



# Bale Bulletin

Issue 7 April 2009

## **Aerial Survey Observation of Bale Forest Resources**

In late January this year the Consultants working on the Bale REDD programme returned to Ethiopia to continue working with the BERSMP Team. The main objective of this working visit was to undertake an aerial survey observation of the forest resources of Bale. These forest resources are proposed to be traded for sequestered Carbon. [Read Full Story](#)

## **Members of Parliament visited BERSMP's implementation sites**

BERSMP organised a few days visit for members of parliament in November 2008. The objective of the visit was to make sure policy makers are aware of various natural resource related works that are being done on the ground. The idea of the visit is to support them in making informed decisions. The parliamentary members who visited the BERSMP programme site were from three standing committees that are relevant to the natural resource management work the programme is carrying out in the Bale Mountains Eco-region. The group has previously visited the Chilimo forest participatory forest management site of FARM-Africa and SOS Sahel Ethiopia. This visit is expected to show the group how that concept and practice of PFM has been translated into a broader context and wider area. [Read Full Story](#)

## **International Conference on Traditional Forest – Related Knowledge and Sustainable Forest Management in Africa**

BERSMP and government staffs from the Bale and West Arsi Forest enterprises attended the conference that was organised by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on traditional forest related knowledge and sustainable forest management in Africa from October 15 – 17, 2009 in Accra, Ghana. The major lessons learnt were: The valuable role of diverse traditional /indigenous knowledge across Africa for sustainable forest management, and the importance of incorporating the traditional/ indigenous knowledge into scientific and participatory forest management systems. [Read Full Story](#)

## **Building capacity of experts to ensure sustainable management of natural resources**

One of the challenges faced by BERSMP is ensuring experts working on sustainable management of natural resources are well trained and capable of passing their knowledge to the community and beyond. For this purpose the programme identifies knowledge gaps and tries to address these through appropriate training. [Read Full Story](#)

### **PFM working group getting bigger and stronger**

The 2009 PFM working group meeting was held on March 5-6 in Jimma. It was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) and the NTFP-PFM research and development project. It was a great success for the working group to have the full backing of MoARD as PFM is being practiced at a wider level through out the country. The meeting included project updates, lessons from implementations thus far, as well as discussion on how to better collaborate and harmonize PFM to ensure success at a larger level.

[Read Meeting Proceedings](#)

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