Overview of Ethiopian Forest sector
Introduction

- Geography:
  - 4x size of UK, landlocked,
  - located in the Horn of Africa,
  - Mosaic landscape divided by the Rift Valley

- Population:
  - 80 million (2010)
  - 130 million (2030) (2% growth/yr)

- GDP per capita 2010:
  - Around $380, 40% of GDP from agriculture, which employees 80% population.
• Strong political commitment to Integrated Planning and Sustainable Development,
• Aims middle-income country status by 2025 using green economy,
• Ethiopia is one of the fastest developing economies in World.
History of afforestation and re-afforestation in Ethiopia

• The story traced back to the 16th century
  – Establishment of Menagaesha Suba Park
  – Seedlings of Juniperus procera brought from Wofwashasha
• Introduction of Eucalyptus as a milestone
• With the support from Swedish government plantations of Pinus, Gravilea robusta and Cupressus lustitanica
• Tree planting was promoted during the Derg regime
History of afforestation and re-afforestation in Ethiopia

• The Derg attempted to promote community forestry for various purposes

• The attempt failed
  – because of efficient community participation
  – Lack of clear tenure and ownership rights
  – Most of the plantations were removed during the fall of the regime
History of afforestation and re-afforestation in Ethiopia

• Attempts over the last 25 years were limited
• Afforestation and reforestation effort were mainly promoted through massive public mobilizations as a means to rehabilitate degraded lands
• Regional government enterprises were established
  – Good efforts to transform the function of the forest sector
  – Produces timber products for local market
  – Successful plantations have been carried out
Challenges and opportunities in Ethiopian Forest Sector

• **Opportunities**
  – Land, rainfall and other resources that can be utilized for afforestation
  – Conducive forest policy
  – High labor
  – Growing demand for forest products
  – Market opportunities outside of the country
  – Political commitment to promote investment
  – The CRGE
  – Etc...
Challenges and opportunities in Ethiopian Forest Sector

• Challenges
  – Lack of land use planning
  – Weak private sector engagement
  – Institutional instability
  – Weak implementation and empowerment of policy and legal frameworks
  – Inadequate infrastructure
  – Lack of value addition to forest products
  – Lack of grading of products
  – Poor link between production and industries
Challenges and opportunities in Ethiopian Forest Sector

- Lack of technical knowledge on sustainable forest management
- Lack of disease and pest prevention and control mechanism
- Open/free grazing
- Lack of improved tree seed supply
- Uncontrolled market
- Lack of financial institutions
Expectations

• Best afforestation and re-afforestation practices
• Integration of actors in developing strategies
• How forest accounting and valuation is performed
• Key factors to account enhanced forest sector
• Government intervention in the forest sector
• Market chain- large scale and small scale planters
• Promoting forest industries
• Resolving computing land use interests (trade offs)
• Management of coffee and forest