Australia Awards

Welcome Home Function

February 18, 2015
Addis Ababa,
Ethiopia

Program Contents

Welcome Home Function

Introduction and objectives

The Australian Government will host a prominent half-day event on 18 February 2015 in Addis Ababa at the Radisson Blu Hotel in which Ethiopians who recently returned from their studies in Australia under a fully-funded scholarship will be welcomed back home. Further, Alumni who completed their studies 6-to-12 months ago will present development initiatives they are working on through poster exhibitions.

This ceremony will bring together recently returned Alumni from the Australia Awards and International Mining for Development Centre (IM4DC) programs, representatives from Alumni's employing organisations, core members of the emerging Ethiopia-Australia Alumni Association and the Ethiopian Alumni Ambassador, officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and from key Ethiopian Ministries.

The objective of the function is two-fold: welcome home scholars recently returned from their studies and offer an opportunity for Alumni to gain visibility and support for their development-focussed projects while also expanding networks.

Methodology

The Welcome Home Function will adopt a high-level ceremony approach in which participants will formally welcome home recently returned Alumni from the Australia Awards and IM4DC programs in Ethiopia. The formal ceremony will be followed by Alumni presenting their development-focussed projects through interactive poster exhibitions, allowing other attendees to ask questions and discuss their project objectives, challenges faced and results achieved thus far. This format will support networking through an open session to follow the presentations.

Location of the Function

This one-day Function will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Accommodation and venue

Radisson Blu Hotel, Addis Ababa
Kazanchis Business District Kirkos Subcity Kebele 17/18
21555 – Addis Ababa – Ethiopia
Tel: +251 (1) 15 15 76 00

http://www.radissonblu.com/hotel-addisababa

Any questions should be directed to alumni@australiaawardsafrica.org

Agenda

Wednesday, 18 February 2015	
Time	**Topic**
8:00 – 8:30	**Registration** **Welcome coffee and light refreshments**
8:30 – 8:45	**Opening address: supporting Ethiopia's development efforts through education and training** HE Mark Sawers, Australian Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, DFAT
8:45 – 9:00	**Remarks by the Ethiopian Government** Ato Mitiku, Director for International Relations and Scholarships, Ministry of Education
9:00 – 9:15	**The experience and perspective of an Award recipient** Bezabih Gebereyes, Ministry of Capacity Building, Australia Awards Alumnus
9:15 – 9:30	**Objectives** **Introduction of poster presenters –** Two presentations will be delivered concurrently at a time	Adriana Abreu-Combs, Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, GRM-Australia Awards
9:30 – 9:45	**Poster presentations session One –** 10' presentation followed by 5' Q&A	Presenters: Haile Arefayne Shishaye Wudie Ayele Friew
9:45 – 10:00	**Poster presentations session Two –** 10' presentation followed by 5' Q&A	Presenters: Meseret Nigatie Teferra Kibret Abebe Messalea
10:00 – 10:15	**Poster presentations session Three –** 10' presentation followed by 5' Q&A	Presenters: Belete Birhanu Kassaye Tesfaye Kassa Mekonnen
10:15 – 10:30	**Poster presentations session Four –** 10' presentation followed by 5' Q&A	Presenters: Girma Woldetinsae Gebremichael Hussein Hassan Hussein Mosleh
10:30 – 11:15	**Networking session –** participants mingle and network
11:15 – 11:30	**Wrap up and final remarks –** Sue Moore, First Secretary, Australian Embassy in Addis Ababa
11:30 – 11:45	**Feedback session –** distribution of evaluation forms to participants
11:45 – 1:00	**Group lunch**

Poster Blurbs

Two posters will be presented concurrently in sessions One to Four for a total of eight posters. This means that participants will have to choose which poster exhibits they want to learn more about. The schedule and order of presenters are shown on the Agenda above.

Session One	
Presenter:	Haile Arefayne Shishaye
Project title:	*The Challenges in Lake Beseka*
Poster blurb:	Haile works as a Lecturer at Haramaya University in the department of Water Resource and Irrigation Engineering, after completing a postgraduate course in Adelaide, Australia, in Groundwater Hydrology. His work currently focusses on Lake Beseka in Ethiopia, which suffers from rising water levels which in turn affect sugarcane farms and nearby towns. Haile's poster details his research and work into possible solutions for these issues.
Presenter:	Wudie Ayele Friew
Project title:	*Designing Effective Communication Strategy for Agricultural Extension in Ethiopia*
Poster blurb:	Wudie is working in the Ministry of Agriculture, providing communications expertise. He is involved in refining existing communication strategies in order to support the work of the Extension Directorate, making recommendations for strategy improvement and redesign. His poster details how his Australian postgraduate course in communications at the University of Queensland has helped him deliver effective communication strategies for agricultural extension in Ethiopia.
Session Two	
Presenter:	Meseret Nigatie Teferra
Project title:	*Activities Performed at Addis Ababa Institute of Technology: Centre of Biomedical Engineering and Addis Cardiac Hospital*
Poster blurb:	Meseret currently works as a Biomedical Engineer at the Addis Cardiac Hospital where he uses the skills developed in his studies in Australia. He is involved in consultation on maintenance and installation of medical equipment at the hospital. His poster details how his Award-gained skills have assisted in reducing the costs of equipment repair and installation.
Presenter:	Kibret Abebe Messalea
Project title:	*Improving Engineering Education*
Poster blurb:	Kibret works at Addis Ababa University in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, after completing a Masters in a related area in Australia. In his role at the University, Kibret improves laboratory-based education and participates in projects that improve livelihoods by designing engineering solutions. His poster details his success in implementing laboratory-based courses at Addis Ababa University, and improving teaching and learning activities.

Session Three

Presenter:	Belete Birhanu Kassaye
Project title:	*Capacity Building on Effective Integration of Geosciences, Geographical and Cadastral Data in GIS Systems*
Poster blurb:	Belete completed a course on the topic with the IM4DC program and on return set out to transfer the knowledge he gained to other colleagues. He has successfully trained 10 Junior Geologists. He has also prepared datasets in the framework of his country for training purposes. His poster details these accomplishments and training outcomes.
Presenter:	Tesfaye Kassa Mekonnen
Project title:	*Creating All Round Capacity in Civil Service Sector*
Poster blurb:	Tesfaye gained in depth and well-rounded knowledge of public policy while completing the course in Australia, enabling him to focus on building capacity in his government office. Specifically, Tesfaye works on reforming public sector institutions. His poster details how the knowledge gained formally and informally in Australia helps execute his role in the Civil Service sector.

Session Four

Presenter:	Girma Woldetinsae Gebremichael
Project title:	*Some Trails of Australian Scientific Development Collaborations in the Ministry of Mines-Ethiopia*
Poster blurb:	Girma currently works for the Ethiopian Ministry of Mines, and is working on developing a Structural Geophysics course for graduate students at Addis Ababa University and helping to supervise graduate and PhD candidates. He is also developing short term training programs on CSRM and Environment with the University of Queens and creating awareness of the new Mining Tax Administration and Collection Framework in Ethiopia. His poster details how he is using Australian Award gained knowledge to contribute to scientific research collaboration between Ethiopia and Australia, particularly in the Ethiopian mining sector.
Presenter:	Hussein Hassan Hussein Mosleh

Other Logistical Information

Participant feedback

Participants will be asked to provide feedback about their experience at the Function. This will be a short, straight forward questionnaire distributed for completion by participations at the event's closing. Your feedback is important and will provide information for the organisation of similar Alumni events in the future.

Reimbursements

Australia Awards will reimburse the cost some guests may incur for traveling to Addis Ababa to attend the event. To claim reimbursement, guests will need to present an original receipt. This documentation can be provided to Function Support Team Member Yvonne Chimutimbira at the end of the event. Reimbursement will be made in United States Dollar (USD).

Hotel check-in and check-out times

Most participants will not require hotel stay given they live in Addis Ababa with easy access to the venue. Some participants, however, live outside the capital and will fly or drive in to attend the event, and will thus need hotel accommodation.

The Radisson Blu Hotel check-in time is 14:00 and check-out is 12:00 at the Front Desk. If applicable, reservations will be made for you by Australia Awards in a single standard room for one or two nights (February 17 and 18, 2015). Requests for any additional nights should be directed to and confirmed directly with the hotel and will need to be covered by guests themselves.

Guests will be asked to pay for extra expenses that are not covered by Australia Awards, including telephone calls and room service, as applicable.

Transfer airport-hotel-airport

Some delegates flying in to attend the event may transit through other cities within Ethiopia. No matter the location of the connecting flight, guests are advised not to leave the airport as security can be an issue.

Upon arrival at the Addis Ababa Bole International Airport, delegates flying in will need to locate and report to the Radisson Blu Hotel booth at the airport and a representative will facilitate their transfer. Australia Awards has also arranged pick up at the hotel on the day of departure. Guests flying out will need to speak to the

concierge at the hotel for pick up times and Function Support Team Member Yvonne Chimutimbira will also be able to assist.

Contact in case of problems

Guests experiencing problems with flights once in transit should first proceed to the airline ticket counter at the airport for assistance. If the problem is not solved, they should contact the conference on-call Travel Support Person Chantalle Okondo at +254 (0) 706 546 524 (or alumni@australiaawardsafrica.org). This is also the number to call in case of problems with transfer services for guests flying in.

Rooms for meals and Function

a) Meals at the Radisson Blu Hotel

Breakfast (for guests staying at the hotel): Breakfast will be served at Restaurant Verres en Vers between 06:30-10:00

Lunch on 18 February: Buffet lunch to be served at conference room

Dinner on 17 and 18 February (for guests staying at the hotel): Buffet dinner will be served at Restaurant Verres en Vers between 18:30-22:00

Only meals eaten in these specified locations and provided in the context of the Function are covered (i.e. lunch and dinner on 17 and 18 February; breakfast on 18 and 19 February). Room service is not covered.

Note that the Radisson Blu Hotel can cater for Halaal meals upon request. **Guests requiring Halaal meals are asked to advise the Australia Awards team in advance of the event to allow for arrangements to be made in time.**

b) Conference room for function

Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel, Addis Ababa. A sign at the hotel's lobby will indicate to participants which conference room to go for the Function

Registration (at room entrance); coffee breaks and lunch will all take place in the same conference room

Internet access

Internet access in the hotel is complimentary. Guests are asked not to use laptops or tablets in the event's room during the Function as this will interfere with participation in the proceedings.

Alumni Participant List

Name and Surname	Organisation
Belete Birhanu Kassaye	Ministry of Mines
Bezabih Gebereyes	Ministry of Capacity Building
Esubalew Tenaw	Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation
Fitsume Yemenu Desta	EIAR/Debre Zeit Agriculture Research Centre
Gebrehiwot Gebrejewergs	Tigray Agricultural Research Institute
Girma Woldetinsae Gebremichael	Ministry of Mines
Haile Arefayne Shishaye	Haramaya University
Hamere Tadegge	Ethiopian Revenue and Customs Authority
Hasen Keder Edris	Natural Resource Management Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture
Hussein Hassan Hussein Mosleh	African Union Commission
Kibret Abebe Messalea	Addis Ababa University
Meron Girma Tenaw	Selam Technical and Vocational College
Meseret Nigatie Teferra	Jimma University
Simeneh Shiferaw Moges	Organisation for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara
Teka Gebereyesus	Ministry of Capacity Building
Tesfaye Atre	Public Sector and Capacity Building in Ethiopia
Tesfaye Kassa Mekonnen	Mineral Licensing and Administration Directorate, Ministry of Mines
Tewdros Abraha Teweldmedhin	Dilla Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training College
Wudie Ayele Friew	Ministry of Agriculture

Orient Yourself – Map

The Radisson Blu Hotel is located in the city centre near Kazanchis Business District, only eight kilometres from the airport and adjacent to the United Nations Conference Centre. The map below shows its location.