

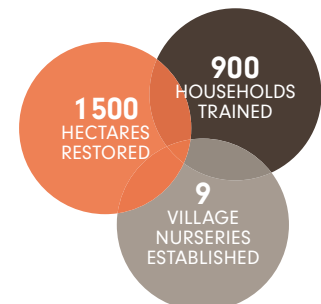
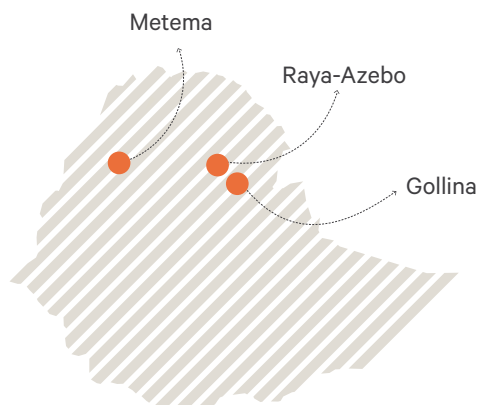


ETHIOPIA

Land degradation and desertification greatly impair the livelihoods and food security of farmers and pastoralists in Ethiopia's drylands. It is estimated that 92 000 hectares of forest, woodlands and 2 billion metric tons of fertile soil are lost every year. Improper land use, poor land management practices, population pressure, overgrazing and deforestation are among the main causes of land degradation in Ethiopia. Moreover, climate change is exacerbating its impact on rural communities. In 2016, the country faced the worst drought in fifty years that affected more than 10 million people.

Action Against Desertification works on the restoration of over 1 500 hectares of arid and semi-arid land in Ethiopia's Amhara, Tigray and Afar regions. These activities are complementary to government-led action to combat land degradation and desertification, while contributing to the National Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy and bolstering Ethiopia's Bonn Challenge commitment. In Ethiopia, Action Against Desertification is engaged in the following activities:

- **INTEGRATED RESTORATION** of landscapes through watershed-based tree planting, soil and water conservation, rehabilitation of degraded woodlands, planting agroforestry and fodder species on farmlands and homesteads.
- **RESTORATION SEED** and seedling production in nine village nurseries, three in each region.
- **IMPROVING THE DRYLANDS** curricula of three local universities.
- **SUPPORTING RESEARCHERS** and research projects in the fields of desertification and restoration.
- **DIVERSIFICATION OF LIVELIHOODS** by providing inputs and training to 900 households to re-green their degraded lands.





ACTION AGAINST DESERTIFICATION is an initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) in support of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel initiative and UNCCD national action programmes to combat desertification. It promotes sustainable land management and restoration of degraded land in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Action Against Desertification is implemented by FAO and partners with funding from the European Union in the framework of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF).

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Action Against Desertification operates in the Amhara, Tigray and Afar regions and is estimated to reach out to over 250 000 people, about half of them women. These include farmers, pastoralists and sellers of forestry products.

Action Against Desertification seeks to improve their livelihoods by ensuring sustainable income drawn from non-timber forest products, such as gum Arabic, lowland fruits and honey, while contributing to the restoration of degraded drylands.

In close collaboration with:

- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
- Ministry of Higher Education
- Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity
- Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute
- States, regional and local administrations of Amhara, Tigray and Afar
- Ethiopian Forum for Environment
- Forest Capacity Development Program
- National Meteorological Agency
- National REDD+ Coordination

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www.fao.org/in-action/action-against-desertification

