

## Project Update: June 2022

Our project held a 2-day awareness creation workshop (June 8-9, 2022) for Woreda experts, stakeholders, Kebele Administration, and local community representatives at West Arsi zone, Wondo district, Intaye Town (fig 1). The workshop was entitled "Conservation, Management, and Restoration of Cheleleka Wetland ". There was a case study presentation on Cheleleka wetland spatio-temporal trends, Cheleleka wetland current conditions, main problems in Cheleleka wetland, future Cheleleka wetlands conservation practices, and stakeholder role in Cheleleka wetland conservation. The workshop was delivered in both Afan-Oromo (local language) and English. We had very fruitful discussions with all experts and stakeholders about the burning issues of Cheleleka wetland degradation.



Figure 1: Banner of the workshop

A total of 65 participants were involved in the workshop. The workshop was sponsored by The Rufford Foundation and organised by Hawassa University, Wondo Genet college of Forestry and Natural Resources (HU-WGCNRS) and Wondo District Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Office. Upon the discussion all the experts and other stakeholders agreed to give attention to conserve, manage, and restore the degraded Cheleleka Wetland resource. In order to do this, we need to have a continuous discussion and support from researchers, collaborative works with other neighbouring districts and city/town administrations, policy makers, and community mobilisers. Besides that, the workshop participants also agreed to plant conservation tree seedlings on the upper hillside of the wetland in the coming summer season.



Figure 2: Pictures of the workshop Participant



Figure 3: Pictures of the workshop Participant