

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Small-Scale Irrigation: Ethiopia, Ghana and Tanzania

Stakeholder Consultation Workshops Report
May 2018



“The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Small-Scale Irrigation works to enhance food security and reduce poverty by developing and introducing gender-sensitive, small-scale irrigation systems into food and agriculture production on small farms.”



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Table of Contents

Project background	3
Aim of the stakeholder consultation	3
Objectives	3
Participants.....	3
Locations	4
Consultation format and agenda.....	4
Key points from the stakeholder consultation in Ghana.....	5
Key points from the stakeholder consultation in Tanzania	6
Key points from the stakeholder consultation in Ethiopia	7
Significance of the workshops.....	8
Annex 1 - Agendas.....	9
Annex 2 - Participant lists	12

This Report is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the partners of the Innovation Lab for Small Scale Irrigation and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

Project background

Feed the Future Innovation lab on Small-scale Irrigation (ILSSI) is a cooperative research project that aims to provide evidence to increase food production, improve nutrition, protect the environment and accelerate economic development through improved access to small-scale irrigation technologies. The project began with initial activities undertaken in 2013 and continues through 2018.

ILSSI is led by *Texas A&M University* with partners including the *International Water Management Institute (IWMI)*, the *International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)*, the *International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)* and *North Carolina A&T University*.

Partners in each project country have included:

Ghana *University for Development Studies (UDS), International Development Enterprises (iDE) and the Animal Research Institute*

Tanzania *Sokoine University of Agriculture and the Tanzania Animal Research Institute*

Ethiopia *Bahir Dar University and the Amhara Agricultural Research Institute*

Over the past five years, ILSSI tested and modelled high potential interventions in small-scale irrigation, conservation agriculture and irrigated fodder production. The project took a partnership and engagement approach to ensure continual learning; responsiveness to local demands, needs and realities; support for national goals and initiatives; and the uptake of outputs and recommendations by farmers, researchers, policymakers and investors.

Aim of the stakeholder consultation

As a final activity of the project's first five years, partners convened a consultation with national stakeholders in each of the three project countries to share research results and project outcomes. The consultation also provided an opportunity to discuss future research needs and interests.

Objectives

The stakeholder consultations in each country had two principal objectives:

- to share research results from ILSSI and SIPSIN (*Sustainably Intensified Production Systems Impact on Nutrition*, a project with a specific focus on Ethiopia) on small-scale irrigation, conservation agriculture and irrigated fodder interventions
- to propose promising small-scale irrigation and integrated fodder interventions for scaling and future research

Participants

The consultation workshops brought together officials from the governments of each of the three countries, as well as other stakeholders operating in each country including university and international scientists and researchers, non-governmental organizations, and donors.

In total 128 different participants took part in the consultation workshops. For further reference, complete participant lists from each of the consultation workshops are provided in Annex 2.

Locations

All three stakeholder consultation events were held in May 2018. In Ghana, it was held on the 14th, at the Coconut Grove Hotel in Accra, in Tanzania on the 17th at the Protea Courtyard Hotel in Dar es Salaam, and in Ethiopia on 24th at the International Livestock Research Institute, Addis Ababa.

Consultation format and agenda

The stakeholder consultation workshop in each country followed a similar format of three principal sessions, from 9am to between 4-5pm.

The first session focused on introductions, setting the objectives of the workshop and providing a summary overview of the projects aims, partners, activities and impact, with a particular focus on the implications for incomes, nutrition, health and women's empowerment of small scale irrigation.

Session 2 provided a number of opportunities to present and discuss country specific research results, including various aspects of small scale irrigation technologies and entry points for scaling, through presentations and brief group discussion sessions.

For further details please see the consultation agendas in Annex 1. The presentation slide decks presented in each of the consultation workshops (along with other details about the project) are available online on the TAMU ILSSI project website (ilssi.tamu.edu), and can be reached via the direct links below:

Ghana:

<http://ilssi.tamu.edu/workshops/ghana/ghana-stakeholder-workshops-may-14th-2018/>

Tanzania:

<http://ilssi.tamu.edu/workshops/tanzania/stakeholder-workshops-may-17th-2018/>

Ethiopia:

<http://ilssi.tamu.edu/workshops/ethiopia/stakeholder-workshops-may-24th-2018/>

Key points from the stakeholder consultation in Ghana



Informative discussions about small-scale irrigation, stakeholder workshop, Accra
Photo: Joseph Aketema, IWMI

A number of points related to ILSSI's research and research findings in Ghana were raised by stakeholders during the workshop. These included a strong emphasis on affordable microfinance, and finding ways to ensure profitable and equitable opportunities for smallholder farmers to enter small-scale irrigation production.

It was generally recognised that there is a need to enhance involvement of the private sector in irrigated value chains in Ghana, for example as buyers of produce and/or suppliers of technologies. Water user associations (WUAs) were highlighted as key to ensuring success of small-scale irrigation development by providing, among other things, a platform to manage water governance, engage diverse stakeholders, build trust and resolve conflicts. Participants indicated that they would like to know more about the profitability of innovations already in use in Ghana, and explore new and innovative irrigation-related service provision business models.

Other comments focused on the need to better understand incentives in the market that would help (or hinder) further use of small-scale irrigation in Ghana, with the suggestion of examining existing, successful, farmer-led examples in order to see whether they could be replicated. A number of participants highlighted the need to enhance or upgrade extension services around small-scale irrigation.

Key points from the stakeholder consultation in Tanzania



A Tanzanian fodder farmer discusses the impact of small-scale irrigation on her farm during the workshop in Dar es Salaam
Photo: Ben Lukuyu

Stakeholders in the consultation workshop in Tanzania raised a number of interesting questions, comments and suggestions relating to ILSSI's research, and research findings. For example, participants noted the importance of the value chain approach to small-scale irrigation, which enables diverse benefits derived from different types of investors along the value-chain resulting in the production of multiple products or various commodities.

The now strong commitment by the Tanzanian government to support small-scale, farmer-led irrigation is something that can and should be effectively built on. Nonetheless, it was noted that policies could be further strengthened to enable growth in small-scale irrigation, such as improving market assurances and access to credit. The participation of farmers at all stages of project planning, development and implementation, including a strong emphasis on farmer groups, farmer-based organizations and farmer field schools would also help to promote the use of small-scale irrigation.

Participants placed quite a strong emphasis on the issue of improving access to credit, and other finance options, in order to make use of, and benefit from, small-scale irrigation technologies. It was noted that this could be improved through enhancing the linkages between farmer organizations and community cooperative credit and savings organizations. Some participants also commented that Napier is not good for storage as dry hay, so other varieties which can be stored as dry fodder may have more value in irrigated fodder production.

During concluding remarks at the end of the workshop Eng. Mbogo Futakamba, the ILSSI External Advisory Committee member for Tanzania, thanked the project team, project partners and USAID for conducting the research project in Tanzania and elsewhere in Africa. He commented that the findings showed that through partnerships, collaboration and the use of technology, combined with research to ensure optimum applicability and results, the lives and livelihoods of Tanzania farmers, particularly women, can be successfully improved.

Key points from the stakeholder consultation in Ethiopia



Stakeholder consultation workshop participants, Addis Ababa
Photo: Rahel Mesganaw, IWMI

In Ethiopia, ILSSI's research and research findings also elicited interesting debate and a number of comments and suggestions from participating stakeholders. For example, there was some discussion of whether it was a better strategy to foster improved household nutrition by encouraging farmers to grow nutritional crops such as vegetables and cereals (instead of chat or coffee), or alternatively whether household nutritional outcomes could be better served by farmers continuing to grow chat or coffee and then use the income generated to buy vegetables and cereals.

Participants were interested to know how the tillage conservation and technologies could best be up-scaled beyond home gardens. They were also keen to understand (given the project's findings that farmers are willing to pay for household irrigation technologies but that subsidies may be important for successful adoption and scaling up by poorer farmers) who could be willing to provide these subsidies, and questioned how sustainable this would be.

During a specific group discussion on the institutional and policy elements needed to foster development of small-scale irrigation in Ethiopia, a number of priorities were highlighted. These included:

- ensuring the importance of the market aspect of irrigation development isn't forgotten
- improving access to credit, and other micro-finance options, along the irrigation value chain, while also expanding the range of applicable types of collateral which can be used in order to source credit
- reducing import tariffs on irrigation equipment
- developing institutional arrangements to ensure more sustainable operation and maintenance of irrigation schemes, perhaps for example through a cost recovery approach
- ensuring that relevant, existing regulations and policies are supported with adequate enforcement mechanisms to ensure they achieve the intended objectives

- reducing the potential for overlapping mandates on policies between different ministries while also reducing the ambiguity around different roles within different departments in the regions
- improving ICT and mobile network systems so that farmers can better access relevant information on prices, weather, soil and water using their mobile phones

Significance of the workshops

The stakeholder consultation workshops held in Accra, Dar es Salaam and Addis Ababa succeeded in convening key national stakeholders in each of the project countries to share ILSSI (and SIPSIN in Ethiopia) research results and project outcomes on small-scale irrigation, conservation agriculture and irrigated fodder interventions.

Stakeholder consultations in each country were a regular feature of the ILSSI project from inception, with the specific aims of identifying key issues, opportunities and research needs. Throughout the project to date these events have enabled project partners to share results, fill knowledge gaps, inform planning and implementation, and move evidence toward development practitioners. They have also provided important opportunities to obtain feedback on research findings and proposed solutions from specialists directly involved in the challenges addressed by the ILSSI project in each country.

The 2018 workshops created a platform for researchers to engage with potential actors interested in scaling small-scale irrigation technologies, including public, donor and private sector actors. Finally, the workshops also provided important opportunities to propose research questions directly related to increased scaling of small-scale irrigation, addressing context specific knowledge needs and interests.

Annex 1 - Agendas

Agenda - Ghana

Time	Activity	Lead
8.30-9.00	Registration	
Session 1: Introduction and objectives		
9.00-9.30	Welcome by IWMI Statement by UDS, national ILSSI project partner Introduction of participants Objectives and expected outcomes of the stakeholder consultation	IWMI UDS
9:30-9:45	Overview of the Feed the Future ILSSI – aims, partners, activities, and impact	Texas A&M University
9:45-10:15	Impact of SSI: Implications for income, nutrition, health, and women's empowerment	IFPRI: Dawit Mekonnen, Research Fellow
10:15-10:45	Health break; Project posters (graduate students from UDS)	
Session 2: Presentation of research results		
10:45-11:15	Enhancing land and water productivity of small scale irrigation in Northern Ghana through improved irrigation and water scheduling technologies.	IWMI: Richard Appoh UDS: Bizoola Gandaa
11:15-11:45	Entry points for SSI scaling: Yield and market potential of irrigated fodder in Northern Ghana	ILRI: Tunde Amole
11:45-12:15	Entry points for SSI scaling: Economic feasibility with scaling through micro and rural finance, and engaging the private sector	IWMI: Bedru Balana
12:15-12:30	Summary of key messages	Facilitated
12.30-13:30	Lunch	
Session 3: Looking forward		
13:30-14:00	Potential for up-scaling small scale irrigation (IDSS) – constraints and opportunities	TAMU: Yihun Dile
14:00-14.45	Farmer experiences and success stories	UDS: Sylvester Ayambila and Afishata Abujaja
14:45-15:45	Plenary discussion: Lessons and approaches toward scaling small scale irrigation.	Facilitated
15:45-16:00	Summary of the stakeholder consultation and closing - External Advisory Committee Country Member	Prof. Saa Dittoh

Agenda - Tanzania

Time	Activity	Lead
8.30-9.00	Registration	
Session 1: Introduction and objectives		
9.00-9.15	Welcome from ILSSI project partners Statement from national partners Objectives and expected outcomes of the Stakeholder Consultation	ILRI
9:15-9:30	Overview of the Feed the Future ILSSI – aims, partners, activities, and impact	ILSSI ME
9:30-10:00	Impact of SSI: Implications for income, nutrition, health, and women's empowerment	IFPRI: Dawit Mekonnen, Research Fellow
10:00-10:30	<i>Health break; Project Posters (graduate students)</i> Scholastica Mbinile (MSc): Irrigated fodder David Maleko (PhD): Fodder markets in rangelands	
Session 2: Presentation of research results		
10:30-11:00	Small scale irrigation technologies: Managing water efficiency and productivity for productivity and profit	SUA
11:00-11:30	Small scale irrigation, conservation agriculture and homestead gardens	SUA
11:30-12:00	Entry points for scaling: Strengthening fodder markets and testing forages under different irrigation technologies in Tanzania	ILRI: Ben Lukuyu
12:00-12:30	Summary of key messages and facilitated discussion	
12.30-13:30	Lunch	
Session 3: Looking forward		
13:30-14:00	Potential for upscaling small scale irrigation (IDSS) – constraints and opportunities	TAMU: Yihun Dile
14:00-14.30	Working Group session: Future research questions to enable scaling small scale irrigation	
14:30-14:45	Plenary session: Lessons and approach toward scaling small scale irrigation	
14:45-15:01	Summary of the stakeholder consultation and closing - External Advisory Committee Country Member	Eng. Futakamba

Agenda - Ethiopia

Time	Activity	Lead
8.30-9.00	<i>Registration</i>	
Session 1: Introduction and objectives		
9.00-9.15	Welcome Statement Objectives and expected outcomes of the Stakeholder Consultation Introduction of ILSSI project partners	ILRI
9:15-9:30	Overview of the Feed the Future ILSSI – aims, partners, activities, and impact	ILSSI Project Lead
9:30-10:00	Impact of SSI: Implications for income, nutrition, health, and women's empowerment	IFPRI: Dawit Mekonnen, Research Fellow
10:00-10:30	<i>Health break</i>	
Session 2: Presentation of research results		
10:30-10:50	Small scale irrigation technologies: Managing water efficiency and productivity to mitigate impacts – groundwater recharge	BDU: Seifu Tilahun
10:50-11:20	Small scale irrigation technologies: Farmers' willingness to pay	IWMI: Gebrehaweria Gebregziabher
11:20-11:35	Key messages from the field	Facilitated by IWMI
11:35-11:55	Entry points for scaling: Market for irrigated fodder in Ethiopia	ILRI: Michael Blummel
11:55-12:15	Entry points for scaling: Microfinance and rural lending, and engaging the private sector in SSI technology supply chains	IWMI: Fitsum Hagos
12:15-12:30	Key messages on irrigated fodder and finance as entry points	Facilitated by ILRI
12.30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
Session 3: Looking forward		
13:30-14:15	Capacity development of ILSSI and SIPSIN: Graduate student presentations (part 1) Habtamu Muche and Misba Abidela: Berken plow and intercropping to improve recharge Aynadis Worku: Conservation agriculture with drip	Facilitated by BDU
14:15-15:00	Potential for upscaling small scale irrigation (IDSS) – constraints and opportunities	TAMU: Yihun Dile
15:00-15:30	Graduate student presentations (part 2) Teshager Assefa: Socio economic analysis of intensified irrigated production Feleke Kuraz: Agro-chemical analysis from intensified production (SIPSIN)	Facilitated by BDU
15:30-16:00	<i>Health break</i>	
16:00-16:45	Group discussion: Lessons and approaches toward scaling small scale irrigation	Facilitated by IWMI
16:45-17:00	Summary of the stakeholder consultation and closing, External Advisory Committee Country Member for ILSSI	Getachew Gebru

Annex 2 - Participant lists

Ghana

	Participant	Position	Organisation
1	Sylvester Ayambila	Lecturer	University for Development Studies
2	Bizoola Gandaa		University for Development Studies
3	Raymond Tetteh	Graduate Student	University for Development Studies
4	Noah Zakaria Mumuni	Graduate Student	University for Development Studies
5	Joseph Amikuzuno	Lecturer	University for Development Studies
6	Abdul-Razak Abizari	Senior Lecturer	University for Development Studies
7	Saa Dittoh	Professor, External advisor	University for Development Studies
8	Abdul-Razak Sumaila		Ministry of Agriculture (MoFA), Upper East Region - Zanierigu
9	Emmanuel Panyan	Research scientist	Animal Research Institute
10	Fuseini Bugbon	Farmer	Farmer association
11	Sakara Richard Abukari		AEA Bihinaayili
12	Emmanuel Abeere-inga	Director of Infrastructure	Northern Development Authority
13	Issah Mohammed Soffo	Chairman of the Bihinaayili farmers	Farmer
14	Mrs Tegpong Baah	Farmer	Female representative from Zanlerigu
15	Afishata Mohammed Abujaja	Gender specialist, ILSSI	University for Development Studies
16	Allan Pineda (representing Brian Kiger)	Agriculture managing director	iDE
17	Emmanuel Akobta	DDO	MoFA
18	Roy Ayariga	Farmer (former national program coordinator - GASIP)	Green Planet
19	Dr John Manful	National program coordinator	GASIP
20	Samuel Asante Mensah	Director, Agriculture and food security	Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)
21	Mark Douglas	Managing director	Dizengoff Ghana Ltd.
22	Saviour Korbla Tamakloe	Head of the West Africa Region	Kickstart
23	Kankam Yeboah	Senior research scientist	Water Research Institute
24	Emmanuel Obuobie	Senior research scientist	Water Research Institute
25	Charles Nonoo	Operations Manager	Ghana Commercial Agriculture Project (GCAP)
26	Mawah Agboka		Ghana Commercial Agriculture Project (GCAP)
27	Dr Yaw Osei-Owusu		Conservation Alliance
28	Mr Busia Dawuni		Wienco/IWAD
29	Mr Foster Boateng		Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
30	Cecil Osei	Technical director	ADVANCE II (ACDI VOCA)
31	Ms Jenna Tajchman-Trofim	Mission Head	USAID
32	Mr Wekem Raymond Avatim	Sr. Coordinator, Livelihoods/Agriculture	USAID RING Project
33	Dr Victor Antwi	Deputy Chief of Party	USAID FinGAP
34	Ben Nyamadi		Ghana Irrigation Development Authority
35	Ellis Ekekpi		USAID
36	Bernice Kumah		USAID
37	Grace Sebuchah	Program Management Specialist	USAID

38	Matt Stellbauer		ILSSI - Texas A&M University
39	Yihun Dile	Resercher	ILSSI - Texas A&M University
40	Nicole Lefore	Research Manager	IWMI - SA
41	Beverly McIntyre	Senior Researcher	IWMI - USA
42	Dawit Makonnen	Research Fellow	IFPRI
43	Adegoke Tunde Amole	Country director	ILRI
44	Olufunke Cofie	Head of Office	IWMI- Ghana
45	Bedru Balana	Researcher - economics	IWMI-Ghana
46	Richard Appoh	Research Officer	IWMI-Ghana
47	Adebayo Oke	Fellow	IWMI-Ghana
48	Paa Kofi	Manager	CA-Share

Tanzania

	Participant	Organisation
1	Winfred Mbumgu	Sokoine University of Agriculture
2	Siza Tumbo	Sokoine University of Agriculture
3	Fred Kahimba	Sokoine University of Agriculture
4	Henry Mahoo	Sokoine University of Agriculture
5	Paul Ruben	Sokoine University of Agriculture
6	Christopher Magomba	Sokoine University of Agriculture
7	Elizabeth Mshote	Sokoine University of Agriculture
8	Eliakim Matekere	National Irrigation Commission (Acting Director General)
9	Amy Mchelle	National Irrigation Commission
10	Victor Kongo	Tanzania Water Partnership
11	Tereza Massoy	Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives
12	Halima Abdallah	Wami/Ruvu Basin Water Office
13	Boniphace Marwa	USAID mission (Feed the Future)
14	Antonio Coello	IP (Mboga na Matunda Project)
15	David Ngunga	Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI)
16	Abia Jeroboam	Fodder trader
17	Mwanja Khatibu	Fodder trader
18	Salum Kuwi	TALIRI
19	George Fupi	TALIRI
20	Eng. Futukamba	ILSSI External Advisory Committee member for Tanzania
21	David Maleko	Nelson Mandela University
22	Beatus Nzogela	Nelson Mandela University
23	Biriam Iyob	
24	Nicole Lefore	IWMI
25	Wanda Hlase	IWMI
26	Dawit Mekonnen	IFPRI
27	Ben Lukuyu	ILRI
28	Matt Stellbauer	Texas A & M University
29	Yihun Dile	Texas A & M University

Ethiopia

	Participant	Position	Organisation
1	Dr Seifu Tilahun	ILSSI Project coordinator	Faculty of Civil and Water Resources Engineering, Bahir Dar University
2	Dr Fasikaw Atanaw	ILSSI Intern	Bahir Dar University
3	Mr Habtamu Muche	ILSSI student	Bahir Dar University
4	Mr Misba Abdella	ILSSI student	Bahir Dar University
5	Ms Aynadis Worku	ILSSI student	Bahir Dar University
6	Mr Teshager Assefa	Project member (socio-economics), intern and student of ILSSI	Bahir Dar University
7	Mr Feleke Kuraz	PhD student	Bahir Dar University
8	Mr Bereket Zeleke	Director, Livestock Research Directorate	Southern Agricultural Research Institute, Hawassa
9	Mr Yibeltal Tiruneh	Land and Water Officer, Sub-Regional Office for East Africa (SFE)	FAO
10	Eng. Martin Ager	Land and Water Officer, Sub-Regional Office for East Africa (SFE)	FAO
11	Mr Abdo Jemal	Field Manager	Eden Field (Forage seed producer)
12	Jakob Braun		Send a cow
13	Dr Yosef Mekasha	Livestock Director	ATA
14	Mr Assefa Kebede		Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity
15	Dr Geremew Sahilu		Ethiopian Institute of Water Resources Institute
16	Mr Atersawe Melaku		Bahir Dar Zuria Woreda Agriculture Office Head
17	Mr Agumase Tamene Jember	Agriculture office, vice-head of office	Dangila Woreda Agriculture
18	Dr Belayneh Ayele	Bureau Head	Environment, Forest and Wildlife Conservation and Development Authority
19	Mr Endager Getnet Yalew	Director	Bureau of Agriculture (Amhara region), Small Scale Irrigation Infrastructure Promotion Directorate
20	Mr Frank van Berkomp	Team Leader Amhara Region	Small-Scale and Micro Irrigation Support Project (SMIS) Agriteam Canada Consulting / Water Focus
21	Mr Rediet Feleke	Senior expert	Ethiopian Investment Agency
22	Mr Chombe Seyoum	Managing Director	Gedeb Eng
23	Mr Demelash Wendemeneh	PhD-student	AMU
24	Mr Kassaw Beshaw	PhD-student	AMU
25	Mr Hussein Urgessa	Adami Tulu office of Irrigation head	Oromia Irrigation Devt. Authority
26	Mr Gameda Dube	Keble development Agent	
27	Mr Bunta wako	Cooperative	
28	Mr Samson Jemaneh	Feed the Future Ethiopia Value Chain Activity	
29	Mr Carl Birkelo		ACDI/VOCA
30	Zekele Belay		Ministry of Agriculture And Livestock Resources
31	Yigzaw Dessalegn		Save the Children
32	Zelalem Belayneh	MFI and rural lending	Mercy Corps

33	Dr Solomon Bekure		Tetra Tech ARD
34	Mr Scott Short	Chief of Party	AECOM International Development/USAID
35	Hailu Delessa	Lowland WASH agricultural agronomist	USAID
36	Dr Melesse Temesgen	General Manager	Aybar Engineering
37	Chris Turnbull-Grimes	Co-founder, CEO	Flowius
38	Dr Melkamu Bezabih	Livestock scientist	ILRI
39	Melat Habtemariam		
40	Mulugeta Berhanu		USAID
41	Asrat Kelbessa	Agricultural Specialist	USAID
42	Faith Tarr	Productive Safety Net Program Advisor	USAID
43	Abnet Mengistu	PSNP coordinator	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
44	Belete Bantero	Senior Transformation Agenda (STA) Specialist	ATA
45	Lema Deme	Public Work Officer	USAID
46	Getahun Hunde	Innovation Fund Specialist	USAID
47	Dr Neville P. Clarke		TAMU
48	Matt Stellbauer	Program Manager , Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Small Scale Irrigation	
49	Dawit Mekonnen		IFPRI
50	Dr Yihun Dile		TAMU
51	Dr Gebrehaweria Gebregziabher		IWMI-Ethiopia
52	Dr Beverly McIntyre		IWMI-USA
53	Dr Biniam lyob		USAID
54	Mr Abera Adie		ILRI
55	Dr Michael Blummel		ILRI
56	Dr Amare Hailelassie		IWMI
57	Dr Fitsum Hagos		IWMI
58	Dr Getachew Gebru		
59	Dr Sofia Kassa	Regional TL	REST