

# Ethiopian Professional Association Alliance (EPAA)

High Level Consultative Meeting: organized by ACSO  
December 30/2025\_ACSO Hall

# Presentation outline

- Conception and birth of EPAA (Longest period)
- Infancy stage - EPHA as caretaker
- Childhood period (membership development, Strategic plan, resource mob)
- Challenges faced so far and way forwards

# Conception and birth of EPAA

2017/18 - 2022/2023

# Historical and chronological events

- Concept of PA Alliance was conceived about 8 years ago
- Few but likeminded people evolved as coordinating group
- Several consultative meetings were held
- Existing laws and hurdles were hampering ultimate goals
- Parallely a study was conducted on situation of Ethiopian PAs
- Several years later establishment was realized

# Few facts about PAs in Ethiopia (study based)

**Presented on the EPAA establishment**

# Number and Diversity of PAs

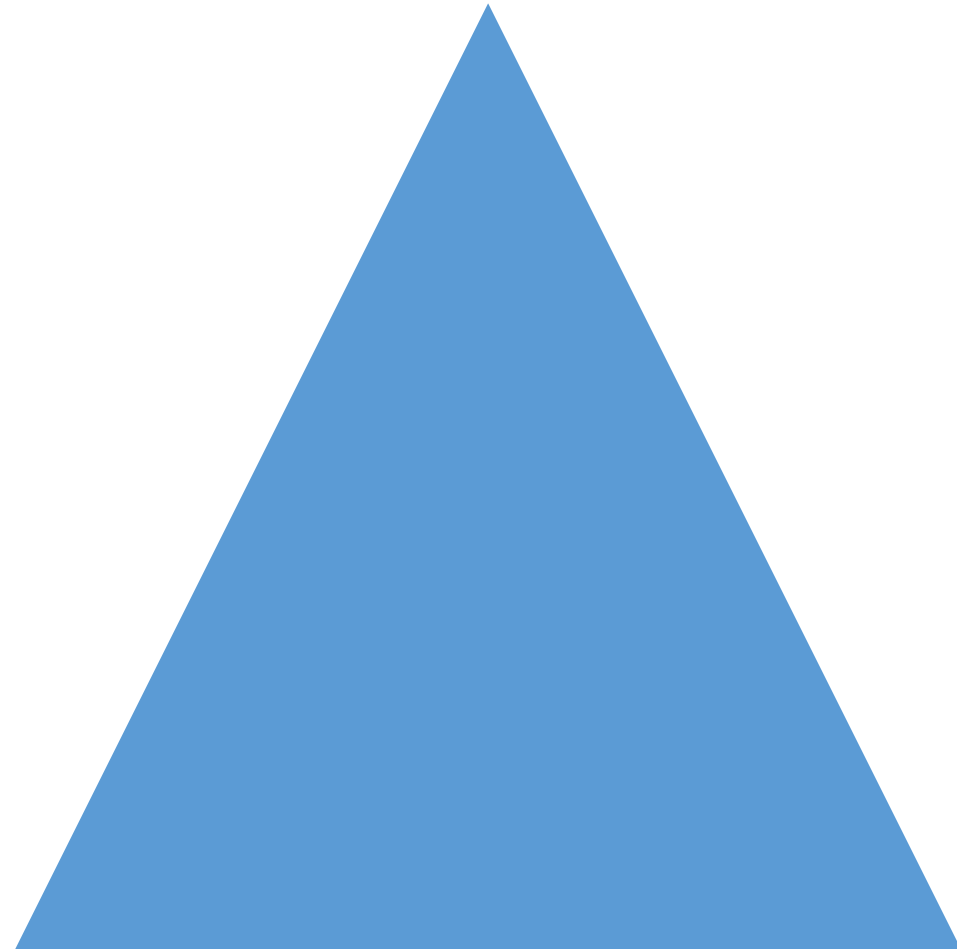
Total 220 registered PAs

The largest sector is Health  
24%

Science/Technology 14 %

Culture/Media/Tourism  
13%

Remaining 49%





More than a third of PAs(33.3%) did not have Strategic plan implication: **No vision and mission and strategic goals**

## INFRASTRUCTURE

*Nearly half (45.8 %) of the PAs work with no office space to facilitate and support the organizations work.*

*Two thirds 66.7%) of PAs did not have the necessary equipment and communication systems.*



## Membership functions

About 30% of PAs did not have mechanisms to know the interests of members

Fifty percent did not have a system to maintain the existing members and 29 % did not have the mechanism for new member recruitment

Forty five percent of the associations admitted that they did not have regularly reviewed code of conduct

Among those that have published code of conduct new members have access to code of ethics or are given a copy of the code of ethics in 50% of the associations.

Others say their association does not provide a copy of code of ethics

54% of the associations do not attend where members practice is being questioned.

# ESTABLISHMENT OF EPAA

- EPAA was born on October 14/2022 at Capital Hotel
- Several dignitaries were present, presentations were made and discussed
- Fifty four PAs and many stakeholders have attended the establishment
- Bylaws was discussed and ratified
- Three General Assembly Executives and 09 Board members were elected
-

# Contributors to the establishment



# Establishment in capital Hotel



# Governance- General Assembly (GA) Executives

- Chair: Entomological society of Ethiopia
- V/chair: Association of Ethiopian Insurance Agents
- Secretary: Ethiopian Health Education and Promotion  
Professionals Association (EHEPA)



## Board of Directors (BoD)/Executive Committee

- |    |  |                 |
|----|--|-----------------|
| 1. | Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA) | President       |
| 2. | Ethiopian Road Safety Association (ERSA)   | V/president     |
| 3. | Ethiopian Economics Association (EEA)      | Treasurer       |
| 4. | Commercial Graduates Association (CGA)     | Secretary       |
| 5. | Ethiopian Film makers Association (EFMA)   | Public relation |
| 6. | Ethiopian Anesthetists Association (EAA)   | Member          |
| 7. | Ethiopian Biochemists Association (EBA)    | Member          |

# Infancy stage-EPHA as immediate caretaker

2022-2023



# EPHA as immediate caretaker

- Registered as local organization with a registry no 6579 (Dec 22/2022)
- As first president, EPHA hosted the EPAA, provided a desk, assigned a volunteer, facilitated matters related to establishment and still providing all rounded support at EPHA house in “Kebena”
- Hosted one extraordinary (virtual)
- Hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> annual GA Meeting of the EPAA (venue, related costs) in Mach 2024 back to back to EPHA annual conference
- Currently facilitating the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> GA meeting on March 18/2026

Childhood period  
2023-todate

# Membership development

- A Professional association or society that filled a membership form, registered and certified by ACSO based on proclamation no 1113/2019, got permission from its board to join EPAA is eligible for EPAA member
- You are all invited to at least fill the membership form before leaving
- Membership form is also available on our website
- Annual contribution is ETB 3000

Five year (2025-2029) Strategic plan

# Vision

To see a vibrant, self-reliant and iconic professional alliance  
with fully **empowered** and **dynamic** member organizations by  
2035

# Mission Statement

To **contribute to national development** through a better understanding of the context of global, national and local professional associations; providing a **platform for networking and partnerships; mobilizing and engaging its members; informing and influencing policy making;** and rendering state of the art professional services.

# Strategic Goals (10 major activities)

1. Increased, diversified and engaged member organizations
2. Enhanced and active role in national, regional and global initiatives
3. Strong Networking and partnership with stakeholders
4. Generation of high quality evidence
5. Established Center of Excellence and professionalism

# Strategic Goal 1: Increased, diversified, engaged member organizations

- Recruiting new Professional Associations
- Conduct regular promotional activities
- Create a database with members profile



## Strategic Goal 2: Enhanced and active role in national, regional and global Initiatives

- Map and establish partnership with with national, regional and global institutions: (Ex. ACSO, ENDC, DE, UN organizations and other government institutions)
- Organizing periodic conference to engage different partners and stakeholders

## Strategic Goal 3. Strong Networking and partnership with stakeholders

- Encourage PAs to initiate CPD programs for their members
- Establish EPAA bulletin editorial committee
- Website development for information sharing
- Organize dialogue and consultative sessions

## Strategic Goal 4: Generation of high quality evidence

- Conduct online survey on PAs to learn member needs
- Encourage members to do operational research
- Identify and engage stakeholders in key priority areas

## Strategic Goal 5: Established Center of Excellence and professionalism

- Represent the Alliance on National, regional and global forums

# First EPAA National conference

27-28 February 2026 in Addis Ababa

# First EPAA National conference

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# First EPAA National conference cont....

- Conference will be held 27-28 February 2026 in Addis Ababa
- Venue will be determined soon
- Steering committee composed of all Executive committee members is well functioning (mainly engaged on resource mobilization)
- Four subcommittees are working hard- **anyone of you to join? Welcome!!**
- Abstract submission is already completed
- Intensive resource mobilization (both monetary and non monetary) from potential partners and donors is underway

# Objectives of the EPAA 1<sup>st</sup> National conference

- Facilitate an informed, multi-stakeholder dialogue on Ethiopia's political, economic, and social challenges.
- Examine Ethiopia's macroeconomic conditions, including youth unemployment, trade, inflation, debt sustainability, and propose policy solutions.
- Explore the strategic significance of securing access to a seaport, geopolitical implications, and diplomatic consensus with neighboring countries.
- Identify key reforms needed in the health sector to improve service delivery and ensure sustainable healthcare solutions.



# Objectives of the EPAA 1<sup>st</sup> National conference cont...

- Analyze the impact of disinformation in a diverse society and propose counter-narrative strategies to foster social cohesion.
- Evaluate the opportunities and challenges of urban transformation (e.g., corridor development) and its scalability across Ethiopian cities.
- Foster professional and policy-level dialogue among Nile Basin countries for equitable water utilization, regional economic integration, and shared prosperity.

# Targeted audience/participants

- High-level government officials
- Researchers and the Academia
- Civil society and Media representatives
- Private sector stakeholders
- Regional and international Development partners
- Individuals from Professional Associations

# EPAA call for invited Sponsors and Partners

- Government institutions, Development agencies, Private sector organizations, and international partners to support this initiative through:
  - ❖ Financial sponsorship with specific benefit packages
  - ❖ In-kind contributions (venue, media coverage, travel tickets, accommodations, logistics)
  - ❖ Writing and facilitating a supporting letter to potential organizations (Ex ACSO)
  - ❖ Technical collaboration (assigning panelists, speakers, research/project presentations via sponsored sessions)
  - ❖ Voluntary service/ staff assignment in the subcommittees of the conference

# Major challenges faced so far

- Meaningful engagement and commitment of EPAA leadership has remained a challenge for the alliance
- Inability to Influence respective sector and get better engagement
- The ongoing global financial crisis will remain a continued challenge of the Alliance. **(Localization approach: as opportunity but practicality)**
- More expectations than serving by member Professional associations

**Way forwards:** Intensive resource mobilization efforts for self reliance

Visit our website:  
[www.ethpaa.org](http://www.ethpaa.org)

Email: [info@ethpaa.org](mailto:info@ethpaa.org)

Also EPAA is available in social media  
platforms (FB, twitter...)

# Acknowledgements

Please allow me to acknowledge

- ACSO: Professional Association Desk
- Executive committee members of the EPAA
- Mr. Yonas V/president EPAA: took data and few slides from his study
- EPHA (different directorates)
  - ❖ Membership Affairs Directorate, Finance and Admin Directorate of EPHA
  - ❖ Senior Communication officer and IT officer
- EPAA past and current volunteer staff
- Many others

I thank you all for listening