



# DAILY REPORT

News and Views from the Global South



Global Green Growth Week 2017, October 17-20, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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FDRE Environment Minister Dr. Gemedo Dalle presents Ethiopia CGRE case.

Credit: IPS

# Ethiopia Showcases Strategy for Achieving Green Middle-Income Status

>> ETHIOPIA

By Dagim Terefe

Over the last twelve years, Ethiopia has achieved double-digit economic growth in real terms (averaging 10.8% per year), one of the fastest growth rates in non-oil producing countries.

Growth is expected to continue at rapid rate of 11% on average. A key challenge the country is tackling is how to achieve this growth through green strategies.

At the opening ceremony of Global Green Growth (GGG) Week 2017, Ethiopia shared its climate resilient green economy experiences under its Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy.

Dr. Gemedo Dalle, Ethiopian Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, in his welcoming speech said Ethiopia has taken practical actions with regard to implementing CRGE through policy formulations, institutional strengthening and programme development and delivery.

The strategy is part of the country's five-year Growth and Transformation Plan and will contribute to Ethiopia's goal of reaching middle-income status by 2025. This, while reducing emissions by 64% by 2025 compared to 2010 levels. The strategy recognizes that achieving growth through the conventional development

path would result in dramatically increased carbon emissions and unsustainable use of natural resources.

"Fighting the adverse impacts of climate change needs collaboration and coordinated actions," Gemedo said.

CRGE's four pillars are: improving crop and livestock production practices for higher food security and farmer income while reducing emissions; protecting and re-establishing forests for their economic and ecosystem services, including carbon stocks; expanding electricity from renewable sources of energy for domestic and regional markets; and using modern and energy-efficient technologies in transport, industrial sectors, and buildings.

Mulugeta Ayalew, Director of Climate Change Affairs under the Prime Minister's Office of Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, spoke on the status of Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy.

Preliminary studies have been conducted during the adoption period by the Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI). Mulugeta said the studies identify mitigation abatement opportunities in the various sectors of the economy.

"Ethiopia's economy is abundantly clean. If

you take the year 2010 as an example, 87% of our emissions came from the land use sector. Therefore, the green economy strategic interventions have changed the bad scenario when you compare with other countries which have a different economy pathways," Mulugeta revealed.

Ethiopia has put in place a monitoring and evaluation framework, an institutional coordination mechanism, and an inter-ministerial committee, which coordinates the various implementation activities of the sector ministries to achieve the CRGE strategy. The agricultural sector is an example, focusing on rehabilitating degraded land to increase sustainable production and productivity.

"The focus of green growth strategies is to ensure that natural resources can deliver their full economic potential in a sustainable manner," Gemedo said.



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# Ethiopia Launches P4G National Platform

&gt;&gt; ETHIOPIA



Panel discussion on launch of P4G platform in Ethiopia

Credit Wambi Michael

By Wambi Michael

Addis Ababa, — The Ethiopian government has launched a P4G national platform as part of its ambitious plan to achieve development through green growth.

The P4G is an acronym for Partnering For Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030. Supported by the Danish government, it is a space for innovative partnerships with businesses, national and city leaders, financiers, and community development advocates towards solutions in support of sustainable and inclusive development.

Other countries under the initiative include: Kenya, Denmark, Chile, Korea, Mexico and Vietnam.

Speaking at the launch, which took place on the sidelines of the Global Green Growth Conference, Ethiopia's Minister of Environment, Dr. Gemedo Dallen Tussie said Ethiopia, like other countries affected by the changing climate, needs to forge coalitions with different players to build resilience towards a sustainable growth.

"Involving the private sector plays a very important role if we need to meet the national and international long-term targets. I believe private public partnerships will be

critical in meeting the sustainable development goals and my country remains committed to encouraging and also closely working with the private sector." Said the Minister.

He observed that Ethiopia has been doing to its level best towards meeting SDGs. The country has implemented the Green Economy Climate Strategy and joining the P4G will be part of the efforts to achieving its green economy national agenda.

According to Danish Ambassador and Head of P4G Secretariat, Lisbeth Jespersen, the P4G in Ethiopia, as in other countries, will focus on energy, water, ecosystems restoration, sustainable land use, food systems, sustainable cities and a circular economy. She said it is expected that moving in that direction could create at least \$12 trillion in some sectors.

P4G also expects to create 380 million jobs by 2030, with almost 90 percent of those located in developing countries like Ethiopia.

Jespersen said the Danish Government will provide US\$4 million each year for financial support to incubate and scale strategies of P4G partnerships.



Credit: Wambi Michael

GGGI DG Frank Rijsberman, Elion Deputy DG Baoping Ao and representing AU Representative Elvis Paul Tangem.

## Letter of Intent Paves Way for China-Africa Land Transformation

&gt;&gt; ETHIOPIA

By Kudzai Makombe

The African Union, GGGI and Elion Resources Group yesterday signed a tripartite letter of intent to bring green growth renewal to Africa's deserts.

The partnership is based on recognition of the work and experience of Elion Resources Group, a fast growing Chinese company engaged in ecological restoration, environmental protection, clean energy and finance for businesses.

The company has successfully transformed degraded and overburdened land in China for the benefit of local small and large-scale farmers.

Elion Deputy Director General, Mr. Baoping Ao, told IPS that in some instances, small-scale farmers now producing sufficiently for subsistence and commercial purposes on small tracts of improved land are leasing unused land to others for additional income.

Elion's strategies for land improvement include developing organic land for farming and production purposes, including improving soil fertility, water rationing and infrastructure construction.

For their potential investment in Africa, Elion is looking to large-scale projects, pointing out that as a private sector company scale and security are critical in any investment.

The letter of intent paves the way for projects aimed at greening Africa's deserts.

## Noteable Quotes From The Opening Ceremony



"As GGGI celebrates its 5-year anniversary, it is honoured to be organizing GGGWeek in Ethiopia—a founding member. The late Prime Minister, Melles Zenawi, who passed five years ago, was instrumental in founding GGGI".

*Dr. Frank Rijsberman, GGGI Director General*

"In Ethiopia, we know that it is poverty and not economic growth which was responsible for much of environmental degradation. Our experience taught us that increasing the efficiency of the way we use natural resources is a prerequisite to prevent environmental degradation."

*HE Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister of FDRE.*

HE Demeke Mekonnen, Dep PM of FDRE with GGGI DG Dr. Frank Rijsberman to his left, UNECA Deputy Executive Secretary dr. Abdalla Hamdok to his far left, UNECA Commissioner for Political Affairs Vera Songwe to his right and FDRE Environment Minister Dr. Gemedo Dalle far right.



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Independent media coverage of the Global Green Growth Week 2017 (GGGWeek2017) is commissioned by the Global Green Growth Institute in partnership with Inter Press Service (IPS) and is aimed at providing quality coverage of the best practices of global green growth interventions, policies and strategies toward a more economically vibrant, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable world.

IPS-Inter Press Service is a global news agency that provides news features, analyses and commentaries on the events and processes affecting the development of peoples and nations.



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