

Addis Ababa – March 24 –29 2017

Vienna → Addis Ababa – Thu. 23.3.2017 – Fri. 24.3.2017

Departure at Vienna airport Thu. March 23, 2017 at 17:10,

Arrival at Addis Ababa Airport (via Frankfurt): Fri. March 24, 2017 at 06:20

We left from Vienna airport, because at March 23, there was also an appear meeting in Vienna, which we attended together with Christiane Floyd and Alois Stritzinger.

After arrival in Addis, trip to nearby hotel and short rest, then meeting with TEMACC management in Tesfaye’s office, which is also nearby.

Meeting with TEMACC management – Fr. 24.3.2017

Attendees: Tesfaye Biru, Rahel Bekele, Peter Oppelt, Johannes Sametingner

We start discussing the local health system, which is quite different to the Austrian one. The most prominent difference is the profession of what is called health extension workers, HEW for short. These are no medical experts, but rather get a one-year training to help people in their rural communities with various health-related issues. HEWs are typically local people. They have many checklists that they use in order to figure out problems and decide whether to send people to a, typically far away health center. HEWs are community workers that go from house to house, but they also work in what is called health posts. The relation of the number of health workers to the population is about 1 to 5.000.



TEMACC management: Rahel Bekele, Tesfay Biru, Peter Oppelt
by Johannes Sametingner

Pregnant women are supposed to go to a health post well before birth. If they go to a health centre when they are approaching delivery, they get a room where they can stay (Maternal Waiting Homes) . In the health centre, there are health officers and nurses. Medical doctors are at medical centers (Hospitals). We discussed the system and the results of previous field trips of the Ethiopian TEMACC team.

Meeting with Dr. Zufan in her Private Maternity Clinic – Sa. 25.3.2017

Attendees: Dr. Zufan, *Medical Director*, Rahel Bekele, Peter Oppelt, Johannes Sametinger

Dr. Zufan is a medical specialist and senior gynecologist. She has a private maternity clinic in Addis Ababa that offers high-end medicine for Ethiopian standards. Dr. Zufan showed us around, there were many people in the waiting rooms. It was a Saturday and thus a holiday, but the clinic is open 24/7.

We also talked about the project and Dr. Zufan expressed her willingness to give advice on the phone if there are problems in the health centers outside. For the pilot project she thinks she has enough capacity and can also refer cases to some of her colleagues. She also made the suggestion to involve the regional health administration rather than the Ministry of Health. The regions are competitive among each other, so a region may be motivated to make a step forward. She advised to roll out a successful pilot project in the whole region and then make the ministry to roll it out even further. The regions have some autonomy in the federal structure of Ethiopia.



Hemen Maternal & Child Health Speciality Center: Peter Oppelt, Rahel Bekele, Dr. Zufan Lakew, Yirgedu Begashaw
by Johannes Sametinger

Introduction to Ethiopian culture and history – Sa. 25.3.2017

Attendees: Rahel Bekele, Peter Oppelt, Johannes Sametinger

For a better understanding of the Ethiopian culture and history, we made a visit to the Ethnological museum and the National museum. We learnt about the Italian occupation, the fact that Ethiopia is the only African country that has never been colonized. On the one hand, Ethiopian people are proud of this fact. On the other hand, they feel left out of modernization that was brought to other countries by colonial rulers. We also visited the Holy Trinity cathedral where Emperor Haile Selassie and his consort Empress Menen Asfaw are buried. We also had the chance to visit the nearby Selassie museum.



Institute of Ethiopian Studies: Johannes Sametinger, Peter Oppelt
by Rahel Bekele

Field trip to Butajira – Sun. 26.3.2017

Attendees: Tesfaye Biru, Rahel Bekele, Robel Yirgu, Peter Oppelt, Johannes Sametinger

Butajira is about 130 km southwest to Addis Abbaba, a 2 hours drive, more a 3 hours drive as it turns out later. In Butajira, there is a health post that will be included in the field study for the TEMACC project. People in Butajira speak a local language. But most people speak Amharic as well.

On the way to Butajira, we made a short stop at a world heritage center in Tiya, which is about 90 km from Addis Ababa. Tiya is famous for its Stelen, i.e., grave stones, discovered in 1935, originating from the 12th and 14th century.



Health Post: Tesfaye Biru, Robel Yirgu, Merkeb Teshome (HEW), Peter Oppelt, Johannes Sametinger
by Rahel Bekele

We visited a health post, which, like all health posts, is run by a single HEW. The post is in a rural area surrounding Butajira. Outside the health post, there is a sign that enlists all the services that are offered in the health post.

The communities themselves build the health posts. A typical health post has three rooms, the storage room, the check-up room, and the visitor room. The visitor room's walls are full of check lists and statistics that are written by hand and posted on the walls. On an average day, the HEW has about 50 patients.

Next, we visited the health center in Butajira. It consists of several offices with several employees. Mensur, the Maternal and Child Health Coordinator, showed us around. We started in the registration room where the paperwork is done. A computer is in use. There are tens of thousands of patient records, but they are not shared with any other health institutions. If patients are sent from one of the 18 HEWs, they come with paperwork (single form). They are sent back again with paper that is then shown to the HEW.



Health Center: Johannes Sametinger, Peter Oppelt, Robel Yirgu, Health Centre nurses, Mensur (MCH coordinator) Tesfaye Biru
by Rahel Bekele

Visit of School of Public Health – Mon. 27.3.2017

Attendees: Rahel Bekele, Robel Yirgu, Dean, Peter Oppelt, Johannes Sametinger

Robel Yirgu, member of the TEMACC team, is working for the school of public health. We met the Dean. He does not seem to not know anything specific about the TEMACC project. But we explained it and made sure, that he understands that we do not change anything about the system, but that we want to provide support for the existing system. He seems to be satisfied with this situation and happy, that one of his employees, i.e., Robel, is writing his PhD thesis in the context of this project.



School of Public Health: Rahel Bekele, Peter Oppelt, Dean Wakgari Deressa, Robel Yirgu, Johannes Sametinger
by Etsehiwot Tilahun

Visiting the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology – Mon 27.3.2017

Attendees: Rahel Bekele, Robel Yirgu, Dr, Mahlet Yigeremu, Peter Oppelt, Johannes Sametinger

We visited the university medical center, among other things the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. It is quite interesting to see the difference to Austrian hospitals. Of course, Peter Oppelt is the only one who can really estimate the situation. The university clinics will be important to provide expert information for rural communities or discussion groups to share their knowledge. However, in a first step, we will concentrate on the lower levels in the rural areas only. Thus, the university clinic will be involved in our project only at a later time, if not in an extension project at the earliest.



Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology: Rahel Bekele, Robel Yirgu, Mahlet Yigeremu, Peter Oppelt
by Johannes Sametinger

Mon 27.3.2017 – Visiting the School of Information Science and TEMACC office

Attendees: Rahel Bekele, Johannes Sametingger, Peter Oppelt, local TEMACC team

We visited the school of Information Science. The head of the School was not available because we were late when we arrived at the Campus.. Rahel showed us around. The School has five floors which consists classrooms, computer labs and instructor offices. Rahel also took us to her office. Above all, the TEMACC has secured an office and the project description together with the the JKU logo is posted on the door.. The department has provided it for the TEMACC team to use for a period of three years. We met the local TEMACC team and introduced each other. The local team reported from their latest field trips. We discussed different aspects of the project, and it seems that we all are getting a clearer picture of what exactly we want to accomplish in this project. The team spirit is good. There were many laughs in the discussions and it seems that we all are positive to succeed with this project. The team has planned further field trips. Members of different areas contribute, e.g., to use clothing compatible with the rural population to gain their trust in an easier way.



Rahel Bekele in front of the TEMACC office
by Johannes Sametingger



TEMACC team: Johannes Sametingger, Messeret Ayano, Robel Yirgu, Adey Edessa, Zelalem Debebe, Rahel Bekele, Workshet Lameneu, Peter Oppelt
by Kidus Menfese

Meeting of the TEMACC management team– Tue 28.3.2027

Attendees: Rahel Bekele, Tesfaye Biru, Johannes Sametinger, Peter Oppelt

We shortly met in Tesfaye's office, but soon had to leave in order to be at the next meeting in time.

Meeting at the Coordination Office for Development Cooperation of the Austrian Embassy – Tue 28.3.2027

Attendees: Rahel Bekele, Tesfaye Biru, Claudia Kluger, Gelila Seyoum, Johannes Sametinger, Peter Oppelt

We met Claudia Kluger and Gelila Seyoum of the Coordination Office for Development Cooperation. We have already exchanged some information beforehand, so Claudia Kluger already knows the basics of the project. Gelila Seyoum, as it turns out, was one of the reviewers of the project application. The leader of the office, Astrid Wein, came in for a few minutes as she was engaged in some other urgent meeting.

We were mainly interested in how to involve the Ministry of Health. We discussed the proposal of Dr. Zufan of involving the regional administration and of first establishing a working environment in the region. Both Claudia Kluger and Gelila Seyoum do not seem to have any objections and in fact supported the idea and we need to show something at a regional level before we approach the Ministry of Health.



Tesfaye Biru, Peter Oppelt, Claudia Kluger, Gelila Seyoum, Johannes Sametinger

by Rahel Bekele

TEMACC management wrap up – Tue 28.3.2027

Attendees: Rahel Bekele, Tesfaye Biru, Johannes Sametinger, Peter Oppelt

We discussed all the insights of our trip and tried to figure what the main objective of the TEMACC project has to be. Peter Oppelt has developed a rather clear understanding of what the components should be in order to improve the communication in the "lower health level". We all agreed that we have to improve this "lower health level" first. Later, we, or whoever is responsible, can roll out this improvement to upper levels as well, eventually reaching the School of Public Health and the Ministry of Health. Tesfaye, Rahel and Johannes Sametinger have a somewhat different view of the system to be developed. We saw it from a technical perspective. Peter Oppelt sees it from a medical perspective, which is the right perspective for end users. We sketched various scenarios and agreed to use them to get a first draft for requirements. We will discuss these requirements later in Linz (May/June) when the Addis team will visit us. We also planned to have a workshop in Butajira in September with health extension workers as well as health professionals from the health centres. We may also need to invite

members of the School of Public Health as well as those who will later use the system so that they will get a chance to express their needs and thoughts.

We closed our trip and visit to Addis with a positive impression for an exciting project work.

Addis Ababa → Linz – Tue. 28.3.2017 - Wed. 29.3.2017

Departure from Addis Ababa airport: Tue. March 28, 2017 at 22:40,

Arrival at Linz Airport (via Frankfurt): Wed. March 29, 2017 at 10:10