

# Project Brief

**DFPA**

The Danish Family  
Planning Association



# Integrating Population Dynamics, SRHR and Climate Change Adaptation

## Introduction

Climate variability and change with its adverse effect is visible in Ethiopia. The adverse effects are revealing in the social, economic as well as in the environmental aspects of the country. In the economic sectors, it is affecting key economic drivers such as agriculture, water resources, energy production, health, land and infrastructure, forestry among others. Reduction in the availability of drinking water, incidence of malaria in areas where malaria was not endemic, increase in cardio-respiratory and infectious diseases due to climate change is being reported from different parts of the country. Given the issue a high place in its development agenda, the government is responding to these adverse impacts of climate change using adaptation and mitigation strategies and actions.

Adaptation is the primary vital response currently gaining a central position in every sector in Ethiopia although mitigation is

playing important role in major sectors. The adaptation strategies included commitment to adjust economic activity in targeted sectors and support sustainable development. The objective of adaptation response of the country, as it is described in the CRGE as well as GTP II documents, is to reduce vulnerability of community, sectors and systems to climate change, thereby reducing the negative impacts. Hence adaptation, together with mitigation, is playing a crucial role in the response strategy of Ethiopia

Civil societies in the country are also supporting the effort through working directly with local communities to build capacity for resilience, developing new economic opportunities based on climate smart approach, resource use and innovation. They are also involved in generating action-researches to raise public awareness on climate change, provide the

basis for policy engagement, finding ways to scale up promising practices and supporting in identification, designing and implementation of policy level solutions.

This project is one of such efforts of civil societies. Population, Health and Environment Ethiopia Consortium (PHE EC) is implementing this project with financial contribution from Denmark government, Civil Society in Development (CISU) support through Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA). The main objective of the project is to support the national efforts of reducing vulnerability to climate change by promoting the recognition and understanding of the multi-dimensionality of vulnerability and to amplify the advantage of integrated response, especially, integration of population dynamics and SRHR into climate change adaptation actions.

Population dynamics, especially high population growth with less productivity is a factor that exacerbates climate change vulnerability. Ethiopia, with other thirty six least developing countries (LDCs) of the world and small island states (SISs), has shown in its NAPA (2007) high population growth as one of the underlying factor of the country's vulnerability to climate change. Intuitively, therefore, combining population dynamics issues into climate change responses of the country makes sense as it helps to address one of the roots driving causes of vulnerability. The following advantages and potential benefits of the integration could also be mentioned to further give insight into the subject matter:

1. Integration can potentially lead to synergistic successes and greater outcomes than if anyone of the three are implemented in isolation,
2. Integration helps to address one of the root driving causes of community vulnerability to climate change, rather than just addressing proximate causes,
3. It contributes to address development concerns inclusively by incorporating social, economic and environmental aspects,
4. It also helps to improve the adaptive capacity of one of the most vulnerable segment of populations, women and girls, as high fertility rates affect resilience of families living in areas hit by climate change.

At global level, the need for integrating population dynamics into climate change adaptation is currently gaining attention. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's

the 5th Assessment Report could be referred. It referenced that access to voluntary family planning as one of the methods for addressing population dynamics that can reduce vulnerability and improve health. As the second most populous country in Africa and with about 22 % unmet need for modern contraceptive, Ethiopia needs to take an urgent action to integrate population dynamics and reproductive health into climate change adaptation policies, strategies and actions.

## Objectives of the project

### **At international level:**

- ✔ To increase knowledge and awareness amongst key stakeholders from governments and civil society around the world on the linkages among population dynamics, reproductive health and rights and climate change under the UNFCCC framework.
- ✔ Capacity development and sustainability of the intervention: To increase civil societies advocacy capacity both at the national and international level and ensure sustainability and effectiveness of the advocacy efforts

### **At national Level**

- ✔ To contribute to increased awareness amongst key decision makers in Ethiopia about the linkages among population dynamics, reproductive health and adaptation to climate change
- ✔ To increase knowledge and awareness amongst key decision makers in Ethiopia on the importance of including population dynamics and reproductive health in the formulation and implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) for climate change.

## Major interventions

**1. Awareness raising outreach materials development** (fact sheets, briefing papers, social media content, etc.) which contain messages that show the importance of integrating population dynamics and SRHR into climate change adaptation efforts. These includes:

- ▲ Materials generation, collection and preparation for various national, regional and international engagements

▲ Desk review of major national and international climate information summarize and share among targeted audiences.

▲ Formulation of messages for national and international events

**2. Delivering the messages across various levels of engagements.** These includes, COP meetings, CBA meetings, HLPF conferences, UNECA meetings, UNEA meetings, national level policy, strategy and action plan development and revision processes, national strategy mainstreaming into regions, adaptation plans at national and regional level, climate change response programs development processes, and grass root community engagements on climate change adaptation.

▲ Assessment of who makes influence and how in translating the integration of population dynamics, SRHR and climate change adaptation concept into action

▲ Internal communication mechanisms among allies to coordinate joint efforts in the awareness raising activities.

▲ Prepare engagement plans for national and international events and opportunities

▲ Effect the plan together with allies in every targeted events and opportunities at national, regional and global level

▲ Effect continues communication with media and use the media to pass information about the importance of the subject under discussion

**3. Resource mobilization for further strengthening the initiative.** This initiative requires continues long term engagement across the different levels to realize the desired result and sustain the outcomes. Therefore, efforts will be made to further mobilized resources at national and international levels

**4. Organizational capacity strengthening of PHE EC and allies.** Again these initiatives requires capacity and working with partners. Danish family planning Association (DFPA), the international alliance, Population for Sustainable development Alliance (PSDA), PHE EC and Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU) will work together to enhance their own capacity first and then will exert efforts to enhance national alliances working for the same cause.

## Expected results

✔ Decision makers at national and international level address the issues of population dynamics, SRHR and gender in public/position statements and/or in activities related to climate change adaptation or sustainable development

✔ Technical inputs on population and reproductive health indicators from PHE EC and partners are taken into account by duty bearers responsible for national policies/plans for climate change adaptation and/or sustainable development in Ethiopia

✔ Programs broadcast and articles published by different media outlets with especial focus on population dynamics, SRHR and climate change adaptation

✔ PHE EC and partner organizations will organize collaborative side events/activities in the context of the UNFCCC at COP, HLPF, UNECA, UNEA that are well-attended, involve participation of key stakeholders/targets

✔ Key influential CSOs, major groups etc. working on climate change adaptation at national and international level have used the technical inputs from PHE EC and partner organizations to shape their public statements about adaptation

## Strategies and guiding principles

In general, the goal of all the activities within this project is to increase awareness among key decision makers on the importance of including population dynamics and reproductive health and right in the development and implementation of climate change responses. In order to achieve this, all relevant stakeholders have been targeted and opportunities for engagement at national and international have been identified. Specific areas of interventions, as stated above have been selected and the following channels of communication will be employed to channel information at various level.

Targeted Audiences	Primary Channels	Secondary Channels
Stakeholders at international level	Side events, Meetings, international TV shows, position papers, publications, Websites	Social medias, emails, letters,
Decision makers at the regional and national levels	Meetings, Presentations, Policy briefs, fact sheets and brochures	Lobby, Face to face meetings, Emails & letters
Direct collaborators of decision makers (expertise, institutions, etc.)	Fact sheets, policy briefs, meetings and presentations	Email, sharing online publications, website invitations
Partners and allies	Meetings, publications, Email, relevant documents	Website invitation, online publications
Media	Event invitation, press releases, publications and interview	Email, telephone, social media, online publication, website visit

“ Integrating population dynamics and sexual reproductive health and right (SRHR) with climate change adaptation efforts are keys to reduce climate change vulnerability by improving community resilience. ”

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