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1	Modeling the Growth of Ethiopian Inflation and Its Dynamic
2	Behavior over Time
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7 Abstract

Since 2004, Ethiopian economy had been continually facing unprecedented and double digit 8 inflation growth. Using annual data over the past three decades (1980 to 2012), the study 9 identified short run and long run dynamic interactions among key macroeconomic indicators 10 involving structural and or domestic, monetary and external factors. The empirical strategy 11 combines two separate estimations: the VECM and a multi factor single-equation model. The 12 study found that the effect of supply side, monetary and external factors are highly significant 13 to explain price inflation through their long run cointegrating (equilibriums) relationships. In 14 the short run, changes in inflation are highly sensitive to the change in money growth, the cost 15 of capital, exchange rate and inertia. Policies that geared towards concurrently maximizing 16 agricultural growth, and flourishing structural rigidities on the one hand and pursuing 17 monetary tightening and stable exchange rate polices on the other hand would enable to 18 ensure stable inflation. 19

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Index terms— agricultural goods market, inflation, inertia, money market, ppp, long run equilibrium, and vecm. Year 2015 (H)

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Since 2004, Ethiopian economy had been continually facing unprecedented and double digit inflation growth. 25 Using annual data over the past three decades (1980 to 2012), the study identified short run and long run 26 27 dynamic interactions among key macroeconomic indicators involving structural and or domestic, monetary and external factors. The empirical strategy combines two separate estimations: the VECM and a multi factor 28 single-equation model. The study found that the effect of supply side, monetary and external factors are highly 29 significant to explain price inflation through their long run cointegrating (equilibriums) relationships. In the short 30 run, changes in inflation are highly sensitive to the change in money growth, the cost of capital, exchange rate 31 and inertia. Policies that geared towards concurrently maximizing agricultural growth, and flourishing structural 32 rigidities on the one hand and pursuing monetary tightening and stable exchange rate polices on the other hand 33 would enable to ensure stable inflation. 34 35 agricultural goods market, inflation, inertia, money market, ppp, long run equilibrium, and vecm. n recent

times, Ethiopia has experienced far-reaching economic growth and development changes. According to the World Bank report (2013), the country has achieved remarkable economic growth averaging 10.6 percent for almost half a decade since 2004, which is twice above the continental average (Mwanakatwe and Barrow 2010). According to the report, the expansion of the service sector and agricultural growth contributed most, while the contribution of the manufacturing sector was relatively modest.

Until recently, Agriculture is the most dominant sector in the Ethiopian economy and would remain to be the largest source of economic growth. The mounting infrastructural development supported by the increasing flow of external aid and growing domestic revenue enabled the economy to stimulate the outperforming growth. Despite

- 44 the rapid economic growth and poverty reduction progress, sustained fiscal imbalances and macroeconomic
- ⁴⁵ instabilities mainly inflation, had been constantly limiting the bouncing economy (Desta 2008). According to
- 46 Mwanakatwe & Barrow (2010), huge domestic borrowings financing the mounting public investment programs
- 47 constitute the most challenging macroeconomic scenarios worsening inflation and deficits in the economy.

48 2 Inflation Trend and its volatility

49 Source: IMF ??2013) The experience of sustained inflation rate in Ethiopia had begun since 2003. The overall

inflation rate recorded for the year 2002 indicates below zero (i.e. Deflation). However, since2004 the country faced a constantly increasing rate of inflation, which is historically unprecedented as some commentators explained

52 it. The average over all inflation rate in 2006

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 Hague, The Netherlands. e-mail: habtgeto2011@gmail.com responses. Thus, the main objective of the study is,

55 thus, to identify the salient sources of the recent inflationary pressure and their dynamic interactions.

⁵⁶ 3 a) Problem Justification

57 Historically, Ethiopian inflationary experience was moderate and not considered as series as the issue of economic 58 growth. Since 2004, however, the country has experienced high and persistent inflation growth. Several macro-59 economic stabilization measures and policies were implemented over the past and deemed to be completely 60 failed. The booming economy has yet remained principally constrained by dual macroeconomic problems i.e. 61 Dirich dual in the several data of the past of

Price inflation and low international reserves (Mwanakatwe & Barrow 2010).
 Even if no one disputes over the highly volatile inflationary experience in the country except with slight

differences in the exact figures, there are enormous disagreements about the real causes of inflation and their magnitude of effects. There existed a number of potential sources as explained by several scholars and researchers.

⁶⁵ For instance, Government bodies, while expressing their solutions to the prevailing high level of inflation, put ⁶⁶ certain factors as the basic sources of inflation. They have strong conviction that the sustained economic growth

67 could generate upper price hike i.e. the demand pull inflation. Similarly, the World Bank report in ??2013),

declared that the main source of inflation in the country is the mounting aggregate demand due to the growth of

Private consumption and public investment, out of which the latter has due importance in explaining the recentinflation.

Nevertheless, plenty writers have different views. According to Loening et al. (2009), a large fraction of the county's inflation is explained by foreign price and agricultural supply shocks and money growth. Hassan (2008) argued that the culprits behind the mounting inflation are neither the growing economy nor the Ethiopian peasantry getting richer than before. He rather pointed out a number of responsible factors, including money

75 growth, lower interest rates, the soaring oil prices, war expenditures, declining foreign exchange reserves, budgets 76 and current account deficits and so on.

The African Report posted in August (2003), presented Moller's argument explaining that Ethiopian inflation which was mainly attributed to the service sector expansion (the leading sector in the economy), mainly due to the injection of huge liquidity in the financial system. The writer stated that the country should continue to adopt tight monetary policy to effectively combat inflation. According to Loening et al. (2009), the loosed fiscal stance and external price shocks have left Ethiopia to be more vulnerable to price spikes. According to the IMF and World Bank (2013), fiscal mismanagement and excess government expenditure were found to be the most detrimental factors behind the soaring price inflation in the country.

So far, there is no strong consensus on the key sources of inflation in the country. Some argued that the principal sources of inflation are supply side and external factors; whereas others proclaimed the demand and monetary factors. One of the main reasons is that Ethiopian inflationary experiences are highly divergent over time and is very difficult to explain on the basis of specific macroeconomic approach. There are very few rigorous works that could empirically ascertain the relative importance of each of the external, domestic or structural factors contributing towards the soaring inflation. Most of existing studies did not have sound theoretical and empirical grounds enabling to draw justifiable outcomes and policy insights.

With this instance, this study intends to fill the aforementioned gap by virtue of applying key theoretical validities and empirical strategies. Therefore, the overall aim of this study is to identify all the key sources of inflation and their dynamic behavior over time (comovements, interactions and dynamic responses). Specifically, the study intends to achieve the following objectives:

⁹⁵ 4 c) Basic Theoretical and Empirical Gaps

At the outset, quite many empirical evidences on Ethiopian inflation have rejected the Philips curve hypothesis (Girma 2011;Haji and Gelaw 2012;Loening et al. 2009;Eden 2012). One of the main reasons that makeup the Phillips curve hypothesis inapplicable is due to the existence of large informal markets and absence of well organized labor-market system. Thus, there should not have sound link and meaningful relationship among aggregate demand, unemployment and wage increases, which are the key subjects of inflation in this hypothesis. Monetarists and Quantity theory of Money merely considered the role of money while explaining price inflation. Structuralists widely proclaimed that money should not be the only source of inflation, particularly in the developing world stating that monetary policy cannot be fully effective under structural rigidities. Apparently, numerous studies in the developing world, including the empirical evidences in Ethiopia, have given prior attention

on the monetary theory and applied same while explaining inflation. On the other hand, contemporary studies
 (Loening et al. 2009 ? To investigate into the causes and nature of short-run diverges from long-run trends in
 inflation.

108 ? To evaluate the effect of the foregoing fiscal and monetary policy measures against inflation and to give 109 some ways forward.

110 Year 2015

111 **5** (**H**)

Modeling the Growth of Ethiopian Inflation and Its Dynamic Behavior over Time exchange rate and imported goods channel. Despite the fact that food and agriculture prices remain to be the major constitutes of the overall price indices (Durevall and Ndung'u 2001), numerous evidences have neglected the role of agricultural markets and food supply while explaining price inflation in Ethiopia.

In the country where the lion's share of the household expenditure is vested on food items, food and agriculture are bound to affect the domestic price inflation to a large extent as the monetary factors do. Unlike most empirical investigations in the Ethiopian inflation scenario, the researcher has got consistent conviction that disequilibrium in the agricultural market has its own substantial impact on the general price of goods. Thus, the agricultural market equilibrium relationship is thoroughly investigated in this paper.

Overall, there are scanty studies which have got sound theoretical and empirical orientations on the causes and 121 dynamics of price inflation in Ethiopia. Most do not have sound theoretical and empirical grounds. Conveniently, 122 this study intends to explore key theoretical foundations in view of concurrently explaining the empirical results. 123 On the basis of which, the Structuralists view, Money demand theory and imported inflation theses have had 124 substantial explanations for this study. The empirical results are largely spontaneous and consistent enough to 125 represent those economic theories by means of diverse empirical estimations. Noticeably, theories explaining the 126 domestic agricultural, external market and money market scenarios are found to be very influential grounds for 127 this study. 128

Until recently literatures on the sources of inflation have got more diverse controversies. Large bodies of economic literature have a range of explanations on the possible sources of inflation and their remedies in diverse macroeconomic context. The foremost theoretical mainstreams emphasize that inflation is the result of continuous interactions in one or more of the monetary (or demand-side) shocks, real (cost or supply-side) shocks, priceadjustment (or inertial) factors and political processes and or factors with varying dynamics interims of the countries' institutional or economic structures.

¹³⁵ 6 a) The Supply Side Inflation Model

Ethiopian Inflation is largely connected with the dominant role of agriculture and food (Loening et. al 2009). As agriculture sector constitute the predominant source of food in the agricultural economy, analyzing the possible sources of inflation should feasibly begin with the cost-push inflation perspective (Klugman and Loening 2007). At the outset, agricultural products are broadly categorized in to tradable and non-tradable. Thus, the general prices of agricultural products are mainly composed of the weighted average price of tradable and non-tradable agricultural outputs.

(1)

142

Tradable agricultural products are the main source of foreign exchange revenue through export, which is mainly, 143 determined by the real exchange rate and the world market price. Mathematically, The non-tradable agricultural 144 products are necessary to basically fulfill the demand for food and industrial inputs. In this regards, the domestic 145 market for agricultural products is principally driven by the demand and supply conditions. Basically, the total 146 agricultural supply (is composed of domestic production (), import (and food aid (. The total supply of 147 agricultural outputs is predominantly determined by the productive capacity (productivity in technical terms) 148 in the agricultural sector. Ethiopian agriculture is highly vulnerable to the exogenous shock by virtue of its 149 dependence on the global sources of necessary agricultural inputs (Loening et. al 2009). The domestic market 150 for agricultural products could affect inflation mainly through the supply shock. From the cost push inflation 151 perspective, the general price of agricultural products is largely determined by the cost of agricultural inputs like 152 fertilizer, labor and fuel (energy). 153

Where refers to the price of fertilizer, price of agricultural labor, oil price, and the price of non-agricultural products respectively. In this case, Oil price is used as a proxy for the transportation and marketing cost of agricultural products.

157 **7 II.**

Inflation Models and its Applications To Ethiopia The imports of agricultural products constitute the other prominent source of domestic supply when shortage exists. Thus, agricultural supply may also be affected by one or more of the determinants of import such as the relative price of agricultural products in the domestic and global market, import cost and exchange rate. Mathematically, Where, refer to the relative (domestic and

9 DATA AND METHODOLOGY A) MODEL SPECIFICATIONS AND EMPIRICAL STRATEGY

world) price of the imported agricultural products respectively, refers to transportation cost of import proxy by the international oil price and exchange rate respectively. Thus, the standard linear equation representing the demand for import is (5) Generally, the aggregate supply of agricultural products comprises of all the domestic supply, the demand for import and food aid. Hence, the standard linear equations representing the total supply of agricultural products reveal the following+ + (6)

As the above total supply equation comprises of both the traded and non-traded agricultural products, thus the domestic supply is netted by deducting the traded over the total supply of agricultural products.

Mathematically, (7) Where, Xt refers to the export of agricultural products, refers to the domestic and world price of exported agricultural products refers to the price of oil as a proxy for transpiration cost and exchange rate. Hence, total domestic supply refers to (8) The last two terms with in the bracket in equation 8 represent

172 the demand for food import and export of traded agricultural products.

173 On the basis of the purchasing power parity

¹⁷⁴ 8 b) The Money Demand Inflation Model

Monetarist proclaimed that excess money is the predominant factor for wider fluctuations in output and employment in the short run and price level in the long run. Accordingly, expansionary monetary policy aiming to boost output and employment may cause inflationary pressure in the long run. stated that low money supply can be effective for stable output, employment and prices in the economy. It is also widely recognized that fiscal and monetary actions can be a source of macro-economic instability. For Monetarists, firm or industry specific cost increases cannot be inflationary unless it is accommodated by excess money supply (Kibritçio?lu 2002).

According to , the concept of money supply is fundamentally derived from the QTM. This theoretical framework enables one to explore the long-run relationship between real output/income, the price level and the money stock by means of determining the velocity Y-(M-P). The QTM attributed price changes to the changes in the stock of money. An increase in the stock of money generated excess money supply with the given prices level and interest rates, meaning excess demand for non-monetary assets (Bronfenbrenner & D. Holzman 1963).

In the agricultural economy like Ethiopia, where the largest share of the household expenditure is made on food items, the overall inflation is strongly associated with agriculture (food) supply shock (Loening et al. 2009). Thus, the demand for agricultural products is mainly determined by disposable (real) income, the price of food and non-food items and excess money supply. Mathematically, According to the quantity theory of money

(QTM), the Money market equilibrium can be attained when the supply and demand for real money equates i.e. Accordingly, excess money supply in the economy would pressurize the demand for agricultural products thereby affect the general price level. Hence, disequilibrium in the money market reveals the change in the price of agricultural products. Mathematically, Where, indicates the extent of disequilibrium in the money market or the change in the price of agricultural products in the domestic market. The general demand for real money balance is

The effect of excess money supply on the general price of agricultural products can be determined as follows. An aggregate demand for agricultural goods in the domestic market is given as follows:

The domestic goods market equilibrium is determined by the long run relationship between the aggregate demand and supply of agricultural products.

²⁰⁰ 9 Data and Methodology a) Model Specifications and Empirical ²⁰¹ Strategy

202 Univariate time series analysis involves a single variable which is composed of past values of the variable itself and the current and past random error terms. Whereas, Multivariate time series technique consists of two or more 203 variables through which the VAR framework is meant to explain the dynamic interactions and co-movements of 204 variables. In this regard, co-integrated VAR and its associated analytical tools (IRF, FEVD) are known to be 205 the powerful toolkits in time series analysis (Box et al. 2013). In the VAR framework, each of the underlying 206 variables in a multivariate system is regressed by a constant, by its own lags and p lags of each of the other 207 variables in the VAR system. The VAR model where case n>2 and k>1, that is a general VAR model containing 208 K variables and p lags is + + ?..+ + (4.1)209

Where, is a K x1 vector containing K variables in the system, is a K x 1 vector of parameters, to are K x K matrices of parameters, and is a K x 1 vector of multivariate random errors (disturbances), having zero mean and covariance matrix, which remain normal over time.

213 The very importance of applying co-integrated VAR framework is to interrogate the short run dynamics of 214 a set of integrated series with the long run equilibrium (ibid). In this system, the presence of a co-integrating 215 vector is regarded as long-run equilibrium relationship. The short run dynamics are usually determined by means of discarding existing trend in the variable using differencing approach. The bad side of this approach is that 216 important information regarding the long run association of the variable (which economic theories have a lot to 217 say) can be discarded while losing the trend. ??tock and Watson (1990) recommend against differencing even if 218 the variables contain a unit root. The main argument against differencing is that it "throws away" information 219 concerning the co-movements in the data, such as the possibility of co integrating relationships. This paper is, 220

thus, highly concerned to overcome this problem of a simple VAR framework by means of employing co-integrated VAR model in the form of Error correction representation.

²²³ 10 b) The Multivariate VECM Specification

A vector error correction (VEC) model is a restricted VAR framework designed for use in a nonstationary series that are known to be co-integrated (ibid). The VECM has co-integration relations which are built into a specification so that it restricts the long-run behavior of the endogenous variables to converge to their cointegrating relationships while allowing for shortrun adjustments (Stock 1997). The co-integrating term is also known as the error correction term since the deviation from long-run equilibrium is corrected gradually through a series of partial short-run adjustments.

Generally, the VECM relates the change in the dependent variable to the change in independent variables and the long-run relationship. If variables are co-integrated i.e. I (o), all terms in the VECM are stationary. When the variables are co-integrated, the corresponding error correction must be included in the system (ibid). By doing so, one can avoid misspecification and omission of important constraints. Based on the Engle and Granger procedure, a vector of (as specified in equation 4.2) can be represented in a VEC form as follows;+ + +?..+ + (4.2)

Where: are n x n coefficient matrices with elements, ? is a matrix with elements such that one or more of the 237 ? 0 and ?t is an n x 1 vector with elements. Using some algebra, we can rewrite + + (4.3)

Engle and Granger ??1987) show that if the variables yt are I (1) the matrix in (4.3) has rank $0 \le r < K$, where r is the number of linearly independent cointegrating vectors. If the variables are co-integrated, 0 < r < K and (4.3) shows that a VAR in first differences is mis-specified because it omits the lagged level term, . Despite various alternative frameworks are developed for estimation and inference in a cointegrated VAR analysis, the Johansen framework (1988 and 1995) has got an immense importance particularly in comparative studies. He could overcome some limitations of the Engle and Granger procedure in the aforementioned representations (equation 4.3) and is based on the maximum likelihood estimation as follows.

The matrix ? can be decomposed as ?=??' where ? is nxr matrix of speed of adjustment terms, and ? is an nxr matrix of parameters which determines the co-integrating relationships matrix of long-run coefficients. The columns of ? are interpreted as longrun equilibrium relationships between variables. The matrix ? determines the speed of adjustment towards this equilibrium. Values of ? close to zero imply slow convergence and r, 0 ?r?n is the rank of the matrix ? and represents the co-integrating vectors in the system which can be determined using the Johansen Maximum Likelihood method.

Johansen defines the two matrices ? and ?, both of dimensions n x r, where r is the rank of ?. They), the study adopted VECM for identifying pertinent theoretical frameworks explaining the dynamic relationship among the variables in to consideration. In doing so, the empirical strategy in this paper combines two separate estimation methods: the vector error correction model (VECM) and a multi factor single-equation model.

As most macroeconomic indicators are nonstationary and are I(1), an error correction representation is the most appropriate model in order to explore the short run and long run impacts, responses and cointegrating adjustments of each integrated variable in the system. It is also an important tool for policy analysis. Specifically, following Johansen and Juselius (1990) and Johansen (1995), a vector of I(1) endogenous variables that are integrated of order r=1 were explicitly estimated on the basis of the three fundamental theoretical frameworks discussed in chapter II. On the basis of which, the models were meant to identify the three possible long run cointegrating equilibrium relationships as hypothesized by the structural theory, money demand theory and PPP theory.

Structuralists fundamentally prescribe the role of supply side constraints in determining the domestic 262 agricultural market disequilibrium. This hypothesis is precisely presented in the first VECM comprising of 263 Rain fall (Rf), cost of capital (K), fertilizer price index (FPI), oil price index (OPI) and non-food price index 264 (Pnf) (see also Haji & Gelaw 2012;Loening et al. 2009). The agricultural system in Ethiopia is mainly dominated 265 by smallholder farming system which is predominantly undertaken by the use of family labor. Hence, wage has no 266 real importance to be included in the model. While we consider wage in the model, the Johanson cointegration 267 test reveals no co-integration in the Agricultural market equilibrium relationship. Hence, using wage as one of 268 the supply side factors would entail meaningless result. Alternatively, as rural finance is the decisive factor for 269 agricultural production and productivity in Ethiopia, the cost of capital is the lending rate of rural financial 270 institutions which is supposed to show us a clear picture of the effect of financial constraint on agricultural 271 supply shock and price inflation. The role of money supply and demand has also been clearly represented in 272 the second VEC model, which is fundamentally derived from the QTM, where (M-P) refers to real money stock, 273 Y is output and R is the real interest rate, which is also regarded as the cost of holding money (inflation). The 274 275 long run Equilibrium relationship is maintained by the time an aggregate money demand equates the aggregate 276 supply. Hence, inflation is regarded as the result of any disequilibrium adjustment towards the change in real 277 money growth, income and interest rate in the long run.

The third VECM is meant to represent validity of the PPP in explaining the impact of real exchange rate (REER) on the domestic inflation. In this regards, Structuralists explicitly verified that external disequilibria cannot be removed through exchange devaluations alone. Hence, imported inflation (captured by the relative price differences) is considered to evaluate the impact of imported input cost on the domestic inflation and BOP

(Cardoso 1981), which is mathematically represented in the form of ECM3, where lnxe, lnWP and lnP indicate 282 the logarithmic nominal exchange rate, foreign price and domestic price indices. 283

Even if, it is not theoretically justifiable, but there are some econometric technical reasons to combine all the 284 variables and estimate a multiple factor single equation Model. Principally, most macroeconomic indicators are 285 286

287 effects on inflation. Understandably, this estimation has got meaningful interpretation from the broader macroeconomic point of view (see also Loening et al. 2009; Haji and Gelaw 2012). The main purpose of this 288 estimation is, therefore, to examine the relative importance of each of the long run co-integrating relationship 289 as justified by theory in determining price. Thus, a multiple factor single equation model augmented with error 290 correction terms is estimated as follows. 291

Where, P, PF and PNF refer to the overall, food and non-food consumer price indices in the domestic economy. 292 Y is the growth rate of GDP (real output), M2 is the growth rate of excess money supply, XE is the nominal 293 exchange rate, RF is an annual rain fall in Millimeter, K is the cost of capital, API I an agricultural production 294 index, FPI is the fertilizer price index, OPI is the global oil price index, IMP is an intermediate import price, R 295 is the real interest rate, WFP and WP refer to the world food and consumer price indices and M-P is the growth 296 rate of real money stock. 297

The terms in brackets represent the error terms and its parameter 298

shows the speed at which price inflation adjusts for any disequilibrium in the goods market, the money market 299 300 and external market respectively i.e. the amount of disequilibrium transmitted in each period into the rate 301 of inflation. The parameters of the variables (?1i -?8i) reveal the short run dynamic relationships among the 302 variables. A significant and positive sign on a lagged current inflation indicates the presence of inflation inertia, 303 owing to indexation and or expectations i.e. when past inflation positively affects the current one. The estimate of the parameter reveals the long run relationship towards the goods market, money market and external market 304 disequilibrium. 305

a) Descriptive Analysis 11 306

The statistical analysis as shown in table I reveals 33 total observations with significantly varying mean and 307 standard deviation across each variable. Food and non-food consumer prices, real money stock growth, real 308 interest rate, oil price index and Fertilizer price index have shown a relatively larger mean and higher dispersion. 309 Particularly, the growth rate of output and real money stock and interest rate exhibit higher dispersion larger 310 than their mean value. It may give us some intuitive clue justifying the existence unstable macro-economic 311 environment, particularly in the monetary conditions. Supply side factors seem to be stable except the highly 312 volatile oil and fertilizer price shock. The intermediate import price index, total annual rainfall and the cost of 313 capital typically reveal lower dispersion from their mean. Apparently, the average growth rate of the real money 314 stock reveals significantly higher than the real output growth. This may be an indication of excess money supply 315 beyond the economic capacity to offset at a normal economic circumstance. 316

Empirical Results and Interpretations 12317

b) Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Test 13318

Stationarity Test for the Explanatory Variables 14 319

According to the Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test, the null hypothesis for a unit root test is stated as 320 a given series is I (1) against the alternative I (0). In other words, the series contains unit root against the 321 alternative, which does not contain unit root respectively. On the basis of which, one can definitely proclaim 322 that all the series in levels has failed to reject the presence of unit root hypothesis. Precisely speaking, the ADF 323 test for the entire series in level exhibits insignificant even at 10 percent significance level, which indicate all the 324 variables contain unit root in their level. After first differencing, the ADF test reveals highly significant for all 325 the variables and hence clearly rejects unit roots suggesting that all the series in first difference are stationary. 326

c) The Johansen Co-integration Analysis 15327

Since our empirical consists of I(1) variables that are modeled in three separate dynamic : : : 328

Table II : 16 329

Note: P, PF and PNF refer to the overall, food and non-food consumer price indices in the domestic economy. Y 330 331 is the growth rate of GDP (real output), XE is the nominal exchange rate, RF is an annual rain fall in Millimeter, IMP is an intermediate import price index, K is the cost of capital, R is the real interest rate, OPI is the global 332 oil price index, FPI is the fertilizer price index, WFP and WP refer to the world food and consumer price indices 333 and M-P is the growth rate of real money stock.

334

³³⁵ 17 Note: *, ** and *** indicates rejection of the null hypothesis of non -Stationarity at the 10 percent, 5 percent and 1 ³³⁷ percent significance level respectively.

Source: Model Output system, we used the Johansen co-integration analysis to test for the presence of long run 338 co-integration in the domestic agricultural market, money demand and external market scenarios. The result 339 of the analysis revealed that each market could have at most one cointegrating relationships. According to 340 Stock and Watson (1988), the co-integrating rank (r) refers to the number of common trends, or co-integrating 341 relationships in some or a combination of all of the series in the system. Identification of lags is the first and 342 foremost task while performing co-integration analysis or fitting co-integrating VECM. In this context, Akaike 343 information criteria (AIC) and Schwarz information criteria (SBIC) were found to be more robust. Accordingly, 344 the number of lags identifying the order of each co-integration is three in the agricultural market, one lags in 345 the money and external market equilibrium. Following lags specification for the order of co-integration, it is 346 necessary to determine the number of co-integrating equations in the system so as to correctly specify the VAR 347 model (i.e. a VAR in levels, VAR in first differences or VECM) fitting a given set of data. This can be done by 348 using the Johansen multiple trace test procedure and a method based on minimizing either of the two different 349 information criteria. On the basis of which, the cointegration test was made separately, representing equilibriums 350 in the three markets and the results are presented along with the co-integrating vector in table 6, 7 and 8. 351

According to the results of all the co-integration tests, we strongly reject the null hypothesis of no co-integration 352 (Ho: r = 0 against the alternative hypothesis, H1: r = 1, 2, and 3) and fail to reject the null hypothesis of at most 353 354 one co-integrating relationship. Thus, the Johanson co-integration analysis asserted that there could have a total 355 of three co-integrating equations in the entire system. In this respect, we can firmly conclude that the Ethiopian 356 inflation scenario can be worth explained through the three long run co-integrating vectors. Hence, neither a VAR in level nor indifference are appropriate for estimating inflation model. The main problem associated with 357 VAR in difference is it discards (filters out) the relevant information on the long-run relationship (co-movements) 358 of the variables. Having determined that there is at most one co-integrating equations in each market, we 359 proceed to estimate the parameters of each co-integrating relationships in light of the three pertinent theoretical 360 grounds-cost push theory, money demand theory and PPP theory. 361

³⁶² 18 i. The Agricultural Market Equilibrium

As shown in Table III, the result of the Johanson co-integration test affirmed that there is strong evidence for one 363 co-integrating vector in the system. Evidence found that the domestic price is highly sensitive towards the long 364 run agricultural supply shock. There is positive and highly significant relationship between price inflation and the 365 supply side factors. This implies that price goes high in the long run whenever a shock occurred in those factors of 366 production. The coefficient for the cost of capital reveal very large, meaning that agricultural finance is the major 367 bottleneck of the agricultural production and productivity and price shock in Ethiopia. As Ethiopian economy is 368 highly vulnerable to external shocks (Loening et al. 2009), the mounting cost of agricultural production (mainly 369 global oil and fertilizer price) has been limiting agricultural supply thereby, trapped reasonable price formation 370 in the domestic market. Those external shocks have had long run disequilibrium effects in the domestic market 371 through which the short run price adjustment significantly affects price inflation. That is why the adjustment 372 parametermatrix (the amount of disequilibrium transmitted in to inflation), reveal negative, explicitly attesting 373 the need to reduce the cost push factors in order to maintain stable long run price inflation. Wage is not found 374 to be a viable indicator for the reason that Ethiopian Agriculture is largely dominated by smallholder farming 375 system, which is prominently undertaken by the use of family labor. Our model indicates existence of long run 376 co-integration if and only if wage is eliminated from the system. Instead, the cost of capital is found to be the 377 most decisive factor. 378

Apparently, Figure II provides an evidence of the existence of stable, long run equilibrium relationship between 379 the domestic price and the supply side factors. Until 2005, it is highly likely that the supply side factors could 380 work properly to explain the Ethiopian inflation scenario, yet the puzzle seems very different after that. As 381 the co-integrating vector has appeared unstable since 2006, it seems the recent inflation trajectory emanates 382 not only from the supply side factors, but might also be provoked by the monetary and external factors. The 383 Predicted Agricultural Market Equilibrium Equation Apparently, this evidence strengthens the fact that the 384 recent inflation episodes differs from the past as it was occurring during the period of bumper harvest and 385 progressive agricultural growth (Loening et al. 2008;IMF 2008). Therefore, we have strong evidence to conclude 386 387 that price inflation in the long run is significantly explained by the agricultural market disequilibrium. Thus, 388 we reject the null hypothesis in favor of the alternative stating that agricultural supply and demand relationship 389 in the domestic agricultural market significantly determines price inflation in Ethiopia. Table IV presents the long-run relationship between the price level, real income and the real money stock (M?P) as justified by the 390 QTM. The Johanson coco-integration analysis reveals that income and the real interest rate are integrated with 391 money growth thereby affect prices in the long run. In this case, evidence 392

³⁹³ 19 ii. The Money Market Equilibrium

Most economic theories (Monetarists, QTM and Heterodoxies) proclaimed that price inflation is widely proved that the error correction terms or the disequilibrium adjustment parameters for real income proved that the error correction terms or the

³⁹⁷ **20** Figure II :

Source: Model Output disequilibrium adjustment parameters for real income and interest rate requires negative 398 feedback necessary to adjust towards the long run equilibrium, but remains to be statistically insignificant. 399 However, the adjustment which can be firmly regarded as endogenous. Thus, the co-integrating vector is well 400 exemplified for valid interpretation of the long-run money demand equilibrium relationship. parameter for real 401 money stock is highly significant, Similarly, our findings revealed that the coefficient on income is 0.003, which 402 is highly consistent with economic theory (QTM) suggesting that the velocity of money and real output remains 403 zero (unchangeable) in the long run through which the growth of money supply results proportionate increase in 404 405 the level of price inflation or deflation. In this case, the growth rate of real money stock revealed significantly 406 higher than real output growth, meaning that too much money is chasing fewer goods in the economy. Hence, it 407 is possible to infer that inflation has been growing proportionately with the growth rate of the real money stock. 408 In addition, as the adjustment parameter for real output do not have significant disequilibrium adjustment, it 409 may clearly undermine the role of demand pull inflation in explaining the recent price inflation in Ethiopia (see also Haji and Gelaw 2012). 410

411 21 Co-integration Analysis in the Monetary

Figure ??II, reveals very strong evidence for the existence of stationary and robust long run equilibrium relationship in the money market. The stationary money demand relationship reveals no change in the velocity of money. Hence, we can possibly infer that the quantity theory of money strongly holds, meaning that the growth rate of money supply is same as the growth rate of inflation. Apparently, Structuralists did not deny the fact that sustained inflation is inescapable only under the condition of monetary expansion (Nell 2004).

$_{417}$ 22 Table IV :

418 23 iii. The External Market Equilibrium

The result of the Johanson co-integration test affirmed that there is strong evidence for the existence of one 419 420 co-integrating vector in the system. The long run co-integrating vector revealed external prices have a significant 421 and positive relationship with the REER and the domestic price. The disequilibrium adjustment parameter 422 reveals highly significant and negative, commending the need to appreciate nominal exchange rate in order to maintain stable long run inflation. According to Fisher and Easterly (1990), rapid inflation is always a fiscal 423 phenomenon which is virtually impossible to get well managed or stabilized without reducing the persistent 424 budget deficit. Apparently, the money supply endogeneity may demonstrate the likelihood that the large fiscal 425 deficit and aggressive credit expansions could drive the excessive money supply growth (Saleh and Harvie 2005). 426 According to Nell (2004), inflation may also be driven by the external shocks in foreign prices or the exchange 427 rate depreciation while money supply is partly endogenous. Hence, the monetary transmission mechanism may 428 principally work through the exchange rate channel. 429

⁴³⁰ 24 Co-integration Analysis of the External sector (PPP) ⁴³¹ Rank

⁴³² 25 Figure III : Table V :

A33 Note: PPP hypothesis strongly recommend variables to be converted in to logarithmic form. Thus, lnXE, lnWP and lnP refer to the logarithmic nominal exchange rate, the foreign and domestic price indices respectively. The co-integrating vector identified in this estimation is r=1. *** indicates significant at 1percent, ** at 5 percent and * at 10 percent significance level. Values in parenthesis are robust standard errors.

437 26 Source: Model Output

For the reason that Ethiopia is one among the non-oil producing county, but also fundamentally due to noncompetitiveness of the economy, foreign price shocks revealed highly exogenous. Evidence indicated that Ethiopia has been adopting floating exchange rate and the economy is highly vulnerable to external price shock (Loening et al. 2009). According to Bleaney and Fielding (2002), adopting a floating exchange rate in the developing economy would result about 10 percent higher inflation growth. Apparently, the highly significant disequilibrium adjustment averred that the domestic price hike may possibly emanate through the exchange rate transmission mechanism in response to the exogenous price shocks.

As shown in figure IV, the test for validity of the PPP hypothesis has shown by analyzing stationarity of the series of the REER, which measures the deviation from PPP. It appears that the REER has converged towards ⁴⁴⁷ its mean, suggesting that purchasing power parity hypothesis seems to be partly maintained in the long run. The ⁴⁴⁸ necessary condition to hold the PPP hypothesis is that it must display reversion towards its own means (Menzie ⁴⁴⁹ 2005). Hence, there is some evidence rejecting the null hypothesis of non-mean reversion against the alternative ⁴⁵⁰ of mean reversion. Hence, we can possibly reject the null hypothesis in favor of the alternative stating that PPP ⁴⁵¹ holds, meaning that real effective exchange rate has substantial effect on the domestic price inflation.

⁴⁵² 27 iv. The Short Run Dynamic Multivariate Analysis

In this section, we develop a multi-factor single equation model for food, non-food and overall price inflation. The model consists of the agricultural market, money market and external market error correction terms. As inflation is affected by several factors in the short run, it would be more valuable to explicitly consider all the pertinent factors in the model (see also Loening et al. 2009;Haji and Gelaw 2012). Hence, the multivariate error correction model explicitly addressed the effect of the supply side factors, monetary and external factors.

The three column presents outcome of the dynamic model in which the dependent variable is overall price, 458 food and non-food price inflation. In both cases, the sign of the variables and their level of significance are 459 similar. However, there are notable differences in the magnitude of the coefficients of each variable across the 460 461 three price inflations. Most coefficients are statistically significant and larger for the food price index. Moreover, the existence of higher inflation inertia (0.18) hints that the non-food price level adjusts slowly back to equilibrium 462 when a shock occurred, whereas food prices immediately overshoots and react much stronger to the shocks(see 463 464 also Loening et al. 2009). Hence, food price remains to be very vital component of the overall price index. The 465 degree of inertia is another crucial factor for the rise of price inflation. Lagged price inflation parameters are used to capture inflation expectations related to new news, policy changes and sudden shocks in the supply side 466 factors (Ng and Ruge-Murcia 2000). On the basis of which, the lagged coefficients in the overall, and non-food 467 price reveal robustly significant meaning that inflation inertia is highly observed and the degree of its effect is 468 relatively very large for the overall 0.1 and 0.19 percent respectively. We can possibly infer price inflation. A one 469 percent increase in the overall, food and non-food prices in the previous year will increase the price of same in the 470 following year by 0.2, As far as the supply side factors are concerned, the evidence reveals that fertilizer and oil 471 prices could that in the short run, a change in the price inflation is highly sensitive to the changes in indexation 472 or expectation. Several evidences also depict that inflation have very strong and significant effect on food and 473 nonfood price. As they constitute the two major external supply side factors, the effect of agricultural supply 474 shock is mainly originated through these factors and also through the exchange rate pass through effect (Loening 475 et al. 2007). Noticeably, the cost of capital is highly significant and effective in all the price indices. This evidence 476 certainly proved that high cost of capital (indicator for the shortage of agricultural finance) has a substantial 477 obstacle in the Ethiopian agricultural production and price inflation. On the other hand, evidence reveals that 478 rainfall does not have a significant effect on price inflation because either its effect may not be realized in the 479 short run or have a long run effect through the agricultural supply shock, that is why the error correction term 480 for the agricultural supply shock becomes strongly significant. In sum, except rain fall all the supply side factors 481 are highly significant in the domestic price inflation. 482

There is strong evidence stating that intermediate import and foreign price indices have a strongly significant 483 effect on the domestic price inflation. This may certainly justify the fact that Ethiopian economy has been highly 484 dependent on the intermediate goods import. Contrarily, the world food price does not have a significant effect 485 on the overall inflation. The main reason is that the progressive agricultural growth has possibly undermined 486 the effect of world food price shock. This is also consistent with the findings of Loening et al. (2007). As far as 487 the effect of real output growth is concerned, our evidence strongly asserted that it does not have a significant 488 effect on price inflation. The positive sign may simply indicate the fact that the major inflationary episodes 489 has occurred during inflation is that monetary policy may not be effective due to market inefficiency in the 490 oligopolistic agricultural market structure (Klugman and loaning 2007); perhaps the undergoing agricultural 491 reforms and structural constraints may also exert pervasive hindrances behind reasonable price formation in the 492 agricultural market, which would have blocked the effect of ongoing monetary policy to combat the rising price 493 inflation. This is also theoretically consistent from the Structuralists point of view. 494

As far as the long run relationship is concerned, the error correction terms in the agricultural supply shock and 495 real money stock growth rate are highly significant. The highly significant parameters of the error correction term 496 in the supply side and monetary factors may possibly indicate price overshooting meaning that an exogenous 497 shock on the supply side and monetary factors determinedly enforce the domestic price to respond above its 498 long-run equilibrium level (see also Haji and Gelaw 2012). This strengthens the evidence in favor of the supply 499 side and monetary factors as the main determinant of domestic long run price inflation. On the other hand, 500 the error correction representation for the external sector also reveals significant effect on the domestic price 501 502 inflation. This implies that the imported inflation thesis is also highly workable to explain the long run price 503 inflation through the exchange rate pass through effect.

Ethiopia has experienced unprecedented and highly volatile inflation growth for longer than two decades. National and international reports pronounced Volume XV Issue VII Version I The coefficient on excess money growth reveal larger and highly significant in the overall price inflation. Money growth seems to matter a great deal of all the possible sources of price inflation. Both inflation theories (monetarist and Structuralists) have got a strong conviction that monetary expansion is part and parcel of most inflationary episodes, particularly, when

the money stock become partly endogenous (Pinga and Nelso 2001; Yeldan 1993). Prevailing evidences verified 509 that Ethiopian inflationary pressure is predominantly affected by monetary expansion ??Simpasa et Ethiopia 510 followed an accommodative monetary policy during high inflation episodes (Loening et al. 2009). Hence, the 511 accommodative monetary policy can be one of the reasonable factors for inflation. The main reason to find that 512 excess money did not cause food that the country's inflationary pressure had been over the continental average. 513 Until recently, the high level of uncertainty and volatility nature has brought unreserved attention among several 514 writers and researchers. In view of that, the study found three basic theoretical approaches that could feasibly 515 explain the sources of inflation in Ethiopia i.e. Structuralists, Money demand and PPP hypotheses. Based on 516 those theoretical insights, the analysis included several macro-economic determinants particularly the supply 517 side factors, policy variables (Monetary, fiscal and exchange rate policies) and external factors as well. By using 518 annual data over the past three decades, VECM was estimated to identify the salient sources of inflation and their 519 dynamic behavior over time. The pre-estimation and post estimation specifications asserted that our models are 520 highly parsimonious and appear to be reasonably well specified. 521

The results reveal that Changes in the average inflation rate are highly sensitive to the changes in indexation or inflation expectation and largely to the changes in money supply growth. The response of inflation from its own shock is positive and strongly significant, meaning that inertial factors remain largely workable in Ethiopia. The credibility of putting money as a stock of wealth had been considerably declined. The share of Currency in circulation and money growth had been substantially increasing over time, thereby adding extra pressure on the general price level. In this regards, the NBE and commercial banks need a strong commitment to build public reputation by means of

⁵²⁹ 28 V. Conclusion and Policy Remarks

adopting credible monetary policy and fiscal stances pertinent to combat the growing risk of inflation expectation.
 Monetary policy plays an important role beside structural rigidities are profoundly affecting its effectiveness.
 Thus, further measures to stabilize the domestic agricultural goods market through flourishing the distribution
 channel (transport and communication) could have paramount importance to have well managed price shocks.

The study found that the three inflation theories (the agricultural goods market, the Quantity Theory of Money and the Purchasing Power Parity) have given principal inference for explaining the Ethiopian inflation scenario. The results evidently rejected the null hypothesis in favor of the alternative stating that those theories are highly workable and have strongly explanatory power on the long run inflation. However, the insignificant effect of real output growth and the present-day developments in agricultural performance could markedly undermine the role of the demand pull hypothesis in explaining the recent inflationary pressure.

As similar as the findings in South Africa (Nell 2004), in Kenya (Durevall and Ndung'u 2001) and Uganda 540 (Simpasa et al. 2011), our empirical evidence reveals that money supply is endogenously determined. Hence, 541 under the conditions of structural rigidities, the The external shock transmission mechanism is also prominently 542 provoked by the effect of exchange rate depreciation. Hence, carefully designed monetary and stable exchange 543 544 rate policies can promptly improve the balance of trade; thereby enable to manage the domestic price shock. Moreover, the malfunctioning oligopolistic market, fiscal mismanagement and monetization of the fiscal deficit 545 could also have concurrent effects on inflation. To conclude, our results markedly asserted the need to apply 546 the aforementioned multimodal approaches to successfully combat the recent inflation in Ethiopia. Modeling 547 the Growth of Ethiopian Inflation and Its Dynamic Behavior over Time effect of tight monetary policy and 548 financial development alone may not help much to stabilize the recent price inflation. For this reason, even if 549 the Government of Ethiopia frequently adopted monetary tightening and strict price regulation, inflation has 550 yet remained to be unresolved. Flourishing structural rigidities and institutional pitfalls can have paramount 551 importance not only for tackling supply side problems, but also enable to activate the effectiveness of monetary 552 policy as well. 553

In sum, a large fraction of Ethiopia's inflation is explained by the supply side and monetary factors. Virtually, money supply growth, owing to the prevailing public credit expansion has a large and significant effect on inflation for the reason that the money growth continually eroded the value of the nation's currency. External shocks have also had a detrimental effect on the domestic price through the exchange rate pass through effect. The growing trade imbalances due to high foreign price shock had been profoundly affected the macroeconomic stability via imported price inflation.

¹. The quantity theory of money (QTM) holds for explaining price inflation in the long run.3. The purchasing power parity (PPP) hypothesis holdsfor explaining price inflation in the long run.

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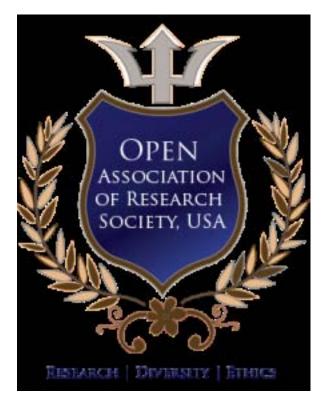
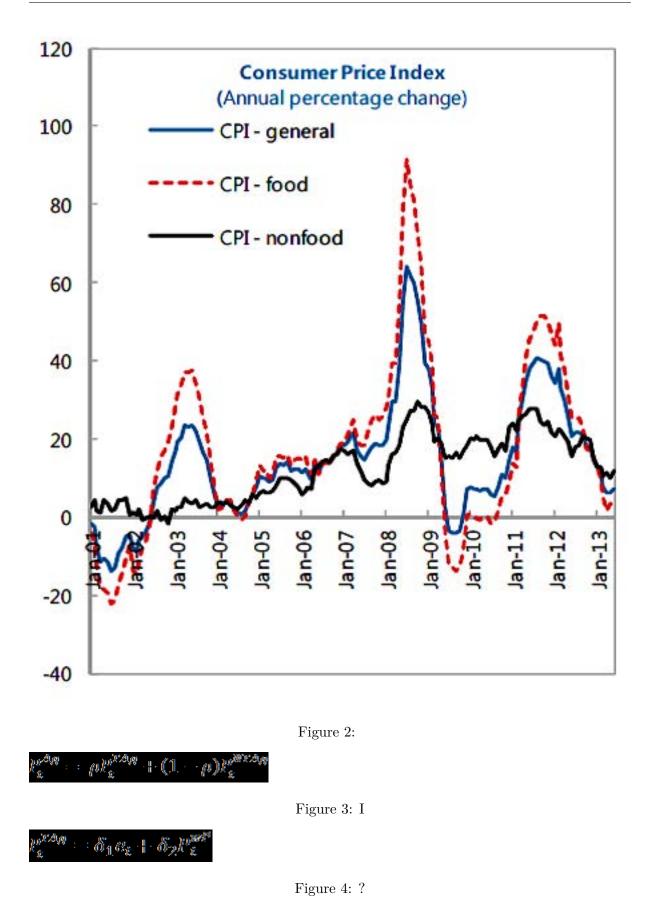


Figure 1: Introduction



 \mathbb{S}_{6}

Figure 5:



Figure 18:

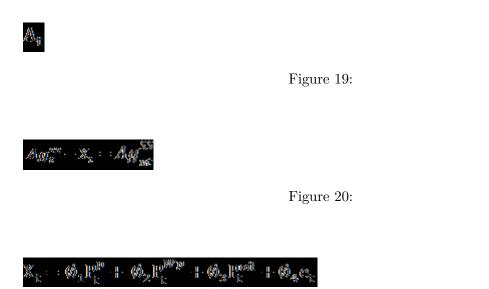


Figure 21:

Year 2015

		The Result of the Descriptive Statistics				
Variables	Ν	Mean	Std. Dev	Min	Max	
Р	33	100.02	69.53	32.81	306.32	
\mathbf{PF}	33	124.21	62.97	79.71	330.37	
PNF	33	96.39	64.93	47.63	268.72	
Υ	33	4.935	6.83	-11.41	13.87	
XE	33	6.412	4.42	2.07	17.71	
Rf	33	1156.25	242.41	140.6	1567.9	
IMP	33	93.20	26.21	52.47	152.15	

[Note: .]

Ι

Figure 22: Modeling the Growth of Ethiopian Inflation and Its Dynamic Behavior over Time IV

Κ	33	12.56	3.23	7.25	22.00
R	33	1.79	10.59	-17.67	17.64
OPI	33	69.09	51.84	19.54	196.31
FPI	33	102.85	60.23	55.67	340.65
WFP	33	115.52	26.97	85.66	175.43
WP	33	132.29	31.49	89.8	202.2
M-P	33	6.09	9.72	-13.6	26.25

Figure 23: Table I :

\mathbf{III}

			Rank Test			
Null Hypothesis	r =	= 0	r?1	r?2	r ? 3	r ? 3
Eigen Values	-		0.740	0.486	0.471	0.36358
Trace statistics	10	07.29	65.50^{*}	44.88	47.21	11.1596
5% Critical Valu	ie 94	4.15	68.52	47.21	29.68	15.41
			Standardized Eige	envector		
Р	FPI		Rf	Κ	OPI	PNF
1.00	.268132***20	08045***		6.8588^{***}	2.3834^{***}	3.7218^{***}
-	(.1130837)()	.0099464)		(.919198)	(.1689979)	(.1241675)
			Standardized adju	stment coeff	icient	
.0952309	1(0.45591		.0177774	1231737	.1072613*
	.0099386					
(.0623426)	(.2711041)(1.	.475695)		(.0156976)	(.1929297)	(.0588873)

Figure 24: Table III :

	Rank Test				
Null Hypothesis	$\mathbf{r} = 0$	r ? 1	r ? 2		
Eigen Values	-	0.52949	0.30967		
Trace statistics	32.6347	10.7702^{*}	0.0234		
5% critical value	29.68	15.41	3.76		
	Standardized Eigenvector	• -			
M-P	Υ	R 1			
1.00	0027299***	4864705***			
-	(.00103536)	(.091538)			
Standardized Adjustment Coefficient					
-1.479455***	-14.79138	2596104			
(.1593436)	(12.4589)	(.2082483)			

[Note: 1 From the theoretical point of view, R is meant for the cost of holding money, which is used to represent the growth rate of inflation.]

Figure 25:

Modeling	The Dynamic Short Ru	ın Relationshin 2		
Lagged Explana- tory	Overall CPI	Food Price	Non-Food	
Variables			Price	
Consumer Price	$.1990483^{***}$ (.0704615)	-	-	
Food Price Index	-	.0823039 (.1123407)	-	
Non-Food Price	-	-	$.1861729^{**}$ (.0883595)	
Output Growth	.3169462 (.6556175)	.4806353 (.6705263)	.3118665 (.2502094)	
Cost of Capital	6.9814*** (2.66809) -	6.807059**	2.187625**	Year
Annual Rain Fall (MM)	.0295946* (.0158293)	(2.728762) - .0172018* -	(1.018248) - .0117962*	2015
	0.709479**	(.0161892)	(.0060411)	
Nominal Exchange Rate		-6.804015	5545398**	
Excess Money	(3.174557) 3.460043^{***}	(3.246747) .0111472***	(1.211536) $.5360621^{***}$	
Stock	3.400043	.0111472	.5500021	
	(.9521303)	(.9737819)	(.3633703)	
Fertilizer Price In- dex	.3349849**	.8235923***	.2669651***	
	(.2131399)	(.2179867)	(.0813425)	
Intermediate Im- port Price Index	.0564665***	.0223275***	.1861927***	
	(.2424207)	(.2479334)	(.0925173)	
Oil Price Index	.109185**	.6985354***	.5324492***	
World Food Price	(.2514456) 1701222	(.2571635) 7245421*	(.0959615) 3895503^{**}	
Index	(.4054021)	(.414621)	(.1547174)	
Foreign Price In- dex	· ,	.0646383	.6662553**	
don	(.7725674)	(.7901357)	(.2948421)	
ECM1	-1.143312***	9161571 ^{***}	2402604*	
ECM2	(.3429858)	(.3507853)	(.1308968)	(
	2.258849***	.5163286 ***	.110120	Н
ECM9	(.4289167)	(.4386703)	(.1636914))
ECM3	-2.740281** (.1239972)	8111887** (.1268169)	2545166** (.4732221)	
	(.1200012)	(.1200100)	()	

Figure 26: the Growth of Ethiopian Inflation and Its Dynamic Behavior over Time

 \mathbf{VI}

Note: Values in parenthesis are Standard errors. *** indicates Significant at 1percent, ** at 5 percent and at 10 percent significance level. Source: Model Output

Figure 27: Table VI :

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