**Introduction:** The Ethiopia Cultural Heritage Project is a Learning and Innovation Loan (LIL) with the objective of testing out and developing, on a pilot basis, the means for more fully integrating the conservation and management of the country’s cultural heritage into local and national economic development. It is designed to support development approaches to the conservation of cultural heritage assets through site planning and conservation of archaeological and historic buildings and sites, and through the development of better information for conservation planning and threat mitigation. The project will also contribute to the revitalization of economic activity by testing out approaches for small crafts-based enterprises and by capitalizing on tourism potential.

The project has three components: Site Planning and Conservation, Inventory and Documentation Development, and support for the development of Artisanal Crafts. Central to the design of the project is the idea that these components are closely related, and should be carried out in a way which brings together the conservation of historic sites, support for living culture, and economic development through the tourism and small enterprise sectors. The opportunity for learning different methods of institutional cooperation to bring this about is at the core of this LIL.

The Bank board approval date of the CHP was in April, 2002 and the project was declared effective in December 2002. In the project appraisal document (PAD) resettlement was not considered as an issue. As a result, an environmental impact assessment (EIA) or social assessment were not conducted in the project preparation phase.

In the first supervision mission of the project held from June 18 to July 3, 2002, the mission found that the World Bank operational policy (OP 4.12) on involuntary resettlement will be triggered, as about 10 households were to be relocated due to project activities in Ras Mengesha compound, a site planned to be converted into a crafts center under the artisanal crafts development component of the project. Subsequently, seven of the ten households were relocated by the local administration. To address this issue, ASPEN recommended the preparation of a Resettlement Audit for the seven households and a Resettlement/Rehabilitation Policy Framework (RPF) to address other resettlement issues that may arise due to implementation of the project.

The RPF and the Resettlement Audit have been prepared and formally cleared by ASPEN. According to the resettlement audit, the seven households moved to less than 200 meters from their old location. Five out of the seven relocated households have got larger and, qualitatively better rooms. While the other two have got about the
same size of rooms but with better quality. All of the seven households are satisfied with their new houses. They have been compensated with relocation cost and relocation allowance amounting to ETB 140 per household by the Axum city administration as per the recommendation of the Audit. The Kebele administration has assisted the seven households in finding their current location and in facilitating their relocation.

The Resettlement Audit has suggested that an Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan be prepared; submitted to the World Bank (ASPEN) for clearance prior to the relocation of the three households. Based on this background, the following abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan for the remaining three households is prepared.

**Project Affected Persons (PAPs):** The three households remaining in Ras Mengesha compound are:

1. **Mrs. Genete Abrehe,** Family size - 4, Room area 12M\(^2\)  · Length of residence in the room 12 years.
2. **Mr. Zenawi Zerihun,** Family size - 3, Room area 15M\(^2\)  · Length of residence in the room 12 years.
3. **Mr. Mekonnen Abrehe:** Family size -10 (six out of the ten family members are residing elsewhere), room area 15M\(^2\) Length of residence in the room 12 years.

**Assets and livelihood:** The three households, currently living in Ras Mengesha compound earn their livelihood in the informal sector. They are working in the market as petty traders and daily laborers. The assets of the three households, mainly include dining and cooking utensils (plates, dishes, knives); water fetching materials such as jerry cans, tins and plastic buckets etc; and sleeping materials including beds, mattresses, pillows and sheets. The PAPs do not have any fixed structures or assets which could be lost as a result of relocation.

All the 3 PAPs are tenants of the Kebele living in single rooms, which is approximately between 12 and 15 M\(^2\). Mud walls, natural stone, earth floors and corrugated iron sheet roofs was the housing standard for all of the three PAP households. As indicated in the Audit, rental cost is 20 Birr/Month.

According to the entitlement matrix in the Resettlement Policy Framework the category of the three PAPs is residential tenants. The types of loss is loss of rental accommodation and their entitlement include replacement cost for non-movable assets, if installation was agreed with owner, six months rent, coverage of full cost for total transport expense and disturbance allowance.

**Relocation plan:** The Woreda/Kebele administration, together with the office of culture and tourism are
responsible for the relocation of the three households. The PAPs have been informed about the project objectives, the need and timing of their relocation and their entitlement rights. In addition the PAPs have been notified of their relocation two months ago as preparation for implementation of the project activity in Ras Mengesha compound is being finalized. The Keble administration will assist the PAPs in finding appropriate rental houses within 300 meter radius of their current location.

**Compensation:** A compensation committee consisting of the PCU, representatives of the woreda and Kebele administration as well as representatives of the PAPs have reviewed the assets of the PAPs and established compensation plan for each affected household. Accordingly, each household has received 120 birr which is equivalent to six months rent and relocation allowance of 20 Birr which include 5 birr for transportation of their belongings to the new location. The compensation rate is in line with the entitlement matrix in the RPF. It is also based on the recommendation of the Audit and agreement of the PAPs. The compensation has already been paid for the three households together with the first group (seven households) of PAPs. Following requests by the three households, the contractor selected for the restoration of Ras Mengesha house has promised that the three households will be offered job opportunity when the construction work commences. In addition, the PCU will give the PAPs priority for job opportunity when the crafts center becomes operational.

**Cost Coverage:** The Axum Municipality will cover the compensation cost, and all costs associated with the relocation as indicated above.
Time line: Physical relocation will take place as soon as the PAPs find reasonable accommodations compared to their current residence.