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MPs appreciate CSA's preparation for upcoming Census



Members of Parliament being briefed on preparations for the Census

Members of the Finance and Budget Standing Committee of the House of Peoples' Representatives appreciated Central Statistical Agency's preparation for the 4th Ethiopia Population and Housing Census that is expected to be conducted in 2018. The members expressed their appreciation when they visited the Central Statistical Agency

(CSA) on January 17, 2018.

The Members of Parliament (MPs) visited all the activities of CSA giving more attention to its preparation for the upcoming Population and Housing Census. The MPs saw the 180,000 tablets and the 126,000 power banks purchased for the census stored at the agency.

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Fourth UNFPA supported Resource Center launched at Addis Ababa University

A UNFPA supported Female Students' Resource Center was inaugurated on 6 March at the Institute of Technology of the Addis Ababa University (AAU). The center which is the fourth of its kind aims at improving access of students to context specific and gender sensitive sexual and reproductive health information and services. It is believed that the center will enable them to overcome the challenges related particularly to HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health issues.



Inauguration of the Resource Center

"The establishment of the resource center is reflective of the fact that female students are at a stark disadvantage

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Special points of interest:

- Preparations for Ethiopia's 4th Population and Housing Census in full swing

UNFPA handed-over ambulances to Oromia and Somali Regions

UNFPA handed-over 2 ambulances to the Health Bureaus of the Oromia and Somali Regions at a ceremony held on 27 February. The ambulances were purchased with the generous funding of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan as part of the project entitled “Addressing Reproductive Health needs and providing Gender Based Violence services for drought affected populations.”

The ambulances will be



Handover ceremony of ambulances

deployed at the Moyale and Warder Hospitals to strengthen the referral linkage in managing ob-

stetric and other complications in drought affected populations in the Oromia and Somali regions.

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Media Forum Established to Expedite Census Communication



Media Forum establishment ceremony

The Government Communications Affairs Office of Ethiopia together with the Central Statistical Agency (CSA) established a Media Forum to expedite census communication activities.

During a meeting organized with the fund secured from UNFPA held in Bishoftu on December 30, 2018, the Government Communications Affairs Office of Ethiopia officially established the Media Forum composed of heads of all regions' Communication Affairs Offices and selected public and private media institutions and regional education bureaus.

Dr. Negeri Lencho, Head of the Government Communications Affairs Office with the Rank of Minister, said on the occasion that regional communication offices as well as the media have the responsibility to assign human resource and budget to raise public awareness about why the census is carried out, its benefits, when it is carried out and what is expected from them so that they could collaborate with enumerators. He called on the staff of regional communication affairs offices and the media to make the census their current agenda.

Ato Biratu Yigezu, Director-General of the CSA, indicated on his part that a communication guide had already been prepared to help guide the census communication. He added that a communication committees have been established from federal to woreda levels of government to facilitate the census communication efforts.

The participants of the meeting spoke about the preparations they have been making to launch census communication work in their respective regions. They also underlined the need for the preparation of census messages by CSA and Government Communications Affairs Office so that they could use them to raise the people's awareness in their respective regions.

UNFPA is the lead UN Agency in the census process supporting CSA in several aspects including implementation of the census communication strategy.

MPs appreciate CSA's preparation...

They also visited new office buildings constructed by Statistics for Result (SFC), a project funded by the World Bank, and other buildings which are under construction. They also appreciated the office facilities availed for the CSA staff.

During their discussion with the officials of CSA, they were also informed that the census cartography work had been completed. Training of trainers was also given to 1,600 CSA staff drawn from the agency's 25 branch offices

across the country and some more selected people from Afar and Somali Regions. Further trainings will be given to enumerators and enumerator supervisors. Vehicles have also been readied for the enumeration work.

The MPs on the occasion said that they were happy and satisfied to see that the upcoming Population and Housing Census was to be supported by tablet technology and better cartography work for the technology increases the quality the enumeration

work. They generally appreciated the preparations made so far by the CSA to conduct the upcoming Census.

UNFPA is the lead UN Agency partnering with CSA on the Census and it has placed at the agency a Chief Census Advisor, a Cartographer and a Communication Expert to ensure the success of the Census. It has also hired several consultants to build the capacity of the CSA staff.

Fourth UNFPA supported Resource Center...

facing quite a number of challenges related to SRH and the associated gender based violence," said Bettina Maas, UNFPA Country Representative speaking at the inauguration ceremony. She underlined the need to increase their access to information and related services to empower them.

Professor Tassew Woldemehana, President of Addis Ababa University, said on his part that "In order to effectively run activities in

relation to HIV/AIDS, AAU has created an enabling environment to contribute its parts in the creation of HIV/AIDS free society." He added that the university is "implementing the national HIV/AIDS plan by establishing strong collaboration with higher education HIV/AIDS prevention and control forum, Africa AIDS Initiative International and Addis Ababa city Administration Health Bureau."

The Resource Center will create safe space for

female students free from gender bias and gender-based violence, peer pressure, and other social problems which directly or indirectly affect their academic performance and psychosocial wellbeing.

UNFPA is supports this initiative 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

UNFPA handed-over ambulances...

The one-year project has been implemented with a total budget of close to 30 million Birr in 13 priority one drought affected hot spot woredas in the Amhara, Oromia, SNNP, Somali and Tigray Regions. It aims at reducing preventable maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality related to drought and improving measures for the prevention of gender-based violence and provision of response services.

A little over 800 thousand people are benefiting from the project, out of which more than one-quarter are women of reproductive age. The project provides women, girls and pregnant mothers in drought affected hot spot woredas with access to lifesaving emergency reproductive health and GBV response services.

Emergency reproductive health kits, post-rape treatment kits, delivery coaches and hospital

beds were dispatched to equip 13 health centers and 6 referral hospitals in the five intervention regions of the project. Reusable dignity kits were also procured and distributed to women of reproductive age and adolescent girls in the project sites.

Officials of the Health Bureaus of Oromia and Somali Regions, Embassy of Japan and UNFPA were present at the handover ceremony.

UNFPA introduces GRID initiative to key stakeholders in Ethiopia



The GRID Consultative Meeting in session

UNFPA introduced the Geo-Referenced Infrastructure and Demographic Data for Development (GRID) Initiative to the Central Statistical Agency and other stakeholders during a Consultative Meeting held in Addis Ababa on February 13.

Opening the consultative meeting, Mr. Rakoto Victor, Deputy Representative of UNFPA, expressed his hope that the implementation of the GRID3 in Ethiopia will get stakeholders support and will help the decision making and programming processes in the country in the coming years.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and UK Department for International Development (DfID) recently awarded a grant to UNFPA, Flowminder and CIESIN to strengthen national capacities to generate and utilize geos-referenced infrastructure and demographic data for development (GRID3) in six African countries. Ethiopia is one of the potential African countries selected for the implementation of the GRID Project along with Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Zambia.

During the meeting, Tapiwa Jhamba, Senior Technical Adviser, and Sainan Zhang,

Technical Specialist, both based at the UNFPA Headquarters, highlighted that the GRID3 Initiative aims to strengthen national capacity to collect, use, and share geospatial data on population, settlement, and infrastructure to support socioeconomic development.

Stakeholders including the Central Statistical Agency, Ethiopian Geospatial Information Agency, Information Network Security Agency, higher learning institutions and civil society organizations participated in the consultative meeting.

Upcoming events

International Day of Midwives, May 5

International Day of Families, May 15

International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, May 23



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