



Ethiopian Tree Fund Foundation

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Hibre Tiwld Ethiopia



"If you think in terms of a year, plant a seed; if in terms of ten years, plant trees; if in terms of 100 years, teach the people." Confucius; 551-479 BC



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Disabled youth and school children made their last call to seal the deal at the eve of climate summit

As the world is tuned to United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15) in Copenhagen, school children and disabled youths in Ethiopia have made their last call to the seal the deal. A rally was organized in Addis (from Menelik II square to Ethio-Cuba Friendship Park) Sunday, December 6, 2009. The event was organized by Hibre-Tiwld Ethiopia local NGO in collaboration with Ethiopian Tree Fund Foundation, ETFF. School children were chanting climate slogans which include "Now is the time to act", "We demand not only agreement, but also solution", etc. The disabled youths have also expressed their concern with Amaharic sign language, climate quiz and other colorful events. Representatives from Addis Ababa EPA, UNEP, dignitaries and climate activists have expressed their concern, expectation and solidarity with youth and the organizers.

Climate change will inflict severe damage to human welfare in our continent which is already battling with entrenched poverty and degraded ecosystems. Moreover, the adaptation capacity of the community is very limited. The world leaders in Copenhagen have both historical and ethical responsibility to respond for the last call of the destitute. However, a concerted effort of stakeholders and collaborators is essential and necessary to address the challenge on our global commons. Supporting the effort of the youth to echo the voices of the communities and sensitizing the public on climate change is one of the priorities of ETFF.

On this occasion, Ethiopian Tree Fund Foundation would like to make a call for Ethiopians in the country and abroad to join hands in strengthening the struggle to adapt and mitigate climate change in the country. We need to consider ways of optimizing the efforts of local communities which are not recognized and/or realized adequately.

On this regard, ETFF has launched a pilot project on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) that integrates conservation, sustainable development and poverty reduction in some selected localities in central highlands. As the environmental challenge in the country is huge and multifaceted, the contribution (knowledge, idea, finance) of everyone matters.

Now is it time to act!!!!

Public Relation Office,
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