



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

ETHIOPIA AND FAO

PARTNERING TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL GROWTH, FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

Ethiopia has been an FAO member since 1948. In 1981, FAO opened a representation in Addis Ababa, which today hosts the Organization's Subregional Office for Eastern Africa. Interventions are wide ranging, including support to policymaking and sustainable management of natural resources, crop and livestock production and agribusiness development. FAO's activities have also focused on development assistance for increased agricultural productivity and competitiveness as well as disaster response and rehabilitation support.

Major FAO field presence

In addition to the FAO representation, the Addis Ababa office hosts FAO's Subregional Office for Eastern Africa (SFE), supporting eight countries, the FAO Representation to the African Union and the United Nations Economic Commission. The office plays an important liaison role with several development partners based in Ethiopia and the subregion. Thematic teams and functional structures have been established within the office for supporting effective delivery.

Sustainable agricultural production, productivity and competitiveness

Agricultural Growth Programme

Ethiopia's Second Agricultural Growth Programme contributes to the development targets set out in the country's Second Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP-II). To support the implementation of AGP-II, FAO provided technical assistance to the Government in formulating a US\$30 million programme, funded by the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme. In addition, thanks to a US\$3 million programme funded by the World Bank Group, FAO is providing technical assistance to support capacity building for key strategic interventions such as forage development, integrated pest management, mainstreaming climate and nutrition-smart agriculture and gender.

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Matching FAO's expertise to Ethiopia's development priorities

FAO assistance in Ethiopia is shaped by the **2016-2020 FAO Country Programming Framework (CPF)**, which centres on three priority areas:

- ➔ Improving crop production, productivity and commercialization
- ➔ Improving livestock and fisheries production, productivity and commercialization
- ➔ Enhancing sustainable natural resource management

In addition, the following cross-cuttings priority areas are addressed: resilience building, climate change, policy analysis, investment support, coordination and knowledge management.

Jointly developed with the Government and other partners, the CPF is aligned with the UN Development Assistance Framework for Ethiopia and supports national development objectives.



Improved post-harvest management

As one of the key factors contributing to food security, post-harvest management has been prioritized through FAO interventions in grains and horticulture. These have been funded by the Government of Switzerland (US\$6.2 million) and Germany (US\$2 million). As part of these efforts, a post-harvest strategy was developed and extension staff and farmers were trained in how to reduce post-harvest losses and how to use the introduced grain storage technologies. These technologies prevent crop spoilage and loss and reduce women's workload associated with traditional grains storage.

Promoting nutrition-sensitive agriculture

The FAO country office in Ethiopia has been expanding its involvement in nutrition-sensitive agriculture through two joint FAO/UNICEF nutrition and resilience projects of US\$4 million each, financed by EU-SHARE (Supporting the Horn of Africa Resilience) and the Dutch Cooperation. These joint efforts have achieved outstanding results for intersectoral collaboration and coordination at both grassroots and federal levels.

“Food security and adequate nutrition for all is where sustainable development starts.”

FAO Director-General

The nutrition coordination unit has been upgraded from the cast team level to the coordination office, and the national nutrition-sensitive agriculture strategy and the food and nutrition policy have been endorsed. At field level, vulnerable farmers, women and youth groups have been provided with agricultural inputs, while being trained in agriculture techniques and nutrition.

FAO has been supporting effective coordination of national food and nutrition programmes through the EU-FAO FIRST partnership, which has been actively implemented since 2017 with a dedicated professional nutrition expert supporting the Ministry of Agriculture.

Rural women economic empowerment

A global initiative involving FAO and three other UN agencies (WFP, IFAD and UN Women) is to enhance the economic empowerment of rural women.

Targeting over 2 500 women in Afar and Oromia rural regions, the programme focuses on: improving food and nutrition security for healthy and productive women and their households; increasing incomes to secure livelihoods and create wealth to allow the economic empowerment of women; enhancing leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes; and supporting an improved gender-responsive policy environment.

Containing fall armyworm

With FAO support, the Government has successfully established community-based monitoring and early warning systems to boost the capacity to report and respond to pest occurrences. The system has been strengthened with the provision of 203 mobile kits to community forecasters trained to use the FAO-developed Fall armyworm (FAW) monitoring, early warning system (FAMEWS), who are now in a position to transfer timely information to users. About 300 communities benefited from the provision of FAW management equipment, which has contributed to strengthened reporting capacity and early management of FAW. FAO has also supported the development of a FAW management strategy and action plan.

Integrated agro-industrial parks

Building on the success of the Industrial Zone Development Programme for leather and textiles, the Government is spearheading an integrated agro-industrial parks (IAIPs) initiative to support commercialization of agriculture. In 2009, FAO was involved in the formulation of Ethiopia's agro-industry strategy, and since then the Organization has continued providing technical assistance, including backstopping the establishment of four pilot IAIPs in Amhara, Oromia SNNPR and Tigray. Thanks to the financial support of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and of the European Union, FAO has completed a series of detailed analyses of selected value chains in the Agro-Commodities Procurement Zones (ACPZs) of the four pilot IAIPs, and it is about to commence related investment plans.

Building resilience among livestock-dependent households

Livestock production and productivity

Ethiopia is benefiting from the EU's four-year SHARE programme (Supporting the Horn of Africa Resilience). This initiative (valued at 9.2 million Euros) aims to build resilience by reducing the mortality of sheep and goats through vaccination against *peste des petits ruminants*. Over 11 million animals have been vaccinated, which has successfully prevented disease outbreaks and mortality among small ruminants and contributed to increased small ruminant production and productivity, improved drought preparedness, and access to markets. Pastoral communities' resilience has been boosted and veterinary services have gained increased capacity to report and respond to disease outbreaks through the use of mobile phones and syndromic surveillance.