

Linking the **Ethiopian** Diaspora with Research and Development Endeavors of Ethiopia



**Joint ED-REAP and Mekelle University
Workshop**

Dec 18-22, 2012

Mekelle, Tigray

Workshop Goal

- To outline a roadmap for engaging Ethiopian Diaspora in Research and Development in Higher Education Institutions in Ethiopia and beyond.
- Participants identified key challenges opportunities and processes
 - to engage Ethiopian Diaspora in research and development efforts of the country
 - to foster collaborative research among universities, industry and government.

Outline

- Theme1: ED-REAP
- Theme2: Collaborative Research
- Theme3: VCL resources
- Theme4: Statistics/Biostatistics/Public Health
- Theme5: Water Resources
- Theme6: Multisectoral Link
- Theme7: Quality of Education
- Theme8: IBM Initiatives

Theme1: ED-REAP

Goal: Link ED with Academic and non-Academic Entities

- Create a database of professionals in the US
 - Mailing list (google groups, **create gmail**)
 - Website (will have all identified resources)
- Resource center organized by theme
 - Research : collaboration, grant/manuscript writing
 - education:/Online, e-learning,
 - short term training, mentorship
- Annual workshop (as needed)
- **Outcomes:**
 - MOU (with universities)
 - Joint task force to follow up progress

Theme2: Collaborative Research

- **Goal:** Help make MU (AXU, ADGU) one of the best research universities
- Key factors: institutional support, incentives, mentorship and career development
- Institutionalize Research ethics (eg. IRB)
- Policy brief document
- **Outcome:**
 - MU-COHS concept note
 - MU- Faculty of natural sciences concept note

Theme3: VCL

- **Goal:** to link Ethiopia with open source VCL technology and resources
- Provide 20-30 free provisional VCL accounts
- Create a VCL in Ethiopia
 - Identify task force members who can follow up the initiative with IBM/NC State (Dr. Schaffer)
 - Hardware, housing, network, software, training

Theme4: Biostat/stat/PH

- **Goal:** Support Stat/Biostat/PH program
- Support with Stat/Biostatistics curriculum
- Support with mentoring of mentors (joint advising, grant writing, manuscript writing)
- Foster coordination between Stat and Biostat
- Establish Statistical Consultancy Center
- Collaborate with the E-health Initiative of COHS
- **Outcome:**
 - Established a task force with school of public health

Theme5: Water Resources

- **Goal:** best water resources problem solving institute
- Form water resources family (common seminars, newsletter, policy briefs)
- Institutionalize research to attract funding resources
- **Outcome:**
 - Formed a group to develop a research proposal

Theme6: Multi Sectoral Link

- **Goal: to create an environment that facilitates link between industry, government and higher education**
- All organizations should have a strong and functioning Research and development office
- Establish University and Implementing Agency forum
- Foster the two way communication between industry/Govt with higher education institutions (**Advisory Council**)
- Examples
 - Task force is established to form Water Sector organization forum
- **Outcomes:**
 - Sign MOU with Tigray Science Technology Agency
 - Sign MOU with METEC

Theme7: Quality of Education

- **Goal:** Support Quality Education improvement efforts
- Linking education & teacher training programs in Ethiopia with US institutions
- Capacity building using e-learning tools
 - Faculty development (training + education)
 - Research
 - Infrastructure development
- **Outcomes:**
 - Five year plan for ED-REAP and BoE partnership

Theme8: IBM Initiatives

- **Goal:** connect Ethiopia to the global IBM Initiatives and Resources
- K-12 STEM access
- Access to IBM open source Academic Initiative
- Leadership Capacity building

Thank You!

- Institutions

- Mekelle University
- METEC
- NCCU, MUSC, USC, UCONN, IBM, NCSU, SCSU

- Individuals

- Local organizers (Dr. Tesfamicheal, AbdulWassie, Meron, Shishay, and others)
- MU-COHS (Dr. Zerihun Abebe)
- Mr. Bitew Belay of METEC
- The Participants!!!!