

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

REPORT ON A MISSION IN ETHIOPIA
(2-14 November 1982)

By

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This report is the sole responsibility of the writer. It has been submitted to the Department of Technical Cooperation, United Nations, which may alter or supplement these findings.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The mission was undertaken in accordance with the UNFPA ETH/81/P02 Management Plan for 1982, and with the aid of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) Addis Ababa. It follows reports made in October/November 1980, February/March 1982 and May 1982.

2. The terms of reference may be defined as:

- (a) to assess progress in census cartographic preparations in Sidamo and Bale Regions;
- (b) to indicate whether the target enumeration date of December 1983 can realistically be met.

3. The schedule of the mission was:

- 2-3 November 1982 - In Addis Ababa
- 4-14 November 1982 - Field trip to Sidamo and Bale Regions

II. CONSULTATIONS

4. During the mission discussions and meetings were principally held with the persons whose names are given in Annex I.

III. BACKGROUND

5. Training. A third training session for Geographical Assistants (GA's) was held at Addis Ababa University in September 1982. The CSO recruited 250 trainees from 10 of the regions, of which 200 completed the course and were deployed in the field in October 1982. About 25 of these have since left the programme. Twenty of the previous 305 GA's were made Supervisors for the new teams which are made up of both new and experienced GA's.

6. Field Personnel. The present field force, therefore, consists of:

- 1 Head of Cartographic Section
- 1 Logistics Officer
- 9 Coordinators
- 59 Supervisors
- 472 GA's (59 teams x 8 GA's)
- 50 Drivers (and vehicles)
- 59 Cooks
- 651

7. Vehicles. Before the new GA's joined the field programme there were 39 teams and 46 vehicles in use. But the present 59 teams and supervisory staff have only 50 vehicles at their disposal. Of these, only 40 are in good condition, the others being unreliable and often under repair. They are, therefore, costly to maintain and limited to use in the more accessible areas. The Manager of CSO estimated that at any one time, 7-10 vehicles out of the 50 were in the CSO workshop for servicing or maintenance. It will thus be apparent that although good progress is being made in the field work, the main logistical problem hampering an even faster work-rate is the shortage of vehicles.

8. CSO have transferred vehicles from other sections, and agencies such as the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), the Army and Highway Authority have lent CSO Vehicles, (eg: to move camp) but these loans are for only very short periods and within a limited area.

9. A team working in the remote areas is given its own vehicle, but in the more accessible parts, or where teams are working relatively close to each other, they often have to share a vehicle, which can affect the normal work pattern.

10. It is the usual practice to put only one team in a Wereda (district) to minimise duplication or omissions. But in some areas of northern Sidamo, for example, CSO have had to put two teams in a Wereda in order to speed up the work. As the two teams often only have one vehicle between them, however, they have to work "side-by-side", rather than being able to split up the area along a well defined division such as a road or stream, which would be easier.

11. The 13 new vehicles to be supplied by UNFPA are expected to arrive at Aseb by mid-November, and their deployment will alleviate matters somewhat.

12. Pilot Census. A trial census in selected areas is due to be held in April 1983. By this time a sufficient amount of field work will have been done to enable a good sample (about $\frac{1}{2}$ %) to be taken. This date, however, would perhaps leave insufficient time in which to analyse the questionnaires and make changes, if necessary. And as there is only an 8 month gap between the pilot and main census, different climatic and thus farming conditions will prevail in some areas. This may not give a true picture of the situation in December, which is a dry month over almost the whole country, and is in the harvest season.

13. Field Trip. The main part of the mission consisted of an 11-day field trip of 2,118 km (1,324 miles) to Sidamo and Bale Regions. This was made in the company of the Head of the Cartographic Section and the Team Leader of the Demography and Housing Experts Team, and a CSO driver. The centres of Awasa, Dila, Sodo and Goba were included in the itinerary. Petrol supplies appeared to be adequate in Sidamo, but we were informed that they were irregular in Bale. CSO have had to carry petrol in drums as there are no filling stations in many areas of the region.

14. The Head of the Cartographic Section was particularly interested in seeing whether his previous instructions for mapping settlement areas (planned villages) were being carried out properly. Thirteen field camps were visited, and the rural and urban work of 19 teams was inspected. Field supervisors in each of the camps put forward valuable comments on the progress and problems associated with the work. The results of samples taken from the household listing forms and EA maps at each camp are shown as Annex II. A visit was also paid to the new Farmers' Multi-Purpose Training School at Agarfa in Bale Region and the nearby Amigna Harro Farmers' Producers Cooperative, a model settlement area village.

IV. PROGRESS

15. The field mapping and household listing is now effective in 8 of the 14 regions. Taking these regions as a whole, this amounts to a coverage of about 45 per cent of the total land area of the country. Briefly, the present situation is as follows:

16. Shewa. This central region took 10 months to do, which was much longer than expected. This was due partly to shortages of transport, adverse weather conditions and the fact that it was the first region to be attempted using GA's, thus there were organizational problems. But the primary reason for the mapping programme being delayed was that the population estimated by the field work - 8 million - was far higher than the previous estimate of 5.3 million.

17. Addis Ababa itself and 4 sparsely populated weredas in the east of the region, where the Peasant Association Areas (PAA's) are being reorganized, remain to be done. These 4 weredas are:

Awrajas

Yifat and Timuga

Tegulet and Bulga

Weredas

1. Bure Modwito

2. Mafud

1. Dulecha

2. Ankober

18. These weredas may be completed in early 1983 when work in Welo is underway, and the capital city may be completed during the rainy season, July-August 1983, so bringing the regional population total to around 9.5 million.

19. Welega. By the time work began here, the methodology had been improved and the numbers of GA's (and thus the work-rate) increased. An important factor which enable a faster rate to be achieved was the placing of 6 mobile coordinators (one in each awraja) to oversee the work and attend to logistical matters, so relieving the supervisors of these duties.

20. The coordinators (now 9 in number) usually meet once a month when collecting salaries from the logistics officer for distribution to the field teams. At the meetings progress and deployment of the teams for the coming month are discussed.

21. Ilubabor. Although the population is the smallest of any of the regions, accessibility is difficult. One wereda (Akobo) remains to be done, this is a marshy area on the Sudan border, accessible only by plane or by road in the month of March; thus March 1983 will see its completion.

22. Kefa. Again, difficulties of access ensued and two awrajas out of six and one wereda were not started due to heavy rains. They may be completed in early 1983 during the dry season. The current situation is:

<u>Kefa: Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>PAA's</u>	<u>Status</u>
Jima	8	499	Complete
Limu	4	371	Complete
Kefa	11	337	Complete
Gimira	3	107	Complete except one wereda
Maji and Goldiya	7	75	Not started
Kulo Konta	6	212	Not started
	39	1,601	

23. Gamo Gofa. Heavy rains again caused difficulties and pack animals had to be hired in places where there were no roads. The Manager of CSO noted that it took 18 mules at around Birr 45 (\$22) each to move one team's camping equipment and other effects, and that a total of Birr 14,000 (\$6,763) was spent on the hire of mules in the region. Nevertheless only one wereda in the extreme south (Mursi and Bodi) remains to be done. This is normally only accessible by plane, and will be done in the dry season. The current situation is:

<u>Gamo Gofa: Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>PAA's</u>	<u>Status</u>
Gamo	7	Not available	Complete
Gofa	6	Not available	Complete
Gardula	5	Not available	Complete
Geleb+Hamerbako	5	Not available	Complete except one wereda
	23		

24. Sidamo. This is the 3rd most populous region in the country and at the time of the field trip 33 teams were working in all 6 awrajas. Work is due to be fully completed at the end of November 1982. The present situation is:

<u>Sidamo: Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>PAA's</u>	<u>Status</u>
Welayita	7	264	Complete
Sidama	8	439	In progress
Gedeo	5	229	In progress
Jemjem	5	241	In progress
Arero	7	165	In progress
Borena	2	55	In progress
	34	1,393	

25. Two teams were ^{put} into some of the densely populated weredas of Welayita (260 per sq.km), Sidama and Gedeo awrajas. Although the EA's are small in area, it was found that some of the teams are forming EA's with a higher number of households (eg. 250) than the range indicated in the training manual (150-200).

26. The average number of households per EA can be seen in Annex II, but of course one team of the two is forming EA's with a higher number of households than the average. This may pose difficulties of completion for the enumerator in the time allocated, particularly in areas of large household size.

27. The Manager of CSO noted that a directive had recently been issued to the teams to use the top end of the 150-200 households range when forming EA's in densely populated areas. This was because in southern Shewa last year teams had been forming EA's at the bottom end of the range and coming up with 8-9 EA's in a PAA in the densely populated areas. The new instruction was to lessen the numbers of EA's in a small PAA if possible.

28. The Head of the Population and Social Statistics Department noted that as the teams were carving out EA's in a PAA as they went along, they were sometimes left with a large total at the end. The alternative would be to find out the total number of households in the PAA and then divide this number equally into EA's. But this may involve splitting villages into different EA's which would complicate matters unnecessarily.

29. Because of the exceptionally small size of some of the rural EA's in northern Sidamo (eg. 0.75 sq.km), the Head of the Cartographic Section had previously suggested to the teams that they make sketches of small EA's at a scale larger than the 1:50,000 base maps if they thought it desirable.

30. Unfortunately none of the teams we visited had acted on the advice. It is suggested the teams be further encouraged to make such sketches, as the EA's are sometimes so small it is difficult to make out even the numbered boundary description points on them. The best method, however, would have been to photographically enlarge the 1:50,000 base maps to 1:25,000 for such areas before field work started.

31. Bale. Teams are now occupying 4 out of the 5 awrajas and work there should be finalised by the end of December 1982. The remaining awraja is a large nomadic area in the south of the region. The present situation is:

<u>Bale: Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>PAA's/Settlement Areas</u>	<u>Status</u>
Mendeyo	6	Not available	In progress
Genale	4	Not available	In progress
Wabe	4	Not available	In progress
Delo	5	Not available	In progress
El-Kere	5	Not available	Not started
	24		

32. Bale Settlement Area Project. Bale is presently experiencing great changes in its farming structure, resulting in significant redistributions of the population. New state farms are being set up and existing ones expanded, and PAA's are being merged into Settlement Areas. These are planned villages, with the surrounding agricultural land being worked on a cooperative basis.

33. Three or 4 PAA's form a Settlement Area, with the people leaving their traditional village sites and gathering together at (usually) one settlement village per Settlement Area.

34. Each village has a clinic, school, store and water supply and the low-cost housing or traditional houses (tukuls) are set out in rows, each house and row either 25 or 50 metres apart. Usually no fences are built between the houses.

35. The Bale Settlement Area project began about 4 years ago on an experimental basis, and there are now 452 Settlement Areas located throughout the region. The aim is to have about 500 households in each settlement village but the present average is around 300 households, thus 2 or 3 EA's are formed in each Settlement Area. One Supervisor noted that as the Settlement Areas were being formed in his wereda in about two weeks hence, his team would wait there until they could plot the new information on the maps.

36. We noted that some of the teams were not drawing the houses on the 1:5,000 sketches they were making of the settlement villages, or they were only showing the houses indicated in the EA boundary description. So the teams were further instructed by the Head of the Cartographic Section to show all the buildings on the sketches as the blank spaces gave a false impression of the area in question.

37. Another point noted was that although the area (in sq.km) of each EA of a Settlement Area is supposed to be measured in its entirety i.e. including the agricultural land - in some cases teams were only measuring the area covered by the Settlement Village itself. This was being done from the 1:5,000 sketches, whereas the 1:50,000 base maps should be used for measuring the entire Settlement Area.

38. Arsi. This is the smallest region in terms of area, and work originally began here in 1977 as a pilot project in 17 of the 22 weredas. The Wabe Settlement Area project has been set up in the region, however, with developments of a similar nature to those in Bale. CSO, therefore, have decided to start the work afresh rather than revise the existing material. A shortage of time for the field trip resulted in our only passing through Arsi, but having seen the results of the radical changes in Bale, this course of action by CSO is fully supported by the Regional Adviser. The work in Arsi is due to be completed by mid-December 1982, and the present situation is:

<u>Arsi:</u>	<u>Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>PAA's Settlement Areas</u>	<u>Status</u>
	Chilalo	11	Not available	In progress
	Arba Gugu	6	Not available	In progress
	Ticho	5	Not available	In progress

39. Present Coverage. The following table gives an indication of the cartographic work achieved up to the end of November 1982 in percentage terms:

<u>Region</u>	<u>% of each region covered in population terms</u>	<u>% of total estimated population of Ethiopia</u>
1) Shewa	82%	24%
2) Welega	100%	7%
3) Illubabor	98%	3%
4) Kefa	77%	4%
5) Gamo Gofa	96%	3%
6) Sidamo	100%	9%
7) Bale	80%	2%
8) Arsi	51%	2%
		<u>54%</u>

40. Thus approximately 54 per cent of the total estimated population (32.7 million at July 1982) will have been covered by the above date.

Nomadic Areas

41. The work is now entering Phase II covering the southern to eastern sector of the country where large areas are inhabited mainly by nomads and semi-nomads. Although the current operation has listed villages belonging to shifting cultivators and some semi-nomads, it is not covering the main nomadic areas until CSO has sent some senior staff there to formulate methods of listing and enumeration deemed most suitable in the circumstances. The nomadic and semi-nomadic population is estimated at some 10 per cent of the total for the country.

Available Maps

42. The field work is now moving out of the 8 regions partially covered by the 1:50,000 map series. Previously the teams have had to rely on the 1:250,000 5x enlargements only where 1:50,000 maps did not exist.

43. The 1:250,000 5x enlargements are difficult to use as they are vastly out-of-date and lack sufficient details to enable accurate field mapping to be done. The photo-enlargements of the Harerge region have recently been made at the Ethiopian Mapping Agency, and those for the Northern regions (Phase III) will begin shortly.

44. This work awaits the arrival of the process film and chemicals recently ordered by cable by the UNFPA Deputy Representative and Senior Adviser on Population following submission of the order by CSO. These items are urgently required.

Tents

45. The 120 new heavy canvas tents supplied under the 1982 UNFPA contribution were purchased locally as they are of far superior quality to the lightweight "picnic" tents previously supplied from the USA. The field teams on this project are living for months on end in tents at attitudes of 2000-3000 metres (6560 - 9840 feet), and occasionally at altitudes up to 3500 metres (11,480 feet), as,

for example, at Dinsho in Bale region. At such altitudes the nights are very cold. Although on occasions the teams are able to pitch their tents inside an old building for extra warmth, usually this is not possible. As the field work depends to quite a large extent on the GA's fitness, health and well-being, good tents are considered indispensable.

46. Local purchase of the tents also meant that they were immediately available when required. It is felt, therefore, that the extra expenditure involved in purchasing them locally was quite justified given these circumstances.

V. PROGRAMME OF WORK

47. This will essentially consist of:

- (a) Office tabulation of current work;
- (b) Completion of field work in the aforementioned regions;
- (c) Devising methods to field map and list nomadic peoples in order that this work runs concurrently with coverage of the settled population;
- (d) Continuation of the field work programme in the remaining 6 regions.

48. The remaining regions, with their approximate starting dates and duration are:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Starting Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Harerge	December 1982	2 months
Welo	February 1983	1.75 months
Gojam	March/April 1983	1.5 months
Gonder	May/June 1983	1.5 months
Tigray	July 1983	2 months
Eritrea	August 1983	2 months

49. It would thus appear, that considering the difficult terrain and conditions in the remaining regions - plus finalisation of previous work - that the field programme should be entirely completed by the beginning of October 1983, thus allowing sufficient time for final preparations before enumeration in December 1983.

VI. CONCLUSION

50. A Tripartite Review of the project was held on 18 November 1982, the report of which will be available shortly. The TPR noted that considering the problems encountered (eg. excessive rain, difficult terrain) and the limitations imposed by the UNFPA financial constraints a remarkably good job is being done.

51. An extremely large operation has been successfully mounted and is now fully underway. Although it may be felt that such large numbers of relatively young field personnel would be difficult to control, in fact the work is efficiently run, and a high work-rate is being achieved through good management and strict discipline of the GA's.

52. The present GA's and Supervisors will most probably act in a supervisory capacity during the enumeration, therefore it is important that they be kept on by CSO for the short period between the end of field work (when they can help pack the documents for dispatch) and the enumeration.

53. The census is being given top priority status by both the government and UNFPA. It is recognised that one of the keys to the current success of the field work has been the willing cooperation of senior local officials. For example, camp-sites and rooms for storing equipment are immediately made available on arrival of a team. One wereda administrator in Sidamo even gave the team full use of his conference table in his private office.

54. Resources already committed by UNFPA have been well utilised, and a continuation of this support in the critical enumeration period (ie. enumerator payments) is fully recommended. Overall, one has to conclude that the project work so far has been thoroughly done and well executed. With continued support at the highest levels in the coming year, as has been indicated, the target enumeration date of December 1983 is indeed realistic and attainable.

ANNEX I

LIST OF PERSONS WITH WHOM DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD

Government (CSO)

- Ato Mitik Beyene	Manager
- Ato Abdullahi Hassen	Head, Population and Social Statistics Dept.
- Ato Tesfa Alemayehu	Head, Cartographic Section
- Ato Habtemariam Tesfaghiorghis	Team Leader, Demography and Housing Experts Team
- Ato Tefera Atmay	Regional Statistical Officer, Bale Region
- Ato Mitiku Shewa	Logistics Officer, Field Operations Division
- Ato Abdurahman Mohamed	Senior Draughtsman, Cartographic Section
- Ato Medhane Terasion	Field Coordinator
- Ato Berhanu Shewa	Field Coordinator
- Ato Mekbib Silase Nigatu	Field Coordinator
- Ato Getachew Assefa	Field Coordinator
- Ato Negussie	Field Coordinator
- Ato Dula	Field Coordinator

Government (Regional Administration)

- Ato Aichlum Jiffar	Deputy Regional Administrator, Bale Region
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United Nations

- Mr. K.T. de Graft-Johnson	Deputy Director, Statistics Division, ECA
- Mr. Abdalla Mahgoub	UNFPA Deputy Representative and Senior Adviser on Population

SAMPLES FROM HOUSEHOLD LISTING FORMS AND EA MAPS

Kifile Hager (Region)	Awraja (Province)	Wereda (District)	Urban Area	No. of EA's observed (sample)	S A M P L E							
					No. of house- holds in EA's	Popula- tion in EA's	Area of EA's (sq.km.)	Average No. of house- holds per EA	Average popula- tion per EA	Average house- hold size per EA	Average areas per EA (sq.km)	Population density (per sq. km)
Sidamo	Welayita	Boloso Sorie	-	33	6936	34,268	120	210	1038	4.9	3.6	286
"	"	"	Areka	4	807	3,920	2	202	980	4.8	0.5	1960
"	"	Koyisha	-	14	2563	11,937	110	183	853	4.6	7.9	108
"	"	"	Bele	2	454	2,253	6	227	1126	5.0	3.0	375
"	"	Damot Weyde	-	19	3642	17,525	132	192	922	4.8	6.9	133
"	"	"	Bedesa	2	352	1,635	-	176	816	4.6	-	-
"	"	Sodo Zurya	-	15	3215	16,521	58	214	1101	5.1	3.8	285
"	"	Damot Gale	-	34	6594	33,197	88	194	976	5.0	2.6	377
"	Gedeo	Wenago	-	43	8833	35,631	91	205	829	4.0	2.1	391
"	"	Yirga Chefe	-	17	3277	14,205	79	193	836	4.3	4.6	180
"	"	"	Yirga Chefe	4	619	2,890	-	155	722	4.7	-	-
"	Sidama	Dale	-	37	7451	32,670	75	201	883	4.4	2.0	436
"	"	"	Yirga Alem	8	1274	6,126	3	159	766	4.8	0.5	2042
"	"	Shebedino	-	42	8235	37,607	95	196	895	4.6	2.3	396
Bale	Mendeyo	Goba	-	42	3854	17,646	-	154	706	4.6	-	-
"	"	Sinana	-	14	3532	16,632	-	252	1188	4.7	-	-
"	"	Agarfa	-	14	2605	13,319	-	186	951	5.1	-	-
"	"	"	Agarfa	3	540	2,312	2	180	771	4.3	0.8	1156
"	"	Dinsho	-	24	4480	22,674	-	187	945	5.1	-	-
"	"	"	Dinsho	2	262	1,108	-	131	554	4.2	-	-
"	Genale	Adaba	-	12	2418	13,010	-	201	1084	5.4	-	-
"	Genale	Dodola	-	28	5670	33,239	-	202	1187	5.9	-	-

Note: The number of EA's observed (sample) at each field camp depended upon:

- How much work had been finished at the time by the field team
- The length of time spent at the camp by the Regional Adviser.