



Profile of the Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA)



EPHA Annual Conference, Oct. 2010

EPHA has:

- ✦ a long and successful experience in developing and evaluating national health projects;
- ✦ a proven record of strengthening the professional skills and capacity of its members through training, conferences/workshops, library and e-learning services;
- ✦ facilitated and accelerated service delivery on priority public health programs by working closely with its partners and collaborators in government, NGOs, RHBs and universities.



Dr. Tewabech Bishaw-the EPHA President, addressing the 21st EPHA Annual Conference



A. EPHA's Establishment and Mandate

Establishment: EPHA is a multi-disciplinary association, established in August 1989 (G.C) and re-registered in 2010 (G.C).

Vision: EPHA envisions the attainment of the highest possible standard of health for all Ethiopians.

Mission: To promote better health services for the public and maintain professional standards through advocacy, active involvement, and networking.

Membership: Currently, EPHA has more than 4,160 members of various disciplines with diverse educational levels and engaged in all the health and health related systems in Ethiopia. It has mainly 4 types of membership, full/regular membership, associate, honorary and life membership, in addition to (34) institutional members in 2011.

EPHA Governing Body/Leadership

1. General Assembly

- EPHA members' annual conference

2. General Assembly Elected Organs:

- Executive Board
- Advisory Council
- External Auditor

3. EPHA Chapters

- 18 chapters/focal points at RHBs or universities

4. Secretariat

- Executive Director Office
- Projects
- Administration and Finance
- More than 40 employees, in 2011.

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B. Objectives

EPHA's primary objective is to foster advancement of public health for the improvement of health, prevention of diseases, timely treatment of the sick, and rehabilitation of the disabled by:

- ✦ Actively participating in, and influencing health policy, planning, management and practice of public health
- ✦ Advancing research in public health and publishing scientific journals, newsletters and bulletins for disseminating the results thereof for the advancement of knowledge and excellence in public health practice
- ✦ Participating in developing curricula, strategic directions and guidelines for the academic and other health institutions
- ✦ Organizing professional training programs and workshops
- ✦ Initiating and introducing contemporary health professional in the health human resource system
- ✦ Networking universities and supporting database for vital events and surveillance activities
- ✦ Motivating professionals and institutions in public health leadership and research through the annual EPHA awards.



Training is a vital tool to achieve EPHA's mission



C. EPHA Strategic Directions

- ✦ So far, EPHA has completed two 5- year strategic plans;
- ✦ Guided by the 3rd Strategic Plan, in the coming 5 years (2010-2014 GC)

EPHA will focus on:

- increasing the proportion of active members
- strive to meet its financial requirements from internal sources
- promoting the establishment of standards in public health
- promoting and protecting the interest of its members
- promoting public health research and active participation of members
- establishing sustainable working relationship with sister associations
- disseminating relevant health information to members and the public
- conducting advocacy on relevant public health issues and
- in general strengthening EPHA's capacity and effectiveness.

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Advocacy role of EPHA to improve public health



D. Agencies Collaborating with EPHA

EPHA works closely with several organizations, in particular, the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH), regional health bureaus (RHBs), universities, CDC, David and Lucille Packard Foundation, PATH-Ethiopia, USAID and WHO. The Association is also closely allied with local health professional associations (EMA, ENA, ENMA, ESOG, EPHLA and others) and international professional associations like CPHA, APHA and WFPHAs.

E. Projects operating under EPHA in collaboration with partners

1. EPHA-FMoH/RHB collaborations

- ✦ Brings together persons who are trained in, and institutions working in or interested in public health or public health-related disciplines.
- ✦ provides technical supports on HSDP, linking with different directorates of the MoH and RHBs.
- ✦ Actively participates in the HSDP's Annual Monitoring Meetings (ARM).
- ✦ Provides technical supports to the health extension workers to improve their capability in reproductive health service applications.
- ✦ Actively leads the health professional licensing/registering to ensure professional competency.
- ✦ Plays important roles in the African HIV/AIDS Conference (ICASA) to be held in Ethiopia in Dec. 2011.
- ✦ Implementing projects in Amhara (north and south Wollo) and SNNP Regional States to build capacity in RH/FP including long term contraceptive application training.

EPHA Collaboration with the FMoH





- ✦ Offers training program on leadership in strategic information to capacitate the RHBs.
- ✦ Provides research methodology and ethics training for professionals from RHBs and universities.
- ✦ Initiates the field epidemiology and laboratory training in collaboration with national and international partners.
- ✦ Contributes in national taskforces like the national HIV/AIDS M&E task force, Global Fund Committee, National HIV/AIDS Review Board and others.
- ✦ Coordinated the MARPs study in Amhara, the 1st and 2nd rounds nationwide behavioral survey surveillance (BSS), AIDS mortality surveillance and other researches in different public health fields.

2. EPHA-CDC Project

Goal: The goal of this project is to improve public-health practice and service delivery in HIV/AIDS prevention and control in Ethiopia through public-health evaluations/operations research and by developing the capacity for designing and implementing evidence-based policies and interventions.

Project components

- ✦ Generation and dissemination of strategic information, among others;
 - o leadership in strategic information (LSI) training
 - o field epidemiology and laboratory training –FELTP
 - o university demographic & health surveillance system
 - o Publications, Library service and MPH theses support
- ✦ Youth leadership in preventing multiple concurrent sexual partnerships
- ✦ Public health laboratory system-EPHLA
- ✦ Alcohol and substance abuse control
- ✦ Building capacity and developing management system of EPHA.

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* Studies Ongoing:

- o Assessment of Implementation of the Basic HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Program in Ethiopia
- o Surveillance of Syphilis and Related Risk Behaviors among Men who have Sex with Men in Addis Ababa
- o Assessment to Improve Quality and Couple Utilization of HIV Counseling and Testing Services in Ethiopia
- o Magnitude of and Risk Factors for HIV Infection among the Most-at Risk Populations (MARPS) in Ethiopia
- o Addis Ababa Mortality Surveillance Focusing on Burial Based Surveillance System (In collaboration with AAU)
- o Demographic and Health Surveillance System in six Ethiopian Universities focusing on Community-based Research Surveillance System (In collaboration with AAU, JU, GU, HU, MU, AU)

3. EPHA/David and Lucille Packard Foundation Reproductive Health Project

Goal .1: To strengthen the link between households and primary health care units for improved women and young people reproductive health.

Goal .2: Scale up community-based RH/FP service delivery including Implanon insertion training in the SNNPRS through the health extension program.

Project Components

- a. Strengthening the link between households and primary health care units, for improved reproductive health /family planning project in North and South Wollo zones of Amhara and SNNP regional states;
- b. Scaling up community – based long acting RH/FP service including the Implanon Project.



4. EPHA/ PATH Ethiopia - Most Significant Change (MSC) Project

Goal: build the capacity of organizations to collect, analyze, and use significant change (SC) stories at community level.

Project Component

Most Significant Change (MSC) methodology application for strengthening the M&E system based on community response to HIV/AIDS Projects (SCRHA).

5. World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA)



13th World Congress on Public Health

Major Theme:-

“Moving Towards Global Health Equity: Opportunities and Threats”

21 - 29 April, 2012 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

- o In its 42nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on the 18th of May, 2008, the WFPHA selected EPHA to organize the 13th World Congress on Public Health to be held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 29 April 2012.



6. EPHA General Assembly and Annual Conference

- ✦ The General Assembly of EPHA is the highest body that provides professional direction to EPHA, based on its 5 year strategic plan.
- ✦ Major policy and strategic decisions are taken by the General Assembly via the EPHA annual conferences.
- ✦ The annual conferences bring together health professionals, policy makers, the scientific community and national as well as international partners to disseminate research findings and influence policy and strategic decisions.
- ✦ Uninterrupted annual conferences have been organized for the last 21 years in Addis Ababa and regions, alternatively.
- ✦ The General Assembly addresses the thematic areas identified by the EPHA Executive Board.
- ✦ Awards distinguished professionals in research and public health leadership and recognizes institutions for their contribution to health and wellbeing of society.



The 2010 EPHA Award Winners with the President of EPHA



Exhibition



Mass rally



Discussions on public health

7. Publications

- ✦ In addition to the EPHA Information Center for library and internet services, EPHA quarterly publishes and disseminates research findings, national and international health concerns through:
 - *The Ethiopian Journal of Health Development (EJHD)* (Peer reviewed and recognized by the Senate of the Addis Ababa University and others)
 - *Felega-tena Newsletter*
 - *Public Health Digest*; and
 - EPHA sponsored *MPH Theses Extract*.
 - *Health Extension Newsletter* (in collaboration with the FMOH)

- ✦ Each member freely receives 15-20 publications/year paying insignificant annual membership fee. On the other hand, a student is also entitled to receive all the publications freely paying half the membership fee.

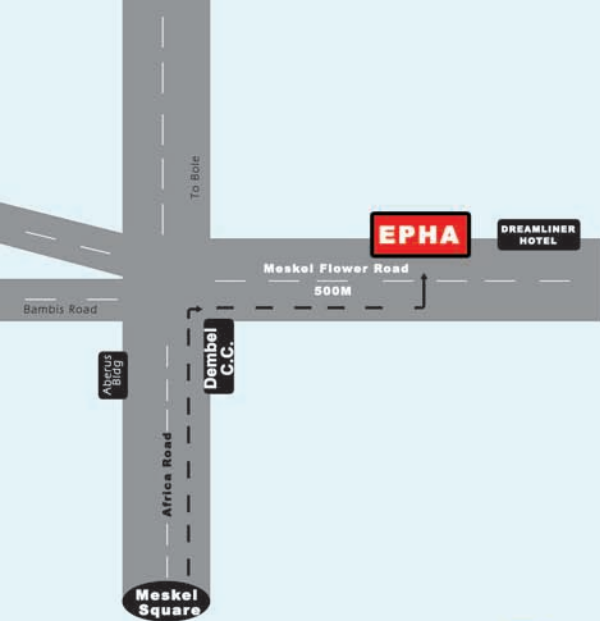
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EPHA Library



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