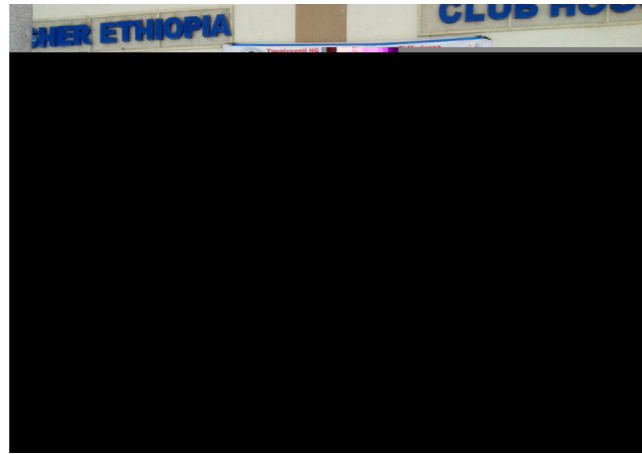


## New initiatives and partnerships

PAN-UK and IDH have been in consultation to collaborate on a joint action aimed at training smallholders on Integrated Pest Management by establishing a Farmer Field School in the Lake Ziway area (Central Rift Valley Landscape). The proposed joint action is estimated to be worth £267,523. PAN-UK has developed a draft proposal that is currently under review by IDH.

On the 25 September, IDH signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Wetlands International. The objective of the MoU is to jointly support the Rift Valley Lakes Basin Authority with the development of a sub-catchment Management Plan and a Water Allocation Plan for Ziway-Shalla sub Basin. The parties also agreed to jointly develop and implement projects in the sub-basin that are supportive of the implementation of these plans.



## Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes (ISLA)

### Central Rift Valley, Ethiopia

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## Our reforestation work around Lake Ziway continues

More than 200 hectares of degraded land in Andola Chebi and Ilka Chelemo were replanted over a three-week period beginning 20 July, as part of ISLA's reforestation project. With financial support from IDH and the private sector, and in-kind contribution from the local municipalities, 445,000 seedlings were planted.

The ISLA reforestation projects aim to rehabilitate degraded areas in various kebeles surrounding Lake Ziway. The trees will improve soil fertility, mitigate soil erosion and slow the siltation of the lake. Both communities and businesses rely on Lake Ziway's water for drinking or for production

Ato Getachew Nanesso, head of ATJK Woreda remarked "We are highly encouraged with the growing involvement of the private sector in sustainability initiatives led by IDH. While it is important to plant trees, it is equally important to make sure that these trees are protected. Natural resource management is a priority for the government. As such, our office will play its role in galvanizing the community to take good care of the planted trees".

Members from the surrounding communities took part in the planting. The private sector partners that co-financed the project were Verde beef, Castel Winery, as well as the flower companies Herburg Roses, AQ Roses, Braam Flowers, Ziway Roses and Sher Ethiopia.

## African Development Bank attends ISLA supervisory committee meeting

We held a fruitful biannual ISLA supervisory committee meeting on 19 July with a representative from African Development Bank (AfDB) participating as a special guest alongside our public-private coalition. AfDB is in the initial stages of launching a project entitled, "Improving Climate Resilience of Communities and Ecosystems through Integrated Water Resources Management in the Central Rift Valley of Ethiopia," which seeks to address challenges including deterioration in quantity and quality of water resources. This being one of its thematic areas, IDH-ISLA expects there to be areas of collaboration with AfDB. The biannual meeting is a platform for the public and private partners to discuss and take action on the sustainability issues within the Central Rift Valley.

Partners reviewed the progress made on the joint projects so far and took decisions to scale up many of the

pilot projects. Successful pilots included the numerous reforestation activities, solid waste management project, and supporting the certification of 48 smallholder farmers in Global G.A.P. – the first of its kind in Ethiopia, allowing farmers to sell their produce at a premium price, thus improving their income.

Together with ISLA, flower farms, Verde Beef, and the municipality intend to scale up the municipal solid waste management pilot project that was concluded in June 2017.

We used the occasion to welcome Ziway Lodge as the latest partner in the ISLA coalition. Mr. Michael Russel, owner of Ziway Lodge and a forester with more than 40 years of experience brings his expertise to the coalition for the scale up of the projects. As such, we are discussing potential project for community based commercial



## Ziway Roses and Batu municipality joined forces to clean up the town

On 18th of August, 2017 Ziway Roses PLC, in coordination with Batu Municipality, voluntarily took a commendable initiative by deploying about sixty of its employees to clean up selected areas within Ziway town. Our team also joined in on the clean-up and proposed to the town's may-or to institutionalize such campaigns within the community to make it a monthly event. We welcome more of such initiatives in the near future!



## Alternative Income Generation Enterprises Formed

As part of the ISLA reforestation project, we stimulate entrepreneurial activities among the surrounding communities to help them increase their income. We focus in particular on households living around the newly rehabilitated areas, who once depended on the area for grazing and who are now committed to protecting the area.

In September, we supported four enterprises in poultry, beekeeping, cattle fattening with grass cut-and-carry system to become legally registered by the Oromia government.

Beneficiaries of the initiative include 90 community members of which 60 are women who will be provided with trainings and inputs for starting businesses. Initial costs are being covered by budget from our reforestation project with Castel Winery. In addition, through the pilot solid waste management project, two micro enterprises have been formed where selected youth are now equipped with carts and donkeys to make incomes out of collecting solid waste from households around the project pilot sites.

