

Project Update: February 2016

Performed activities:

1. From the Google Earth I selected 60 small *Eucalyptus* plantation patches ranging in size 0.5-1.75 ha and had a distance of 0.1 km to 12km from the remnant natural forest (i.e. Chilimo forest) see Figure.1
2. I calculated the area or size of the patches and distance from the continuous forest using Arc-GIS software.
3. I collected about 90 herb plant species from the 60 *Eucalyptus* patches. Some are in national herbarium for further identification. Furthermore, the environmental variables such as height of the grass sward, canopy cover, bare soil cover, height and diameter at breast height of the *Eucalyptus* trees have been recorded. I also recorded the elevation from the Google Earth
4. I also recorded the age of the *Eucalyptus* patches from aerial photos from 1998-2014 that will be used as one of the environmental variables.

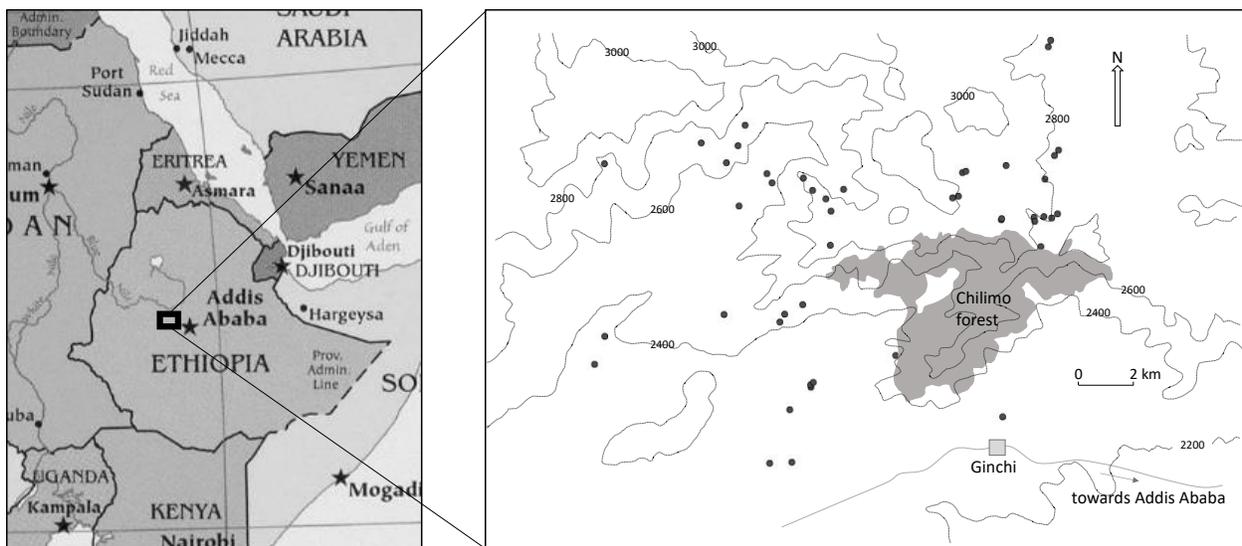


Figure 1. Distribution of investigated *Eucalyptus* plantation patches (black dots) surrounding Chilimo forest in central Ethiopia