

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

REPORT ON A MISSION IN ETHIOPIA
(12 - 31 May 1962)

by

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June 1962
Addis Ababa

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

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The mission was undertaken in accordance with the ETH/31/PO2 UNFPA Management Plan for 1982, and with the aid of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) Addis Ababa. It follows reports made in October/November 1980 and February/March 1982.
2. The terms of reference may be defined as:
 - a) To assess progress in census cartographic preparations in Melega and Ilubabor Regions.
 - b) To assess whether the CSO target enumeration date of October 1983 is still valid.
3. The schedule of the mission was:
 - 12 - 22 May 1982 - Field trip to Melega and Ilubabor Regions
 - 23 - 31 May 1982 - In Addis Ababa

II. CONSULTATIONS

4. During the mission discussions were principally held with the following persons:

Government (CSO)

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| - Ato Mitik Beyene | - | Manager |
| - Ato Abdulahi Hassen | - | Head, Population and Social Statistics Department |
| - Ato Tesfa Alemayehu | - | Head, Cartographic Section |
| - Ato Abdurahman Mohamed | - | Senior Draughtsman, Cartographic Section |
| - Wzt. Alemtschay Tekle | - | Research Assistant, Cartographic Section |
| - Ato Mitiku Shewa | - | Logistics Officer, Field Operations Division |
| - Ato Kunesa Ayano | - | Regional Statistical Officer, Ilubabor |
| - Ato Berhanu Shewa | - | Field Co-ordinator |
| - Ato Mekbib Silase Nigatu | - | Field Co-ordinator |

United Nations

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| - Mr. Abdalla Mougoub | - | UNFPA Deputy Representative and Senior Adviser on Population |
| - Mr. Myint Tin | - | ECA Regional Adviser/Household Survey Specialist |

III. BACKGROUND

5. UNFPA have approved in principle the allocation of additional funds (\$327,500) for 1982, having taken up Option Two of the three prepared by CSO in March 1982 during the visit of Mr. Lamine N'diaye, Chief, Africa Branch, UNFPA, New York. \$150,000 of this will provide support for a further 200 Geographical Assistants (GA's) for the six months from 1 July 1982.
6. A further \$120,000 will be used for the purchase of another 13 vehicles. CSO have indicated that they would prefer:
 - 9 - Toyota Land Cruiser Station Wagons - Long Wheel Base
 - 1 - Toyota Land Cruiser Station Wagon - Medium size, for supervision purposes.
 - 3 - Toyota pick-ups
7. Another \$100,000 will be used for the local purchase of additional camping equipment and \$120,000 for cartographic equipment and materials. CSO have been asked to provide lists of their requirements, keeping within the bounds of Option Two. The Regional Adviser can advise CSO on the suitability and cost of these items if required.

Field Trip

8. The first part of the mission consisted of an 11-day field trip to Melega and Ilubabor Regions covering 2231 Km. (1394 miles). This was made in the company of the Head of the Cartographic Section, the Logistics Officer and a CSO driver. The centres of Fincha'a, Bekemte, Arjo, Metu, Gore, Gambela and Jikawo were included in the itinerary.
9. Ten field camps were visited and rural and urban mapping was inspected. The results of samples taken from the Household Listing Forms and EA maps at each camp are shown as Appendix A. Field supervisors in each of the camps put forward valuable comments on the progress and problems associated with the work.

IV. PROGRESS

10. **Summary:** Good progress was made in Melega Region and it has now been virtually completed. Ilubabor Region is well underway, and work is beginning in Kefa Region. This is in addition to work previously done in Arsi and Shewa Regions. Thus the field mapping programme is now effective in 5 out of 14 regions of the country, accounting for an estimated 39% of the total population.

Welega Region

11. Welega has an estimated population of 2.1 million, and work began in early March 1982 with 39 teams and 6 co-ordinators, using vehicle. Each team was assigned to a wereda and the more isolated and inaccessible western side bordering Sudan was given priority. The first 11 teams to finish their weredas were given an additional one to cover, the other teams were transferred to Ilubabor. It is expected that work will be finished in Welega by early June 1982. The present situation is:

<u>Arajjas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>P/A's</u>	<u>Status</u>
1. Asosa	4	142	Complete except 1 wereda
2. Kelem	10	294	Complete
3. Gimbi	11	607	Complete except 1 wereda
4. Horo Gudru	10	496	Complete
5. Nekemte	9	237	Complete
6. Arjo	<u>5</u>	<u>131</u>	Complete except 2 weredas
	50	2007	

12. Population summaries for entire arajjas and the number of days worked in them by the teams are not yet available, thus precise work-rates cannot be calculated. But the time taken in the region is practically up to the estimate forecast. Some reasons given for this good performance include:

- a) The co-operation of senior officials in the region. The only complaint made by field supervisors was that some P/A chairmen did not keep to appointments, for example, when showing teams their boundaries.
- b) Better supervision of the teams. The co-ordinators have taken over logistical responsibilities from the supervisors, allowing them more time for technical supervision.
- c) Greater discipline of GA's. This has been partly achieved by the fact that the Head of Cartographic Section and the Co-ordinators have the power to summarily dismiss GA's if deemed necessary.
- d) Good morale amongst the staff. An indication of this was the report that although there were problems with food supplies in some remote areas, this actually motivated the teams to work harder so that they could move on to their next assignment more quickly.
- e) The experience gained in Arsi and Sheba has been put to good use and enabled the methodology to be improved.
- f) The general availability of petrol in Nekemte - although periodic shortages did occur and distribution was always a problem.

Ilubabor Region

13. Ilubabor has an estimated population of 355,400. Work began there in mid-May 1932, and should be completed by the end of June 1932.
14. The co-ordinators have not sent any maps or forms back to CSO for analysis as they need them to control overlapping with Kefa Region, which in one area has an imaginary straight-line boundary with Ilubabor. Thus calculation of work-rates cannot be made. However, the general situation at present is:

<u>Awrajas</u>	<u>Weredas</u>	<u>P.M.'s</u>	<u>Status</u>
1. Gambela	6	122	Complete except 1 wereda
2. Mocha	6	91	Complete
3. Gore	5	233	In progress
4. Sor and Geba	3	270	In progress
5. Buno Bedele	<u>9</u>	<u>359</u>	In progress
	34	1005	

15. As there are 39 teams but only 34 weredas, more than one team could have been assigned to a wereda. In fact, this did not happen as Ilubabor was started before Melega was finished. But there are problems involved if more than one team is put in a wereda:
- a) The teams may not have a clearly defined area and duplication or omissions may occur.
 - b) More base maps need to be ordered, printed or stuck together.
 - c) It is generally more difficult for CSO to administer and control.

Gambela Awraja - Ilubabor Region

16. The sparsely populated weredas in this awraja bordering Sudan were given priority in the region as they present particular problems to the teams:
- a) Akobo Wereda
 - (i) As will be seen in the table, Gambela Awraja is complete except for 1 Wereda. This is the Akobo Wereda which is accessible by land only in the month of March and early April. This is due to large rivers which inundate the low-lying plain, and a lack of roads and river-crossing places. The difficulties of access may have serious consequences during the enumeration period, and the practicality of using boats **should** be investigated.
 - (ii) As a suitable boat is presently unavailable, CSO propose to charter a light plane from Gambela to fly the Gambela Wereda team the 200 Km. to Tirog, the Akobo Wereda administrative centre. Once there the team will have to walk to the villages which are situated along the right bank of the Akobo River.

- (iii) owing to the capacity of the plane, two trips may be needed to transport the 3 GA's and the supervisor. The teams cook may not be taken and easy-to-prepare food supplies will be required for the two weeks the team will be in Akobo.
 - (iv) CSO estimate that it will be cheaper to charter a plane and utilize a team already working in the awraja rather than waiting until March 1963 and bringing a team all the way from Addis Ababa. It will also finalize the work in the region this year.
- b) Jihawo and Itang Meredas
- (i) Here the mereda administrators have indicated that they will officially use the CSO delineation of the PAA boundaries, which up to now were only imaginary lines.
 - (ii) These meredas are traversed by the Baro River which is navigable by small boats from Gambela to Jihawo. All of the villages (except two in Wanku PAA, 55 kg. away) are along the Baro River or a tributary and liable to inundation in the rainy season. Some of the villagers stay on dry patches in the villages, but most of them move away from the river bank to higher ground a few miles away, or move into Sudan. After the rains the people come back to their original sites and rebuild their thatched houses.
 - (iii) The supervisors noted that due to an influx of related peoples from Sudan into some of the villages, minor opposition to being registered into PAA's and giving information to the field teams was encountered.
 - (iv) The Jihawo supervisor had the additional problem of finishing a group of far-off villages on a tributary of the Baro River before the rainy season. This would involve taking their Toyota Land Cruiser across the Baro on a pair of dug-out canoes connected with planks. He noted that he was not prepared to risk the large vehicle, but it was thought that a short-wheel-base Toyota pick-up could successfully complete the voyage as it had been done before by the awraja administrator. However, this should be done only as a last resort. The use of bicycles during the enumeration period may be a better proposition.
 - (v) The supervisor at Itang noted that due to the imminence of the rainy season he was concentrating on finishing the field work and instructing the GA's to complete their drawing work later when conditions allowed. This seemed a reasonable line to take although not in accordance with standing rules.
 - (vi) It is with regret that I have to report the death by drowning in the Baro River of one of the GA's from the Jihawo team. His body was taken to Nekente, the place of his recruitment and buried with the aid of contributors from GAs and supervisors, as his family could not be traced. In addition to CSO staff, many senior local officials attended the funeral; this illustrated the importance the governmental attached to this project.

c) Gambela Mereda

- (i) The team had only just started work when we visited them. According to the Household Listing Forms of the two PAA's completed, one contained only 51 households and 193 population, (but the area had not been calculated). The other contained 105 households, 271 population and covered an estimated area of 223.25 sq.km.
- (ii) According to the CSO manual a rural EA should consist of 150-200 households. But low population PAA's like the above are still kept as individual EA's due to their vast areas, which would be unmanageable if joined into one EA.

Petrol Supplies

17. Petrol is difficult to obtain in Gambela as tankers do not come down the escarpment onto the Gambela Plain, and CSO had to bring petrol in barrels from Nekemte. In fact petrol supplies over the whole of Ilubabor were irregular and this held up the work on occasions with the teams idle due to a lack of fuel. Alternatives for the future include:
- a) Permission for an extra CSO quota for a region. This would be paid by CSO and issued by a local filling station.
 - b) The hiring of a tanker or truck from Addis Ababa with CSO distributing the fuel in the region.
18. If the work programme is to be kept up at maximum speed, and the number of vehicles increased in order to meet the target enumeration date, the fuel problem will need to be solved.

Meeting in Metu

19. A meeting was held in Metu, the capital of Ilubabor, in order that CSO could inform senior local officials of the nature and extent of the census field work and how they could assist in its implementation. Those present included:
- The COPME Representative for Ilubabor Region
 - The Chief Administrator, Ilubabor
 - The Amraja Administrators, Ilubabor
 - The Commissioner of Police, Ilubabor
 - Representatives of people's organizations, Ilubabor
 - CSO regular staff, GA's, and the Regional Adviser.
20. The Manager of CSO stressed that the key to the project's success in the region would be the assistance and co-operation of the officials. In return, on behalf of his colleagues the COPME Representative pledged his full support to the project. After the meeting the officials were shown round on exhibition of census maps and forms.

Kefa Region

21. When Mocha Auraja in Ilubabor was completed at the end of May 1932, the 6 teams were transferred (according to the availability of pick-ups for carrying the tents) to Kefa Auraja in Kefa Region. This is one of 3 aurajas which - except for the wereda capitals - will be practically inaccessible in the forthcoming rainy season, other than by mule. So Kefa Auraja, together with Kulo Konta and Maji and Goldia have been given priority. It is expected that the work in Kefa will take about 2 months, i.e. up to the end of July 1932.
22. 1:50,000 map coverage is limited to the northern 30% of the region. Thus, in this respect, work in the aurajas of Limu, Jima and part of Kulo Konta will be made easier by having the extra details available. Elsewhere the 1:250,000 5x enlargements will be used. Besides being out of date, these are understandably short of detail and make the plotting of boundaries an exacting task.
23. Urban area master plans are only available for the largest centres of Jima and Agaro. They are in any case most confusing to use, as besides being out of date, the (proposed) town planning overlay obliterates much of the existing detail.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

24. Recommendations and suggestions for improvement of the work are minor, but may assist with the implementation. It is suggested:
 - a) That particular attention be paid by the field teams to the spelling and transliteration of names in Amharic/English/Galligna etc. The spellings on the Household Listing Forms, on the maps and on the EA boundary descriptions should agree. Some guidance on the spelling of common names could perhaps be given to the teams by CSO.
 - b) That more differentiation be made to line thicknesses on the EA maps. There is a great similarity in many cases at present between EA boundaries (single line), PAA boundaries (dash and two dots) and intermittent streams (dash and three dots). This may cause confusion amongst enumerators unfamiliar with using maps.

Note: 400 inexpensive fountain pens were purchased locally. This will make the writing of names on the EA maps easier and quicker than the dip pens. It will also help conserve the drawing ink. But the fountain pens should be washed out frequently with water in order that they operate satisfactorily.
 - c) That a better indication of scattered houses, relief and small streams be made when tracing from the 1:50,000 base maps. In some cases the EA maps (although rapidly produced) tend to be over-simplified.

- d) That arrows indicating direction of flow of rivers are further utilised on EA maps.
- e) That the EA map borders and the grid north arrow be drawn on the EA maps by tracing the grid lines on the base maps. On occasions maps were not aligned with grid north.
- f) That when the co-ordinators hand over the base maps of a new area to the field supervisor, they ensure that the supervisor understands where his wereda boundaries are liable to be situated. The approximate alignment could be drawn lightly in pencil beforehand. This particularly applies to the 1:25,000 5x enlargements with their lack of detail and names.
- g) That the co-ordinators ensure that they give field supervisors sufficient base maps to cover their entire wereda, and sufficient copies for the team.

VI. CONCLUSION

- 25. Despite financial limitations imposed on the project by the previous uncertainty surrounding UNFPA funding for 1982, the CSO are doing an excellent job. There is no doubt that funds already committed are being well spent.
- 26. For example, considering the rough terrain and great distances they have to cover, the 20 UNFPA Toyota Land Cruiser Station Wagons are in remarkably good condition, and are regularly serviced by CSO mechanics. The provision of a further 13 vehicles as logistical support for the 200 additional GA's is fully recommended and will help considerably in the deployment of the teams and their camping equipment in this vast country.
- 27. Some of the methods used (e.g. drawing the final maps in the field rather than in a drawing office) one would hesitate to recommend to a less well-organised project elsewhere, but the work here is being produced and that is the main requirement.
- 28. Morale and output is high, and the work is being done very thoroughly. For example, the way in which the completed Household Listing Forms, the EA maps and the boundary descriptions for an EA are carefully stapled together and placed in a titled folder to avoid loss, is particularly impressive.
- 29. With regard to the census enumeration date, there is certainly a delay from the original proposal of an early 1983 enumeration, but that was not CSO's fault, (reasons for the delay are detailed in the previous report). The target date put forward by CSO of October 1983 has a reasonably good chance of being attained if adequate resources are made available in 1983. Thus the estimates made in the previous report are still valid (see para. 50).

30. Now that UNFPA have enabled the momentum of the project to be maintained for the remainder of 1982, **it is considered important for UNFPA** reassure the government that this level of support will be continued in 1983, i.e. before CSO go ahead with the recruitment of the 200 extra G.A.'s.
 31. In accordance with the UNFPA Project Management Plan for 1982, further details will be given in the Project Progress Report by the Manager of CSO in June 1982, and the Regional Adviser's next report is scheduled for October 1982.
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APPENDIX A
SAMPLES OF HOUSEHOLD LISTING FORMS AND EA MAPS

Wife Wager (Region)	Amraja (Province)	Wereda (District)	No. of EA's observed (sample)	SAMPLE							
				Population in EA's	No. of households in EA's	Area of EA's (sq.km.)	Average population per EA	Average No. of households per EA	Average household size per EA	Average area per EA (sq.km.)	Population density (per sq.km.)
Welega	Koro Gudru	Jima Genete	15	12155	2371	137	760	179	4.2	3.6	89
"	" "	Abaye Gioman	14	9505	2219	296	713	158	4.5	21.1	34
"	" "	Gudru	15	10500	2479	411	705	155	4.3	27.4	25
"	Arjo	Leka Dulecha	10	3577	1657	72	353	166	5.2	7.2	119
"	"	Jima Arjo	10	7273	1592	139	727	159	4.6	13.9	52
Ilubabor	Gambela	Jikono	11	5373	1257	-	438	114	4.3	-	-
"	"	Itang	12	1024	934	220*	323	70	4.1	55.0	5
"	"	Gambela Rural	2	271	156	223**	232	70	3.0	223.0	1
"	"	Gambela Urban	6	401	1042	-	567	174	3.9	-	-
"	Gore	Bure	5	3534	957	307	597	159	3.8	51.2	12
"	"	Halu	11	300	1433	115***	532	130	4.1	19.2	34

Note: 1: The number of EA's observed (sample) at each field camp depended upon:
a) how much work had been finished at the time by the field team
b) the length of time spent at the field camp by the Regional Adviser

Note 2: * Area of 4 EA's calculated at time of visit
** " " 1 EA " " " " "
*** " " 5 EA's " " " " "