL initiative can be implemented faster.</p> <p>DAG Co-Chairs to discuss with Minister Sufian the update on the Sector Working Group and get clarity on mandate and role of the ChSA in engaging with development partners on issues related to the CSO law.</p> <p>HoAs interested in joining the Ex-Com asked to send their expressions of interest to the DAG Secretariat</p>
10 June	DAG Heads of Agency Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreements on last minutes 2. Update on Humanitarian Issues (Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team –EHCT) 3. Election Results – What next? 4. Distortion Study 5. DAG Retreat Follow up 6. Update on Harmonisation Taskforce 7. PASDEP II 8. DAG Review 9. Communication flow and shared guidelines with TWGs. 10. DAG Ex-Com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOB • DAG support to Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI) 	<p>Secretariat to organize a meeting in the next seven days to look at the ToR and propose action points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Howard Taylor followed up with MoFED to request clarification and terms of reference for their request for assistance. <p>The DAG Secretariat should share the profile of the international consultant.</p> <p>The secretariat should also contact the HoAs and TWG co-chairs to clarify their availability to meet with the consultants.</p> <p>A letter would also go out from the Secretariat to key government counterparts detailing the DAG Review background, process and schedule of engagement.</p>

Date	DAG Event	Major Issues Discussed	Comments and Follow Up Actions
8 July	DAG Heads of Agency Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreement on last minutes 2. Update on Humanitarian Issues (Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team, EHCT) 3. Update Post Election Issues 4. Aid Management and Utilization Study 5. DAG Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A.O.B • WIDE 3 Village Level Research 	<p>The DAG would follow upon the recommendation of the DAG study and establishing a process that allows for constant monitoring and reacting to situations.</p> <p>HoAs to reflect on the exercise undertaken during the May 2010 DAG Retreat that looked at the DAG focus and structure and some of the suggestions made by the resource person at the retreat.</p>
9 September		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> New DAG members/new Heads of Agency DAG Review Growth and Transformation Plan 4. Aid Management and Utilization Report 5. AOB Humanitarian update 	<p>The DAG Secretariat to liaise with the Co-Chairs and Executive Committee to organise a one day retreat. The retreat will be moderated by a facilitator.</p> <p>A DAG working group will be set up to distil the main outcomes of the final DAG Review report and prepare highlights to guide the discussion at the Retreat.</p> <p>The DAG Co-Chairs followed up with MoFED on timing and means of DAG participation in the GTP consultations.</p> <p>The DAG Secretariat re-circulated the DAG note to the recent HLF in order to remind the Heads of Agency of the group's comment on the Plan for the Accelerated and Sustainable Development to End Poverty.</p> <p>DAG Co-Chairs followed up with Minister Sufian Ahmed on the agreement for the Government to assign a senior government official to track dialogue and progress on the Aid Management and Utilisation Report.</p> <p>The DAG Civil Society Sub Group was asked to prepare a note on developments with regards to the new CSO law for discussion at next DAG Heads of Agency meeting.</p>

Date	DAG Event	Major Issues Discussed	Comments and Follow Up Actions
<p>14 October</p>	<p>DAG Heads of Agency Meeting</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and approval of minutes of last meeting (attached) 2. Briefing from the Humanitarian Coordination Team and recent meeting with Ato Mitiku Kassa. 3. Upcoming release of the Human Rights Watch report on politicization of aid 4. Response from the DAG to the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) 5. Plans for a DAG retreat 6. Any other business 	<p>An Ad-Hoc DAG Meeting would be scheduled for Wednesday 20th October.</p> <p>Rob Chase (World Bank) to draft a one page note and circulate to the DAG. The note would be based on the PSNP and PBS talking points as well as the previous joint DAG letter to HRW.</p> <p>The DAG Co-Chairs engaged the government to address the long term safeguards in the donor supported programmes.</p> <p>DAG member briefed their respective ambassadors on the report and DAG plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a consensus reached not to issue an immediate short response but wait for the government to launch the full report at which point the DAG would provide constructive and forward looking comments. • A small group including members of the Ex-Com, EU, CIDA me and prepared key issues from the recommendation for discussion. • The DAG Secretariat booked the venue for the retreat.
<p>9 December</p>			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of Minutes of Last Meeting 2. DAG Retreat Decisions and Follow Up Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAG Co-Chairs Term • TWGs 3. Brief on CAADP meeting 4. Brief on Aid Utilization and Management Study 5. Preparation and dates for next HLF 6. GTP 7. DAG M&E Support 8. Update on OECD Survey 9. Brief on Villagization 10. Rolling programme of substantive issues for DAG Heads discussion in 2011 <p>AOB</p> <p>DAG Calendar for 2011</p>

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The DAG Secretariat, DAG Pooled Funds and Communication are housed in UNDP Ethiopia and are responsible for the day-to-day running of the DAG. They provide support to the DAG Co-Chairs, Executive Committee, HoAs and Working Groups under the overall supervision of the UN Resident Representative and the DAG Co-Chairs.

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