

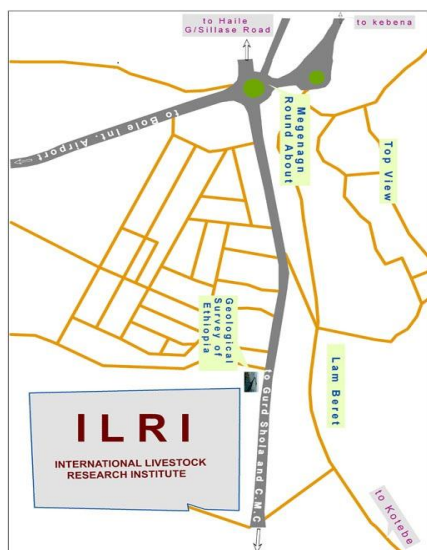


## WELCOME TO ETHIOPIA



## IWMI IN ADDIS ABABA

The office is located inside the ILRI campus



East Africa & Nile Basin Office  
C/o ILRI-Ethiopia Campus  
Bole Sub City, Kebele 12/13

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 5689

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: +25111 6457222/3 or 6172000

Cell phone: 0911 621748

Fax: +251 116172001

E-mail: [iwmi-ethiopia@cgiar.org](mailto:iwmi-ethiopia@cgiar.org)

Web: [www.iwmi.org](http://www.iwmi.org)

## ETHIOPIAN CULTURE

Ethiopia is a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic country. Religion is a major influence in Ethiopian life

### Crucial etiquettes

- Ethiopian greetings are courteous and somewhat formal.
- The most common form of greeting is a handshake with direct eye contact.
- After a close personal relationship has been established people of the same sex may kiss three times on the cheeks.
- "Ato", "Woizero", and "Woizrit" are used to address a man, married woman, and unmarried woman respectively.
- Ethiopians are hospitable and like to entertain friends in their homes.
- An invitation to a private home should be considered an honor.
- Punctuality is not strictly adhered to although considerable lateness is also unacceptable.
- You will always be offered a cup of coffee. It is considered impolite to refuse.
- Ethiopians are relatively formal and believe table manners are a sign of respect.
- Do not presume that because food is eaten with the hands, there is a lack of decorum.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Climate:** Ethiopia has a cooler than average tropical climate due to its altitude. There is a distinct rainy season from April to September. The average rainfall in the capital Addis Ababa is 40 inches and a temperature of between 21 and 25 degrees.

**Money:** The Ethiopian Birr is the national currency. Visitors may bring in as much foreign currency as they wish. Credit Cards are not widely accepted outside the major establishments in the cities.

**Health:** All visitors must be in possession of valid vaccination certificates covering Yellow Fever. Also recommended are vaccinations against hepatitis and cholera. If visiting the lowlands Malaria precautions should be taken.

**Language:** The official language of Ethiopia is Amharic. In the country there are some 80 local languages. English is the second official language and is understood in most hotels and major towns. French and Italian are also widely understood.

## RECOMMENDED HOTELS

### Sheraton Addis

Tel: +251 11 517 17 17

Fax: +251 11 553 14 14/ 13

E-mail: [sheratonbc@ethionet.et](mailto:sheratonbc@ethionet.et)

### Hilton Addis Hotel

Tel: +251 11 551 84 00/ 57 48/00 54

Fax: +251 11 551 17 18

E-mail: [hilton.addis@ethionet.et](mailto:hilton.addis@ethionet.et)

### Radisson Blu Hotel

Tel: +251 1 15 15 76 00

Fax: +251 1 15 15 76 01

Email: [info.addisababa@radissonblu.com](mailto:info.addisababa@radissonblu.com)

### Beshale Hotel

Tel: +251 11 647 8181

Fax: +251 11 647 8189

Email: [beshalehotel@ethionet.et](mailto:beshalehotel@ethionet.et)

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

### Police

Emergency police (24 hours' service):

991 OR +251-11 157 21 21

### Hospitals

Bethzatha Hospital

Tel. +251-115-51 44 70; +251-113-71 31 35

St. Gabriel Hospital

Tel. +251-11 661 36 22; +251-116-61 44 00

St. Yared Hospital,

CMC road, Tel. 0116 454697 or 6460911

## TRANSPORTATION

Public transportation is through public buses from Anbessa City Bus Service Enterprise or blue and white share taxis. The taxis are usually minibuses that can seat at most twelve people. Visiting staff members are encouraged to arrange airport shuttles with their respective hotels.

Yellow airport taxis are also available at the airport

## COMMON EXPRESSIONS

English Word	Amharic
Hello	Selam
Bye/So long	Ciao
Thank you	Ameseginalehu
Coffee	Buna
Breakfast	Course
Dinner	Erat
Restaurant	Megib Bet
Yes	Awo
No	Aye
Excuse me	Yikerta
Good bye	Dehna Hun (male) Dehna Hungi (female) Dehna Hunu (plural)

For further Amharic terminologies, please visit the website "live & learn Amharic" on the following link [www.mylanguageexchange.com/learn/amharic.asp](http://www.mylanguageexchange.com/learn/amharic.asp)

