

Annual Narrative Report for the year 2015

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From: Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Country Lead Organization for Ethiopian EOA Initiative

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Introduction

The EOA initiative in Africa is being implemented in Ethiopia since 2014 with support from SDC (Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation), and in another seven African countries, with the goal of mainstreaming EOA into national policies, programs and strategies by 2025. ISD, as a Country Lead Organization, is sensitizing organizations, managing and cementing the process to reach to the desired goal. The EOA Initiative is also being implemented since 2013 with support from SSNC (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation) through the same 3 pillars but with the focus on the work being to build the capacity of grassroots / civil society organizations Parallel with this

The major milestones in doing so are the formation of country stakeholders' platform steering committee, development of the three-year strategic plan for 2016 to 2018 and the ongoing policy development by the selected consultant.

During the last budget year, between January to December of 2015, major activities have been accomplishing with the pillar implementing partners (PIPs) and the CLO. Therefore, the following report consists of the narrative report done by Mekelle University (Pillar I RTE implementer), PANOS Ethiopia (Pillar II IC implementer), value chain and market development (Pillar III VC&MD implementer based in ISD) and the CLO, i.e. ISD.

Annexes are attached at the end of the reporting templates.

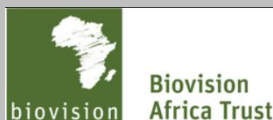
Summary of key achievements, challenges, lessons learnt and recommendations for the year 2015

No.	Pillar	Key achievements	Challenges	Lessons learnt	Recommendations
1.	I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A baseline survey was conducted. The survey covered 32 woredas, interviewed farmers and other stakeholders. • In a EOA practicing organization 3 different practices have been validated through practice monitoring, and lab analysis of the same is still underway • Value chain of organic produce focusing on wheat (she'han – a local breed), Gundagundo oranges (another local breed), lettuce (market breed) and apples was conducted • One MSc curriculum including EOA as a 6 ECTS course has been setup and the first run of the course was completed successfully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main push that our government has been putting behind the conventional agricultural intensification • Delay in funds (about 95% of the 2015 activities have been pushed to 2016 due to delays in fund transfer) • Assess to good quality affordable labs to conduct the validation lab analysis • Work load of interested staff members being high 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the regional and national networking the different activities in EOA and related activities and the number of interested and involved parties was beyond our expectation. Especially having the backing of the African Union and partners from all over Africa has been a motivating and strengthening knowledge • Through this networking again, the development of EOA and its market potential as seen in other countries has shown us directions for development and growth • More effort is needed to show how good EOA is, and this hopefully will be achieved through the demonstration sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only recommendation we have is to improve the financial setup, though some changes have happened, it is yet to be seen how effective this change will be. • Additional funding and additional partners need to be looked for to strengthen the program and the initiative taken by the African Union. This should not only be done by AU, but also by all involved partners

				By engaging decision and policy makers in the region and demonstrating how good EOA is, it is hoped that the same kind of government backing and extension push can be placed behind EOA	
2.	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total eight 30 minutes radio programs and six one minute spot messages have been produced and broadcasted nationwide on the Ethiopian Radio • One important achievement in the reporting period was the development of country specific EOA communication strategy. • Aiming at the establishment and consolidation of Former's Resource Centers we have conducted field assessments in collaboration with ISD so as to identify candidate Farmers Training Centers (FTC) in Holleta area some 40 KM from Addis Ababa. It is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of full time project officer which takes care of the day to day project activities • Absence of budget to fully implement the country specific EOA communication strategy prepared • Budget shortage to produce and broadcast more EOA related Radio programs and spots messages. This is very important to increase media visibility of issues related with EOA so as to increase the awareness and consciousness level of the general public in amore impactful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff capacity, exposure and networking with likeminded individuals and institutions at a national, regional and continental level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There shall be a project staff specifically assigned to implement project activities • Good to join hands to raise additional funds for the proper implementation of the country specific EOA communication strategy which is a foundation for the wider deployment of EOA practices • There shall be a timely disbursement of budget • There shall be intense advocacy and BCC

		also strengthen with IC materials.	manner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late disbursement of budget 		
3.	III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market study made on value chain of organic vegetables in the two project areas Engagement of stakeholders and partners as the project-holders and owners of the pillar Capacitating of producers and concerned stakeholders with different training packages Knowledge build-up through experience-sharing visits and platforms to best practice areas in value chain development Production of a 'Market Information System' learning manual for stakeholders, for them to be able to support farmer Engagement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resource 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unavailability of organic inputs – seeds and bio pesticides Imbalance between demand for more farmers' to be incorporated and financial resource limitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readiness and willingness of farmers to practice EOA farming principles Satisfaction of farmers with the soil fertility as a result of organic input approach Quality of EOA products from the producer and consumers' perspective Market demand for quality, healthy produce Collaborative support of stakeholders in the implementation of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet local, regional and national market demand for EOA products; work with all the value chain actors and support entities; and expand the project to more farmers, there is a critical need in terms of financial support.

		<p>Management in the EOA platform and activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to healthy, organic vegetables to the local market with the support on organic vegetable market outlets 			
4.	IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of country stakeholders' platform steering committee • Ongoing policy development • Development of the three-year strategic plan for 2016 to 2018 	<p>The biggest constraint for ISD in implementing the activities assigned to the CLO result from the way in which the Ethiopian Charities and Societies Agency differentiates between administration and operational costs.</p>	<p>it is observed that farmers, consumers, like-minded organizations, pillar implementing partners and government are showing high interest in adopting and supporting for the development of EOA principles in the country through the inception workshops, trainings, workshops, platform formation meetings, field visits, planning and evaluation workshops.</p>	<p>ISD have to be pushy and sale ourselves in promoting EOA for stakeholders and government in order to mainstream EOA.</p>



Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa

Reporting Period:
January 2015-December 2015

OUTCOME 1: Improved knowledge of research into use, needs and priorities about EOA practices in the entire value chain (Increased knowledge of the different EOA actors, knowledge and practices)

Output 1.1 Increased knowledge of research into use, needs and priorities about EOA practices in the entire value chains

Indicators (from log frame)

- Number of demonstration sites
- Number of validation research into EOA practices
- Number of knowledge gaps identified

Baseline

From the baseline survey and the value chain studies of 2014 the following points were identified:

- Though the default production system for most items in the region is organic there is no organic market, and a value chain system for organic produce
- The study found that 54 institutions in Tigray were involved in EOA research and training
- At the point of production, the following EOA activities are being implemented researched and encouraged through extension in the region:

Soil management practices:

- Composting
- Animal manuring
- Mixed ash and manure for potato
- Green manures
- Limited depth tillage
- Crop residues management
- Mulching using grass weeds and crop residues
- Effective Microorganism (EM) compost

Agronomic practices:

- Intercropping (maize + cow pea)
- Crop diversification (sowing different crops in one plot)
- Crop rotation (sowing legume once in every 3rd year)
- Agro-forestry (e.g. *Sesbania sesban*, *Cytisus proliferus*, *Acacia albida* and others)
- Cover crops (e.g. chick pea),
- Sowing early maturing crops (e.g. pica flora),
- On time weeding,
- Purposeful seed selection (e.g. local seeds such as a variety of pea -*dekoko* and barley-*gunaza*; improved seeds such as wheat, maize, barley and pea),
- Row planting
- Use of water saving irrigation techniques (e.g. drip and sprinkler technologies)

Livestock management knowledge/practices:

- Organic fodder development such as alfalfa, phalaris, elephant grass and others
- Sowing forage crops/trees such as sun flower, safflower, *Becium grandiflorum* (local name *tebeb*) and *Hypoestes forskalii* (local name *girbia*)


Crop and Livestock disease and pest control:

- Using ash dressing techniques as anti-termite treatment of wooden poles
- Using organic materials such as *Phytolacca dodecandra* (local name *shibti*) and *Calpurnia aurea* (local name *hitsawts*) liquids as anti-external parasites
- Use of *Melia azadirachta* (local name *neem*) tree on aphid infested

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vegetables such as onion, cabbage and potato • Pest control/ protection by clearing, weeding and seed selection in addition to use of chemicals • Botanical pesticides • Weed control (hand weeding and chemical application)
Summary of progress between over reporting period (Specific reports with more detail can be attached as annexes)	<p>-Based on the strong suggestion by the regional technical committee, two integrated EOA demonstration sites were identified and selected. These sites are to be set up in two Technical and Vocational Training Colleges providing training to extension agents of the region. These areas located in Wukro and Maychew. By doing this the committee suggested that the capacity of the extension agents graduating will be improved and as a feasible option policy makers can visit and hopefully be convinced that EOA is a viable and profitable option. The sites are teaching farms where an integrated EOA demonstration will be done addressing soil, agronomy, animal husbandry and pest management issues.</p> <p>-Validation of 3 different EOA practices carried out, looking at vegetables and fruit, grain and dairy production being undertaken at the ST Maries Catholic Technical and Vocational Training College. The validation report about EOA practices completed.</p> <p>-The regional technical committee was asked to help set the priority in terms of what knowledge gaps needed to be addressed. They noted that awareness creation and basic principles of EOA practices knowledge gaps needed addressing. Though they were given the baseline to work on, they preferred to set their own priorities.</p>
Project Targets	<p>-The MSc research support made will also contribute to project target</p> <p>-There are many other activities (including short course trainings, preparation of manuals, training on promoting EOA, etc.) are partly planned to be made once the integrated demonstration sites are established. Separately however, the plan to conduct these and other project activities exists.</p> <p>- Two demonstration sites set up. The demonstration sites are considered based on the strong suggestion by the regional technical committee</p> <p>-Identification of knowledge and technology gaps is a continuous process with non-specified targets</p>
Analysis, Remarks	-Teams established and visited the selected demonstration sites for reconnaissance survey and stakeholder discussions
OUTCOME 2: Increased capacity for organization and implementation of EOA Practices	
Output 2.1 Increased knowledge of training needs for EOA actors	
Indicators (from log frame)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Type and number of training needs identified -Type and number of support made for research related to EOA -Number of curricula revised and incorporated EOA
Baseline	<p>From the baseline survey of 2014 it was found that 39 institutions in Tigray were involved in EOA extension. From the study it was also found that thought farmers are practicing EOA, there is a need for training and improved extension in the following as ordered by importance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composting, • Soil and water conservation, • Agro-forestry practices, • Water harvesting, • IPM, • Animal manuring, • Forage plantation, • Row planting, • Irrigation practices, • Biological pest control, • Awareness creation minimum tillage, • Vermi-compost, • Slurry use, • Intercropping,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bio fertilizer
Progress between reporting period	-4 more training needs identified based on the discussion with the regional technical committee -Support made for two MSc researches for students from Mekelle University, working on the value chain of organic Apples produced in Tigray and backyard indigenous fruits produced through Agroforestry were supported. Thesis of the students reaching completion.
Project Targets	-The target for curriculum review and introducing EOA into the MSc curriculum was successful
Analysis, Remarks	-
Output 2.2 Increased EOA-related services and trainings provided	
Indicators (from log frame)	Number of EOA-related services and trainings provided by actors identified
Baseline	In the baseline survey 54 EOA training providing actors were identified and they noted that they have thus far provided 181 different short term trainings out of which 49 were practical trainings. All of the 54 institutions noted that there in additional need for training and 53 of them noted that practical training was important and lacking.
Progress between reporting period	-In the reporting period, no activity related to this was performed due to lack of funds as only 32.6% of the funds for 2015 were transferred to us.
Project Targets	-In part to be implemented through the planned demonstration sites and separately, significant portion of the activities that lead to this output remain to be done, including conducting review of curricula and training materials, sensitizing stakeholders, support development of EOA training program and short courses -An EOA based research review to have a compilation and solidify scientific evidence for EOA's success, workshop planning underway
Analysis, Remarks	-In 2014, the project started in August, and some activities were forced to be pushed into 2015. Again in 2015 only 32.6% of the funds were received, resulting in carryover of activities to in 2016. In 2015 the regional technical committee recommended a restructuring of the activities ad this in turn has resulted in additional delays. All of this combined has affected our ability in achieving these targets.
OUTCOME 3: Increased effectiveness in the implementation of the pillar	
Output 3.1 Increased documented reports, regular communication and establishment of technical committee	
Indicators (from log frame)	-Status of technical committee and number of meetings -Number of EOA actors/stakeholders interviewed -Number of teams established -Number of reports compiled
Baseline	A baseline report on the status of EOA in Tigray, value chain baseline analysis reports on the value chain condition produced.
Progress between reporting period	-Regional technical committee was established on April 16, 2015. The role of the committee is to guide and oversee the activities of the pillar. After being established they have met twice and set priorities of the agenda to be addressed by the pillar. -In May 2015, the regional technical committee convened for the first time to discuss plans, make amendments and targets and approve plan -A technical team is established within Mekelle University, has worked on proposals and 5 sub-team proposals have been submitted but still need further discussion and improvement to setup the demonstration sites - -The EOA course integrated curriculum MSc in Agroforestry has been approved, first intake of MSc students has taken the course

Project Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The target to get the regional committee meet every six months is met (conducted in May 2015) -The target with validation of EOA practices met -As per the Technical committee’s recommendation, the setting up of demonstration sites is completed
Analysis, Remarks	-Due to budget delay, some activities were not implemented on time

	EOA INITIATIVE IN ETHIOPIA: ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015 PANOS ETHIOPIA	
Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) in to National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa	Reporting Period: January 2015 - Dec 2015	
OUTCOME 2: Producers are systematically informed and made aware about the EOA approaches and good practices and motivated to apply them by having access to strengthened advisory and support services		
Output 2.1 Awareness and knowledge of the value and practices of EOA is increased		
Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultant hired to develop the communication strategy • EOA communication strategy document • Improvement in awareness and knowledge of EOA practice • Number and kind of actors and stakeholders participated in the validation workshop 	
Baseline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no EOA communication strategy for Ethiopia. In the year 2015 we have managed to develop the EOA communication strategy. • There was very limited awareness and knowledge of EOA practice but now there are improvements in the awareness and knowledge of EOA practice in some part of the country. 	
Summary of progress between over reporting period	<p><u>Finalizing the EOA Communication Strategy Development</u></p> <p>As indicated in the previous reports one of the major activities in the year 2015 for Pillar II was finalizing the draft EOA communication strategy through circulating the draft document and finally organizing a validation workshop involving all partners and stakeholders. Accordingly a validation workshop was finally organized in 19 August 2015 at Monarch Hotel, Addis Ababa. EOA partners and stakeholders have attended the workshop.</p> <p>During the validation workshop, the assigned communication consultant has presented the draft in a way that encourage partners to critically comment and enrich the draft document. Following his presentation participants forwarded valuable comments and suggestion to be considered while finalizing the draft strategy. At this point in time the final communication strategy the layout and design work is completed. It is now ready for publication incorporating all comments and suggestions forwarded during and after the validation workshop. It is obvious that implementation of the strategy requires addition al funding as indicated in the document. Thus, we have already started communicating some development partners securing funding for the realization of the strategy. The document is attached as an annex, Annex 10.</p> <p><u>Spot Message Production and Broadcasting</u></p> <p>In 2015, it was planned to produce and broadcast four spot messages. As per the work we have produced four spot messages in our own studio and broadcasted the same nationwide on the Ethiopian Radio. The one minute each spot messages primarily targets consumers and producers. The themes of the spots were focusing on the, environmental, health and economic benefits of products produced organically. These spot messages were broadcasted on Ethiopian Radio station, which is a nationwide</p>	

	<p>Radio and covers 98% of the country, Ethiopia.</p> <p><u>EOA Radio Programmes</u> Panos Ethiopia had planned also to produce and broadcast six radio programs in the year 2015. Accordingly we have produced six 30 minutes radio programs and broadcasted nationwide on the Ethiopian Radio. The contents of the radio programs primarily focuses on what organic agriculture is about, its benefits in the face of changing climate, Ethiopian indigenous seed varieties and their current status, Biodiversity and culture, compost preparation and its long term benefits for soil fertility benefit, opportunities and challenges for the wider deployment of EOA, etc.</p> <p>Panos Ethiopia has also planned to produce and circulate two posters and one brochure in the year ended. Unfortunately these specific activities were not accomplished because of the late disbursement of budget.</p>
Project Targets	Farmers, consumers, producers, decision makers in government, civil society organizations and the population at large
Analysis, Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A delay / shortage of budget in the reporting period • Budget shortage to produce and broadcast more EOA related Radio programs and spots • Very small budget for staffs working on the project
Output 2.2 Extension and communication support systems are strengthened	
Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of extension agents trained • Number of farmers trained to train others • Number and types of communication materials purchased • EOA resource center established
Baseline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no resource centers in Holleta area, some 40 KM from Addis Ababa. But now we have identified three resource centers. The required equipments and furniture is completed for one of the identified resource centers.
Summary of progress during reporting period	<p><u>Establishment and consolidation of Farmers' Resource Centers</u> As a follow up of the field assessment conducted in collaboration with ISD three candidate Farmers Training Centers (FTC) were identified in Holleta some 40 KM from Addis Ababa area so as to establish Farmers' Resource Centers in 2015. Accordingly Erobe Gebeya, Berfeta and Meda Gudina Kebele associations were identified. Among the three candidates establishment and consolidation of the Meda Gdina Farmers Resource Center is now refurbished and handing over of all the required equipments and furniture is completed. We are now working to organize a skill training on the management and proper functioning of the resource centre.</p> <p>It was planned to organize skill training for farmers and extension workers, production of policy brief and posters in the reporting period. Unfortunately these activities were not accomplished primarily because of the delay in the transfer of fund. Considering this drawback we are now aggressively working to properly accomplish these activities</p>

	in the first quarter of 2015.
Project Targets	Farmers, extension agents, government organizations.
Analysis, Remarks	
Output 2.3 Effective implementation of the pillar activities enhanced	
Indicators	M&E tools used % implementation of the activities
Baseline	
Progress between reporting period	<u>Activities Performed</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field assessments and monitoring visits were organized to Holleta so as to identify and establish FRC • Two EOA management meetings were conducted to harmonize project activities and planning • Regular technical and financial reports were submitted to
Project Targets	
Analysis, Remarks	



**EOA INITIATIVE IN ETHIOPIA: ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015
PILLAR III. VALUE CHAIN AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT**

Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programs in Africa		Reporting Period: Jan - Dec 2015
OUTCOME 1:		
Output 3.1 Access to market information and capacity of value chain actors to access data on organic products increased.		
Indicators (from log frame)	Value chain EOA actors' data base accessibility.	
Baseline	The Ethiopian Organic status survey report made in 2009 and The 2012 EOA pilot initiative survey made on Ecological organic agriculture were used	
Summary of progress between over reporting period)	<p>3.1.1_19 actors in EOA (producers, processors, traders, facilitators profile collected, compiled and data base established in the year 2014. Directory on Ethiopian Organic Agriculture Actors is published as well. (See Annex 12)</p> <p>This activity was carried by SSNC support through EOA, pillar 4.</p> <p>3.1.2_ The data base linked to ISD web site is updated.</p>	
Project Targets	Updating of the online data base EOA actors in Ethiopia and publishing of Directory of the Organic Agriculture Actors in Ethiopia.	
Analysis, Remarks	The EOA actors profile is accessible now in print copy in addition to the online information on http://www.isd.org.et at the home page . The Directory booklets were as well displayed as free copies in the Institute for Sustainable Development exhibition booth at the 3 rd African Organic Conference in Lagos, Nigeria in Oct 5 – 7, 2015. It took the attention of many participants. It can be said that it is now reached to many African and global EOA actors. The soft copy of the directory is attached as an annex PDF is attached – annex 12.	
Output 3.1		
Indicators (from log frame)	A manual on market information system instrument for organic agriculture value chain.	
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.	
Summary of progress during reporting period)	<p>3.1.3_ Type of data's for market information System Instrument was categorized and set as well as the contents of the manual structured in year 2014 by a partner called the Ethiopian Marketing Professional Association which also conducted the study on market value chain organic vegetable for one of the project area (Holeta.). However this association could not go further and completed the manual at the expected time. On the other hand through the recommendation of this particular Association a consultant identified and contracted and Market information system information for Organic Agriculture value chain (123 pages) was completed by the end of the year 2015. The manual is attached as annex PDF is attached, Annex 8.</p>	
Project Targets	Developing a Market Information System Instrument for organic agriculture value chain for the use of local stake holders in assisting the EOA value chain and market development project target farmers.	
Analysis, Remarks	The specific purpose of this approach is to enable farmer groups and service providers to evaluate their marketing opportunities based on market demand. This method aims to promote diversification and find ways to add value to organic agricultural products. The manual will also help in the identification of better market opportunities for existing products but with emphasis on finding ways of increasing income through collective or group marketing, and by evaluating current practice and finding ways to upgrade methods for production, marketing and	

	business relations in order to be more competitive in the marketplace
OUTCOME 1:	
Output 3.1	
Indicators (from log frame)	Number of stake holders trained from both project areas.
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.1.4 -Training stakeholders on the use of marketing information tool and 3.1.5 -- Training stakeholders on gathering and analyzing market information. These trainings are reliant on the completion of the manual on Market information system instrument for organic agriculture value chain. The manual was completed in December 2015 because of this the trainings could not be implemented as planned in 2015.
Project Targets	It was to train stake holders from two project areas in assisting organic farmers in value chain and market development
Analysis, Remarks	The trainings planned for implementation on the 1 st quarter of 2016
Output 3.1	
Indicators (from log frame)	No. of shops built
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.1.6 - Construction of 3 market outlets + 2 ongoing market outlets, shelves, crates, seeds, seedlings and tools -- In two project areas two market out lets construction (50% – 75 %) were made in 2014 and completed on the 1 st quarter of 2015. These stores in Holeta and Haik towns have an area of 12m ² and 20m ² respectively. (See Annex 13) In addition in the year 2015 in Holeta town two markets out lets were constructed with a size of 40 m ² . <i>The project target farmers were supported with different vegetable seeds and agricultural tools.</i>
Project Targets	Construction of 3 new markets out lets and finishing the ongoing construction of 2 markets out lets in the year in both project areas.
Analysis, Remarks	The organic agriculture producers are now having the opportunity of their own market out lets. During the year the two shops were not kept open in most times. This was due to the farmer's lack of patience in taking times and absence of proactively work in promoting the shops with their new products. On the other hand the availability of market for their organic products is remarkably high in the traditional way of selling at market places for retailers and consumers. Their produce has market in the local market is because of its quality according to the marketers understanding. Farmers in Holeta as well reaching to different public local offices in selling their produce. This is because of the office people understood it is grown without out chemical inputs. The continuous supply of organic vegetable along with market promotion will be the main focus of all the value chain actors and supports in the year 2016.
Output 3.1	
Indicators (from log frame)	Number of participants including stake holders and at the 3 rd African Organic Conference in Lagos
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.

Progress between reporting period	3.1.7 - 1 Stakeholder will participate on the Third African Organic Conference in Nigeria in October 2015 --- Eleven participants from Ethiopia participated the 3 rd African Organic Conference held in Lagos, Nigeria on 5 th – 9 th October, 2015. Three stake holders (one from Ministry of Agriculture and two from Mekele and Wello Universities) and two from the Institute for Sustainable Development were part of the participants. Six Ethiopian organic producers, processors and marketing farmers’ cooperative unions and companies were exhibiting organic coffee, organic honey , organic sesame and organic cosmetics. Reports of the third Organic African Conference is Attached as Annex 7
Project Targets	One stake holder to participate in the 3rd African Organic Conference
Analysis, Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A budget from CLO covered most participants travel cost to Nigeria. The exhibitors were also partially supported (air travel and visa expenses). • There were many core issues taken forward from the conference to our respective countries. To mention few in regard to EOA value chain development is the following - promotion of interactive learning to create and spread knowledge, the need to strengthen farmers capabilities in strategic market negotiation, support communication and trust relationships between farmers, intermediaries and consumers, Needs strategic development of products, support farmers mobilization / organization on EOA. • The organic product exhibitor’s participants from Ethiopia had the opportunity to be part of the first Afro trade fair. They got experiences on the African organic initiatives around the content, and the value added products from Nigeria, and East African Community countries. The absence of invited potential buyers in Lagos conference should be a lesson for next conference organizers (Cameron).
Output 3.1	
Indicators (from log frame)	Marketability of organically grown vegetables in project areas
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.1.8 -Consumer awareness through radio programs, and preparing promotional materials – In both Haik and Holeta with the local administration communication office promotion of the vegetable products for local consumers were made through workshops and local Fm radios and using lod speakers. As well as making documentation and photo prints display and show at local government different events.
Project Targets	To make promotion using local Fm radios in public areas for the promotion of organic products.
Analysis, Remarks	The Holeta town organic producers as well proactively marketing their organic vegetables by going with their produce to different government sector offices. This resulted in getting better prices, known as organic producers and a success in obtaining potential customers. In both Haik and Holeta marketing of organically produced vegetables has not faced market problem so far.
Output 3.2: Capacity in value chains development for EOA products enhanced	
Indicators (from log frame)	No. of Master trainers having knowledge on value chain development.
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.2.2. - Training on value chain analysis to producers and stakeholders; MTs – Nine (8 male and 1 female) value chain master trainers were trained. They were six model farmers and three stake holders from agricultural office, local city administration office of Holeta town. And in Haik thirteen (12 male and 1 female) from different public offices (stake holders) trained on value chain development as master trainers. In total 22 MTs trained.

Project Targets	To train 16 master trainers on value chain development.
Analysis, Remarks	The trainees have got the basic knowledge of value chain and a number of practical sessions on different agricultural products value chain mapping, analysis and upgrading the value chain were giving opportunities to understand it well. The trainers for Holeta area value chain master trainers were MTs trainees of year 2014.
Output 3.2	
Indicators (from log frame)	No. of trainees of training of trainers (ToTs) of value chain development training
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.2.3 - Training of trainers on VC - In Holeta, value chain development TOTs training given for 18 participants (15 male and 3 female) and in Haik, 45 participants (36 male and 9 female). Participants were from small micro enterprises, local agricultural offices, local city administration and farmers on value chain pillar. The trainers were the MTs trainees in both areas.
Project Targets	To train TOTs from stake holders and project target farmers
Analysis, Remarks	The trainees are having knowledge on why value chain on agriculture, what is it, who are the actors and service providers, mapping them with their role, analysis of existing product value chain, how to develop vegetable value chain in upgrading. The learning process gave them a current view of and where to work to develop the value chain.
Output 3.2	
Indicators (from log frame)	
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.2.4 - Training on VC for farmers – Selected TOTs on value chain development gave training on value chain mostly for farmers on EOA value chain and other farmers and stake holders. In Holeta, 21 trained (19 male and 2 female) and in Haik, 76 trained (65 male and 11 female). Total in two project areas 97 (84 male and 13 female) participated.
Project Targets	To give basic knowledge of value chain development for farmers and stake holders
Analysis, Remarks	The participants are able to see their role in developing the value chain in understanding the value chain analysis, value chain upgrading, value chain strengthening services and business enabling environment. This training gave the best opportunity for the trainers and trainees to understand the concept through practical work.
Output 3.2	
Indicators (from log frame)	No. of participants at the experience sharing visit
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.2.5 - Experience-sharing visit on VC – Twelve participants from Holeta and Haik (all male) had visited Arbaminch area organic cotton small holder farmers. The participants were from Institute for Sustainable Development as facilitator and one local agricultural officer and ten farmers from value chain pillar. The visit report is attached as Annex 6
Project Targets	To broaden the knowledge of farmers on organic agriculture value chain specifically the adoption of non-chemical pest control on organic cotton production.

Analysis, Remarks	The participants were having a exceptional exposure of biological pest management starting from plant health Clinique / laboratory to organic farmer’s field and as well to farmers field school. They able to identify beneficial insects from harmful insects, pest identification techniques, counting them and when to take measures. The measure is spraying food spray made of corn. They were practically prepared how to make the food spray for the attraction of beneficial insects to the cotton field. The other measure they took as a lesson is planting of corn around the cotton field as trap crops. The participants concluded as farmers can be researchers. This experience sharing visit was managed with an organization called Pesticide Nexus Association (PAN) Ethiopia. The participants before and after the visit had made some knowledge assessment exercises together with ISD and PAN Ethiopia office. After the visit the farmers share their experiences to project target farmers at both project areas.
Output 3.2	
Indicators (from log frame)	No. of trainees on Entrepreneurship and business plan
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.2.6 - Training on entrepreneurship and business planning for stakeholders – In collaboration with partners (Technical and vocational Educational School at Holeta and Wollo University at Haik) 23 participants in total, Haik 15, (12 male and 3 female) and Holeta 8 (6 male and 2 female) mostly stake holders and some farmers from value chain pillar have taken training on Entrepreneurship and business plan.
Project Targets	To build the capacity of stake holders in entrepreneurship and business plan afterwards will give support to project target farmers in
Analysis, Remarks	Participants have gained knowledge on concept of entrepreneurship, who is an entrepreneur, characteristics of a successful entrepreneurship, how to set up a goal and how to achieve goal /plan, planning a business plan, steps to a successful business plan.
Output 3.2	
Indicators (from log frame)	Farmers document and share stories
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.2.8 - Document and share best practices in the value chains of EOA commodities – Farmers through the capacity building in Documentation, Planning and farm budgeting training were able to record farm activities and sketching of farm maps. Few of them started to document stories specifically in Holeta area.
Project Targets	Farmers document and share their stories
Analysis, Remarks	Farmers are started to make documentation. During the monitoring and evaluation workshop in Dec. 2015 at Holeta farmers shared their success stories. Short significant stories from farmers recording is attached as Annex 5 .
Output 3.2	
Indicators (from log frame)	No.of participants at the mid-year M & E
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.2.9 - Conduct M&E and share lessons on value chain development of EOA product- In Holeta midyear monitoring and Evaluation workshops was conducted with all project target groups and main stake holders on July 14. 2015. The report of the M&E is

	attached as an Annex 9 .
Project Targets	Conducting half year M &E and share lessons on value chain.
Analysis, Remarks	Riquacha vegetable producer association working in pillar 3 starting in 2014 shared its experience in implementing ecological organic agriculture practices on vegetable production for the new target farmer groups who joined the project in year 2015. In the year 2015 three producers Association and 15 individual farmers were involved in value chain development.
Output 3.3 : Enhanced capacity in quality assurance for supporting collective marketing of organic products to the domestic, regional or export markets enhanced	
Indicators (from log frame)	No. of farmers trained from the project
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.3.1 - four trainings on Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) for all groups of producers and stakeholders – 68 trained in PGS in total of both areas (54 male and 14 female) which is from Haik 33 (23 male and 10 female and Holeta 35 (31 male and 4 female). Participants were mostly from project target farmers and as well stake holders. They were familiarized with organic product assurance certification what are they and differences, Common features of PGS, Standards and PGS, Standards and Norms, PGS, Key elements of PGS, stake holders participating in all aspects, Shared vision (who), Direct marketing, Indirect marketing, A PGS structure, Regional Coordinating group, Roles and Responsibilities of producer in groups and regional groups, Group dynamics, Steps in Guarantee process and Key documents and Basic standards.
Project Targets	To brought the attention of farmers to what it will require to access market as an organic producer and therefore with the knowledge to start to work towards establishing a PGS group in the coming one or two years.
Analysis, Remarks	In the training the participants synthesized where they are and what is needed to be in PGS. Therefore with this aspect they are much realized the need of documentation and implementation of the Ecological Organic principles. What a gap is use of Organic seed. In this regard it is been discussed to make own seed of lettuce onion, potato, kale, tomato and Chilly. Few beneficiaries are making their own lettuce seed. In year 2016 one of the focuses is to encourage farmers to come up in to vegetable seed production too. Most vegetable seeds are imported from Europe. Organic vegetable seed is not yet available in country. In the future if the demand of organic seed is growing a public organization called Ethfruit which import vegetable seed so far said that it is possible to bring organic vegetable seed as well. Currently the private sector are retailing what they get from ETHfruit.
Output 3.4: Effective implementation of the pillar activities enhanced	
Indicators (from log frame)	No. of participants
Baseline	A study made on market value chain organic vegetable for project areas.
Progress between reporting period	3.4.1. Conduct M&E annual – There were 66 in total (53 male and 13 female). In Haik, 40 participants (30 male and 10 female) and in Holeta, 26 participants (23 male and 3 female). Participants were project target farmers, stake holders from the government and farmer/traders. There were report presentations. ISD presented what the project provided during the year. The farmers presented reports which include input preparation (compost and bio pesticides), vegetable production in relation to the year plan. As well as the records they kept in the log book. They started to record farm activities with time sheets, type and amount of produce, record of farm expense, cost of production and net income. And last not least the vegetation coverage of the farm and sketch of their farm. Especially the record keeping was from Holeta area and they are the model farmers who did it. There were sessions on the best practices of the year and challenges. The best practices were the bio pesticide response to rust, the proactive work of farmers on marketing and the initiative of one farmer in protection of a river called Holeta which is used by more than 400 households at downstream. A by - low was set for the

	MedeGudina kebele farmers in particular to protect it from pollution. The last session was what will be the focus in year 2016.
Project Targets	To evaluate the project in terms of adoption of EOA principles, production, supply, marketing , and record keeping
Analysis, Remarks	<p>In the year 2015 in Holeta 15 individual farmers and 3 Association and in Haik 11 new individual farmers and 1 women producer association joined the project. In total 26 individual farmers and 4 Associations were newly joined. Those farmers coming from 2014 were 11 individual farmers in Haik and one Association at Holeta. At the end of the year the no. of farmers were 37 and the associations / producer groups were five.</p> <p>All producers produce different type of vegetables except one association at Holeta. Almost all prepared and used compost. Pest in Holeta was a treat but controlled in biological way. Marketing was not an issue. The market did not recognize it as organic but they were attracted by its quality. Market promotion was getting on board. It needs more arrangement and commitment. Different stake holders in a workshop at Haik shared role and responsibilities in market promotion for2016.</p> <p>The shops built in 2014 were not functional as it is supposed to be. The farmers were in patient to promote the shops in selling there produce regularly at the shops.</p> <p>Partner's supports in trainings were great. Most training materials were distributed to partners in Haik. In Holeta there is a gap in getting training materials.</p> <p>Local government supports in both project areas were extremely high. This include in identification of farmers for the project, by availing land, participation in trainings, workshops and routine field follow ups and brought constructive ideas for the sustainability of the project . Above all they are enthusiastically positive towards ecological organic agriculture.</p>



Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa

Reporting Period:
January – December 2015

OUTCOME 4.1: Fully functional Ethiopian National Stakeholders Platform with Ethiopian EOA Steering Committee established and functioning

Output 4.1 : Fully Functional National Stakeholders Platform with Ethiopian EOA Steering Committee established and functioning

Indicators (from log frame)

Minutes of SC meetings, Report of meeting with list of participants, Report of legal gap analysis and report of meeting to discuss findings, Report of meeting on EOA SP for Ethiopia, Quarterly reports on contents of directory / data base and visits to web page and facebook, Copies of materials, posters, etc prepared, feedback from participants, Timely submission of 2016 workplan and budget

Baseline

With support from SSNC during the pilot phase for the EOA, a list of over 70 stakeholders was drawn up, and 2 awareness creation meetings were held in December 2013; one with representatives of the parliament standing committees of relevance to EOA, and the other for representatives from civil society organizations and research.

Summary of progress between over reporting period (Specific reports with more detail can be attached as annexes)

1. *Directory (data base) of members of Ethiopian National Stakeholders Platform published annually:*
No comprehensive directory/data base set up by ISD, but PIP for Pillar 1, Mekelle University has established a Data Base for EOA Stakeholders in Tigray (<http://www.mu.edu.et/ea/>), and PIP for Pillar 3, EAOA (Ethiopian Association of Organic Agriculture), has finalized a Directory of 19 active organic actors in Ethiopia (<http://www.isd.org.et/>). The file of the later is also published. **(Annex 12)**
2. *Minutes from meetings of the Ethiopian EOA Steering Committee:* 8 Members, by Institution, for an Ethiopian EOA Steering Committee were identified in the Ethiopian National Platform and Steering Committee re-formation meeting, held in Addis Ababa, 29 April 2015. Gender and youth are mainstreamed through committee membership from organizational roles on women & youth and representing individuals from organizations **(annex attached, Annex 1)**. The SC had made its first meeting on 20 May 2015. The committee has discussed and ratified the contextualized Rules of Procedure of the Ethiopian SC **(annex attached, Annex 2)**. Also, for Tigray Region, CLO supported and facilitated the formation of the regional technical committee to support Mekelle University, pillar I implementer. The committee comprises five members, by institution **(annex attached, Annex 3)**
3. *Appropriate legislation and policy developed and adopted to support the development of an EOA sector in Ethiopia:* An invitation for a competent environmental lawyer to be contracted for implement this work was made in September 2014, 4 applications including a partnership were received by ISD. In 2015 though, procedures to select legal consultant had required and done through requesting both technical and financial proposal after bid was announced. Accordingly, one consultant is selected with both its technical and financial proposal submitted **(annex attached, Annex 4)**. The steering committee held extraordinary meeting to discuss and ratify the proposals the consultant presented on 19 August 2015.
4. *Draft of three-year Ethiopian EOA Strategic Plan* is developed. Between October 21 to 23, 2015 workshop to prepare a draft of the three-year strategic plan for Ethiopia is prepared. The workshop participants were from EOA steering committee members,

	<p>pillar implementing partners and from CLO. The draft of the EOA strategic plan is attached as an annex, Annex 11.</p> <p>5. Validation workshop for EOA policy development plan developed by consultant through CLO and communication strategy developed by a consultant through PANOS Ethiopia.</p> <p>On August 19, 2015 workshop to comment and validate two documents, one for policy development and the other for communication strategy, both to support the development of EOA.</p> <p>6. Annual plan for 2016 is prepared together with PIPs and stakeholders.</p>
Project Targets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Members of an Ethiopian EOA Steering Committee identified and a draft TOR developed. The general pathway for the policy development for EOA is done and presented to steering committee and key stakeholders.
Analysis, Remarks	<p>The biggest constraint for ISD in implementing the activities assigned to the CLO result from the way in which the Ethiopian Charities and Societies Agency differentiates between administration and operational costs. Operational costs are tied to working with grassroots organizations – beneficiaries, while administration costs that are not allowed to exceed 30% of the total annual budget include all ISD's core costs AS WELL AS costs for program staff to travel even for training of beneficiaries. All meetings and other similar events that do not involve beneficiaries are classified as administration costs.</p> <p>The second constraint is that there is no clearly stated support for administration in the CLO budget, and ISD, as well as PANOS, cannot sub-contract to its own employees to carry EOA activities.</p>
Output 4.2: Capacities of CLO and PIPs strengthen	
Indicators (from log frame)	Timely disbursement of funds to PIPs; System for participatory M&E among CLO and PIPs put in place, meeting reports
Baseline	Identification of PIPs made during the EOA Inception Meeting held on 29 April 2014 in Addis Ababa
Summary of progress during reporting period (Specific reports with more detail can be attached as annexes)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>One national EOA platform meeting is conveyed:</i> on 29 April 2015, the national stakeholders meeting helped to form the platform and the steering committee. This is currently supporting the CLO in cementing and coordinating EOA movement at country level. <i>Timely disbursement of funds to PIPs:</i> <i>System for participatory M&E among CLO and PIPs put in place:</i> Not done because there was no time to meet and develop an comprehensive and inclusive M&E system, but the Pillars have developed their own M&E systems. Also, PIPs are in a better position to be followed up with the CLO. But it is planned thoroughly for 2016.
Project Targets	
Analysis, Remarks	See under 4.1 above.



FIGURE 1: STRATEGIC PLANNING DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP, DEBREZIET, ON 22 OCTOBER