

## **Project Update: January 2016**

Although the project is small it disseminates a lot of information for various sectors. On December 30, 2015 I presented some of my findings to stakeholder's workshop entitled as "Stakeholders Workshop on Ecotourism Potential of Wetlands in Jimma Zone: Opportunities and Challenges"

In this workshop a total of 36 stakeholders of Jimma University and other stakeholders from Jimma zone and town administration was participated. Among the stakeholders the following the major ones which has a powerful to influence others for research and conversations.

1. Dr Fikre Lamessa, Jimma University President
2. Dr Tadesse Getahun, Jimma University Community Based Education (CBE), DIRECTOR
3. Dr Dejene Gemechu, Dean of college of Social Sciences and humanities
4. Mr Kora Tushune, Jimma University Vice President, Business and Development
5. Ms Cherer Akililu, Jimma University Director for external relations and communications
6. Dr Debela Hunde, Vice dean of college of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine
7. Mr Adugna Eneyew, Dean of college of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine
8. Dr Gezahagen Barecha, Jimma University, Director of International Institutes of Coffee Research
9. Mr Nejib Mohammed, Head of Jimma Zone culture and tourism
10. Dr Benti Dhiressa, jimma University college of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine research and Postgraduate coordinating office
11. Department head of Horticulture, Post-harvest management and Agricultural Economist and Rural Development
12. The other participants were from Jimma Zone Agricultural office, Jimma town land and environmental protection office, Jimma town culture and tourism, Jimma zone women and youth office, Jimma town women and youth office, Jimma town clean and green forum, Jimma University administrative and finance office.

I am proud of this project since I involved a lot of key stakeholders for further research and conservation support to implement directly on the ground. I submitted one article for scientific journals for publications. At this stage two activities (i.e., community workshop and conservation guidelines) are left to complete the project.

