



Content

- 📄 Preface
- 📄 Educational and curriculum assessment
- 📄 PhD student Abrehet Fisseha Gebremeskel
- 📄 Labour market assessment
- 📄 PhD student Zemenu Kerie Terefe
- 📄 Learning points exposure visit June 2018
- 📄 Partners & requesting organisation
- 📄 Colophon

Preface

By Carel Jaspers, director Q-Point



As planned, the third National Nutrition and Food Industries Conference organised by the Academic Center of Excellence for Human Nutrition in Ethiopia, Hawassa University (16 – 18 August 2018, at Haile Resort, Hawassa) was held successfully.

The Conference was entitled, “Partnership for Food/Nutrition Training and Sustainable Development”. More than 250 stakeholders from the private and public sector participated in the conference. Thirty-two researchers presented their research ideas to audience and participants voted about the research quality and potential for collaboration, majority of the participants in the meeting were young staffs of Ethiopian Universities.

I hope you enjoy reading.



Participants of the third National Nutrition and Food Industries Conference

Educational and curriculum assessment

By Barbara van Mossevelde, lecturer and programme coordinator International Food & Agribusiness (IFA) HAS University of Applied Sciences



In the context of the Nuffic NICHE project ‘Capacity building for effective Food and Nutrition Training’, I visited the Hawassa University. Together with professor Symon Mahungu, from the Egerton University in Kenya, we spent 4 days at the School of Nutrition and Food Science & Technology (SNFST).

This faculty is located on the agricultural campus of the Hawassa University and runs bachelors, masters and a PhD programme in the field of human nutrition and food science and post-harvest technology.

The main goal of the visit was to do an educational and curriculum assessment of the Human Nutrition programs. By reviewing the curricula documents, interviewing many teaching staff, technical assistants and students and visiting the different facilities, an image of the educational programme, the teaching methodology and activities, as well as staff needs was formed. What stood out was the commitment and involvement of the teachers, very interested in looking for ways to improve the programmes. A major issue identified was the performance of the different laboratories, these were not in good shape and this was compromising teaching and research greatly.



In front of the SNFST Laboratory, with (fltr) Gezahegn (teacher and project delegate), Prof. Symon, Barbara, and Bergene (technical assistant and MSc student)

Improving the organisation of the lab facilities, improving safety and installing equipment properly, as well as training of technical staff is very much needed. What also was noticed was that the BSc programme is very much focused on (chemical) analysis, doing research and academic skills and that practical experience and creating and implementing solutions are somewhat less important.

Based on what we have seen, recommendations for curriculum adjustments and future missions were made.

For me this was my first visit to Ethiopia, and it was a great experience! The people were all very friendly and remarkably respectful to each other.

PhD student Abrehet Fisseha Gebremeskel

My name is Abrehet Fisseha Gebremeskel and I was granted a Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Post-Harvest Technology at Hawassa University, Ethiopia in 2007. I was granted a Master of Science in Food Technology at University of Gent (UGent) and Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven) in 2011. Currently I am enduring my PhD at Egerton University, Kenya sponsored by Nuffic project NICHE/ETH/179. I did apply for the PhD position to improve my career and to be part of the solution for food and nutrition insecurity problem in my country. The objective of my PhD dissertation will be to improve Food Security through implementation of hazard analyses and critical control points (HACCP) management system under the supervision of Professor Symon M. Mahungu, Dr. Elizabeth Kamau-Mbuthia and Dr. Peninah Njiraine Ngoda.



Labour market needs assessment

By Olivia Ansenk, trainer Q-Point



It is a challenge for graduates in human nutrition to find jobs. There are no job positions for nutritionist at various levels in the government structure. NGOs seem to demand many years of experience.

Within the private sector, the market for foods for particular nutritional uses is still very small, but developing. A recent development is the fortification of oil and flour becoming mandatory, which brings opportunities.

There are many nutrition programmes offered in Ethiopia at universities. In the National Nutrition Conference, it was concluded that there is a gap between the competences of graduates and the labour market. There is a need for identification of the labour market and the needed competences.

The labour market needs assessment carried out by Hawassa University looked into this and investigated the opportunities for collaboration to strengthen nutrition programmes and career opportunities.



Field trial visit

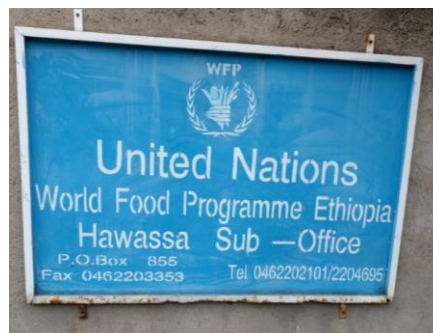


Almi Dairy Products

All very constructive interviews, which enabled us to tailor the approach and develop the plan for the overall assessment.

The assessment helped identifying labour market opportunities, job profiles, skill gaps, issues/challenges and opportunities for nutrition together with collaboration possibilities to develop demand driven services and programmes for human nutrition.

Twenty organisations across different sectors (health, food industry, agriculture, food security) differentiated by public, private, NGO were consulted by the Hawassa University labour market team in personal interviews, after which a labour market report was developed, which will be used to strengthen programmes, research and outreach services of Hawassa University.



Visit World Food Programme

Weaknesses that were clearly highlighted are practical skills, ability to use tools in nutrition programmes, leadership exposure, ability to communicate with and attitude towards communities and concerned bodies, ability to solve the community's problems.

Seventy percent of the organisations consulted indicated they would like to be trained in various aspects of nutrition. The organisations contacted were willing to meaningfully engage with Hawassa University in various activities including joint research, internships, guest lectures and curricula review practices.

PhD student Zemenu Kerie Terefe



I am Zemenu Kerie Terefe, my background is MSc in Food Science and Technology. The reason for applying for this PhD for me was to build career capacity in order to contribute to the advancement of food and nutrition education in Ethiopia. The major objective of the PhD research is to improve the nutritional status of children (2-5 years) through feeding practices of porridge made from cassava leaf powder and maize flour in the Boricha district, Ethiopia. I have had good experiences in Egerton/ Kenya so far.

I have tried to capture some of the *Kswahili* words which are important for sharing sociological cultures between different countries, especially in East Africa. In addition, I am enjoying the foods they have like *Ugali, Chapati, Mandazi and Sokumma*.

Learning points exposure visit Netherlands/Belgium

By Fikadu Reta, project director and team leader



Visit lab UGent, right Dr. Marthe De Boevre

The aim of the visit (9-16 June 2018) was to share experiences about ways to effectively implement the NICHE project activities and to explore opportunities for further collaboration between Hawassa University and organisations in the Netherlands and Belgium.

Team from Hawassa

1. Dr Fisiha Getachew: Vice President for Academic Affairs
2. Dr Tesfaye Abebe: Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer
3. Mr. Denbeshu Narea: Vice President for Business and Development
4. Dr Zeyitu: Dean College of Natural Sciences
5. Dr Amene Fekadu: Dean College of Veterinary Medicine
6. Dr Tarekegn Yoseph: Dean College of Agriculture
7. Mr. Gezahegn Niguse: Lecturer and project management member
8. Mr. Fikadu Reta: Project Director and Team Leader

In short an overview of the achievements:

- Input for the structure of SNFST lab. The proposed additions were: quality manager, lab head and team leaders should be at least lecturer level and experienced in laboratory analysis/lab technicians and must meet criteria for teaching during recruitment for employment in the laboratory because they are going to teach skills.
- Opportunities for research and academic collaboration as well as outreach related collaboration opportunity with Wageningen University
- CINOP has great potential for collaboration in relation to business incubation and linking research with industries. CINOP business incubation experience from South Africa can be used as experience to strengthen the SNFST and the College of Agriculture incubation plans.



CINOP presentation by Epke Vogel

- Joint PhD letter agreement signed between University of Gent and HU starting with PhD in Human Nutrition.



Lunch with UGent, Prof. Carl Lachat

- Plan to strengthen lab analysis and capacity building in Hawassa University discussed with Ugent aflatoxin analysis lab.
- HAS University of applied sciences has experience in linking undergraduate students with industry and jobs and very good internship experience.
- Experience in curriculum development: it's a must in the Netherlands for food technology students to take human health and physiology courses to guard the safety of the public.
- Progress discussions with professors of the PhDs 2 male and 2 female funded through this project.
- Joint seminars, short courses, conferences, online teaching, staffs and students exchange possibility from Hawassa with UGent and Wageningen discussed through support of the CaFaNT project.
- NUFFIC recommended synergy and working together with other Dutch government funded projects such as CASCAPE, AGP, PSNP, ISSD, BENEFIT, Embassy initiatives etc.

- The fact that Wageningen University is fully self-financed is a very good learning point for Hawassa University.
- Practical management training organised by Q-Point. This training with the Crocodile River pass game was a useful example of experiential learning. We learned to organise communication better. Results of not confronting management and ways to confront your team with problems.

Positive outcome of dividing a long process into small steps and the need for small celebrations in between as a long process can be demotivating.

We learned to organise communication better. Results of not confronting management and ways to confront your team with problems. Positive outcome of dividing a long process into small steps and the need for small celebrations in between as a long process can be demotivating.

Partners consortium



The Netherlands



Belgium



The Netherlands



Kenya



The Netherlands



Ethiopia

Requesting Ethiopian University



Hawassa University

Donor



This project is financed by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs through Nuffic (Dutch organisation for internationalisation in education), www.nuffic.nl

Colophon

This newsletter is created by

Q-Point
The Netherlands
T +31 317 49 15 81
E info@q-point-bv.nl
I www.q-point-bv.nl



Q-Point is ISO 9001:2015 certified