

On Tuesday December 16 the 5<sup>th</sup> Poultry Platform, part of the Agri-Business Support Facility program under the Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce, was organized in the Friendship International Hotel. It was a special edition, because the State Minister of Livestock, H.E. Dr. Gebreegziabher Gebreyohannes, was the Guest of Honor and the Keynote Presenter.

Dr. Gebreegziabher started with a presentation on the Livestock Masterplan (LMP), which indicates a huge increase of poultry production and investments in the coming 10 - 15 years. The overall target of the LMP is “to raise chicken meat production to 164 thousand tons and eggs to 3.9 billion in year 2020 through Improved Family Poultry (IFP) and expanded specialized Poultry (SP)”.

There were some additions to the presentation by Dr. Workneh Ayalew, Director of the Livestock Department of ATA, which indicated that ATA will give clear recommendations to the government on evidence-based research. After that a lively and fruitful Q&A-session arose.

After the coffee break Dr. Bezabih Emana presented on the inception phase of a knowledge-to-knowledge program (K2K), which is to capacitate the universities and to a lesser extent extension services in their education on practical poultry farm management. The focus of this program will really be on financial, performance and marketing management of the farm.

The last presentation at this 5<sup>th</sup> Poultry Platform was provided by Dr. Girma Zeleke from DAT Trading. After a brief overview of the Ethiopian poultry sector Dr. Girma listed the many challenges that still exist in the sector and invited the Platform to jointly work on solutions.

Lastly Dr. Zerihun, Lead Advisor of the Agri-Business Support Facility, announced new possibilities for studies and pilot-projects for participants with innovative ideas.

***The 6<sup>th</sup> Poultry Platform will take place on Tuesday March 3 or Thursday March 5 and will be aligned with the mission of the Holland - Africa Poultry Partners to Ethiopia and the Official Opening of the National Poultry Training Center***