

From 8 - 12th of July 2014, for the 2nd 10 SME (small and micro enterprise) orientation and planning session

Urban Agriculture and Farming - training session at Tesefa Birhan Primary & Secondary school

Within a group of almost 93 farmers from Addis Ababa (kolfea keraniyo sub city & nifasilk lafto subcity) Tena Kebena organized a five days training at the Tesefa Birhan Primary & Secondary school with partners from ISD, ENDA Ethiopia, FfE, PAN, OSD and APAP.

The five days training is part of the SCIP project, which launched some month ago by a group of non-governmental organizations working on environment and related issues (the same as you can see above). They embarked upon initiating and establishing a partnership among themselves for implementation of a project entitled 'Climate Resilient Green Zone alongside the Akaki River'. The project is part of an initiative of the Ethiopian Government called "Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE)" to protect the country from the adverse effects of climate change and build a green economy that will help realize its ambition of reaching middle income status before 2025.



The training started with an introduction of the participants, including opening speeches from the two founder of Tena Kebena, Alemayehu Akalu and Desalegn Firew and an overview about overall objectives, missions and visions related to the SCIP project from the project coordinator Ato Mengesha Dagne. Miss Selam from ISD (Institute for Sustainable Development) continued with the organizations profile and the role of ISD at the SCIP project. She mentioned that ISD was able to support the farmers with providing different agricultural equipment,

seeds and 20 selected saving energy stoves.

Within an open discussion about current prospects, problems and experiences of the farming situation in Addis Ababa, which mostly regards to land tenure issues raise, high water pollution, low efficient crop, some inconvenience with the vegetable producers (mostly the sub city Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) leaders), affected plants and waste of production, the participants were able to schedule the main issues of the coming five days training. Related to the schedule, the main objectives for the training have been challenges and opportunities, orientation, future work, relationships, how to solve problems, marketing, production, soil improvements, composting and planning for the coming one year.



During the training session, Tena Kebena was representing the role and expectation of the green production system (focused on organic approach and green technical skills) together with a representative from ENDA Ethiopia, Ato Mekuria. The overall mission in this case is; to convert the traditional way of farming into the modern way (which mostly means environmental friendly and healthy way of farming).



According to this matter, a volunteer from Tena Kebena, Miss Lisa Wehmann, was representing a new project from Tena Kebena - solar food drying - which is able to guarantee a new, effective and sustainable way of food producing and selling.

After an open discussion about new urban framing technologies and opportunities, the director from APAP (Action Professional Association for People), Ato Wongel Abate, presented the organizational responsibilities, tasks and experiences during the SCIP

project. The APAP project coordinator, W/ro Senayet continued with a brief discussion about the role of APAP during the SCIP project, which is mostly related to financial management trainings and leaderships.

By the means of group discussions (the groups got divided appended to the different associations), accompanied by the members from Tena Kebena and APAP, the participants were able to share their thoughts about challenges and strategies. The key issues in this case have been selected by identifying the strengths and weaknesses in leadership and financial management trainings related to each association, as well as probable solutions focused on these problems/issues. The results were represented by the farmer participants themselves and measured by means of the leading attendants and identified as



the traditional way of farming as the main weakness as well as voluntary based work as a strengthens.

Afterwards, Ato Dawitt, a representative from OSD (Organization for Social Development), presented the organizations profile, roles and responsibilities related to the SCIP project, which basically comprises the market value chain. Just as Miss Meskerem from PAN (Pesticide Action Nexus), whose organization generally focused on Coordinating Managing Entity (CME), capacity building and while working together with Tena Kebena, providing solid waste management and compost making workshop regarded to the SCIP project.

The last representative for the five days training who was presenting his experiences and the organizations role at the SCIP project, basically promotion of the project and the participating organizations, has been Ato Mekuria from FfE (Forum for Environment). He is well experienced in working on environmental protection in Addis Ababa for EPA (Environmental Protection Authority) and accordingly to this able to answered questions about main issues and projects.



At the end of the training, each partner was able to propose and plan the recent time, evaluating during the stay and maintain some issues to conclude the coming program. Therefore, most of the partners, as well as the other participants, mentioned the training as a good opportunity to full fill the gap and work together hand in hand for the coming one year. At the same time, some partners agreed on building up new offices, as well as to provide new agricultural equipment's for the coming year. Finally everybody agreed on working forward to achieve the SCIP project and the CRGE (Climate-Resilient Green Economy) goal.