

Ethiopian international Institute for Peace and Development
First Quarter Report on CVEA Programme

1. Reporting Period: August –October 2007
2. Organizational Work was in line with EIIPD's plan of action outlined in the project proposal submitted to CVEA.
 - 2.1. Three professionals (one female) were recruited from the market to join six (two of them female) professionals of the EIIPD for whom assignments were distributed based on the qualification of each from the performance of tasks required to execute the programmes approved by the Civic and Voter Education Association (CVEA).
 - 2.2. The first meeting was held on August 13 and 15 to give orientation to the trainers of TOT on the preparation of material for training of facilitators.
 - 2.3. A field trip was undertaken in collaboration with two CVEA member organizations, i.e. APMC and Kn Eth, for predatory discussions with officials of the Tigray Regional Administration.
 - 2.3.1. The field trip took place from 15-20 August.
 - 2.3.2. The group was received on August 16, 2007 by the Chief Administrator of Tigray for a courtesy discussion on the programme of CVEA member organizations for the Region. The group held detailed discussions with the advisors to the Chief Administration on economic and social sectors.
 - 2.3.3. Also on 15 and 16 August 2007, meetings were held with the leadership of the Tigray regional office of the Ethiopian Teachers' Association for discussion about the complementarity of the activities of CVEA member organizations in promoting common objectives.
 - 2.3.4. On 17 August, discussions were held with top officials of the regional justice bureau and the President of the Region's High Court.

The discussions provided extensive information about the importance of civic education to civil servants at the middle and lower levels of responsibility. In fact, the briefings by the High Court judge provided extremely useful lessons on the need to conduct civic education continuously.

- 2.3.5. On 20 August, the EIIPD finalized its research for a partner in conducting its programme in Mekele with a visit to the office of the Women's Association of Tigray. The EIIPD reached agreement with the Association by which the association will select participants in the Training of Trainers from among its members as well as from the Youth Association of Tigray.

Agreement was reached whereby participants in the TOT and the subsequent civic and voter education meetings will be civil servants.

3. Other detailed activities indicated in the EIIPD's action plan for August 2007 included, inter-alia, the following:

- 3.1. Orientation meetings and review of draft training material based on the documents provided by CVEA;

- 3.2. Preparation of TOT materials which take into account the level of education of those selected from public institution, expected to be middle-level members of public service functionaries. The content of the materials consisted on:

1. Fundamentals and indicators of Democracy;
2. The meaning of political tolerance and its importance;
3. The meaning and concept of Human Rights;
4. Human and Democratic Rights in Ethiopia;
5. The Structure and separation of powers of FDRE;
6. The importance of election;
7. Election systems, processes and procedures;
8. The basic characteristics of democratic election; and
9. Rights and responsibilities of voters as well as women and election

4. Training of Trainers (ToT)

The ToT programmes were held in five sessions as follows:

- 4.1. EIIPD started training its trainers in Addis Ababa for two days on September 17&18, 2007. Initially we trained 30 trainers from legal

enforcement agencies, covering 13 women and 17men. Participants were drawn from the following institutions:

- Ministry of Federal Affairs;
- Administration for Refugees Returnee Affairs;
- Addis Ababa City Administration Justice Bureau;
- Federal High Court;
- Immigration and Citizenship Affairs Authority;
- Federal Supreme Court;
- Federal Prison Commission;
- Addis Ababa Police Commission;
- Federal Police Commission;
- Federal Custom Authority;
- Federal Prosecutor Office;
- Ministry of Justice;and
- Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission

4.2. The second session in Addis Ababa was held for two days from october4-5, 2007. About 24 participants drawn from Ministries and government Authorities attended the training, of which 8 were women and 16 were men. Participants were drawn from the following institutions:

- Ministry of Works and Social Affairs
- Ministry of Water Resources
- Ethiopian Roads Authority
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Culture and Tourism
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Ministry of Mines and Energy
- Federal Revenue Authority
- Ministry of Urban Development
- Ministry of Capacity Building
- Ministry of Finance & Economic Development

4.3. The final session in Addis Ababa was held for two days from October 16-17, 2007. Participants who took part the training were about 47, of which 18 were women and 29 were men. Participants were drawn from all 10 Sub-cities of Addis Ababa City Administration.

4.4. After finishing the training programmes in Addis Ababa, we held the fifth session in Adama for two days from October 24-25, 2007. The Number of participants who took part the training were about 52, covering 16 women and 36 men. Participants were drawn from the following offices:

- Adama City Administrative Office;
- Adama Wereda Administration Office;
- East Shoa Zone Administration Office;
- Adama City Women's Affairs Office;
- Adama City Customs Office;
- Law Professionals Association;
- Adama City Education Office
- Adama City Capacity Building Office;
- Adama City Youth Association;
- East Shoa Zone Agriculture and Rural Development Office;
- East Zone Police Office;
- Adama City Police Office;
- East Shoa Zone Prison Administration;
- Adama Prisoners Training Center;
- East Shoa Zone High Court;and
- East Shoa Zone Justice Office

4.5. The final or sixth Session of the first quarter was held in Awassa for two days from october30-31, 2007. The number of participants who attended the training was 30, of which 11 were women and 19 were men. Participants were drawn from the following offices:

- Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR) Supreme Court;
- SNNPR Police Commission;
- SNNPR Council;
- SNNPR Prison Administration;
- Awassa City High Court;
- SNNPR Women's Affairs Office;
- SNNPR Capacity Building Bureau;
- Forum for Human Rights and Development;
- SNNPR Mass Media Agency;
- Ethiopian News Agency, Awassa Branch;
- ETV, Awassa Branch; and
- Walta Information Center, Awassa Branch
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5. Results, Impact and Evaluation

The training sessions were fruitful and educative. The participants actively participated in every discussion point with full enthusiasm and energy. For each session, intensive discussion was held between small groups and then further discussed in plenary session in order to make the training alive throughout the training period. We have observed from their active

participation and feedbacks that the participants have gained useful knowledge with regards to the concept of democracy, human rights and political tolerance, what their democratic rights are, and what democratic election mean, why political tolerance is important, how the FDRE government is structured and how the powers of the FDRE government is shared and distributed.

Participants stated that such training should be offered on a regular basis since this is the only way to empower the society to take charge of its live or destiny.

Our Civics and Voter Educators and coordinators believe that our training contributed quite a lot in enlightening the target groups about their democratic rights and obligations, especially, in relation to the rights of citizens to participate actively in the political decision making process, of freely electing their representatives. However, there were repeated complaints, such as the time allotted for the training was short and should be improved in future. The other point is that the training should be provided on continuous bases rather than once in a year.

From the above brief report, we can conclude that the Civic and Voter Education programme, which EIIPD undertook, was planned, organized, and conducted successfully in the first quarter.