## NEWSLETTER

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Prepared and Edited by

Abenezer Estifanos Dr. Nega Assefa Admikew Haile Dr. Mengistu Ketema Dr. Jemal Yousuf Formatted and Designed by

Ebrahim Seid +251 915 041451 ebrahimhu@gmail.com www.haramaya.edu.et Haramaya University reserchoffice.hu@gmail.com

www.haramaya.edu.et

+251 255 530 354





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## CHAMPS Hosts Network Meeting for International Leaders in Prevention of Child Mortality and Global Health

The 2nd Annual CHAMPS Site Directors' Meeting will take place November 13-15, 2017 in Maputo, Mozambique. The three-day meeting provides an opportunity for mortality prevention surveillance experts to share lessons learned and to make recommendations that will build upon the efforts to improve health outcomes to prevent childhood mortality.

"No child should die of preventable causes. Through collaboration with leading global health organizations, CHAMPS seeks to improve understanding and prevention of child mortality," said Dr. Robert F. Breiman, Executive Director of CHAMPS. "Establishing these sites is a long-term commitment and partnership to building the laboratory, surveillance, training and technology infrastructure to collect data that leads to lifesaving global health actions and outcomes."

The CHAMPS Network has a total of six sites: Harar, Ethiopia; Baliakandi, Bangladesh; Soweto, South Africa; Bamako, Mali; Manhiça, Mozambique, and Kisumu and Siaya, Kenya. At each of its sites CHAMPS implements a series of scientific processes to collect, analyze, and interpret physical and clinical data that help determine definitive causes of death for children under five years old. Information from CHAMPS is used to drive action to reduce child deaths, contribute to long term policy and decision making, and ultimately contribute to reduced child mortality in these vulnerable areas.

# CHAMPS NETWORK MEETING NOVEMBER 13-15, 2017 MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE CHAMPSNEWORMTG17

### **CHAMPS Network Sites**

Kersa and Harar,Ethiopia

**02** Baliakandi, Bangladesh

O3 Soweto, South Africa

104 Bamako, Mali

Manhiça,
Mozambique

**106** Kisumu and Siaya, Kenya



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## Research Office Held Annual FIELD DAY

Field days are good opportunities for farmers to see and adopt new technologies to better their farming experiences, and for researchers to get firsthand information on the challenges and technological gaps of today's farming exercises of the region's agriculturalists. Field days also provide the chance for farmers to demonstrate new technologies and new mechanism. The discussions that arise on these equations strengthen the scholarly contributions and collaborations between farmers, researchers and development stakeholders.

With this in mind, the Vice President for Research Affairs

Office hosts farmers, Development Agents (DAs) and other stakeholders from and around the University once a year. This year's field day started with visiting the research sites on campus: sheep, cattle, poultry and crop researches. Featured research outputs for this year's field day were the sheep breeds the University is heavily researching on. The University works on five sheep breeds: Dorper, Black-HEad Somali, Washera, Horro and Hararghe Highland Sheep. These breeds have been selected for the different but distinct features they have in the research being carried out to aid the community.





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### SHEEP BREEDS



### **DORPER**

- Origin: South African and imported to Ethiopia in 2007.
- **Growth rate:** A live weight of 50-60kg can be reached by the Dorper lamb at the age of 6 months. This is associated with the inherent growth potential of the Dorper lamb.
- Mutton (meat of sheep) production: The Dorper is primarily a mutton sheep and meets these requirements exceptionally well.
- Dorper lamb (male sheep) is used for cross breeding with local sheep breeds mainly to improve growth rate and thereby increase mutton yield
- Crossbred lambs can reach for export market at one year of age



## BLACK HEAD SOMALI

- **Origin:** Indigenous to the Ogaden area of the Somali Region.
- **Growth rate:** Weigh 30-45kg and have 60-68 cm height
- Black head with white body and legs
- Known for meat and skin
- Well adapted to arid conditions, hence kept by nomadic people



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### **WASHERA**

- **Origin:** Predominantly found in West and East Gojam zones extending to the south of Lake Tana.
- Growth rate: Weighs about 2.8 kg (birth), 13.8 kg (weaning) and 22.7 kg six months
- The breed has a potential for commercial mutton production for the local and export markets.
- High twinning rates



### **HORRO**

- **Origin:** Mainly distributed in West Ethiopia, around Horrogudru area in Wellega
- **Growth rate:** Horro sheep weigh 2.8–2.9 kg, 13–15 kg and 25–33.5 kg at birth, weaning (90 days), and one year of age, respectively. Ewe mature weight is about 38.2 kg
- This breed is known for twin births, sometimes reaching 60% in older (multiparous) ewes.
- Meat and skin are the main purposes of keeping.
- Horro sheep are larger than most other indigenous sheep having a mean height of 73 cm and 68 cm at the shoulders for adult rams and ewes, respectively.



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## Collaborative Training Offered to Cooperatives



Research Extension and Publication Directorate in collaboration with ISSD East Oromia Region Project offered training to 35 trainees consisting of woreda experts, cooperative development agents (DAs) and seed producers' cooperative executive committee gathered from five different woredas that are engaged in seed production in the East Hararghe Zone.

The training aimed at equipping the participants with the general concept of cooperatives which would enable them to practically implement in the seed business; as well as identifying the challenges faced by seed producers' cooperatives while implementing the four components: principle of cooperative management, seed business plan, cooperative financial management and seed marketing system of cooperatives.

With the guidance of the trainers, the trainees practiced business plan development and financial record keeping and reporting of their respective cooperative work which they presented to each other. The training was delivered by two experts invited from East Harahge Zone Cooperative Office and the trainees were from Haramaya, Babile, Kombolcha, Jarso and Chelenko.

Mr. Abinet Tesfaya, Assistant Manager of Eastern Hararghe Zone Cooperative Office, in his closing remark said, "The training was encouraging to the seed producers cooperatives' to be active in performing their activities basing on the rule and regulation of cooperative agency while enhancing the knowledge and capacity of the trainees in seed production.

On a similar note, BENEFIT-ISSD Project, Oromia East Unit organized and conducted a four-day training on Cooperative Organizational and Financial Management, Marketing, and Business Plan Development for Seed producers' Cooperatives (SPCs), Development Agents (DAs) and woreda partners at Chiro and Harar cities respectively from 1-2 and 3-4 September 2017.

A total of 60 trainees of whom 8 females with direct support from SPCs (Haji Faji, Lalisa Ifadin, Abdi Gudina, Oda Madda and Rakata Fura), and DAs and Woreda Cooperative Agencies (Babile, Kersa, Habro, Oda Bultum and Mieso) participated in the training.



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In the four-day training different topics including but not limited to cooperative organization management, concept of good governance in cooperative, power and role of boards of directors in cooperative governance, cooperative leadership and its challenge, basic values and ethics in cooperatives, membership and gender participation (women, men and youth participation), and women participation in cooperative leadership; Principles and mechanisms of quality seed marketing, seed value chain actors in seed production and marketing, standard store and seed man-

agement, principles of quality seeds production and marketing, business plan development, practices, and implementation and action plan development at individual and SPCs levels were covered.

During the general discussion session, trainees raised issues they considered to be of importance and the way forward was indicated. The trainees confirmed that the training enabled them to realize that they were understanding and undertaking professionalism mistakenly due to lack of awareness and knowledge





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## 'Ink Doesn't Rot':

## BENEFIT-ISSD Conducted Financial Management Training

The BENEFIT-ISSD East Oromia Unit organized and conducted a two-day training of trainers (TOT) on Cooperative Organizational and Financial Management, Marketing, and Business Plan Development for partners and stakeholders at Harar Town.

A total of 13 trainees from Haramaya and Oda Bultum universities, Chercher Oda Bultum Union, Fedis Agricultural Research Center, East and West Hararghe Zones Cooperative Agencies and Woreda Cooperative Agencies from (Babile, Kersa, Habro, Oda Bultum and Mieso) participated in the training.

knowledge and skill in the areas of organizational and financial management, marketing, and business plan development are the most serious gaps affecting primary cooperatives in Hararghe zones in general and SPCs in particular. Hence, capacity building of partners and stakeholders working with SPCs is indispensable. Capacitating experts and focal persons on cooperative organizational and financial management, marketing, and business plan development; strengthening linkage and collaboration with regional, zonal and woreda cooperative agencies; transferring knowledge and skills to partners and stakeholders of seed producers cooperatives; and ensuring state-of-the-art of the organizational and seed business development and management approach in SPCs were points of focus in the training.

In the two days training, held on August 14-15, 2017, briefing of cooperative organization management,





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concept of good governance in cooperative, power and role of boards of directors in cooperative governance, Cooperative leadership and its challenge, Basic values and ethics in cooperatives, membership and gender participation (women, men and youth participation), and Women participation in cooperative leadership; Principles and mechanisms of quality seed marketing, seed value chain actors in seed production and marketing, standard store and seed management, principles of quality seeds production and marketing, major problems of poor quality seed in marketing, and recommendation to put in place to solve quality seed problems were covered.

Participants were also informed of financial management in primary cooperatives in order to be able to plan for the future in such a way that they develop knowledge and skills for financial planning and budgeting, financial analysis and financial decision-making. Record keeping and documentation through the argument "ink doesn't rot" one individual's experience in life was briefly addressed.





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## CHAMPS on the Go

The Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance (CHAMPS) Network aims to establish public health surveillance sites across the highest burden settings in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia to investigate causes of child deaths. As the methods of understanding the cause of death are limited in terms of verbal autopsy, and the impracticality of complete diagnostic autopsies in resource-poor settings, minimally invasive tissue sampling after children have died has been developed to reduce uncertainties regarding causes of death in developing countries.

With a view to developing a Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance site in Eastern Ethiopia, CHAMPS Ethiopia aims to provide formative research to understand the specific cultural, religious and socio-behavioral factors that should be considered in the investigation of child under the age of five, using minimally invasive tissue sampling.

The Project initiated with giving trainings to newly recruited staff members. These trainings were designed to familiarize and facilitate the initiation of the Project. Various trainings focusing on English Language Skills and Project Report Writing; Social Behavioral Science (SBS), understanding specific cultural, religious and socio-behavioral factors that may increase or decrease feasibility mortality surveillance on children under 5; and Participatory Inquiry into Community Knowledge of Child Health and Mortality Prevention (PICK-CHAMP), learning more about their perceptions of childhood death, their experiences with the health care system, expectations for burial and other cultural ceremonies, and openness to Minimally Invasive Tissue Sampling (MITS).



**PICK-CHAMPS Training** 



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In addition to the different trainings to the staff, the Project has also established communications, dialogues and workshops with community leaders who play a vital role in the functioning of a given community. PICK-CHAMP Community leader's workshops held in Harar and Kersa, which are characterized by two different socio-demo-

graphic settings, involved participants selected from 16 sub-districts. The Harar workshop consisted of 84 leaders: 46 (55%) females and 38 (45%) males whose age ranged from 25 to 70. In the Kersa PICK-CHAMPS workshop, a total of 141 leaders from 24 sub-districts participated.



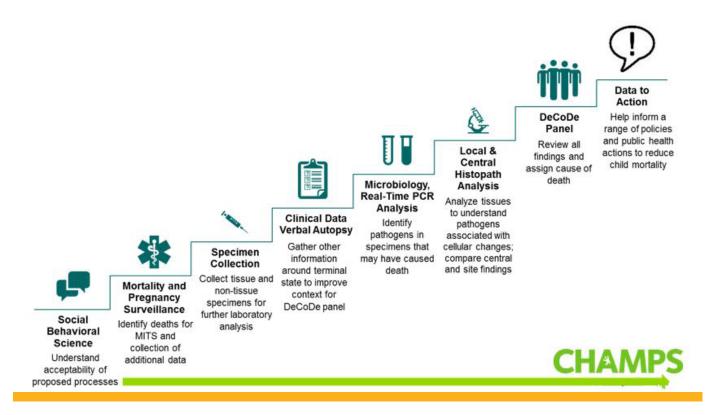


The community leaders workshop tried to include all kinds of leaders in the community as much as possible; religious leaders, elders, health extension workers, field workers (DSS), district officials, chairpersons of women development army, Iddir or Afosha (community based organizations) leaders, head of women's affairs, kebele chairpersons, directors or school principals, Development Agents (DA) and the others. In the two sites a total of 10 workshops were held from June 26 –July 26 with 226 participants.

The Project has also recruited experts of different fields who would play their parts for the successful conduction and completion of the program. These professionals include expatriates from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicines and local personnel. It is also building its own laboratory on College of Health and Medical Sciences Campus with laboratory equipment imported from abroad.

CHAMP as a program aims at understanding how and why children get sick and die, and use this information to come up with programs that will cause less illness and fewer deaths in children in the future.

### CHAMPS Journey: From Community Engagement to Action





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## Haramaya University Celebrated Tony Farm Day

Office of Research Affairs celebrated Tony Farm Day. The event took place at Tony Farm in Dire Dawa City Administration recognizing site mangers from the 10 sites under Haramaya University. Nine individuals from these sites were given recognition for the work they have done so far.

According to Mr. Admkew Haile, Director for Research Facilities Management Directorate, Tony Farm was selected to host the event based on the tremendous work being undertaken at the site. He said, "Within this budget year, 3841 farmers have been

reached by the Office in collaboration with other stakeholders." Mr. Admkew added that the support given so far scales 6 million Birr.

Dr. Jemal Yousuf, Vice-president for Research Affairs, expressed his delight and emphasized that the encouragement and recognition would still continue in the future. He said, "Those who were recognized here [on the event] achieved what they set out to do only with the help of the rest of the employees and this is also recognition to all of you all."

Many of the workers were very glad for the occasion



and recognition as it shows the University's commitment to support them in their work. Mr. Asayehegn, a Tony Farm worker, said, "Because the University has been encouraging us, this was possible. We would like to thank the University management for giving us their time like this and for recognizing the efforts that we have put through."

This is the second time that the Office has held such an event and the Farm workers have said this trend should continue in other sites as well as other offices of the University. The event took place on May 23, 2017.



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Good performers with their award certificates





Discussions with Tony Farm Staff

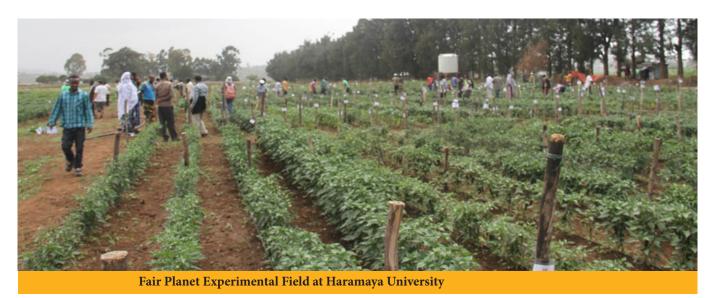


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# FAIR PLANET Held Open Day on Vegitables Production Technologies

Fair planet in collaboration with Haramaya University and different organizations held an open day on vegetable production technology at the main campus of the University. Fair Planet is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase food security and provide new economic opportunities for farmers stuck in poverty. It is engaged in

a unique and long-term technology transfer process: by facilitating access of smallholder farmers to seeds of the highest-quality vegetable varieties suitable for their needs, and at the same time, training them to use these seeds.



On the occasion, Dr. Shoshan Haran, founder of the organization, noted that seed companies provide access to their existing high quality varieties and respective knowhow; eventually, they will gain access to new markets created through Fair Planet's activities and ensure sustainable supply of seeds to smallholder farmers. Likewise, farmers gain access to high-quality seeds which enables them to grow and sell significant yields with minimal changes in their production technologies. The increased yield and additional income of these farmers will provide their families with greater food security along with new economic and

educational opportunities.

Dr. Allon Haberfeld, a vegetable breeder, said, "This year, Fair Planet has tested 34 tomato, 24 hot pepper and 13 onion varieties at Haramaya University. He indicated that, from previous seasons' results, four varieties selected and released were tested on 70 farmers' fields in Haramaya District and Harari Regional State." He added, "From previous season's harvest, farmers on average earned 20 to 30 thousand Birr from one-tenth of a hectare in Haramaya area while results from Dire Dawa showed 40 to 50 thousand Birr on similar plot of land."



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Dire Dawa Agriculture Bureau scaled up the technology and reached over 500 farmers during 2016 summer and that they are planning to reach more than 1000 farmers in 2017 summer. Likewise, Harai Region Bureau of Agriculture, though they started late on 18 farmers' fields they plan to scale up to 500 farmers in the next fiscal year. Harmaya District, on the other hand, was found to be low adopter of the technology because of farm-

ers' fear that tomato and other warm season vegetables could be damaged by frost in addition to sensitivity to foliar diseases during rainy periods. However, after two years of training and demonstration, some farmers have changed their attitudes and started showing interest. As a result, the district's Bureau of Agriculture has disclosed its plan to scale up the program at least to 500 farmers during next season using irrigation.





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## **CLIMATE SABC:**

### A Center That Has Africa At Its Heart

Selected eastern and southern African universities are establishing centers of excellence with financial support from the World Bank. Haramaya University was one of the universities to win the grant and has completed the review and validation of curricula

The establishment of the Center in Haramaya University shows the continued growth and program enhancement in the University. The programs would contribute to the needs and gaps in research in agriculture and biodiversity.

The Center provides a new opportunity for African students to enroll in a trans-disciplinary post-graduate study conducted by a truly global faculty in MSc in Climate Smart Agriculture, MSc in Biodiversity Conserva-

tion and Ecosystem Management and PhD in Climate Smart Agriculture and Biodiversity Conservation programs. The Center is aimed at producing skilled human capital for Africa to tackle challenges posed by climate change through quality post-graduate training and research in partnership with universities across the Eastern and Southern Africa regions as well as with other higher learning institutions in the World.

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Inaguration of African Center of Excellence II and Technical and Advisory Meeting for Leaders of Centers of Excellence, October 24-26, 2016, Nairobi, Kenya



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The Center became operational in January 2017. Training will be provided through carefully designed curricula with both coursework and interdisciplinary research supervision provided by faculty from Haramaya University, as well as from other universities in the Eastern and Southern African region and other parts of the world. The Master's and PhD dissertation research will be guided to focus on generating climate smart agricultural technologies, intensifying agriculture, promoting and enhancing practices of climate smart agriculture, and exploring and enhancing biodiversity for sustainable conservation and utilization. Research topics will address regional priority areas (crop; livestock; soil and water; policy; institutions and innovation; agricultural information and communication; natural risk management; biodiversity and ecosystem management; agricultural and applied economics). In addition, short term training programs will be provided to various stakeholders and partners, including technical staff, students, and faculties from regional, international, and national partners aimed at enhancing the region's capacity in climate smart agriculture and biodiversity conservation. In spite of the rapid economic growth Africa has been enjoying over the last two decades, the continent faces a serious shortage of skilled human power in fast-growing sectors such as agriculture, extractive industries, energy, water, and infrastructure, as well as in the fields of health and telecommunications. Human capacity deficit as well

as curriculum irrelevance to the present and future needs of the socio-economic context of Africa are other plights, which bedevil the higher education system of the continent. Therefore, sub-Saharan Africa needs its own research and innovative solutions to tackle its development challenges such as climate change. The ACEs were initiated with the aim of strengthening the capacities of African universities to deliver high quality training and applied research, to promote regional specialization in areas that address specific common regional development challenges, and to meet the demand for skills required for Africa's development. At the Center, short term training programs will be conducted targeting various stakeholders and partners, including technical staff, students, and faculties from regional, international, and national partners aimed at enhancing their knowledge and skills in climate smart agriculture and biodiversity conservation. Regional, international, and national research partnerships will also be established and joint research conducted and publications produced in priority areas in the region.

The Centre of Excellence is expected to enroll and graduate a total of 30 PhD students and 80 MSc students at the end of the project year in 2022, out of whom at least 20% will have to be women and 25% will have to be students from Africa.



Climate-SABC International Curriculum Validation Workshop, April 20-22, 2017



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## Community Engagement Necessary in Research Works:

34th Annual Research, Extension and Community Engagement Review and Exhibition Held



The 34th Annual Research, Extension and Community Engagement Review and Exhibition was held in Harama-ya University's Afran Kallo Hall and Resource Center for three consecutive days. The review was commenced with a discussion session with Eastern and Western Hararghe stakeholders, model farmers, Development Agents (DAs), community elders, woreda and district administration representative and the HU's managerial staff together with the University's community. The discussion that was held in the local language, Afan Oromo, gave the opportunity for the locals to express their concerns and appreciations with no difficulty.

Four presentations were made focusing on research extension activities of the University, activities undertaken by BENEFIT-ISSD in the area, community engagement and watershed management activities before the floor was opened for discussion. Many of the farmers were happy with the progress the University has made following the discussion they had last year on the 33rd Annual Review and expressed their gratitude.

The University's focus on what the farmers called 'less priority crops' was another issue raised and it was commented that the University has not reduce its researches only to common beans and the 'less priority crops', rather its researchers and extension workers are heavily invested on crops such as maize and sorghum which are taken as the priority crops in the area. Prof. Nigussie said, "Common bean is still taken as a priority crop in many areas and can be exported and used as a cash crop." He added, "The two new maize varieties released in 2017 are clear indications of the University's commitment to improve the livelihoods of the community."

The preparation and distribution of manuals along with technologies, the speed of technology dissemination, and the application and sever effect of chemicals on Khat were also issues raised during the discussion. Dr. Abera Deressa, the University's Board Member, emphasized that research on Khat is not a priority for the Ethiopian Government and neither is it for Haramaya University; Prof. Nigussie iterated that the University would not allocate public fund for undertaking research on the crop due to national policy reasons. As for the preparation and distribution of manuals for newly adopted and released technologies, the manuals are prepared in the local languages,



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and are ready to be disseminated, but the University would also take it under advisement to provide manuals simultaneously with the release of technologies.

Dr. Jemal Yousuf, Vice President for Research Affairs, gave response to questions regarding groundwater potential and assessment in neighboring areas and he said identification and location of potential groundwater resource has already been secured, and implementation in collaboration with stakeholders will take place in the near future.

# Papers





**Partial View of Scientific Work Presentations** 

The Annual Review was attended by more than 430 individuals with 57 scientific works being presented under the research thematic areas of the University. An exhibition displaying the various research, extension and community engagement activities of the University and its various organs was held and the response and feedback from the attendees was encouraging

# 430 Participants



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### **Haramaya University Research Stations/Center**



Fedis Research Station



**Babile Research Station** 



Hirna Research Station



Dire Dawa Research Station (Tony Farm)



Erer Research Station



Gurawa Research Station



Berkele Research Station



Haramaya University Research Station



Kersa Health and Demographic Surveillance System Center



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### Haramaya University Research Themes and Sub-themes

Theme 1: Productivity and Environmental Sustainability for Food Security and Poverty Alleviation Sub-themes:

- 1. Animal Production and Health
- 2. Plant Production and Health
- 3. Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change

### Theme 2: Human Health, Nutrition, and Welfare Sub-themes:

- 1. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
- 2. Advances in Curative and Rehabilitative Health Services and Disease Management
- 3. Nutrition, Food Safety and Security, Dietetics, and Nutritional Problems
- 4. Reproductive Health, Maternal and Child Health

### **Theme 3**: Energy, Engineering, and Information Technologies Sub-themes:

- 1. Information Technology and Computing
- 2. Advanced Material Research and Development
- 3. Energy Resource Development and Utilisation
- 4. Postharvest Technology, Processing, and Food Analysis
- 5. Civil Infrastructure, Manufacturing, and Industrial Technology

### Theme 4: Human and Social Development Sub-themes:

- 1. Society, Culture, and Tourism
- 2. Educational Advancement and Quality Assurance
- 3. Population, Gender, and Development
- 4. Governance and the Rule of law

### **Theme 5**: Institution, Innovations Systems and Economic Development Sub-themes:

- 1. Economic Development, Policy, and Institutional Analysis
- 2. Innovation Systems and Impact Evaluation Studies

### Theme 6: Basic Science Research Sub-themes:

- 1. Bioscience Research
- 2. Chemical Science Research
- 3. Biophysics and computational physics
- 4. Mathematical Research













### Haramaya University Journals



Haramaya University has launched new journals to provide options of publication platforms for worldwide scholars, in addition to its previous journal (East African Journal of Sciences).

The following journals are now available for you to publish your research articles, review papers, variety registrations, case studies, and short communications.



### 1. East African Journal of Sciences (EAJS)

### Submission Address

Editorial Manager: Dr Adem Hiko Tel: +251 255 530 045



### 2. East African Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities (EAJSSH)

anthropology, geography, political sciences, linguistics and language studies, semiotics, conflict and peace studies, social psychology, education, media, culture and communication studies,

### Submission Address

Editorial Manager: Mr. Birhanu Midakso Tel: +251 911824509/ +251 255 530 091



Areas of Publications: All aspects of health and medical fields across all scientific disciplines including but not limited to biomedical sciences, epidemiology, clinical sciences, and other



### 4. East African Journal of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (EAJVAS)

Areas of Publications: Related to veterinary and animal sciences encompassing economically important large and small farm animals, poultry, equine species, aquatic species, and bees, as well as companion animals and laboratory animals. Furthermore, basic sciences and clinical sciences related to veterinary medicine, nutrition, and nutritional diseases, as well as the breeding and husbandry of the above-mentioned animals and the hygiene and technology of food of animal origin, and related aspects of life sciences at molecular level or environment and animals (or humans), biotechnology and related

<u>Submission Address</u> Editorial Manager: Dr. Tesfaheywet Zeryehun Tel: +251-255-530 334/ +251-920556154

Email: hueajvas@gmail.com

### 5. Haramaya Law Review



Areas of Publications: Legal topics relevant to the Ethiopian legal community, including analysis of domestic or international laws and cases, and international organizations; case and legislative reviews; and notes. Scope: Legal topics relevant to the Ethiopian legal community, including analysis of domestic or international laws and cases, and international organizations; case and legislative reviews; and notes.

Submission Address
Editorial Manager: Mulugeta Getu
Tel: +251-255-530084/ +251-911-807861

Fax: +251-255-530102

Email: mulugetagetu23@yahoo.com