HELVETAS
ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIA LOCAL GOVERNANCE PROJECT (ELGP)

Strengthening Local Governance for Better Services



PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Duration:
September 2026 – August 2029

Budget:
EUR 2 million (approx. ETB 370 million)

Lead Implementer:
Helvetas Ethiopia, in partnership with four local civil society organisations (CSOs)

Geographic Coverage:
Amhara and Sidama regions, reaching 22 woredas and two city administrations

WHY ELGP?

Many communities have limited opportunities to influence local planning and budgeting processes. At the same time, local councils often face challenges in exercising effective oversight, while service providers need stronger systems for transparency, responsiveness, and accountability.

ELGP addresses these challenges by strengthening the relationship between citizens, councils, and service providers, creating a system of mutual accountability that leads to better public services.

ELGP succeeds the Amhara Local Governance Project Plus (ALGP+), implemented with Austria Development Agency (ADA) support across 29 Amhara districts. It expands the initiative to Sidama, replicating proven approaches while building on lessons learned and best practices.

Participation | **Oversight** | **Transparency** | **Accountability**

How ELGP Works

ELGP strengthens local governance by fostering mutual accountability among citizens, elected councils, and service providers.

1 Empowering Citizens

- Strengthening citizen participation in planning and budgeting
- Supporting citizen platforms and community dialogues
- Promoting social accountability and grievance redress mechanisms
- Ensuring meaningful participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities



2 Strengthening Local Councils

- Building capacities of elected councils to perform oversight functions
- Enhancing citizen representation and accountability
- Increasing women's leadership and participation in governance

3 Improving Service Delivery

- Strengthening government capacity for participatory planning
- Promoting transparency and accountability mechanisms
- Supporting institutionalisation of good governance practices

Together, these interventions create a sustainable system of mutual accountability between citizens, elected councils, and service providers.

Expected Results

Citizens actively participate in local governance.

Communities contribute to planning, budgeting, and decision-making processes and can effectively voice their priorities and concerns.

Councils effectively exercise oversight.

Elected councils become stronger, more responsive, and better able to hold administrations accountable for service delivery performance.

Basic services become more responsive and accountable.

Service providers improve efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness through participatory planning and performance improvement mechanisms.

Key Targets by 2029

Citizen Engagement

218	citizen platforms facilitated annually
Over 10,900	citizens engaged each year in local governance processes
22	functional grievance redress mechanisms established

Stronger Councils

2,725	Councillors, trained on their core duty and oversight role
638	Women councillors mentored to asume leadership positions
	Increased council oversight actions and community-responsive legislation

Improved Service Delivery

1,653	service providers trained on ICBPP and Gender
	Integrated Community-Based Participatory Planning (ICBPP) institutionalised
	Community priorities increasingly reflected in local government plans and budgets

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FACT SHEET 4

WHO WILL BENEFIT?

980 women councillors trained

49,400 community members, with a strong focus on women, youth, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable groups

1,235,000 people (50.2% female) through stronger governance systems and enhanced service delivery.

88 community-based organisations (CBOs) and two regional CSO networks capacitated

KEY PARTNERS

Civil Society Partners

- Amhara Women Association
- Women Empowerment Action
- Wag Development Association
- Sidama Development Association

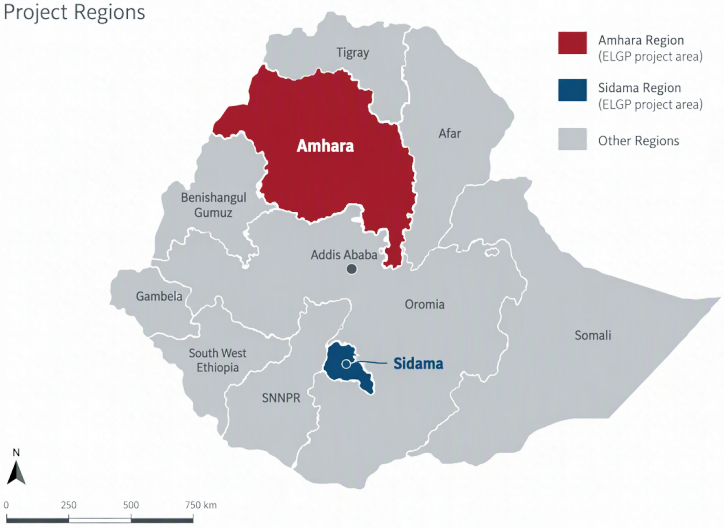
Government Partners

- Regional Councils
- Bureaus of Plan and Development
- Bureaus of Finance
- Relevant zonal and woreda offices

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia Local Governance Project (ELGP)
Project Regions



20 woredas and **2** city administrations

MEASURING SUCCESS

70 % of community members participate in local planning and decision-making processes

80 % of top community priorities are integrated into local government plans and budgets

70 % of citizens perceive local government decision-making as transparent and accountable

70 % of citizens report that local councils effectively ensure government responsiveness to community needs

Community priorities increasingly influence annual woreda budgets and development plans.

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