

# International Conference

State of the Art in Ethiopian Church Forests and Restoration Options

12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020, Beshale Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



## Preliminary Program

Tuesday, 11. 02. 2020

Begins	Ends	
18:00	18:30	<b>Conference registration</b> Registration desk at Beshale Hotel
18:30	Open end	<b>Icebreaker</b> (Lucy hall)

Wednesday, 12. 02. 2020

Begins	Ends	
7:30	8:30	<b>Registration</b> (continued, registration desk of meeting hall)
8:30	8:40	Welcome address – IFM, TUM Director: Prof. Dr. Thomas Knoke
8:40	8:50	Welcome address - EEFRI Director General: Dr. Abiyot Brehanu
8:50	9:20	Church forest project background: Dr. Thomas Schneider (TUM)

Session 1: General overview of Ethiopian Church Forests

Chair: Dr. Zewdu Eshetu

Begins	Ends	Presented by	Topic
9:20	10:00	<u>Dr. Margaret D. Lowman (Keynote speaker, USA)</u>	General overview of Ethiopian Church Forests: socio cultural importance and ongoing saving strategy
10:00	10:30	<b>Coffee break</b>	
10:30	11:00	Nesibu Yahya	Land cover changes and fragmentation on the surrounding of selected church forests in Ethiopia
11:00	11:30	David K. Goodin	Sacred texts and Environmental Ethics: Lessons in Sustainability from Ethiopia
11:30	12:00	Tulu Tolla	Estimation and Mapping of Asabot Monastery Dry Afromontane Forest Carbon Stock Under Different Land Use Scenario: Implications the Forward on Sacred Site Climate Mitigation and Ecosystem Services Enhancement
12:00	12:30	Teferi Teklu	Forest Conservation Tradition of Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church, The Cause of West Gojjam Zone Churches
12:30	13:20	<b>Lunch break</b>	

## Session 2: Present role and future challenges of Ethiopian Church Forests

Chair: Dr. Agena Anjulo

Begins	Ends	Presented by	Topic
13:20	14:00	<u>Dr. Abeje Eshete</u> (Keynote speaker, Ethiopia)	Present role and future challenges of Ethiopian Church Forests
14:00	14:30	Emiru Birhane	Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi Spore Density and Root Colonization in Church Forests of Western Tigray, Ethiopia
14:30	15:00	Dessie Assefa	The Role of Ethiopian Highland Church Forests for Soil Carbon Sequestration
15:00	15:30	Mehari Alebachew	Aboveground and Belowground Carbon Pools for Some Selected Native and Introduced Tree Species of Abune Teklehayimanot Church Forest, Welayita Sodo, Southern Ethiopia
15:30	16:00	<b>Coffee break</b>	
16:00	16:30	Birhane Asayehagne	Forest trees Pests as Church Forests Potential challenging: An overview on the status of pests of church forests in Ethiopia
16:30	17:00	Dagnachew Tefera	Carbon Stock of Meskele Gedam Forest and its Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation
17:00	17:30	Yemane Salih	Contribution of the Ethiopian Church Forests to Adapt and Mitigate Climate Change – Nca Pilot Experience
18:00	Open end	<b>Conference dinner</b>	

Thursday, 13. 02. 2020

Session 3: Structural and genetic diversity of Ethiopian Church Forests

Chair: Prof. Dr. Demel Teketay

Begins	Ends	Presented by	Topic
8:30	9:10	<u>Dr. Abrham Abiyu</u> (Keynote speaker, Ethiopia)	Structural and genetic diversity of Ethiopian Church Forests
9:10	9:35	Shiferaw Alem	Floristic Composition, Diversity and Regeneration Status of Woody Plants in Four Church Forests in Ethiopia
9:35	10:00	Fikirte Demissie	Comparison of the diversity and population structure of Tara Gedam Church forest and Amba Terara protected forest area in South Gonder, Ethiopia
10:00	10:25	Getaw Yilma	Carbon Stock and Woody Species Diversity Patterns in Church Forests along Church Age Gradient in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
10:25	10:55	<b>Coffee break</b>	
10:55	11:20	Haileab Zegeye	Diversity, Regeneration Status and Socio-Economic Importance of Tara Gedam, Ababay and Fach Forests, Libokemkem District of South Gondar Administrative Zone, Northwestern Ethiopia
11:20	11:45	Ferehiwot Mequanint	Woody Vegetation Structure and Composition of Church Forests in Northwest Ethiopia
11:45	12:10	Eguale Tadesse	Woody species composition, diversity, structure and uses of selected church forests in central Ethiopia
12:10	13:10	<b>Lunch break</b>	

#### Session 4: Restoration options

Chair: Dr. Mulugeta Lemenih

Begins	Ends	Presented by	Topic
13:10	13:50	<u>Prof. Dr. Thomas Knoke</u> (Keynote speaker, Germany)	Restoration options: Experiences from South America
13:50	14:30	<u>Dr. Alemayehu Wassie</u> (Keynote speaker, Ethiopia)	Restoration options: Lessons from Ethiopia
14:30	14:55	Mulugeta Gemi	Ethiopian church forests as monitoring towers in reconstructing climate change and its impacts and to make evidence-based climate smart restoration efforts
14:55	15:20	Fikirte Demissie	Ecological status and plan for connectivity of fragmented forests as a means of degraded land restoration in South Gonder, Ethiopia
15:20	15:45	Peter Borchardt	Connecting Church Forests and the Space Between
15:45	16:15	<b>Coffee break</b>	
16:15	16:40	Bernd Stimm	Church Forests as repositories for forest reproductive material of native species and their possible role as starting points for the restoration of degraded areas
16:40	17:05	Kiflu Gudeta	Identifying Priority Areas for Conservation in Mojo River Watershed of Ethiopia using GIS-Based Erosion Risk Evaluation

#### General Discussion

Chair: Prof. Dr. Achim Bräuning

Begins	Ends	Topic
17:05	18:00	What should be learned from the State of Ethiopian Church Forests and Restoration options of degraded landscape?
18:30	Open end	<b>Conference dinner</b>

Friday, 14. 02. 2020

**Excursion: a visit to one of the Menagesha Mariam Church Forests**

Begins	Ends	
8:00		departure from Beshale Hotel
15:00		Back to Beshale Hotel and closing

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**Organizers:**

Institute of Forest Management, Technische Universität München (TUM), Germany

Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute (EEFRI), Ethiopia

Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara (ORDA), Ethiopia



Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute  
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**Sponsor:**

**Bayerische Staatskanzlei**



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**Conference address:**

Beshale Hotel

Gurd Sholla, near Athletics Federation, Yeka, Addis Abeba, Ethiopia

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