

## Report on the first “African Climate Teach-In Day” Celebration in Ethiopia

The first “African Climate Teach-In Day” was organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 3rd June 2011. The half-day event was organized by Ethiopian Environmental Journalists Association in collaboration with Tena Keбенana Ginfle Enatseda Mahiber. A total of 80 secondary school students and teachers from Bole High School, Misrak Goh High School and Birhan Guzo High School were invited to take part on this unique event held at Bole High School.

The half day event started with a lecture dealing with climate change by means of a power point presentation. The lecture was prepared in a way that allows the contents to be understood by secondary school students. In addition to the lecture, a set of guiding questions were prepared and discussed at the end of the lecture.



Event participants attending a lecture



Event participants planting tree seedlings

After the lecture, a discussion was held on how to solve climate-related problems in Ethiopia. Students were encouraged to discuss facts, problems and solutions to deal with the challenges of climate change. The discussion has offered participants the chance to interact with the lecturer and discuss facts, problems and solutions to deal with the challenges of climate change.

Finally, a tree planting ceremony was held in the compound of Bole Preparatory High School in which 200 tree seedlings were planted by the event participants. During the occasion, two invited guests from Japan Embassy planted two trees to remember victims of the recent earth quake in Japan.

During the event, students and their teachers have the chance to examine some key climate-related issues. In addition, students and their teachers were given highlights on how climate change is anticipated to have far-reaching adverse effects on Africa’s efforts to attain the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Participants said that the event has inspired them to become more aware and to seek ways to address the problems that contribute to climate change in Ethiopia. They stressed the need to put into practice what they have learned. They also mentioned the need to reach other students and teachers with such vital information and raising awareness of the causes and impacts of climate change is crucial to efforts to empower communities so they can adapt and increase their resilience to current and future climates.

Ethiopian Environmental Journalists Association and Tena Keбенana Ginfle Enatseda Mahiber would like to thank Hamburg University of Applied Sciences for sending the brochures and posters related to the African Climate Teach-In Day.