

HELVETAS

Ethiopia

HELVETAS has been one of the committed development partners in Ethiopia since it resumed its work in 2002. It has contributed to the overall development of the country with focus on the regional states of Tigray and Amhara. The Country Programme Strategy (2014 - 2018) provides the strategic orientation and sets the direction and scope of the programme and its development.

The **mission** of HELVETAS in Ethiopia is to promote and support innovative and sustainable development that improves livelihoods of economically poor and socially disadvantaged women and men.

HELVETAS deploys people centred, multi-stakeholder approaches, thereby building partnerships and capacity through facilitation, innovation and technical assistance, as well as alliances and networking for knowledge, and learning.

Thematic areas of HELVETAS in Ethiopia are:

- *Rural infrastructure*
- *Natural resources management*
- *Support to Civil Society Organizations and local government*
- *Skill development and education*
- *Emergency response*

HELVETAS is member of



HELVETAS

SWISS INTERCOOPERATION

HELVETAS is an international network of independent affiliate member organisations working in the field of development cooperation and emergency response. The HELVETAS network builds upon six decades of development experience. With over 1,400 staff, we are engaged in more than 30 countries. The HELVETAS members share a common vision and mission and subscribe to common working principles and policies.

Our **vision** is a just world where all men and women determine the course of their lives in dignity and security, using environmental resources in a sustainable manner.

Our **mission**: Working with our partners, we support the efforts of disadvantaged people and communities in developing countries to determine the course of their own lives, thereby helping them to help themselves. In Switzerland we promote a spirit of solidarity among the public and we campaign for coherent policies that benefit people in developing countries.

With thematic focus on:

- *Water and infrastructure*
- *Agriculture and markets*
- *Environment and climate change*
- *Skill development and education*
- *Governance and peace*

We engage in development projects and humanitarian aid, consulting, education and information, fair trade and development policy. In Switzerland, HELVETAS is organized as an association with 100,000 members and donors, employing about 150 staff.

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Programme Directorate of HELVETAS Ethiopia



TOGETHER FOR A BETTER WORLD

We in HELVETAS are committed to support the disadvantaged men and women so that they can determine their lives in equity, dignity and security, thereby using environmental resources in a sustainable manner.



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1. RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Construction of suspension bridges is a major area of our expertise, whereby the knowhow is transferred to local stakeholders and communities. Construction work generates employment and income in remote rural areas. But even more important, the bridges so far have offered access to services (health, education) and markets for about 360,000 women, men, girls and boys.

Our work also focuses on improved access to drinking water, basic sanitation and hygiene, as well as on sustainable small scale irrigation schemes.

Project: The **Amhara Integrated Rural WASH (AIRWASH)** Project started in 2014 in three Woredas in Amhara Region



Project: **Trial Bridge Capacity Building (TBCB)** Project started 2005 in Amhara, Tigray, SNNP, Oromia, Gambella and Addis Ababa

2. NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



HELVETAS supports on skills, knowledge development and innovative solutions on sustainable natural resources management among its partners and the farming communities. Farmers, men and women, practice improved agricultural solutions to tackle climate change and DRM, they engage in innovative solutions by improving farming practices and building household asset for increased household income.

Projects: **Beles Sunrise Project (BSP)** and **Rural Water Harvesting Initiative** started in 2010 in Tigray Region; **Wag-Hemra Rural Future Initiative (WH-RFI)**, **Disaster Risk Management through Improved Agriculture Solutions (DRM-IAS)** and **Agriculture Innovation for Women and Youth (AIWY)** started in 2013 in Wag-Hemra Zone, Amhara Region

3. SUPPORT TO CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Community members, regional, Woreda/ district, Kebele Councils, Standing Committees and executive committees are trained on their core duties and rights as citizens and citizens' representatives.

So far, 23,413 men and women are involved, mainly as councilors, in community-based issues at grassroots level for better provision of social services.

Project: The **Capacity Building of Councils (CBoC)** Project started 2012 in three Zones of Amhara

4. SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

Unemployment is often a youth, female and urban phenomenon. Supporting youth to escape the "low/no skill - no job - no income" trap, HELVETAS started in 2015 its skill development programme with an initiative in Amhara Region, under which youth are getting and afterwards supported while doing their first steps towards (self-) employment.

Project: **Skill and Knowledge for Youth (SKY)** started in 2015 in Bahir Dar, Amhara Region



5. EMERGENCY RESPONSE



HELVETAS Ethiopia has started emergency response activities in Amhara region to support the needy communities due to the occurrence of the drought in 2015/2016. Water, seeds and livestock / animal feeds were timely provided and disseminated to 12,330 men and women associated with trainings and awareness rising measures on disaster risk management.

Projects: **Drought Recovery and Climate Resilient (DRCR)**; **Drought Situation and Emergency Responses (DSER)** implemented in 2016 in Wag-Hemra Zone