

A HISTORY OF GREEN CAMPAIGN IN SETIT - HUMERA SINCE 1971 TO 1978

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Received: 15th November, 2019; Accepted: 28th December, 2019; Published: 21st January, 2020

ABSTRACT

This paper deals with selected notes about green campaign travelers, whom they seem to be, played a fundamental role in agricultural productive development in Ethiopian history. This includes spreading of health, education, infrastructure and permanent settlement, with special reference to rise of state farm or green campaign in Setit Humera area. Hence their contribution covers many multifarious sides for examples, social, economic and industrial frustration status of the country, security disabilities (became unstable), and administrative situation of the vast agriculture productive areas of Humera. Green campaign is one of measures been put forward to mitigate significant impacts of the campaign stock on the environment, society and economy. However, there is lack of a systematic review of this large number of studies that is critical for the future endeavor. The last decades have witnessed rapid growing number of studies on green campaign. This paper covers a critical review of the existing body of knowledge of researches related to green campaign. The Green Campaign has contributed to Setit Humera agriculture importantly and transformed Ethiopia from a starving nation to exporter. This study aims to determine the extent to which the selected social-economic characteristics and attitudinal factors influence respondents to have the intention to change their behavior for a green way. Based on the results there is a positive reaction towards go green campaigns among the respondents. The common themes are the definition and scope of green campaign; quantification of benefits of green campaigns compared to conventional campaigns; and various approaches to achieve green campaigns. It is found that the existing studies played predominately focus on the environmental aspect of green campaign. Other dimensions of sustainability of green campaign, especially the social sustainability is largely overlooked effects of climatic conditions on the effectiveness of green campaign assessment tools, validation of real performance of green campaigns, unique demands of specific population, and future proofing.

Keywords: Agriculture, Green Campaign, and Setit – Humera

INTRODUCTION

As an introduction of Green campaign in Ethiopia in general and Setit Humera in particular was practiced

or implemented during the *Dergue* period.¹ In 1979/80, there were 24,000 hectares being farm to the green campaign by Conleniel Mengstu Halemariam.²

¹ John W. Bruce After The Derg: An assessment of Rural Land Tenure Issues in Ethiopia, March 1994 pp 35-36, September newspaper Marxism Leninism Ethiopian Workers Party National Committee Ideology, Form 9, Number 35, June 1988, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 31.

² CGAZAC, Reference number 6891/12-1/39, Date 8/12/1971E.C, Letter written from the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia Ministry of State Farms Northern Agricultural Development Corporation to the Province Developmental Campaign plan Council office Gondar.

In line with those evidences, green campaign in Ethiopia was introduced in aforementioned time period.

The 1970s Green Campaign was attributed to increase food production and to feed the millions of malnourished people throughout the nation.³ It has been credited with increasing yields in many of the places of Setit Humera where the technology has been adopted, but the benefits experienced have been unequal across regions and groups.⁴ The objective of this paper is to explore or investigate at the Green Campaign whether or not it may or may not have it benefited small farmers in maximized productivity and income. Emphasis has been placed on Humera, since the area was one of the recipients of Green Campaign technologies.⁵

There have been many people in Ethiopia whose life in extreme poverty and suffer from malnutrition, and understanding how to increase agricultural productivity and yields in a way that benefits all farmers is very important.⁶ Unfortunately decades since the dawn of the Green Campaign in Ethiopia have revealed large disparities in the overall benefits to farmers.⁷

Distribution and practical application of Green Campaign strategies has been uneven geographically as well as across socio-economic classes.⁸ Geographical distribution issues can be broken down further into ecological barriers, or the viability of the land to accept Green Campaign technology.⁹

Uneven distribution among small scale and large scale farmers were apparent in three ways: small farmers' lack of funds to take advantage of Green Campaign technology; insufficient information and resources available to small farmers to effectively apply the technology; and the absence of government support for small farmers.¹⁰ The uneven distribution of Green Campaign technology has led to increased social disparity among classes. A disproportionate amount of people achieved success with the modern technology that was developed to positively affect everyone.¹¹ In Setit Humera green campaign technology promote a community supported agricultural program at work by joining a local employee. The most important uses of green campaign in Setit Humera is that helps to raise awareness in place where poverty reduction and environmental issues.

There were four important effects of the spatial and social disparities caused by the Green Campaign in

³ September newspaper Marxism Leninism Ethiopian Workers Party National Committee Ideology, Form 9, Number 35, June 1988, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 31. Abenet Belete and etl.... Development of Agriculture in Ethiopia since the 1975 land reforms, prior to 1975, the agrarian economy in Ethiopia was principally feudal, p. 161.

⁴ 19/10/1971

⁵ Zemen Kassa: Economic Development Plan Short Introduction from Administration principles, Kuraze Published Organization, December 1975, p. 20, CGAZAC, Folder No, □/□/15-11-□14, Date, 7/4/1978, Agricultural research Guidelines, Gondar.

⁶ CGAZAC, Reference number □118/12-1/59, Date 12/10/1979, A Letter written from the Provisional Military

Government of Socialist Ethiopia National Revolutionary Development Campaign planning Supreme Council to Corps Major Melaku Tefera, chairman of development campaign plan guidelines of Gondar regional office, Gondar.

⁷ September newspaper: Marxism Leninism Ethiopian Workers Party National Committee Ideology, Form 9, Number 35-June 1988. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, p. 31.

⁸ Informants, Ato Haylu Woldie (69years old)

⁹ CGAZAC, Reference number, □/33, □□-37/□ and □□10/4/1/70, Date, 6/4/1983, A Letter written from the provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia Relief and Rehabilitation Commission Gondar Regional Office to Daily arrival guidelines Addis Ababa.

¹⁰ Zemen Kassa: Economic Development Plan Short Introduction, p. 17.

¹¹ Ibid, page 20.

Ethiopia.¹²These are: the change from traditional methods to mono-cropping and unsustainable practices; violence and dissolution of the sense of community among farmers; the loss of many small farmers' landholdings to large commercial farmers; and increased suicide rates of small farmers.¹³ Important consequence of spatial and social disparities caused by green campaign in Setit Humera is change from traditional methods of agriculture to modern technology, violence and the loss of many small farmers land holding to large commercial farmers.

ORIGINS OF THE GREEN CAMPAIGN

In 1969, the then president of the Green Campaign foundation, Colonel Mengstu Hale Maryam hold a meeting to address the problem of poverty in the country.¹⁴ In attendance were leaders from the country's major foreign assistance agencies that were also concerned with agricultural development. The Green Campaign Foundation had already been working with partners in developing countries to develop technology to increase food production.¹⁵ They presented the positive impacts achieved by the major international (local) agricultural research centers.¹⁶One of these achievements was the introduction of new varieties of seeds like sesame, sorghum and cotton developed by plant scientist those were "stocky, disease-resistant, fast-growing and highly-responsive to fertilizer".¹⁷

¹² Ibid

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ CGAZAC, Folder No. 469/4-1/44, File No. 6895/12-1/59, Date, 8/12/71E.C, A Letter written from the Ethiopia

Provisional Military Government of Socialist Gondar Province Developmental Campaign Plan and Guidelines Office

Gondar to the seven sub provinces administrative office, Gondar.

¹⁵ Informant, Haylu Woldie.

¹⁶ CGAZAC, Folder No. □/12, File No. □□ 254/□□□□□□15-71-□□□14, Date, 7/4/78 E.C, A Letter written from

The 1970 Green Campaign discussion was the impetus for the country's agricultural development organizations' mobilization of plans for an increase in food production, later termed the "Green Campaign".¹⁸The Green Campaign quickly spread throughout the countries, including Humera Green Campaign area.¹⁹

There were worries at the meeting of green campaigns about the potential for unintended consequences. These included the possibility of widening the gap between small farmers and large landowners, as well as issues of depleting soil and water resources.

This paper investigates these concerns and the effects on small farmers in Setit Humera by the technologies put forth by the Green Campaign. In doing so, the article tried to show the detail about the history of green campaign in the study area.

FARMING METHODS INTRODUCED BY THE GREEN CAMPAIGN

The Green campaign was able to introduce new high-yielding varieties of seeds as well as chemical fertilizers.²⁰ The problem with indigenous seeds was not the fact that they were not high-yielding; rather it as their inability to stand up to heavy applications of chemicals.²¹

The new technology, i.e. improved seeds, chemical fertilizers and transport systems, were all essential for

Ethiopian Workers Party provisional Committee to the Six Sub province of Ethiopian Workers Party Committee
Number 4, Gondar.

¹⁷ CGAZAC, Foder No □/28 File No □□□ 299/37/67 Date.10/06/1967, A Letter written from Walkait Setit Humera

Farmers Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society Ltd, Humera, Ethiopia to Mr. Bezabih Gebrie, Begemder and
Semen province Administer, Gondar.

¹⁸Zemen Kassa: Economic Development Plan Short Introduction, p. 20.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid, p.46.

²¹ Ibid, p. 47.

the Green Campaign in Setit Humera.²² Societies claims that the seeds have to be refined locally and mentions the ‘green crop development’ in Setit Humera as an example.²³ Even before the beginning of green crop development the country invested in research and extension, this later resulted in a type of hybrid sesame specially made for Ethiopian conditions.²⁴ This type was later spread to the small farmers and the country became within some years, self-sufficient in sorghum and sesame.²⁵

When discussing agrochemicals, the government argues that after failed experiences of the use of pesticides in some parts of the country, they should be used with caution.²⁶ On the other hand, they claims that the use of chemical fertilizers is necessary to yield per hectare. However, when the prices on fertilizers in Ethiopia are the highest in the world,

and when the subsidies have been removed, the farmers can no longer get a profit out of the yield if fertilizers are used.²⁷ In order to increase the use of fertilizers, government argues that it is necessary to either increase aid or to increase world prices on cereals.²⁸ They believes that none will probably happen as long as nation politics prevent Setit Humera from protecting their agricultural sectors which Ethiopia once had the possibilities to do in order to secure their self-sufficiency.²⁹

According to A Letter Written from the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia Relief and Rehabilitation Commission Gondar Regional Office to the Province Planning Guidelines Office, Gondar, Reference Number, 01/9/1/01/18, Date 25/1/1977 the production of year and production of amounts listed in the below table.

Year	Production in amount of per tone	Place of Production	Remark
1971/72	609.02	Bewle and Hilgin Resettlement sit	
1972/73	645.2	Bewle and Hilgin Resettlement sit	
1973/74	417.6	Bewle and Hilgin Resettlement sit	
1974/75	234.5	Bewle and Hilgin Resettlement sit	
1975/76	797.7	Maykadera and Hilgin Resettlement sit	
1976/77	0	Maykadera and Hilgin Resettlement sit	No production due to the cases of drought happened in the country.

²²CGAZAC, File No. 000/00/79-60/2046, date 16/12/1976 E.C, A Letter written from the provisional Military government Ministry of State Farms Development Semene corporation Gondar Humera Agricultural Development enterprise office to province developmental campaign plan council office Gondar.

²³ Informants, Hailu Woldie.

²⁴CGAZAC, Folder No. 0/12, File No. 00 254/00000015-71-00014, Date, 7/4/78 E.C, A Letter Written from Ethiopian Workers Party Addis Ababa to Six sub province Ethiopian Workers Party, Gondar.

²⁵Ibid.

²⁶CGAZAC, Folder No. 0/12, File No. 00 254/00001597/51, Date, 30/2/1960 E.C, A Letter

written from the Imperial Ethiopian Government Ministry of Interior to Letnel Conleniel Tamerat Yegezu, Begemder and Semen province Administer, Gondar.

²⁷CGAZAC, File No. 000/00/79-60/2046, Date 16/12/1976 E.C, A Letter written from the provisional Military Government Ministry of State Farms Development Semene Corporation Gondar Humera Agricultural Development Enterprise Office to Province Developmental Campaign Plan Council Office Gondar.

²⁸ Negarit Gazeta 29th year, No.22, Addis Ababa, July 15th, 1970, Proclamation No. 276 of 1970 International Development Association Development Credit Agreement for Humera Agricultural Project Proclamation page, 96.

²⁹ Ibid.

The main actors in agricultural Mechanization system are farmers, suppliers, producers and supporting institutes and organizations. If they go for higher level for land preparation and settle with their traditional and modern practice for the operations. The production of the amounts of Sesame and Sorghum increased because of accessibility of agricultural materials and abundant climatic conditions. But the amounts of production decreased or low due to drought, and political instability in the study area.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE GREEN CAMPAIGN

The 1987 constitution of Ethiopian government granted states the power to impose land reforms to alleviate some of the disparities across states that had been created.³⁰ Success has varied between different areas. The two main fronts for this task involved changing property relations and providing investments and subsidies for agricultural development.³¹

The first step to even the playing field for farmers and do away with the socialist obstructions that hindered capitalist farming was to establish tenancy laws and abolish “feudal type landlordism”.³² The states that passed these laws focused on tenancy reform, placing a ceiling on land holdings and consolidating land.³³ However, the enforcement of anti-landlord laws was varied in success across regions. Some tenants could not afford to buy their land from the landlords. In most cases, tenants could only afford to buy their land from landlords in areas with commercial farming and Green Revolution technology because many of the farmers in

these areas were successful enough to pay for their property rights.

State support also took the form of investments and subsidies. Where the government and the peoples had invested money in agrarian infrastructure, irrigation and other technologies were more readily available and there was the opportunity to obtain credit with interest rates much lower than those of money-lenders.³⁴ The presence of public investment increased the profitability of agriculture which leads landowners to make more investments that raised productivity.³⁵

However, these benefits were rarely seen in the more marginal areas that missed out on the successes of the Green Campaign because commercial farmers had the money and power to sway the government in their favor. Government officials often relied on wealthy farmers for support and political backing. Because of this, subsidies and investments were concentrated in areas that had already seen success and advancement, and there usually was not much left for agrarian communities that were most in need of state support. The government helped the agricultural activities in Setit Humera in the case of to reduce poverty, improvements of import and export items of trade commodities and development of job opportunities of workless societies of the areas.³⁶

THE CHANGE FROM TRADITIONAL TO MODERN FARMING PRACTICES

Traditionally, Setit Humera’s farms were on small plots of land protected by windbreaks and tree cover. The farmers employed sound methods of organic husbandry that had been used for centuries. The

³⁰ Constitution of the People’s Democratic Republic of Ethiopia: proclamation No. 1 of 1987, *Negarit Gazita*, vol.47.No.1, Addis Ababa., 12 September, 1987, pp. 185-186.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Revolutionary Discussion Camp Number 4 Ethiopian National Revolution Program Explanation Population Organization Affair Office Philosophically Advertisement Committee, September, 1969, Addis Ababa Central

Published office, p. 50.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ Revolutionary Discussion Camp Number 4 Ethiopian National Revolution Program Explanation Population Organization Affair Office Philosophically Advertisement Committee, September, 1969, Addis Ababa Central

Published office, p. 51.

³⁵ Ibid

³⁶ Ibid.

practices of crop rotation and leaving fields fallow for long periods of time allowed the soil to retain nutrients. Because of this, the demands on the land were low, allowing farmers to establish a stable relationship with the environment. Maintaining a state of equilibrium with the soil enables farms to recover after disastrous events, such as droughts.³⁷

The natural forest was “delicately balanced and well-adapted to represent an ecologically optimal model for agriculture. The tree cover protected the soil from excessive heat and served as a safeguard against heavy monsoon winds”.³⁸ The multiple layers of vegetation protected the soil from erosion and allowed rain to circulate through the soil and restore aquifers, which the vegetation could tap into during long dry spells.³⁹ The diverse mix of vegetation also enriched the soil with a variety of nutrients.⁴⁰ All of these components created a highly productive ecosystem that had been functioning and evolving for centuries to withstand the volatile conditions of Ethiopia.

Up until the Green Campaign, farms in Setit Humera were subsistence-based and sown with a number of indigenous species of plants. Between each row of crops were other crops, making efficient use of land and water.

As the experience of small holding farmers the researcher found that for each small geographical region, each caste had its own niche in natural resource exploitation and use. Because of this, there was no overlapping and resources were not overexploited.

This allowed small communities to be, giving every person a chance to participate in the region’s economy.

Without their will and interest, farmers were then influenced by the green campaign and larger farmers who had changed to modern methods such as mono-cropping, in which they cultivated only one type of crop rather than multiple crops, as is done in traditional agriculture.⁴¹ While mono cropping allows farmers to grow more of a certain crop that is usually of higher market value, it has negative effects on the soil as well. Mono-cropping usually involves clearing large patches (areas) of land of trees. Also, farmers who use a mono-cropping system tend to leave their fields fallow for shorter periods

of time, so the soil cannot replenish (replace) its nutrients. Different crops have different needs, and planting more than one type gives the soil a chance to recharge what nutrients a certain crop does not need in preparation for the next crop. The soil does not get that kind of a break with a system of mono-cropping. Additionally, farmers that employ mono cropping methods need higher inputs of chemical fertilizers.⁴²

The Green Campaign package offered high yielding seeds.⁴³ This involved the application of chemicals to enhance the quality of the soil as well as deter pests and insects. The native crops were unable to stand up to chemical application, so farmers had to purchase the seeds that were developed to withstand heavy chemical applications.⁴⁴

³⁷ CGAZAC, Folder No. □□/28 File No. □□ 248 No. □□ 5-11-□□□□/4, Date, 7-4-78, A Letter Written from Ethiopian Workers Party National Committee Addis Ababa to Six sub province Ethiopian Workers Party, Gondar, CGAZAC, File No. □□□□/05/17/77, Date 16/01/1977E.C, A Letter written from the provisional Military government Ministry of State Farms Development Semene corporation Gondar Humera Agricultural Development enterprise office to province developmental campaign plan council office Gondar.

³⁸ CGAZAC, File No. 150/□□□□/12/1, date 03/01/1974E.C, A Letter Written from the

Provisional military Government of Gondar province police to province administrative office, Gondar.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Zemen Kassa: Economic Development Plan Short Introduction, p.20.

⁴² September Newspaper Marxism Leninism Ethiopian Workers Party National Committee Ideology Form 8, Number 34, June 1988, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, page 23.

⁴³ Zemen Kassa: Economic Development Plan Short Introduction, p. 47.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

The high yielding varieties of seeds had a narrow genetic base, and the farmers were sowing all of their fields with just one type of seed. The trees that once protected the fields were cleared, leaving the soil vulnerable to erosion and the plants open to intense sunlight and violent wind.

Converting from traditional subsistence farming to industrial mono-cropping had negative effects on small farmers. They found themselves trapped in the cycle of high interest rates on seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides which they had to buy on credit. Because they were often only working with one dealer, there was no competition and prices were able to remain very high.

A SHIFT FROM SMALL SCALE FARMS TO LARGE SCALE COMMERCIAL FARMS

As it is already argued the Green Campaign came about as a means to present a solution to resource and food scarcity.⁴⁵ The Green Campaigns' method to increase food production and eliminate hunger is to introduce technologies such as bio-engineered seeds and chemicals that are developed to increase yields.⁴⁶ However, smaller farmers have fallen behind and have had to take out loans and sell land to afford the

technology of the Green campaign. These farmers were left impoverished, and there were many reported suicides by farmers too proud to beg.

The father of the Green Campaign (Conleniel Mengstu Halemariam) in Ethiopia, agrees that it may not have been the best plan for Ethiopia agriculture.⁴⁷ He attributes this to the fact that the industrialization and monoculture introduced to Ethiopia by the Green Campaign have resulted in low water tables and soil that has been depleted of nutrients essential for growth.⁴⁸ Additionally, these techniques sparked a vicious cycle in which farmers were forced to spend more and more money on chemicals to counteract what monoculture and heavy fertilizer applications have done to their land.⁴⁹ Presently, water resources are scarce and expensive in Setit Humera.⁵⁰ Large farms benefit because they can afford canal irrigation, whereas small farmers need to resort to taking out loans with high interest rates to irrigate their fields.⁵¹ A survey in 1969 showed that in Setit Humera, the showcase state for the Green Campaign, 65% of Setit Humera farmers owned fifteen acres of land or less, and their land only accounted for about 34% of the total land of the state.⁵² The rest of the land was owned by the minority of farmers who owned twenty acres or more.⁵³ While a majority of farmers in Setit Humera

⁴⁵ September newspaper Marxism Leninism Ethiopian Workers Party National Committee Ideology Form, 9, Number 35, June 1988, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, p. 31.

⁴⁶ Revolutionary Discussion Camp Number 4 Ethiopian National Revolution Program Explanation population organization affair office philosophically Advertisement Committee, September, 1969, Addis Ababa Central Published office, p. 51.

⁴⁷ CGAZAC, Folder No, □/□/15-11-□14, Date, 7/4/1978, Agricultural research Guidelines, Gondar.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Master Land Use Plan Ethiopia, Main Report, Report Prepared for the Government of the Peoples Development Republic of Ethiopia, *United Nations Development Programme Food and Agricultural*

Organization of the United Nations, Rome, 1988, pp.63-64.

⁵⁰CGAZAC, File No. □□28/270/□, Date 9/10/1973E.C, A Letter written from the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia Begemeder and Semen Province Agricultural production Administrative Office, Gondar to Province workers Association Affairs office, Gondar.

⁵¹ Taffa Tulu. Small-scale irrigation development in the wetlands of south-west Ethiopia. In: McCornick, P. G.;

Kamara, A. B.; Girma Tadesse. (eds). 2003, *Integrated water and land management research and capacity*

Building priorities for Ethiopia. Proceedings of a MoWR/EARO/IWMI/ILRI International Workshop held at

ILRI, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, December 2-4, 2002, p. 267.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

farmed ten acres or less, it was shown that only farmers that owned at least twenty acres could afford to purchase the new inputs of the Green Campaign.⁵⁴ In short, small farmers were just not equipped to keep up with the pace of the Green Campaign.⁵⁵

Small farmers also suffer the effects of heavy fertilization taking its toll on the land and destroying the soil.⁵⁶ New seeds are dependent on large quantities of fertilizers, which decrease the presence of nutrients in the soil such as nitrogen, phosphorous, iron and manganese.⁵⁷ To counteract this, farmers must apply even more fertilizers to make up for the lack of important nutrients and aid the growth of the plants.⁵⁸ Furthermore, pesticides and herbicides lead to resistant species, creating further need for chemical applications.⁵⁹ Farmers are finding it harder to stay ahead of these growing costs, but they have become dependent on the new technological inputs.⁶⁰

In a system where purchasing expensive equipment is necessary for a farmer to stay competitive, small farmers often must rely on unofficial creditors and money lenders.⁶¹ These business men loan money and

charge exorbitant interest rates, sometimes as much as double the interest rate that banks charge.⁶²

Traditionally, agricultural knowledge and customs in Setit Humera were shared among the people that had been passed down through social and cultural structures and practices with the introduction of the Green Campaign and the commercialization of agriculture, farmers were faced with a difficult shift from traditional agricultural knowledge to a more modern methodology.⁶³ Farmers now rely more on market-led fads as they are impacted by the growing competition among agri-businesses. Because of this, agriculturalists are constantly in competition--causing the need to purchase new commercial varieties of seeds, pesticides, and fertilizers.

Furthermore, the papers indicated that many farmers have encountered problems with their farms because of their lack of knowledge of pesticide use and commercial inputs.⁶⁴ Soil tests must be conducted to determine the correct amount and composition of fertilizer and pesticide mixtures.⁶⁵ A large amount of small farms have missed out completely in this process, leaving them ignorant of what they should be

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ Master Land Use Plan Ethiopia, Main Report, Report Prepared for the Government of the Peoples Development Republic of Ethiopia, *United Nations Development Programme Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations*, Rome, 1988, pp63-64.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ CGAZAC, File No. □□□/79-60/2057, Date 18/12/1976E.C, A Letter written from the Provisional Military Government Ministry of State Farms Development Semene Corporation Gondar and Gojam Agricultural Development Enterprise Office, Bahir Dar to North Western Region Agricultural Development Corporation, Addis Ababa.

⁶⁰ Negarit Gazeta, Proclamation No. 277 of 1970, International Development Association Development Credit

Agreement for Humera Agricultural Project Proclamation, Printed in Berhane Selam, Haile Selassie I Printing

Press, Addis Ababa, July, 15th, 1970, pp. 96-97.

⁶¹ CGAZAC, File No. 9930/1/46, Date 13/4/1969E.C, A Letter written from the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia Begemeder and Semen Province Administrative Office, Gondar to Gondar Awraja Administrative Office, Gondar.

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Zerihun Alem. The process of planning and its implementation in the state farm sector of Ethiopia, A

Thesis presented to school graduate studies. Addis Ababa University, April, 1982, p, 59.

⁶⁴ CGAZAC, File No. □□□/79-60/2057, Date 18/12/1976E.C, A Letter written from the Provisional Military Government Ministry of State Farms Development Semene Corporation Gondar and Gojjam Agricultural Development Enterprise Office, Bahir Dar to North Western Region Agricultural Development Corporation, Addis Ababa.

⁶⁵ Ibid.

using on their fields. In fact, the leading cause for increasing debts of agriculturists was the inappropriately large amount of pesticides they sprayed on their fields.⁶⁶ When this was not the case, farmers would apply too little to their land to save money, causing the fertilizers to be virtually ineffective. In other cases farmers would wait until their field was infested before buying pesticides, which also defeats the purpose of these chemicals. In the political economy of the Green Campaign, it is evident that large, wealthy farmers in Setit Humera have more influence in politics than do small farmers.⁶⁷

CONCLUSION

The creators of the Green Campaign in Setit Humera seemed to have had the best intentions at heart they were working to develop technologies that increase productivity of farms in countries to combat hunger and poverty. However they had either the modern varieties of seeds that they produced did, in many cases, increase yields and increase profits for farmers as well as reduce prices to feed the hungry. Nevertheless, with these gains were major setbacks. The lack of a stable agrarian system in Ethiopia has made it difficult for Green Campaign technology to impact everybody positively. This was because of a rigid social structure which makes it difficult for those without money to improve their social conditions. Those with more money (and therefore more land) can afford the seeds and chemicals necessary to compete in the Green Campaign. Farmers with less money cannot afford to buy the necessary technology and resort to money-lenders to purchase on credit. They then find themselves in debt and paying exorbitant interest rates. They buy the technology on credit to keep up with large farmers and stay competitive in the market, but the debt alone negates any possible financial success they can achieve by adopting Green Campaign technology.

Once a farmer did acquire the tools necessary to compete in the post-Green Campaign, he or she is then trapped in a cycle that is nearly impossible to break. The modern varieties of seeds that were developed for the Green Campaign require heavy applications of chemicals to be successful. Once a farmer applies these chemicals to the soil, the soil degrades and is left depleted of essential nutrients. To make up for that loss, the farmer needs to use even more fertilizers to make up for what is lacking. Additionally, the use of pesticides leads to the creation of pesticide-resistant pests. This vicious cycle leads to the need for more chemicals to keep up with the changing chemistry of pests and pesticides.

Ultimately, the ideas and concepts of the Green Campaign may have seemed beneficial for all, but when deployed it is evident that this is not the case. To be truly effective at eliminating poverty and hunger worldwide, researchers need to develop a system that works with the land the cultural experience of farming and farmers there need to be series multi disciplinary study, rather than against it. It is impossible for technology to ever completely control the land and as humans we are not able to completely control nature. That being said, the cycle that farmers find themselves in when they begin to utilize Green Campaign technology is not easily broken, and the dependence has led many into indebtedness and further impoverishment.

In 1970s, Ethiopian had an epidemic of deaths due to starvation in more than a dozen states. This was the first time since the 1960's. In that same year, Ethiopia had such a surplus of grains the government proposed dumping a significant portion of it into the sea to make room for the next year's harvest. It is clear that the time has come for a plan for social development rather than a strategy for abundance. The Green Campaign may have been successful in increasing yields in many areas, but conditions have not improved for many of the farmers that need help the most and eventually, the

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ CGAZAC, File No. □□/1.3/87/76/73, Date, 10/8/73E.C, A Letter written from the Ethiopia Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia Developmental Campaign Plan and

Guidelines Office, Addis Ababa to the State Farm Ministry of Agricultural Development, Addis Ababa.

campaign remained the Derg's a failed project among of their designed to develop Ethiopia.

In Setit Humera the greener production methods are, the greater the availability of green goods and services. Therefore, the easier it is to practice greening principles until it becomes a standard practice and not an add-on or unique feature. Setit Humera fortunately has both the policy and infrastructure to support this transition to a green economy to the Benet of events and the built environment. The main finding of this study concluded that go green campaigns were successful in developing the intention to perform green Campaign. These types of campaigns had their own uniqueness where respondents got familiar with the concept of green campaign. This showed that the go green campaigns were able to cater to the respondents to help them perform green campaign.

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Appendix

I. List of Informants

No	Name of Informants	Sex	Age	Date of Interview	Place of Interview	Remark
1	Chalachew Jenber	M	75	12/02/2011	Adiremste	He is a farmer and has much knowledge about the farming practice.
2	Hailu Woldie	M	69	27/08/2011	Setit – Humera	He is a farmer and has good knowledge about Cooperative Farming Association.