





Annual Workplan (AWP): EFY 2023

Institutional strengthening for Catalyzing Forest Sector **Programme Title:** 

**Development Project in Ethiopia** 

UNSDCF Pillar (4):

**Planet** 

**UNSDCF Outcome** 

All people in Ethiopia live in a society resilient to environmental risks

and adapted to climate change

**UNSDCF** Output(s):

4.1. Minimum capacities exist at national and sub-national levels for climate adaptation and disaster preparedness to reduce negative

impacts and improve resilience

4.2. Normative frameworks, institutions and systems strengthened

4.3. Institutions and systems strengthened, and solutions adopted to

reduce pollution and increase access to clean, affordable and

sustainable energy

4.4. Governance and planning capacities strengthened at national and

sub-national levels to promote sustainable urban development,

especially in primary and secondary cities/towns

## **Expected Project Output(s):**

Output 1. Enabling environment for strong forest sector delivery enhanced.

Output 2. Sustainable forest production promoted

Output 3. Forest Ecosystem Services enhanced

Output 4. Model environmental stewardship fostered in selected urban areas

Implementing Partner: Ethiopian Forestry Development

Responsible Parties: Center for International Forestry research (CIFOR), Swedish University of

Agricultural sciences (SLU), Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources (WGCF-NR); Ethiopian

Biodiversity Institute (EBI); Selected TVETs

## **Brief Description of the Project**

Ethiopia's continued development is under serious threat. In particular, rapid population growth and the concentration of most Ethiopians in rural areas is putting pressure on the country's natural resource base. Projections indicate that unless action is taken to change the traditional development path, an area of 9 million ha might be deforested between 2010 and 2030. Deforestation for agricultural expansion and forest degradation for fuel wood demand remains to be the two critical drivers of change in the forested landscapes of Ethiopia. The increased pressure from agricultural land expansion (expected to increase from 12.6 million hectares in 2010 to 27 million hectares in 2030) would result in the deforestation of nearly 9 million hectares of forestland. Ethiopia's desire to increase forest cover from 15.5% in 2015 to 30% by 2030, technical

## **Brief Description of the Project**

Ethiopia's continued development is under serious threat. Mainly due to rapid population growth and settlements concentration in rural areas which has led pressure on the country's natural resource base. Projections indicated that unless action is taken to change the traditional development path, 9 million hectares of land will be deforested between 2010 and 2030. Deforestation for agricultural expansion and forest degradation for fuel wood demand remains to be the two critical drivers of change in the forested landscapes of Ethiopia. The increased pressure from agricultural land expansion (expected to increase from 12.6 million hectares in 2010 to 27 million hectares in 2030) would result in the deforestation of nearly 9 million hectares of forestland. Ethiopia's desire to increase forest cover from 15.5% in 2015 to 30% by 2030, technical capacities need to be expanded beyond what currently exists to support and derive innovation and stronger engagement with private sector and civil society partners who can create sustainable and cost-effective forest sector development models.

Institutional Strengthening for the Forest Sector Development Program of Ethiopia has been designed to support capacity building efforts of the forest sector from federal to local levels and pilot Afforestation, Reforestation and Assisted Natural Regeneration actions in selected landscapes. The program has been financially supported by the governments of Norway and Sweden through the CRGE Facility and the UNDP respectively. The Sweden support is fully channeled to the UNDP while Norway provides its support through the CRGE Facility and UNDP Ethiopia. The performance of the program has been substantial in achieving its targets with the participation of multiple stakeholders while using a flexible approach to create multifunctional landscapes. However, to make the achievements sustainable, additional support was required focusing on building technical capacities at various levels thereby catalyzing large scale investments in wider areas. This proposal was then initiated as a second phase of the Sweden support to sustain the progress made in the first phase and to realize the long-term development planning benefits from a carbon-intensive to a carbon-neutral and climate-resilient development pathway. The Institutional strengthening for Catalysing Forest Sector Development Project in Ethiopia has a four-pronged approach to: i) Enhance an enabling environment for strong forest sector delivery; ii) Promote a sustainable forest production; iii) Enhance the forest ecosystem services; and iv) Foster model environmental stewardship. The following three outcomes will be delivered through this initiative:

- ♣ Strengthening the capacity of forest sector at strategic and operational levels.
- ♣ Creating multi-functional landscapes in rural and urban areas.
- ♣ Substantially reduce the vulnerability of poor communities to extreme events.

To achieve these outcomes, the proposed Institutional Strengthening for Catalysing Forest Sector Development Project for Ethiopia is aimed to overcome key barriers including: i) inadequate technical and technological capacities at federal, regional and district levels; ii) lack of forest governance system and poor coordination with other sectors; iii) limited incentive and access to finance for private sector in forest sector development; iv) lack of sustainable Forest Management System; and v) lack of integrated urban planning system. This project, which builds on several development initiatives in the country has been implemented by the then Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC) since 2019 with technical support from UNDP. Since 2022 the government of Ethiopia has restructured EFCCC to Ethiopian Forest Development

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(EFD) and currently the project is being implemented by EFD. The project will continue up to end of March 2023 under No Cost Extension scheme.

## **Major Achievements**

- Small Wood Processing machines have been procured and provided to Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources (WGCF-NR), Forest Products Innovation and Training Center, Oromia and Amhara Forest Enterprises. This will create an enabling environment to enhance the capacity of wood processors/ organized Cooperatives by the project and improve the knowledge transfer to youths and small and medium enterprises thereby accelerate the expansion of value addition on wood products to the small-scale wood processing operators;
- After producing all the necessary requirements (questionnaires, manuals, guidelines and encoding), forestry related data collection on household and industry level has been piloted at Jimma zone with the objective of integrating forestry data in the National GDP;
- A one-week advanced training on Statistics and GIS for 30 senior experts and researchers have been given at WGCF-NR;
- > The research and higher education team has concluded 13 action research on different topics and produced final reports and policy briefs. The research findings and policy briefs would inform the government and support its decision-making capacity.
- ➤ 400kg of highland bamboo seed collected from Jimma zone of Oromia region and the laboratory test is underway before disseminating it to districts which is in line with the government's 10-year bamboo strategy;
- ➤ A total of 4,006 ha commercial plantation established.
- Some 27,310 ha of land restored through Assisted Natural Regeneration scheme;
- > Participatory Forest Management scheme have been started on 84,460 ha of dry forests;
- > Different livelihood options (poultry, fattening, livestock production, energy saving cookstove, modern beehives, agroforestry fruit trees, etc) and 58,242 people (F = 25,338) benefited

DCT

UNDAF Programme Period: 2020-2025 Key Result Area (Strategic Plan): Environment and Sustainable Development Atlas Award ID:	EFY2015 AWP budget: Total allocated resources \$186,000
Start date: January /2023	
End Date: March/2023	
PAC Meeting Date: Management Arrangement: NIM	
Agreed by IP (EFD)  Agreed by MoF:	Date:  Yonas Getahun  WAgencies. CRGE Facility &  Regional Economic Cooperation  Date:  Winistry of Finance
 Agreed by UNDP:	Date: 8/5/23

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