

Planning and Implementing Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy, a Submission to the Workstream 2 of the ADP to Contribute to the Raising of Mitigation Ambition in 2013-2020

Workstream 2 of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) is on raising ambitions in actions to counter climate change from 2013 to 2020. Paragraph 15 of the "Planning of Work, Workstream 2" of the ADP, which was approved by COP 18 of the UNFCCC in Doha, Qatar, 26 November - 8 December 2012, "...invited Parties and accredited observer organizations to submit to the secretariat... information, views and proposals ...with a particular focus on 2013." We feel that Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy could help in this needed raising of ambition in 2013 and beyond to combat climate change.

Ethiopia is a least developed country. Therefore, it is in a hurry to develop and play its due share of improving the future prospects of its citizens and humanity at large. According to IMF's forecast for 2011-2015, of the countries with population sizes greater than 10 million, Ethiopia's economy will continue to be the 3rd fastest growing, following those of China and India. Ethiopia's economic growth rate has been over 10% per year for the last nine years. We will continue this momentum along a green path of development. Our intention is to continue making Ethiopia's economic growth rate the highest in the world so that we can catch up.

Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy vision, developed under the leadership of the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, is to become a carbon neutral middle income country by 2025.

We, in Ethiopia, see our Green Economy as a means to overcome the poverty of all of our citizens and to ensure that every one of us leads a good life of full satisfaction. To do this, we do not need only to increase our wealth coupled with ensuring its fair distribution, but also to adapt all our economic, social and environmental sectors to climate change, now that climate change has become inevitable. This multifaceted adaptation process will make our overcoming of poverty irreversible.

In 2010, Ethiopia's economy-wide annual emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) was estimated to be about 150 million metric tonnes (Mt) of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂ e), or 1.8 metric tonnes/capita. If our economic development were to continue in a business as usual (BAU)

manner, this annual economy-wide emission would become 400 Mt CO₂ e, or 3.0 tonnes/capita, in 2030.

In 2010, the GHG emitting sectors of our economy were the following:

A) Agriculture

- 1- Livestock emitted methane and nitrous oxide totalling 65 Mt CO₂ e, i.e. 42% of the economy-wide total.
- 2- Crop cultivation emitted greenhouse gases totalling 13 Mt CO₂ e, i.e. 9% of the economy-wide total. Of this emission, 10 Mt CO₂ e was imported associated with synthetic chemical fertilizers and 3 Mt CO₂ e of nitrous oxide (N₂O) was emitted by crop residues rotting in the soil.

Therefore, the total GHG emission from agriculture added up to $65+13 = 78$ Mt CO₂ e, which was 51% of the economy-wide total.

- B) Deforestation, forest degradation due to cutting and burning fuel wood & due to logging emitted 55 Mt CO₂ e, which amounted to 37% of the economy-wide total.
- C) Emission from electric power generation was low because already it is primarily derived from hydropower and thus it amounted to 4.5 Mt CO₂ e, or 3% of the economy-wide total.
- D) Transport, which is underdeveloped, and the future development of which is to be mostly based on electric power from renewable energy, emitted 4.5 Mt CO₂ e, or 3% of the economy-wide total.
- E) Industry, which is still underdeveloped though growing fast, but which is already using mostly electricity generated from renewable energy, emitted 4.5 Mt CO₂ e, or 3% of the economy-wide total.
- F) Building, which mostly needs neither cooling nor heating because of the most populated part of the country's altitude and tropical position, emitted 4.5 Mt CO₂ e, or 3% of the economy-wide total.

The Green Economy Plan, which has been mainstreamed into the 2011–2015 overall development plan known as the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), has been broadly developed to reduce the BAU emission of 400 million Mt CO₂ projected for 2030 by 259.5 Mt CO₂ e to 140.5 million Mt, i.e. down by 65% of the BAU emission by 2030. This will reduce the per capita emission from 1.8 tonnes CO₂ e/year in 2010 to 1.1 tonnes CO₂ e in

2030. This reduction is without including the 19 Mt CO₂ e of the reduction in neighbouring countries due to electric power export to them from Ethiopia.

Reductions already planned, totalling to 259.5 Mt CO₂ e, to be effected by 2030 are the following:

90 million Mt.	from	Agriculture
130 million Mt.	”	Forestry
4.5 million Mt.	”	Electric power
35 million Mt.	”	Industry, transport and buildings.

Detailed investment plans of the activities required to bring about emission reductions have more or less been finalized, and implementation has started in:-

- Electric power generation in the grid system, which is to be entirely from renewable energy in 2014
- Efficient woodfuel stoves which are to reach 80% of rural households, and alternative fuel stoves (e.g. biogas stoves) which are to reach 10% of rural households, or a total of 90% of rural households by 2030
- Electric rail network construction, which has already started
- REDD+, including aggressive reforestation, which has been going on for 6 years will continue.

This statement is not to imply that our green economy planning has been finalized.

Additional detailed investment planning on the green economy and its implementation is to continue so as to make our speedy economic development carbon neutral by 2025, and thereafter keep on removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere through our expanding and improving forests for the global good.

Work on Adaptation to make the green economy with the development of its 3 pillars (economic, social, environmental) climate resilient is also going on.

To this end, Ethiopia's Programme of Adaptation has been participatorily developed by each regional state, by Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa city administrations and by sectoral ministries and other agencies.

The Programme of Adaptation consists of 20 subsectors, e.g. health, standards for infrastructure. It also includes supportive actions, e.g. indentifying & mapping disaster prone areas and covering climate change in educational curricula.

The whole process is to be reviewed regularly.

Ethiopia's development partners have been helpful, several have pledged to support us financially.

The UNDP has helped us in establishing a "Facility for Environmental Management and Green Development", also referred to as the "Climate Resilient Green Economy Facility." It has also become its **Trustee** to ensure international fiduciary standards until the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development feels that the function of a **Trustee** is no longer needed.

The process of developing Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy is participatory.

- It is led by a Ministerial Steering Committee, representing the relevant ministries, chaired by the Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister.
- The Technical Working Group consisting of experts from the various sectors, chaired by the Deputy Director General of the Federal Environmental Protection Authority, reports to the Ministerial Steering Committee.
- Each sector, with its experts constituting a Technical Sub-committee, reports to the Technical Committee.

In conclusion, now that our participatory climate resilient green economy planning and implementation process is in full swing and our very helpful development partners have shown their willingness to provide us their financial support through the Climate Resilient Green Economy Facility, we are on our way to realize our vision of making Ethiopia a carbon neutral middle income country by 2025 through a greenhouse gas emission minimizing green economic development path combined with aggressive reforestation. However little our impact might be, we also want to help reverse climate change so as to help save all species on Earth. We owe this not only to the memory of our beloved late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi who led us in the process, but also to our beloved children and grandchildren and to the whole of humanity.