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UNFPA co-hosted international meeting on digital data capture



Mr. Yao speaking at the event

A three-day international meeting on digital data capture for the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses took place in Ethiopia between 15 and 17 February. The meeting provided a forum for sharing knowledge and experience on ICT-enabled census data capture, transfer, processing, dissemination and management.

Making a remark at the opening of meeting, Dr. Abraham Tekeste, Deputy

Commissioner of the National Planning Commission of Ethiopia, noted “The Ethiopian Government appreciates that the full adoption of modern technology in the in the entire population and housing census process is a huge national and continental responsibility.” He went on to state that the government was keen to support institutional capacity building at the Central Statistical Agency to leverage ICT to improve overall quality and

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Special points of interest:

- Digitizing Census data capture

Resource center for students with disabilities Inaugurated

The UNFPA supported resource Centre for Students with Disabilities established by the African AIDS Initiative International (AAIL) at the Addis Ababa University was inaugurated on 29th March 2016.

Mr. Faustin Yao, UNFPA Country Representative, said on the occasion “the establishment of this resource center is reflective of the fact that students with disabilities are at a disadvantage and are facing quite a number of challenges related to SRH and the associated gender based violence. These challenges justify the decision to set up this center to increase their access to information and related services to empower them.”

The Resource Centre consists of a computer pool of 42 computers with internet connections and a reading room.



Inauguration of the center

A delegation of the UN Association in Sweden visited UNFPA supported programme



Members of delegation interacting with community members

A delegation of the UN Association in Sweden visited the UNFPA supported programme on child marriage and Female Genital Mutilation being implemented

in the Abala District in the Afar Region. A total of 12 people composed of staff of the UN Association in Sweden and corporate sponsors contributing funding to the programme

participated in the visit which took place between 4 and 6 April 2016.

The integrated programme on child marriage and female genital mutilation which is being

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UNFPA handed-over supplies to drought affected areas



Hand-over ceremony

UNFPA handed-over on April 11 reproductive health medicines, equipment and supplies to support Basic and Comprehensive Obstetric and Newborn care services in 4 health centers and the Sitti Zonal Hospital in the Somali Region. The supplies consisted of 15 delivery coaches, 15 beds with mattresses, 2,600 clean delivery kits, 2,800 packs of iron folate, 1,500 dignity kits and 8 tents.

Speaking on the occasion, Victor Rakoto, UNFPA Deputy Representative, said "UNFPA is providing

this support as part of its mandate on emergency responses in relation to reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and Gender Based Violence." He added that UNFPA would continue making these kinds of emergency responses to alleviate the conditions of drought affected people.

UNFPA recently conducted facility based rapid assessment in five El Niño induced drought affected woredas of the Sitti zone. The humanitarian supplies that were handed-over were procured based on

the assessment.

The El Niño induced disruption of rainfall has caused drought in many parts of the Ethiopia. In order to fast-track the humanitarian response to this calamity, UNFPA developed a detailed operational plan for emergency Reproductive Health responses as a contribution for the realization of the strategic objectives of the government endorsed 2016 Humanitarian Requirement Document.

The hand-over ceremony was conducted in the presence of representatives of the Somali Region Women and Children Affairs Bureau, Health Bureau, the Siti Zone, and Woreda coordinators.

A delegation of the UN...

implemented in 13 localities in the Abala District was launched in March this year. The programme is partly funded by the UN Association in Sweden with financial contributions from corporate sponsors.

During the visit the delegation was given an overview on the implementation of the programme by Minawora Mohammed, Head of the Abala District Women, Children, and Youth Affairs Office. They also had the chance to go to the implementation site of the programme where they observed the efforts

being made by different sections of communities in the fight against child marriage and female genital mutilation. The delegation interacted with various participants of the programme comprising of influential members of communities, married and unmarried girls, and female students in the high school in Abala Town who are benefitting from the support being given by the programme.

This programme is the first of its kind in the Afar Region in integrating child marriage and Female

Genital Mutilation. The same programme has been in implementation in the Afambo District for the past 3 years.

Meanwhile, the delegation paid a visit to the Mother and Child Rehabilitation Center which UNFPA is supporting through its Violence Against Women Programme funded by the Royal Netherlands Government. The Director of the Center, Mrs. Jutta De Muynck, briefed the delegation about the activities of the center and they were shown around.

UNFPA co-hosted...

timeliness of data generation.

“The increasing data demands in new and emerging areas demand revolutionizing data capture, transfer, processing and management methodologies to improve coverage and completeness, accuracy and timeliness. This is consistent with the UN Secretary General’s Data Revolution and Data for Development tenets

to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,” said Mr. Faustin Yao, UNFPA Country Representative. He added that sound strategies must be put in place to effectively leverage ICT in census implementation.

This meeting was hoped to provide strategic direction for the African region as it prepares to implement the 2020 Round of population and housing cen-

suses. The outcome of the meeting will be used for evidence-based advocacy and policy dialogue among key decisions makers in all African countries.

The Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia and UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, jointly organized the meeting in which participants from 13 Africa Countries, Brazil and India participated.

Resource center for students ...

This initiative is part of the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Reproductive Health Information and Service for Communities of Higher Institutions project run by the AAIL in collaboration with the Addis Ababa University. The center is expected to benefit around 400 students with disabilities.

Dr. Admasu Tsegaye, President of the Addis Ababa University, said in his remarks during the event that the center will be important in upgrading the capacity of the university and is instrumental in

fulfilling the information needs of disadvantaged students, especially those with disabilities.

Mrs. Elleni Gebreamlak, President of AAIL, said “students with disabilities face many barriers to information about HIV/AIDS, Sexual and Reproductive Health issues, and gender based violence.” She noted that the resource center will help to lower many of these barriers increasing the capacity of students with disabilities to handle a wide range of activities independently.

UNFPA is supporting the Resource Centre for students with disabilities through the resources of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Right-Based Approach to Adolescent and Youth Development funded by the Norwegian Government, which is in its second phase of implementation spanning 2014 to 2017.

It is to be recalled that UNFPA collaborated with AAIL on the set-up of a resource center for female students at the Addis Ababa University in June last year.

Women First Run 2016 held



Participants of the run

The 13th edition of the Women First Run – the annual 5km all-woman race – was held on 6 March 2016. The race was held under the slogan ‘Investing in Girls is investing in the Future’. More than 6 thousand participants crossed the finishing line.

The Women First Run is held with the aim of giving recognition to the

achievements of women and appreciate their role in the country’s development endeavors. The race forms part of the series of activities in celebration of the International Women’s Day on March 8. The race has also become a stepping stone for young, emerging female athletes some of whom have eventually become Olympic or World Champions.

In addition to the mass and elite athletes’ competition the event includes the competitions between icon women and female ambassadors of countries based in Addis Ababa.

The Women First Run 2016 was started by Athlete Meseret Defar, UNFPA National Honorary Goodwill Ambassador in Ethiopia and other invited dignitaries.

Upcoming events

International Day of the Midwife, May 5

International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, May 23



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We’re on the web <http://ethiopia.unfpa.org>