



Ethiopia manages to substitute industrial supplies worth two bln. Birr

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

ADDIS ABABA- Ethiopia has managed to save imports of industrial supplies worth two billion Birr substituting them with locally produced items during last year alone, Ministry of Industry (MoI) disclosed.

In an exclusive interview with The Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), MoI Minister Melaku Alebel said that despite numerous challenges, like the shortage of input and technology along with the expensive price of imported items, Ethiopia has effectively implemented import substitution worth of two billion Birr with local products in one year.

The manufacturing sector generated 500 million USD in 2014 E.C. and this achievement has brought 4.9 percent growth in the sector, he noted.

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Ethiopia's power export earnings to double in this FY

BY TEWODROS KASSA

WOLAITA SODO- Exporting power to Kenya, Ethiopia will double its foreign earnings from energy export in the current fiscal year, so disclosed Ethio-Kenya Project Site Manager Tewodros Ayalew.

The manager told The Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that Ethiopia is going to secure over 100 million USD exporting power annually to Kenya alone.

It was learnt that Ethiopia earned over 95.5 million USD from electric energy export during the last 2021/22 fiscal year.

Tewodros said that, the Ethio-Kenya project is expected to solve the country's foreign exchange deficit to some extent.

Based on the agreement reached between the two countries over 100 million USD will be generated exporting 200 megawatts of energy to Kenya every year, he said.

As to him, for the next three years, Ethiopia would continue to earn such revenue.

But, after three years, over 400 megawatts of power will be supplied and at the same time the income will be doubled, he added.



Photo: Hadush Abreha

Currently, the electricity transmission test work is being carried out generating the aforesaid income will continue after a month.

On his part, Wolaita Sodo Converter Station Operation Head Habtamu Girma said that this project has contributed greatly to the

economy of the country through exporting power to Kenya.

This transmission line will also help sending electricity to other neighboring countries including Tanzania and Uganda.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia signed

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Essential services resumes in Alamata Town: Mayor

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA- Over 75 percent of essential services have resumed in Alamata town which was part of the war-stricken areas in the North Ethiopia.

Alamata Town Administration Mayor Hailu Abera told the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that the services have resumed shortly after the conflict ended in the area.

As to him, water supply and 2G and 3G internet services have also started. Regarding the damaged fibers, he said that once they are restored, internet service will fully be available in town.

He also indicated that electricity supply has

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CoHA asserts supremacy of constitutional order: Law expert

BY BILAL DERSO

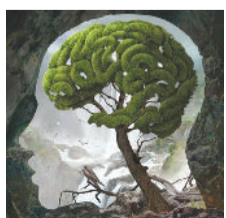
ADDIS ABABA- The Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) between the government and TPLF respected the constitutional order and asserted that any group should operate in accordance with the law of the land, a governance and law expert said.

Speaking to the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), the expert Aaron Degol stated that the peace accord was conducted with a party that was operating outside of the legal system and to prevent its destructive activities that went to a full-fledged war.

Law enforcement is the best way to describe the CoHA, as the federal government has been doing in the past. It is the correct expression of a movement to reverse destructive activities and restore the legal system because a state has acted beyond its authority and violated the federal system.

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Gardening your garden



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The Ethiopian scientist finding water on the moon

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News

Gov't 'walks the talk' of peace accord: Shiferaw Teklemariam

• *Unfettered access to Tigray no more concern*

BY ESSEYE MENGISTE

ADDIS ABABA- The Ethiopian government's steps to bring humanitarian aid to the Tigray State and rebuild the destroyed infrastructure manifested the fact that it is walking the talk of the peace agreement, the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) said.

Speaking to local media, NDRMC Commissioner Shiferaw Teklemariam (PhD) noted that the aid is flowing to Tigray in an unfettered way and the issue of ensuring unfettered access is no more a concern. The Ethiopian government and international aid organizations have intensified the transportation of humanitarian aid including food, medicine and others to the needy people of Tigray.

The commissioner further highlighted that six trucks of the International Committee of the Red Cross loaded with food and additional medical supplies have arrived in Mekelle. Also, 67 vehicles which are carrying humanitarian aid including food, medicine and fuel are entered in Tigray.

Humanitarian aid is being sent without limits in Tigray and after the agreement, the humanitarian aid from the Ethiopian government as well as aid agencies is being transported by four inland routes and permitted air flights, Shiferaw remarked.

By the same token, the UNHCR announced that its convoys have arrived in Mekelle since August carrying life-saving humanitarian aid including medicines and shelter kits to treat the sick and repair destroyed homes. "More is on the way as the commission scales up delivery of protection and solutions in Northern Ethiopia."

Also, the International Committee of



the Red Cross and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society announced that they have distributed emergency medical supplies to nine health care facilities in and around Mekelle.

It was learned that the first delivery of

UNICEF humanitarian aid arrived in Tigray and the European Union (EU), through its partnership with UNICEF, has granted 31.5 million Euros to restore and strengthen health services and systems to improve the lives of women and children living in conflict-impacted areas.

Gov't plays vital role in transforming Ethiopia's nutrition system

BY TSEGAYE TILAHUN

ADDIS ABABA- The Ethiopian Nutrition Leaders Network (ENLN) said the country has registered remarkable progress in transforming the food and nutrition system with the notable participation of the government.

ENLN opened its fourth annual forum here Wednesday under the theme "Nutrition Leadership for Climate Resilient Food System and Nutrition in Ethiopia." The forum aimed to share experience and new learning as well as strengthen the network and monitor opportunities among actors in the food and nutrition area.

In his keynote speech, Founder and

Chair of ENLN Israel Hailu stated that nutrition leaders should capitalize on the government's commitment to the food system and nutrition that is demonstrated by the endorsement of various programs. Various programs, movements and initiatives including FNP (Family Nurse Practitioner), FNS (Food and Nutrition Service), SUN (Scaling up Nutrition) and the Sekota Declaration and others aimed to transform the food and nutrition system.

Noting the annual forum aims to strengthen the ENLN's effort towards global partnership and build common understanding, the chair lauded the government's noteworthy contribution in transforming Ethiopia's food and nutrition

system.

"We reaffirmed commitment to work closely to provide climate change resilient, COVID-19 responsive and peace building food and nutrition administration in the country. Vision also set to make Ethiopia free from all forms of malnutrition by 2030 through active participation of the food system and nutrition actors."

For the UN Assistant Secretary General and Coordinator for the SUN Movement Gerda Verburg, the consolidation projects including the Sekota Declaration would have a paramount importance to Ethiopia to overcome stunning and related problems and ensure better nutrition. The UN is committed to support such kinds of projects that would ensure food security.

Ethio telecom transacts over 153 bln Birr through 'telebirr'

• *Integrates with CNET Software Technologies*

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA- Ethio telecom said it has transacted over 153 billion Birr since the introduction of its 'telebirr' digital payment system, which is integrated with 14 commercial banks, adding that the international remittance has also surpassed the 1.46 million USD mark.

Ethio telecom and CNET Software Technologies signed a partnership agreement yesterday to implement an integrated digital service charge and transaction payment system aimed at easing service and catalyzing the payment system.

Speaking on the occasion, ethio telecom CEO Frehiwot Tamru stated that, the agreement would enable the CNET Software Technologies partners' to get their customers settle service charges and transactions using telebirr which is an easy, fast, and convenient and secure digital payment system.

Noting the telebirr has acquired a subscriber base of 25.85 million, the CEO indicated the platform has been integrated with 17 commercial banks to transfer money from bank to telebirr and with 14 banks to transfer money from telebirr to bank. Accordingly, over 153 billion Birr has been transacted since the introduction of the system.

"In the time ahead, our company is keeping on diligently committing to integrate with a number of services with telebirr in collaboration with other similar institutions and make all their customers' payments possible in one window service. Our activities in this regard aim to make the vision of digital Ethiopia a reality."

Chief Mobile Business Officer at ethio telecom Biruk Adhana said for his part that the implementation of telebirr and CNET integrated payment system will play a significant role for institutions like hospitals, pharmacies, hotels, supermarkets and entertainment service providers to ease their payment service. Using telebirr, which is currently used by over 25 million subscribers, also enhanced the transaction of those institutions.

The operator is also in partnership with other institutions and has launched three types of financial services namely telebirr mela, telebirr Endekise and telebirr Sanduq.

As to CNET Software Technology CEO Bemenet Demissie, the company is providing hotel booking, online hotel reservation and booking service to global customers and the partnership with ethio telecom helps the firm to render seamless service.

News

Alliance prepares to scale up support for homeland

BY MESERET BEHAILU

HOSAENA – Diaspora Alliance for Abay dam in Canada has stated that it is working industriously to bring together the Diaspora community across the globe in the efforts of extending supports to homeland.

Canada's Diaspora Alliance for Abay dam Chairperson Fiseha Solomon (PhD) told The Ethiopian Press Agency that the alliance has been playing role in the national development endeavors.

According to him, the Diaspora community in Canada has been at the forefront of combating the undue pressures of some quarters on Ethiopia.

Fiseha said that, the members of Diaspora community in Canada have been fighting disinformation through mobilizing fellow citizens to carry out social media campaign with a view to ensuring the national interest during the past over two years.

He further stated that, it has been striving to make strong bonds among the Diaspora community elsewhere to bring significant outcome in upholding the national sovereignty at large.

Over 100,000 members of Ethiopian Diasporas in Canada have been engaging in various fields and they had contributed over



The Diaspora in fighting against foreign pressure on Ethiopia

500,000 USD in a given fundraising event for development drive in homeland, it was learnt.

Over the past two years, the Diasporas have been joining hands in the fighting against the COVID-19 pandemic, Fiseha said.

The alliance has been striving hard for

mobilizing the Ethiopian Diaspora across the world whilst working with higher academic institutions like Wachemo University to bring significant output in the various area.

A member of Alliance for Abay Dam in Canada, Senior Hydrologist Getu Biftu (PhD) on his part said that there are over

3,000,000 Ethiopian Diasporas across the globe and many of them are scholars. He, therefore, said those Diasporas should focus on integration effort to ensure technology adaptation, knowledge transfer via disseminating the needed information, resisting foreign pressure, and the likes to succeed the national interest.

Essential services...

been resumed adding that trade centers are open and returning to normal routine.

The Mayor further stated that the city administration is carrying out activities to fully resume the social service next week. Thus, all public service institutions will start serving the society, he added.

Apart from undertaking several activities to enable the whole trade centers in the area to

resume services; it has managed to open the Alamata market.

Moreover, all forms of transportation have started service in Raya districts as well as health stations have also begun to serve the society, he said.

Aside from opening schools in the town, he pointed out that efforts are being put to make all schools to resume with full

potential.

Emphasizing that the area was torn out due to the war, the Mayor urged the continuation of unfettered humanitarian service, opening of banks and fulfilling medical and school materials, such as chair and computer.

He called on government and non-government institutions to continue their support in this end.



Ethiopia manages...

During the course of the interview, Melaku stated that MoI plans to promote small business industries to take their part in the national development drive apart from encouraging the bigger ones to export massive products.

Talking about challenges, he said that the sector is facing power shortages, financial and logistic shortcomings, thus, the MoI

has been working to come up with a policy intervention in order to overcome the aforementioned bottlenecks.

“MoI extends supports for investors to become competitive in both local and international markets. We are working on improving our import substitution and export rates.”

Ethiopia's power ...

a power sale agreement with Kenya in August, 2022.

According to the agreement, Ethiopia will sell one kilowatt hour of electricity for 6.5 USD cents.

The agreement states that after three years, there will be a negotiation to revise the current tariff price at the Ethiopian Electric Power request.

The Wolaita Sodo Converter Station, built outside of the city of Wolaita Sodo at a cost of over 500 million USD is a center where electricity is measured and sent from Ethiopia to Kenya.

Accordingly, the project was accomplished with the financial support from the World Bank and the African Development Bank by the Chinese CET and German Siemens companies.

CoHA asserts...

As to the expert, establishing an Election Commission is the exclusive power given to the Federal Government under the Constitution and states are not empowered to form those commissions. “Tigray is one of the 11 state administrations and the federal government was right that the state's 2020 election was unconstitutional.

“The constitution clearly states that the federal government has the sole authority to enact laws regarding elections and political parties and it has been decided that the House of Peoples' Representatives will enact laws regarding the matter. Therefore, the establishment of the election commission is not a state jurisdiction.”

By the same token, Ethiopia has one defense force and the constitution allows state governments to organize state police, but does not explicitly authorize them to establish a special force. Tigray has

gone beyond Special Forces to organize a defense force and this is also against the law of the land, Aaron elaborated.

Foreign relations is also the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government and state governments cannot be related to foreign bodies as sovereign countries and the truce also restored this authority, the expert elaborated. “States that border with neighboring countries could enhance the people-to-people and economic ties only with the federal government's recognition and approval.

It is unconstitutional to establish and operate a foreign relations office with a foreign body without the recognition of the federal government. Thus, the CoHA is the instrument to preserve Ethiopia's territorial integrity and respect the country's sovereignty that derives from the constitutional order, he stressed.

Opinion

Developing countries need monetary financing

Developing countries have long been told to avoid borrowing from central banks (CBs) to finance government spending. Many have even legislated against CB financing of fiscal expenditure.

Central bank fiscal financing

Such laws are supposedly needed to curb inflation – below 5%, if not 2% – to accelerate growth. These arrangements have also constrained a potential CB developmental role and government ability to respond better to crises. Improved monetary-fiscal policy coordination is also needed to achieve desired structural transformation, especially in decarbonizing economies. But too many developing countries have tied their own hands with restrictive legislation.

A few have pragmatically suspended or otherwise circumvented such self-imposed prohibitions. This allowed them to borrow from CBs to finance pandemic relief and recovery packages.

Such recent changes have re-opened debates over the urgent need for counter-cyclical and developmental fiscal-monetary policy coordination.

Monetary financing rubbished

But financial interests claim this enables national CBs to finance government deficits, i.e., monetary financing (MF). MF is often blamed for enabling public debt, balance of payments deficits, and runaway inflation.

As William Easterly noted, “Fiscal deficits received much of the blame for the assorted economic ills that beset developing countries in the 1980s: over indebtedness and the debt crisis, high inflation, and poor investment performance and growth”.

Hence, calls for MF are typically met with scepticism, if not outright opposition. MF undermines central bank independence (CBI) – hence, the strict segregation of monetary from fiscal authorities – supposedly needed to prevent runaway inflation.

Recent International Monetary Fund (IMF) research insists MF “involves considerable risks”. But it acknowledges MF to cope with the pandemic did not jeopardize price stability. A Bank of International Settlements paper also found MF enabled developing countries to respond counter cyclically to the pandemic.

Cases of MF leading to runaway inflation

have been very exceptional, e.g., Bolivia in the 1980s or Zimbabwe in 2007-08. These were often associated with the breakdown of political and economic systems, as when the Soviet Union collapsed.

Bolivia suffered major external shocks. These included Volcker’s interest rate spikes in the early 1980s much reduced access to international capital markets, and commodity price collapses. Political and economic conflicts in Bolivian society hardly helped.

Similarly, Zimbabwe’s hyperinflation was partly due to conflicts over land rights, worsened by government mismanagement of the economy and British-led Western efforts to undermine the Mugabe government.

Indian lessons

Former Reserve Bank of India Governor Y.V. Reddy noted fiscal-monetary coordination had “provided funds for development of industry, agriculture, housing, etc. through development financial institutions” besides enabling borrowing by state owned enterprises (SOEs) in the early decades.

For him, less satisfactory outcomes – e.g., continued “macro imbalances” and “automatic monetization of deficits” – were not due to “fiscal activism per se but the soft-budget constraint” of SOEs, and “persistent inadequate returns” on public investments.

Monetary policy is constrained by large and persistent fiscal deficits. For Reddy, “undoubtedly the nature of interaction between [fiscal and monetary policies] depends on country-specific situation”.

Reddy urged addressing monetary-fiscal policy coordination issues within a broad common macroeconomic framework. Several lessons can be drawn from Indian experience.

First, “there is no ideal level of fiscal deficit, and critical factors are: How is it financed and what is it used for?” There is no alternative to SOE efficiency and public investment project financial viability.

Second, “the management of public debt, in countries like India, plays a critical role in development of domestic financial markets and thus on conduct of monetary policy, especially for effective transmission”.

Third, “harmonious implementation of policies may require that one policy is not unduly burdening the other for too long”.

Lessons from China?

Zhou Xiaochuan, then People’s Bank of China (PBoC) Governor, emphasized CBs’ multiple responsibilities – including financial sector development and stability – in transition and developing economies.

China’s CB head noted, “monetary policy will undoubtedly be affected by balance of international payments and capital flows”. Hence, “macro-prudential and financial regulation are sensitive mandates” for CBs.

PBoC objectives – long mandated by the Chinese government – include maintaining price stability, boosting economic growth, promoting employment, and addressing balance of payments problems.

Multiple objectives have required more coordination and joint efforts with other government agencies and regulators. Therefore, “the PBoC ... works closely with other government agencies”.

Zhou acknowledged, “striking the right balance between multiple objectives and the effectiveness of monetary policy is tricky”. By maintaining close ties with the government, the PBoC has facilitated needed reforms.

He also emphasized the need for policy flexibility as appropriate. “If the central bank only emphasized keeping inflation low and did not tolerate price changes during price reforms, it could have blocked the overall reform and transition”.

During the pandemic, the PBoC developed “structural monetary” policy tools, targeted to help Covid-hit sectors. Structural tools helped keep inter-bank liquidity ample, and supportive of credit growth.

More importantly, its targeted monetary policy tools were increasingly aligned with the government’s long-term strategic goals. These include supporting desired investments, e.g., in renewable energy, while preventing asset price bubbles and ‘overheating’.

In other words, the PBoC coordinates monetary policy with fiscal and industrial policies to achieve desired stable growth, thus boosting market confidence. As a result, inflation in China has remained subdued.

Consumer price inflation has averaged only 2.3% over the past 20 years, according to The Economist. Unlike global trends, China’s consumer price inflation fell to 2.5% in August, and rose to only 2.8% in September, despite its ‘zero-Covid’ policy and measures such as lockdowns.

Needed reforms

Effective fiscal-monetary policy coordination needs appropriate arrangements. An IMF working paper showed, “neither legal independence of central bank nor a balanced budget clause or a rule-based monetary policy framework ... are enough to ensure effective monetary and fiscal policy coordination”.

Appropriate institutional and operational arrangements will depend on country-specific circumstances, e.g., level of development and depth of the financial sector, as noted by both Reddy and Zhou.

When the financial sector is shallow and countries need dynamic structural transformation, setting up independent fiscal and monetary authorities is likely to hinder, not improve stability and sustainable development.

Understanding each other’s objectives and operational procedures is crucial for setting up effective coordination mechanisms – at both policy formulation and implementation levels. Such an approach should better achieve the coordination and complementarity needed to mutually reinforce fiscal and monetary policies.

Coherent macroeconomic policies must support needed structural transformation. Without effective coordination between macroeconomic policies and sectoral strategies, MF may worsen payments imbalances and inflation. Macro-prudential regulations should also avoid adverse MF impacts on exchange rates and capital flows.

Poorly accountable governments often take advantage of real, exaggerated and imagined crises to pursue macroeconomic policies for regime survival, and to benefit cronies and financial supporters.

Undoubtedly, much better governance, transparency and accountability are needed to minimize both immediate and longer-term harm due to ‘leakages’ and abuses associated with increased government borrowing and spending.

Citizens and their political representatives must develop more effective means for ‘disciplining’ policy making and implementation. This is needed to ensure public support to create fiscal space for responsible counter-cyclical and development spending.

(Source: <https://www.ipsnews.net>)

Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald

The Ethiopian Herald

Established in 1943

Published daily except Mondays
By The Ethiopian Press Agency



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Tel. 011-126-42-22

Fax. 251-011-156-98-62

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Editorial

Restoring constitutional order lays ground for permanent cessation of hostilities

The monumental Pretoria peace deal inked by the Ethiopian government and Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF) has been in action in the past few weeks improving the delivery of desperately needed relief and expediting the restoration of basic services.

The peace accord has drawn worldwide acclamation with increased optimism for it would help pave the way to lasting peace and stability in this Horn Africa's anchor state. The Ethiopian government has been living up to the terms of the deal since its signing. On the heels of the agreement, the incumbent continues providing much-needed aid and securing unfettered access to humanitarian agencies and donors.

It should however be clear that while all eyes are fixed on the cessation of hostilities, the landmark peace accord also harbors other sacred elements that enable permanent cessation of hostilities to prevail in the country. One of the linchpins of the deal is restoring constitutional order in Tigray.

The agreement stipulates that the Ethiopian federal government must be allowed to reestablish authority in the Tigray Region, including in the capital of Mekelle, and that "the ENDF and other relevant Federal Institutions shall have an expeditious, smooth, peaceful, and coordinated entry" into the capital.

It must be borne in mind that TPLF's violation of Constitution and its attack on the Northern Command of Ethiopian Defense Forces stationed in Tigray were the immediate factors that triggered the devastating conflict.

The unlawful poll staged in Tigray and establishing relations with foreign countries seriously contravened the supreme law of the country and overrode the sole authorities of the federal government. Pretoria's agreement in this regard accentuates the need to respect

the demarcation of authorities and return the Tigray state to constitutional order. Translating this agreed term into action lays the ground for permanent cessation of hostilities and allows the full functioning of the country's essential institutions.

On the other side, the federal government would guarantee the Tigray people to be properly represented in federal government institutions in line with the constitution. Respecting this part of the deal will surely help restore full order in the country and smoothen the flourishing of the federal democratic state in the country.

Moreover, as clearly indicated in the peace accord, the election held in Tigray is void and null. This vividly demonstrates that the implementation of the constitution should be equally applicable to all and all the time.

Obviously, it is when every state abides by the law of the country that the multinational federal system would function in full swing and meet its major objective.

Also in the AU-brokered peace deal is the disarmament, demobilizing, and reintegration of the Tigray combatants. This agreement corroborates that there should not be two equal armies in one nation. This undisputedly rectifies the past mistake and addresses one of the major bones of contentions. And, the effective implementation of the term is also about maintaining peace and order.

In fact, abiding by this agreement is about committing oneself to federal governance and legal order. While the incumbent remains resolute and steadfast to effectuate the hailed peace deal, TPLF should reciprocate and commit itself to the full realization of the document with the full heart.

Opinion

Africa must streamline intra-continental trade

BY DARGIE KAHSAY

Though Africa is known for its natural resources, precious mines and fertile land for productivity, it still remains the poorest continent of the world. Of course, the European colonization has affected African economic development, its political stability and social harmony. The current ups and downs of the continent are the outcomes and remains of the colonial era. Until now the legacies of the colonization continue to affect the decision making, political stability, market diplomatic relations and economic development of the continent.

Despite all the challenges, African countries must refrain from externalizing or finding excuses for their economic and development failures. This year, 2022 is an alarming year for African countries and the continent as a whole must stand against poverty to build a strong economy. There is no appropriate time than this year to learn how its dependency on foreign market and external aids affects its people.

Following the Russia-Ukraine war, that broke out on 24 February 2022, African market has faced crises mainly due to the grain market. Almost all countries of the continent faced shortage of wheat and people in towns and cities faced shortage of bread. This incident is a wake-up call for Africa that alarms it to

build an economy that can feed itself. If Africa fails to build a capable economy and continues to depend on foreign products, the unpredictable developments of the international politics may continue to affect Africa and its people. If Africa wants to survive, it should stop depending on foreign products and should turn its face to fulfill its food self-sufficiency.

Blaming external factors would never solve African economic problem. Rather, modernizing the agriculture, transforming the industrialization and boosting intra-African market is the only solution to build resilient economy. It is time for Africa to struggle to fulfill its peoples demand for food and boost productivity of the continent. Without building an African economy capable to feed the African people, in this modern world, it is impossible to have political freedom, stable politics and sovereignty. Economic strength is the first criteria to protect national interest, sovereignty and to securitize national agendas.

Africa is rich in human and material resources with huge youth population. With over 1.4 billion population, the continent has huge market potential. The continent is also the raw material source for the rest of the world that is critical input for the manufacturing industrial. Its youth population is also fleeing to the other continents in search of work. The

continent has also an adequate land with different weather conditions. Africa is also rich in scientists, researchers and educated youth to help the continent's efforts with scientific researches. Investing in the comparative advantages that the continent has would solve the challenges that the continent is facing and to transform African economy.

Africa's resources are more than enough to build prosperous Africa. African minds are also strong enough to build peaceful and developed Africa. Africa can be easily industrialized. Africa possesses everything for its development, I think, what African lacks is the commitment, the decision, the strategy and the action. This duty lies on the shoulder of the political leaders and governments. A committed government can easily mobilize the people and resources for true development.

It is time to industrialize Africa, to modernize African agriculture and increasing the productivity, to develop intra-African market. A typical solution is to boost its intra-state and inter-state infrastructural network, to accelerate its industrialization, to develop continental trade and creating more job opportunities for its youth population.

African nations must capitalize on the untapped potentials of the continent to build a common market. The creation

of a common market does not take the continent any more effort as it has already established the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as part of the Agenda 2063. The countries need to reaffirm and speed up their commitment for the realization of the common market.

Redoubling the efforts in industrializing the continent and boosting the intra-African trade would help to facilitate the continent's development and prosperity. According to Ethiopian Foreign Minister Demeke Mekonnen, industrialization determines whether Africa can transform its natural endowment into tradable products or depend on imported products from the outside world.

Continuing to depend on imported products would continue to affect the continent and its people. Just choosing to continue depending on imported products is nothing but choosing to live with poverty and to continue facing troubles and crises. It is up to Africans to choose the best, whether to continue depending on imported goods and items or to accelerate the production at home. It is up to Africans to choose poverty or prosperity.

Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald

Business & Economy

Ethiopia will continue to be FDI destination

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

It is crystal clear that the nation should attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in order to attain progress in its economy and get rid of poverty. Investment creates opportunities for citizens such as job to the unemployed, helps flourishing manufacturing, large agriculture firms, trade and infrastructure.

The FDI venture demands huge financial capability, technology and human capital. Nations at the formative years of their development cannot afford accumulating huge sum of capital for development endeavor. The absence of saving culture and subsistence way of life inhibits them not to do so.

Lack of commitment and neglecting small scale financial institutions on parts of the government in developing countries, hampers economic progress. To alleviate poverty, inculcating the public to develop the culture of saving through small scale saving and credit associations can be taken as a way out. Governments also do not have a capacity to mobilize finance from local sources, hence to fill the gap looking for foreign Direct Investment can be taken as better alternative and to that end creating conducive environment for local and foreign investors is vital. Introducing new investment laws, providing tax holiday and land in affordable price, supplying piped water, internet and electric service and loan from local banks, adjusting the exchange rate of local currency against hard currency can be mentioned in this regard.

FDI played important role for the successful achievement of many Asian countries economies.

The secret behind the Asian tiger economy, which achieved economic miracle only with in three decades, is the inflow of FDI and the effective and efficient utilization of the resource in selective sector. In addition boosting their export by 300 percent attributed to where they are now. The developing countries on other parts of the world drew lessons from Asian tigers on how to use FDI in the development path.

FDI provides a platform to boost the host country's export performance. Foreign multinationals provide additional channels to enter new foreign markets and helps to tap other countries market.

Though there are many bottlenecks, the stock of inward FDI in Ethiopia has grown amid all challenges in the past three four years and the rate of accumulation has slowed since the onset of the global crisis.

Several factors can be stated for this success in Ethiopia but the most important determinants are the availability of untapped natural resources and cheap labor are among others. In addition the availability of cheap electric power, smooth bureaucratic apparatus and legal system played pivotal role to attract foreign investment.

As the level of economic growth rate in Ethiopia is increasing, the number and

types of FDI also increasing. However, the significant contribution of FDI in the Ethiopian economic growth is not well studied.

Currently many foreign countries officials testify the attractiveness of Ethiopia for foreign investment. Among them Ambassador of Morocco to Ethiopia, Nezha Alaoui M'hammdi says Moroccan investors are keen to invest in Ethiopia in manufacturing and agriculture sector.

Ethiopian Investment Commission Commissioner, Lelise Neme has also explained to Moroccan Ambassador about the investment opportunities and the existing conducive environment for investment and business in Ethiopia.

The commissioner also provided the assurance of the Ethiopian government's provision of full support for Moroccan investors that have shown interest to invest in Ethiopia.

Similarly, the Commissioner has received the South Korean business team from Venta Flower Private Limited Company and discussed the investment opportunities of Ethiopian Horticulture production.

During the one-week visit, the team will meet with different Government institutions officials and associations leaders, according to the Ethiopian Investment Commission.

In addition to Agro-Industrial Parks, the team will also visit different farms of flowers, fruits, and vegetables and irrigation farms.

Lelise told the team that the commission will facilitate and support to meet the objectives of their travel purpose in Ethiopia.

In relation to the effort, senior officials of the government Planning and Development Minister Fitsum Assefa (PhD) and Finance State Minister Eyob Tekalign (PhD) confirmed that companies are investing by withstanding the pressing domestic and international challenges and Ethiopia could absorb 700- million- USD worth of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the current fiscal year.

In an exclusive interview with Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) the two senior officials noted that in its endeavor to make Ethiopia attractive to FDI globally, the government has made various policy amendments and carried out activities to meet the demand of multinational companies.

The state minister further highlighted that Ethiopia has secured 3.8 billion USD from FDI over the past three years amidst the northern conflict, the outbreak of coronavirus pandemic and other tenacious challenges. Those investment projects have created hundreds of thousands jobs in agriculture, construction, service, hotel, tourism, and other sectors.

The flourishing of Foreign Direct Investment in a country depends on the measures taken by the government in its efforts to develop the entire economy and ensure inclusive progress. Activities that are being done in the agriculture sector in

intensified pressure of some interest groups has also caused shortage of hard currency reserves.

Mentioning the reform process as a driving force for the steady growth of investment, the minister pointed out that the government is working towards ensuring inclusive development and attracting companies with rich knowledge and technology packages.

“By the same token, following the introduction of the reform process, remarkable progress has been registered in the execution of projects thereby supplementing the overall economic progress of the country. Projects are means of executing the national development plans.”

Finally, Ethiopia will secure and sustain the flow of FDI despite various challenges observed locally and externally. The reform leadership is committed to undue challenges through well-established approaches and there is hope and courage to make Ethiopia emerging as one of the fastest-growing economies in the horn of Africa.

The recorded outcome should be strengthened further because there are a number of resources and human capital to stir the sector in hospitality, manufacturing, mining and agriculture among others.

It is understood that Ethiopia is the home of more than 120 million people in which 70 percent of it under the age of 30.

This implies that the country has huge potential to utilize its young labor force. As academic institutions particularly technical and vocational colleges are burgeoning and this implies that in the future, the labor market could enjoy the semi and well -skilled professional. The availability of huge number of labor force not only meets demand but also can create huge market opportunities for the flourishing manufacturing and service sectors.

In order to attract foreign investment so far the government has made its level best. Investment laws which were a constraint factors for attracting FDI are revoked and the new one are introduced. The recent agreement made between the government and TPLF for attaining long lasting peace could develop local and foreign investor's confidence to put their money, skill, knowledge and technological capacity here.

Agriculture is the main stay of the nation economy and almost 80 percent of the labor force is engaged in this sector. This again implies the country has a huge potential for the flourishing of agro-industries. Such situation also creates forward and backward link between the two sectors. This again broadens chances to export value added products which intern boost the nation capacity to garner foreign currency.

In sum, as Ethiopia sets its sights on transforming the country into a middle-income country by 2025, and to become a leading manufacturing hub in Africa, the nation is ready to welcome more investors to invest in a number of sectors and make sure the aspired goal.

The flourishing of Foreign Direct Investment in a country depends on the measures taken by the government in its efforts to develop the entire economy and ensure inclusive progress. Activities that are being done in the agriculture sector in particular are promising in bringing the desired development

particular are promising in bringing the desired development, he added.

“There are two types of investors: the one who sees Ethiopia's successive economic growth and its enabling investment environment and potential. There are also investors that are frustrated by temporary problems. The government has been implementing different mechanisms to attract potential investors.”

Sharing the above rationale, Planning and Development Minister Fitsum Assefa (PhD) said that Ethiopia's economy has gone through various challenges due to the conflict in the northern part of the country, drought and COVID-19 pandemic. The

Art & Culture

Job Alert: Gardening your garden

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

Planet earth provides plenty to the species of human beings. Science teaches us that our planet is the only place that can be suitable for humans to live in. In this case, human beings should show gratitude to nature for blessing us with everything we need to survive.

The Holy Book teaches us that everything created is good and beautiful. Though our ways of using the creations, for good or evil, are different, by their nature, every creature is noble. Trees, flowers, fruits, everything has something to contribute to the well-being of the planet earth.

Having been accommodated by nature and its blessings, we, human beings, have the responsibility to keep safe the entire planet. Humans are responsible for every disaster that happens in this world. Likewise, before talking about preserving the world and looking after the bigger planet, we need to start working on the little ones. As a single person, we need to start asking ourselves where to begin to be part of the solution for the problems that the world encounters. Here, we need to understand that we could be the part not the whole of the solution so that we are playing our parts.

It is hard to list down the most precious things in the world. Is it money or gems that make our hearts melt? Or is it landscape or water that makes us open our eyes wide in surprise? This is because we have different tastes in life and the variety of gifts that nature provides. I believe that it might be easy to start with the things that we own personally.

To start from the self, which part of our body is the most precious? Is it our eyes, our heart, or our brain? Which one is the most precious? Those questions should be aligned with our part to play in the world. In other words, which part of us could take a part in the world's solutions?

One can believe that there has to be a part of us that might be the most powerful and important. I agree with most of the ideas that the book written by Robin S. Sharma. The book says we, human beings, have the best gifts from nature that must be guarded very carefully. It is called 'Our Garden'. Like the gatekeeper to look after every move in and out of the compound, and like the gardener who always finds a way to beautify his garden in a way that can attract everyone it is the gardener's job to clean the weeds and the pests out of his garden to make sure everything in the garden is safe.

Just like the duties of the gardener, every single human being has the responsibility to safeguard his garden. Our private garden is called the brain. We are very much responsible to control what should enter into our minds. Like the gardener, we need to nurture our minds in a way that can lead us to the right track of life.

The book also mentioned that no one is comfortable with the luxury of a single negative thought. That's why every person must start to work as one's mind's gatekeeper for the overall peace and tranquility of one's life.

In the modern world, numerous books were written and a lot of speeches were



delivered on cultivating one's mind. To the surprise of many, all the books and speeches are connected and concur in the idea that every idea and action starts from the mind. Besides, as to the book, "Things are always created twice: first in the workshop of the mind and then, and only then, in reality." So, everything should be first created before it is implemented. Therefore, we must work tirelessly in our mind's workshop to get the best out of it in reality. We cannot afford to lose our minds for little negative thoughts.

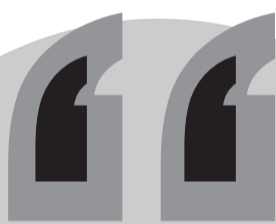
When it comes to positive thinking, many have conducted research to make life enjoyable in a bid people live together in peace. The basic is thinking positively, but how? That needs to be answered. All the ways lead us to our minds. The book also disclosed that discipline is the key to a comprehensive outcome.

Based on the idea raised in the book, it is important to remember that the quality of our life is determined by the quality of our thoughts. As mentioned earlier, the first place to create things is our minds. Those ideas profoundly lay the foundation stone for the type of life we want to live in reality. By spending more time and thorough focus on thoughts, we can live the life we want. "The boundaries of our lives are merely creations of the self." Hence, it is better to overcome those hurdles that we created for ourselves to cherish the gifts of life.

In order to master our mastermind, we need, as to the book, to spend more time cultivating it to acquire our share in life's abundance. Stillness and calmness are the ways to unlock the doors of nature's magical and mystical energy. Teaching one's mind to concentrate on a specific thing at a time means living neither in the past nor in the future; rather, accepting and living the present. To practice stillness and calmness to train our mind, the book recommends a technique called 'the heart of the rose'. This technique is all about staring at a rose and start thinking only about the rose. Through time and practice, our mind begins to think and concentrate on a specific thing as we want.

Moreover, the book discloses that an average person streams sixty thousand thoughts in a day on the average. To - our surprise, 95 percent of those thoughts are similar to the thoughts that we were thinking yesterday. This implies that most of us spend our precious time dwelling on the anxieties of the past. The best way to beat the obstacle is better to guide the mind to the route we want it to go. Our mind is trained to entertain only an idea at a time. In this regard, we can substitute the negative thoughts that drain our mind's energy for positive ones that have the potential to boost our energy and peace.

To conclude the ideas mentioned above, the best way to take our share in nature's abundance, the best thing we can do for ourselves is to guard our mind and train it with possible energies that bring more joy and peace to our life. Our weapon for every move we make is our mind and the thoughts we entertain. Let me finish with a quote from the book, "There is nothing noble about being superior to some other person. True nobility lies in being superior to your former self."



Just like the duties of the gardener, every single human being has the responsibility to safeguard his garden. Our private garden is called the brain. We are very much responsible to control what should enter into our minds. Like the gardener, we need to nurture our minds in a way that can lead us to the right track of life

Science & Technology

The Ethiopian scientist finding water on the moon

“There was the passion to know more, and the curiosity to know more about what the universe looked like and how big it is”

Berhanu Bulcha

BY KFLEEYESUS ABEBE

It is the scientific world's ambition to make the moon and planets liveable for humans. Finding basic things and making sure the moon can be habituated by humans have been on top of space discovery and related studies. American government sponsored The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has been building spacecraft and attempting to know conditions of the moon. American astronomer William Pickering had made measurements in the late 1800s that led him to conclude the Moon essentially has no atmosphere. With no clouds and no atmosphere, scientists generally agreed that any water on the lunar surface would evaporate immediately. Pickering's measurements led to a widespread view that the Moon was devoid of water. In 1961 however theoretical physicist Kenneth Watson published a paper describing how a substance like water could exist on the Moon. There has been flip flop in the study when NASA in 2020 announced the discovery of water on the sunlit surface of the Moon.

Ethiopian-American NASA research engineer Berhanu Bulcha is now aiming to find a solution to the problem of locating water on the moon, to help humans set up a permanent base there.

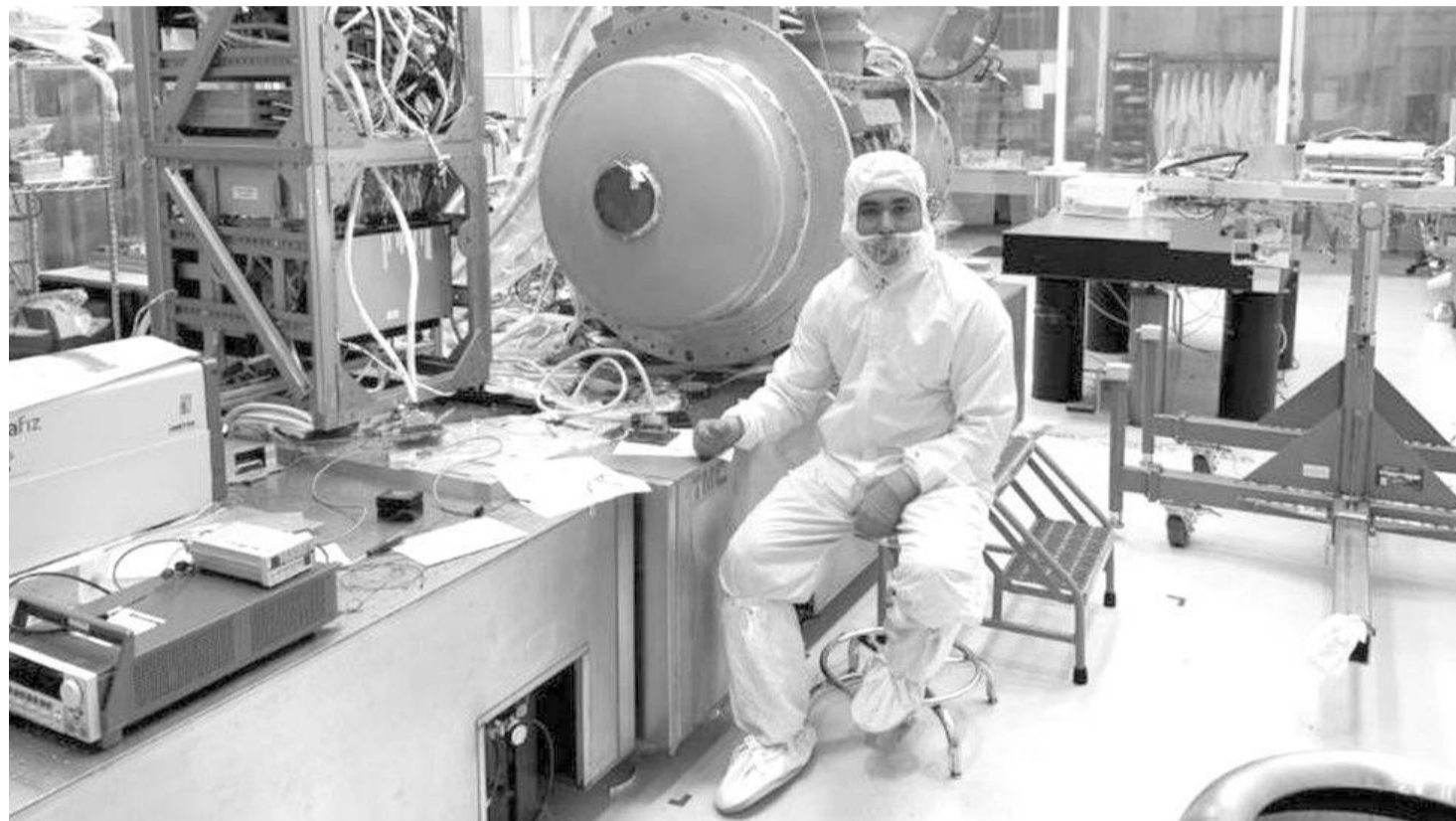
Without water there can be no life. Whether humans are on the Earth or elsewhere in the universe, that axiom remains the same. NASA's Artemis 1 rocket was finally launched this week - the start of an ambitious space exploration program that is designed to take humans back to the moon and beyond.

Addressing the issue of how to get hold of water beyond Earth is crucial. The lunar base being planned would be impossible without the precious liquid and Dr Berhanu is leading a team working on how it could be found on our planet's only natural satellite.

Water can be transported from Earth but this is expensive and highly inefficient. Significantly lunar water could also be used to make rocket fuel, allowing the moon to be a platform for further space travel, which would bypass the need for the huge rockets required to overcome our planet's gravitational pull.

Dr Berhanu and his team are developing a prototype light-weight compact spectrometer that could definitively identify where water reserves are on the moon. “It's the million-dollar question,” he tells the BBC by phone from one of NASA's offices in the US.

Since getting to graduate school at the University of Virginia 12 years ago, Dr.



Berhanu has been focusing on developing space instruments that would solve problems for NASA - and arguably the search for water is the biggest problem of all.

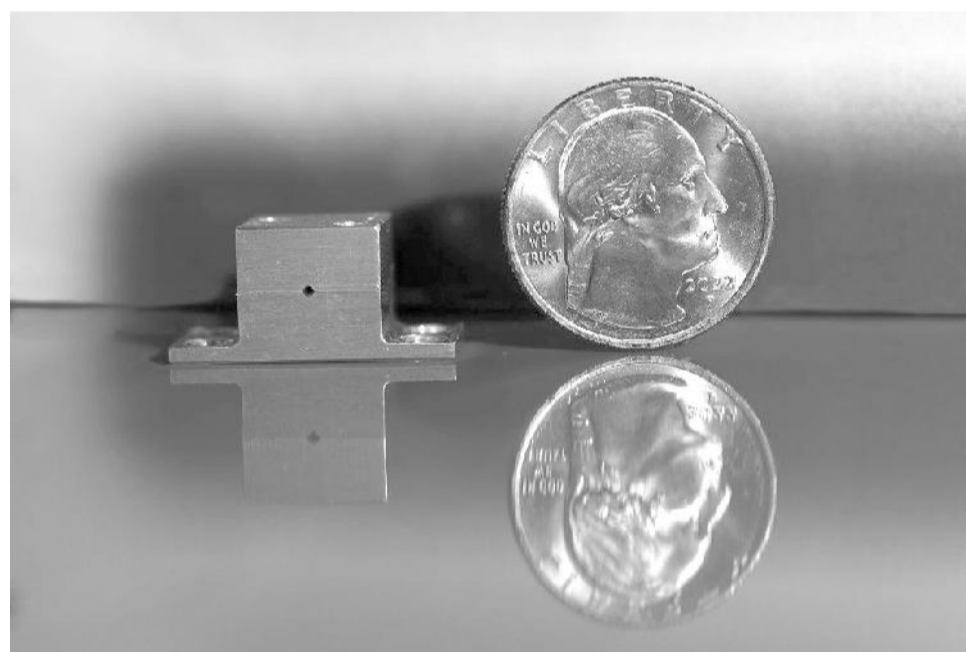
The presence of some water on the moon has already been confirmed. But the issue with most methods of detection is that they cannot tell the difference between water, which is made up of hydrogen and oxygen, and hydroxyl, another hydrogen-containing compound.

The device assisted by the laser that Dr Berhanu is working on emits particles of light at a frequency specific to water, which can be used to pinpoint its presence. His team is developing what are called quantum cascade lasers to reach this frequency that has been hard to achieve in the past, Nasa's news service reports. Dr Berhanu describes it as a novel technological development that will enable astronauts to use a hand-held device to find both the location and volume of water - something which has not been achieved before.

The tiny instrument could also be deployed on a remotely operated rover. Reducing the size and weight of any objects designed to go on a lunar mission is crucial as space is at a premium.

Based at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, Dr Berhanu recently received \$2.5m (£2.1m) to continue working on the prototype. It might take another two years to finish but Dr Berhanu says he is optimistic that it can be done and it will work.

There is no doubting his determination and tenacity - and he sees these as defining



characteristics for himself. The 38-year-old grew up in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, but moved to the US after high school to study physics and engineering at Virginia Commonwealth University. He had to be self-reliant. “When I came to the US I did not have a support network, I was supporting myself. I was really isolated from the culture I grew up in and immersed into a new culture. The first thing you think of is to work hard and succeed in education,” he says, reflecting on his early years in his adopted country.”

He admits it was a risky step to leave Ethiopia but the opportunities to work with cutting-edge technologies and on exciting research projects were hard to resist. The inspiration to look out at the cosmos and wonder what was there, however, came from closer to home.

He had a religious Christian upbringing and says that his early introduction to the

Bible led him to start asking questions about the universe and how things came about. For some a strict adherence to the scripture could close off the exploration of different ideas but for Dr Berhanu it led him to look beyond himself. “I was so fascinated about how things were created... [there was] the passion to know more, and the curiosity to know more about what the universe looked like and how big it is,” he says.

That willingness to ask questions and look for the answers has led a young boy growing up in Addis Ababa to possibly help solve one of the key barriers to further space exploration. For him, there is no doubt that hard work as well as finding the right mentors were key to his success. But he says “the first thing is to have a dream, have a plan and work towards your dream... definitely there will be challenges but don't stop, just continue to work”.

Society

Rebuilding health, education facilities

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

The scar of the war in the northern part of Ethiopia was deep because innocent civilians from Tigray, Amhara and Afar states were exposed to displacements, and killings and service rendering facilities and properties damaged.

For instance, the Ministry of Health reported that 3,666 health institutions in the affected areas of Amhara, Afar, Oromia and Benishangul-Gumuz states had been partially or fully damaged. According to the Ministry, 40 hospitals, 452 health stations and 1,728 health posts in Amhara; 2 hospitals, 24 health centers and 52 health posts in Afar; 6 hospitals, 21 health centers and 978 health posts in Oromia states as well as 15 health centers and 348 health posts in Benishangul-Gumuz had been affected by the conflict.

However, following the commitments and efforts of the government, various ministries and sector offices, states' bureaus, partners and individuals, the reconstruction activities of damaged facilities and infrastructure are ongoing well though a lot remains.

Currently, numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations, charity organizations, donors and the like are providing support and are playing role in the effort exerted to restore and rehabilitate the facilities.

Most importantly, owing to the peace agreement made between the Federal Government and Tigay People Liberation Front (TPLF) the international community is seeing the efforts in good gesture and confirming to support the reconstruction and rehabilitating activities of education and health facilities.

For instance, EU Delegation Head to Ethiopia, Ambassador Roland Kobia inked the grant contract agreement with UNICEF Representative in Ethiopia Gianfranco Rotigliano and WFP Ethiopia Country Director and Representative Claude Libidar to restore education services in conflict-affected regions and implement school feeding program in the areas.

During the signing event, EU Delegation Head to Ethiopia, Ambassador Roland said that the contract signed between the EU and UN bodies will benefit Ethiopia's education system in an integrated manner and essentially benefit the children in conflict-affected areas of the country.

"This contract is at a level of 1.8 billion Birr, so it is about 33 million Euros. The grant will be used to restore education facilities and provide essential services for children living in conflict-affected areas. This contract is going to benefit the education system in an integrated manner. We are going to provide not only education; but also ensuring access to potable water, school feeding, water and sanitation services, reconstruction and rehabilitation of infrastructure and so forth," Roland said.

Children are always innocent victims in all areas. Wherever war outbreaks, their lives disrupted and they compelled to interrupt



their education. He stated that this funding will strengthen the education system in an integrated manner through the provision of education, health, protection, school feeding, WASH and the reconstruction and rehabilitation of schools.

Children's safe access to quality education is critical to the future of the country, he added.

UNICEF Representative in Ethiopia, Gianfranco Rotigliano said that the education component implemented by UNICEF, will include the rehabilitation of schools, reduce rates of school dropouts and also scale-up the 'My Home-Bete' approach.

"We are deeply grateful for this generous contribution from the EU," he said, adding that the 'My Home-Bete' program combines accelerated learning, child protection and life skills training in schools.

He pointed out that providing services to children, especially girls, to recover from the trauma they have endured due to conflict and also teach life skills so they can become our future doctors, teachers and leaders.

"This is very welcome not only because with this fund we can restore and rehabilitate some of the schools but also we can put the children back into schools with the aid of WFP for the reason when there is a meal for children in schools, children come to school much more happily and they keep coming because (there is a reason) beyond the fact that they learn and they become (educated) citizens, there is also the good reason that they eat."

The funding will also support WFP to provide nutritious school meals to 50,000 children across northern Ethiopia.

WFP's school meals will ensure that conflict-affected school-age girls and boys (including IDPs) continue to receive access to food, and this, in turn, will attract children to enroll in school and continue their education.

WFP Ethiopia Country Director and Representative, Claude Libidar on his

"I appreciate the EU's timely contribution to WFP's school meals to keep children, especially girls, in school, who have been affected by the conflict."

part said "I appreciate the EU's timely contribution to WFP's school meals to keep children, especially girls, in school, who have been affected by the conflict."

Overall, this support will benefit nearly 80,000 children and 60 schools will be reconstructed or rehabilitated.

In his recent remark, Justice Minister Gedeon Timothios also noted that Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) operating in Ethiopia should play leading role in providing the necessary support for the government to rebuild the war affected areas in the country.

The minister, who is also a member of the Main Peace Alternative Committee of the Federal Government, while briefing members of the CSOs about the peace

agreement signed in South Africa between the Government of Ethiopia and TPLF as well as its outcomes and implications, he stressed the need for the civil organizations to play a leading role in providing the necessary support to the government, particularly in healing the psychological trauma incurred on citizens and to rehabilitate the war affected areas.

Creating conducive environment to rehabilitate communities affected by the conflict and reverse the challenges the country has encountered in economy and diplomacy were also among the goals of the peace talks.

Noting the commitment of the government for the full implementation of the peace agreement, the minister stated that several activities, including the delivery of humanitarian aid and restoration of social services, have been intensified by the government.

He urged the Civil Society Organizations to engage in the rebuilding activities of education institutions, health facilities and other public service providing facilities by mobilizing resources. With concerted efforts and collaboration of stakeholders and partners, however, 85 percent of the hospitals and 87 percent of the damaged health stations were restored and are providing services for the public, he stated.

The Ministry of Health also urged stakeholders and partners to strengthen effort and collaboration to restore damaged health stations and provide services for the public.

The restored health institutions have so far provided health services for 500,000 people, adding that the ministry has provided 708 million Birr worth pharmaceuticals and medical equipment to the conflict affected areas since July 2021.

Federal hospitals, hospitals under Addis Ababa Health Bureau and university hospitals have also donated pharmaceuticals and medical equipment estimated at over 208 million Birr, and the Diaspora contributed over 70 million Birr worth medical equipment, it was learnt.



This is Ethiopia

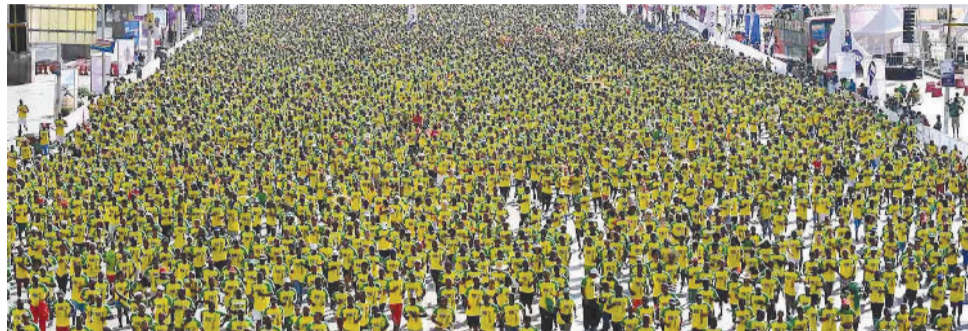
Great Ethiopian Run: Potential sports tourism in Ethiopia

BY TEWODROS KASSA

According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), sports tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors in tourism. More and more tourists are interested in sport activities during their trip whether sports are the main objective of their travel or not. Sport events of various kinds attract tourists as participants or spectators; and destinations try to add local flavors to enable visitors to have authentic local experiences. Mega sport events such as Olympics and World Cups can be a catalyst for tourism development if successfully leveraged in terms of destination branding, infrastructure development and other economic and social benefits.

Tourism and sports are interrelated and complementary. Sports as a professional, amateur or leisure activities involve a considerable amount of traveling to play and compete in different destinations. Major sporting events, such as the Olympic Games, football and rugby competitions have become powerful tourism attractions in themselves making a very positive contribution to the tourism image of the host destination.

Ethiopia is known for its long-distance runners. The country's athletes have gain momentum through gathering numerous international medals and awards through



winning marathon, 10,000 and, 5,000 meters race, among others.

Different experts also applauded the country's topography, climate, and organic foods as an input that bolsters athletes' winning capacity; and in turn, the sector is contributing a lot in country's socio-economic development. Currently, several, teenagers are doing continues trainings in the highlands of the country to realize their dreams of becoming a professional athlete in the future; following the footsteps of those legendary athletes. At the recent competition, The Great Ethiopian Run, founded by the legendary Ethiopia's famous long distance runner Athlete Haile Gebreselassie in 2000, many youths are seen ran enthusiastically. The 22nd edition of The Great Ethiopian Run was held at Meskel Square; in Addis Ababa with the participation of more than 40,000 people.

On the event, President Sahle-Work Zewde, Addis Ababa Mayor, Adanech Abiebie, Minister of Culture and Tourism, Kejela Merdasa and other senior government officials as well guests including renowned Kenyan athletes and tourists attended the 10 kilometer annual street race. The Great Ethiopian Run is the first biggest event in Africa and sixth in the world's international street races. It is believed to be one of the most important events to promoting sports tourism in Ethiopia. It was indicated that the Great Ethiopian Run has successfully conducted more than 100 races in various cities in the country over the past years.

More importantly, The Great Ethiopian Run, a 10-kilometer street race, held every year in Ethiopia has become a potential event to attract more tourists to the country. It has achieved more than just competition in its journey that has lasted for more than twenty years. In the

past two years, this competition, which was held with a limited number of participants due to the threat of the COVID-19 Pandemic, has returned this year in full glory and attracted more than forty thousand participants at the Meskel Square.

Participants of the race dressed in green, yellow and red t-shirts make Addis Ababa bright annually. In addition to Ethiopians, many foreigners also proved that the Great Ethiopian Run is one of the world's top ten road races that attract various nationals. Aside from the social, economic, diplomatic and other benefits of the contest, the various scenes and the special atmosphere of the race have become a manifestation of the beauty and unity of Ethiopia. The fact that the competition is more than a sporting event is not new today, but the level and the attention given to it has been increasing year after year.

Different participants also witnessed that the Great Ethiopian Run is not only a sports competition but also a symbol of solidarity, peace, love and cooperation among Ethiopians.

Accordingly, numerous neighboring countries athletes are utilizing the Great Ethiopian Run properly to show their potentials through participating in the annual contest. Kenyan and Ugandan athletes are among the leading participants in the Great Ethiopian Run.



Published Bimonthly in Collaboration with Ethiopian Electric Power

EEP startup to current status

BY DIRRIBA TESHOME

Electricity is a discovery that plays the biggest role behind the results of research and technology that have simplified and modernized the daily life and work of human beings. It has contributed the most to the development of the world in space research, industrial construction, telecommunications, media, transportation, medicine, etc. It has assisted the world's most powerful countries to put their people to work and grow their economies by igniting the industrial revolution.

Consequently, electricity is the backbone of world civilization, economic growth, and the glow and splendor of cities. Many activities are interrupted when electricity is broken up. When we see this, we understand how important electricity is in our daily lives.

Although it is necessary to discuss the basic idea about the benefits and importance of electricity, this article mainly deals with: When did electricity start to be used in Ethiopia? What kind of processes did the current Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) go through to reach the level it is today?

These key questions are reacted to by Ethiopian Electric Power Corporate

Communication Director Moges Mekonen besides the information obtained from the documents of the institution and the years are in Ethiopian calendar.

Electricity utilization was started in Ethiopia in 1890 from a small diesel generator that the German government gave to Emperor Menilik II. When the generator began to provide benefits, the palace was freed from the light from firewood and stoves.

At the same time it was transformed into an electric light that identified the palace from the ordinary village causing great joy among the people of the palace and the officials.

Later, following the introduction of similar generators into the country, the electric power that was confined to the palace began to spread in Addis Ababa and other cities.

Ethiopia's Electric Power Startup Process

In 1890, the first diesel generator was introduced in the country and in 1896 the Emperor bought and installed the second generator to help him to mint money in his image. And in 1904, the 3rd generator was installed to establish an ammunition factory.

As well, in 1919, the 4th generator was purchased for the Abujedi Cloth Factory. Later in 1920, some well to do residents of Addis Ababa bought their own private generators.

Later, when Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1928,

diesels began to be used in the cities it controlled, including Addis Ababa and other towns: in 1929: in Nazareth, Dredawa, and Dese while it was used in Harar 1930. Plus, the colonizers started providing electric services to the cities of Gondar and Jima in 1931, from the generators installed.

At the end of 1928, Connell, an Italian Company, was given the right to generate and sell electricity that it began selling electricity to consumers for the first time.

When Italy left Ethiopia in 1933, the right to generate and sell electricity was given to the "Enemy Property Office" the name given to the Italian property administration as Italy had ruled the nation. And in 1940, "Showa Electric Power" was put in charge of the electrical work.

In 1948, a legal entity called "Ethiopian Electric Light and Power Authority" was established by charter. This official office was functioning until 1989, then changed its name to a corporation and was functioning until 2006 when it was divided into two institutions with different roles, namely Ethiopian Electric Power and Ethiopian Electric Utility.

The main activities of Ethiopian Electric Power are to build and operate power generation stations, to lay out, build and manage transmission lines from 132 to 500

KV, to produce power and to provide bulk power to the Ethiopian Electric Utility, high power users and neighboring countries.

The following table shows the amount of energy the facility produces from water, wind, diesel, geothermal, and biomass, the name of the power station, and the year it was put into operation.

Electricity, which started with a small generator in Emperor Menilik II's palace in 1890, has grown and today it has reached a power generation capacity of more than 5000 megawatts.

No.	Power plant	Hydro	Diesel	Geo thermal	Wind	Biomass	Total	In-service date (A.C)
1	Koka	453.2	0.12	-	-	-	453.3	1965
2	Jirjira II	32	0.1	-	-	-	32.1	1966
3	Jirjira III	32	-	-	-	-	32	1971
4	Finca	134	0.2	-	-	-	134.2	1973/2003
5	Madaba H'elena	151	-	-	-	-	151	1955
6	Ta'Alaj	11.4	-	-	-	-	11.4	1964
7	Ta'Alaj II	79	-	-	-	-	79	2001
8	Gilgel Gibe I	184	-	-	-	-	184	2004
9	Aliso Lomamo	-	7.3	-	-	-	7.3	1979
10	Kahil	-	14	-	-	-	14	2004
11	Dew Dam	-	40	-	-	-	40	2004
12	Jirjira 7 kV	-	35	-	-	-	35	2004
13	Tekano	300	-	-	-	-	300	2005
14	Gilgel Gibe II	420	-	-	-	-	420	2010
15	Bales	460	-	-	-	-	460	2010
16	Atenafi Dashed	95	-	-	-	-	95	2011
17	Gilgel Gibe III	1,870.00	-	-	-	-	1,870	2015
18	Ajerasmai	6.6	-	-	-	-	6.6	2016
19	Genale Dama	254.1	-	-	-	-	254.1	2020
20	Adama I	-	-	51	-	-	51	2012
21	GREP	375	-	-	-	-	375	2012
22	Ashegoda	-	-	120	-	-	120	2012
23	Adama II	-	-	153	-	-	153	2014
24	Raggie Wata	-	-	25	-	-	25	2019
25	Daw Dam (Gua)	-	3.6	-	-	-	3.6	1965
26	Arara	-	3.15	-	-	-	3.15	1975/1992
27	Adva	-	3	-	-	-	3	1968