

**Congress Participation Report:
The 33rd International Geographical Congress (IGC2016), Beijing, China
August 21-25, 2016**

By

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The 33rd International Geographical Congress (IGC 2016) was held in National Convention Center (CNCC) at Beijing, China (see picture 1). The theme of the 33rd IGC is “**Shaping Our Harmonious Worlds.**” Through academic exchanges and communications on Geography, the congress aims at promoting the harmony between humankind and nature, respecting in maintaining the ecological health of nature and cultural difference, and the congress create opportunity to bring leading geographers together from all over the world to share their research out comes on global understanding, future earth and sustainable development in a profound way once per Olympic year.

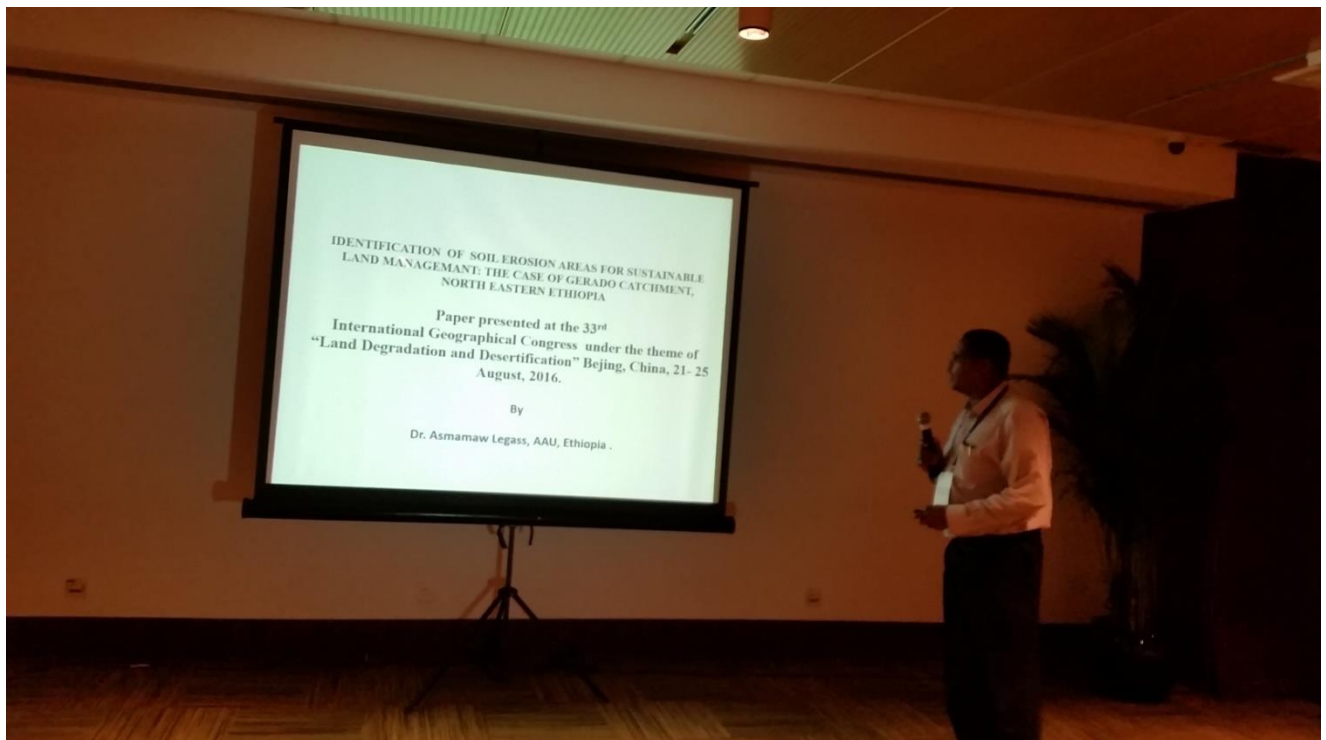
During the congress, 9 plenary lectures were given by 10 world-famous scholars. The Congress was a great opportunity to attend a wide range of topics related to the current geographical issues including climate change, urbanization, dynamics of economic spaces, interactions between geomorphic processes and human activities, land degradation and desertification, biogeography and biodiversity, local and regional development, GIS and remote sensing themes.



Picture 1: Opening Ceremony, Plenary Hall, CNCC

In the 33rd International Geographical Congress a total of 2600 papers and 1200 posters were presented. More than 5000 people from over 100 countries and different regions have participated. Many well-known and influential scientists were also present their papers at the congress.

I have presented the result of my research paper entitled “*Identification of soil erosion hotspot areas for sustainable land management in the Gerado catchment, northeastern Ethiopia*” under the theme of **land degradation and desertification** (see picture 2). The presentation was attended by a number of participants including my Mphil supervisor, Dr. Stig Jorgenson, from Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway. The number of questions raised by the audiences of the parallel sessions was confidently entertained.



Picture 2: Photograph of Dr. Asmamaw Legass during the parallel session presentation.

Finally, I would like to thank the Grants Coordination Office of Addis Ababa University for providing the funds that allowed me to travel to China and present my paper.

With best regards,