

# OROMIA ETHIOPIA

## LOW-EMISSION RURAL DEVELOPMENT (LED-R) AT A GLANCE

- Largest Ethiopian region in area, forest cover, & population
- Contains ~50% of Ethiopia's forests, including over 1.2 million ha of protected areas, wildlife reserves, & community-managed forests
- 66% of agricultural landholders participated in community watershed management activities (2010-2015), such as constructing terraces & planting trees to optimize production with minimal environmental disturbance
- Since late 1990s, transfers of medium- & large-scale lands to private companies for agriculture, real estate, & infrastructure have reduced farmers' access → land-based conflicts & discontent towards federal & regional governments
- Beginning in 2015, widespread protests by Oromian youths against the federal & regional governments' development strategies → states of emergencies & change in Ethiopia's leadership (2018)

### DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION

- Small-scale agriculture
- Livestock grazing
- Subsistence & commercial fuelwood collection
- Subsistence & commercial charcoal collection
- Large-scale agriculture

### AVERAGE ANNUAL EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION

4.00 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> (2010-2016) *Includes above-ground biomass, below-ground biomass & dead wood*

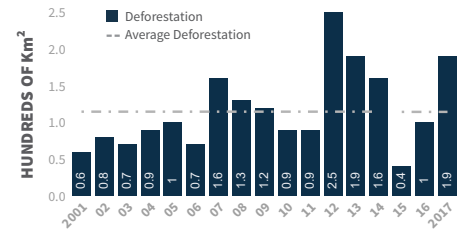
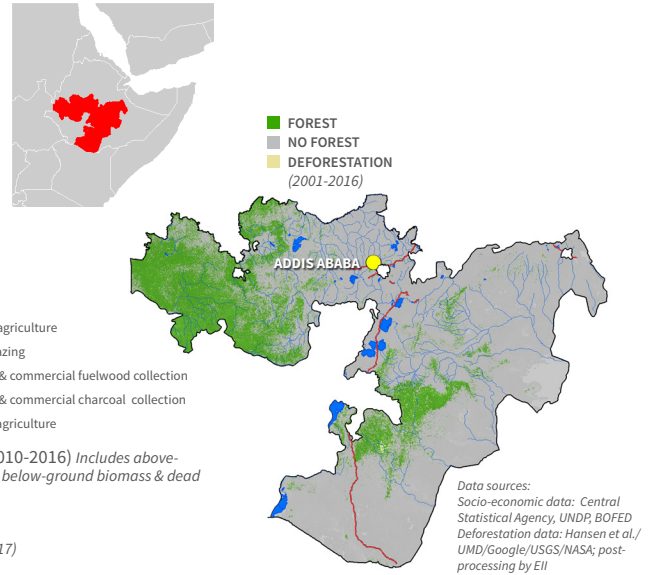
- AREA 363,375 km<sup>2</sup>
- POPULATION 35,466,785 (2017)
- HDI 0.505 (2017)
- GDP 442,342,892 USD (2008)
- GINI *No information*

### MAIN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

- Agriculture
- Livestock
- Services

### RURAL/URBAN POPULATION

88%/12%

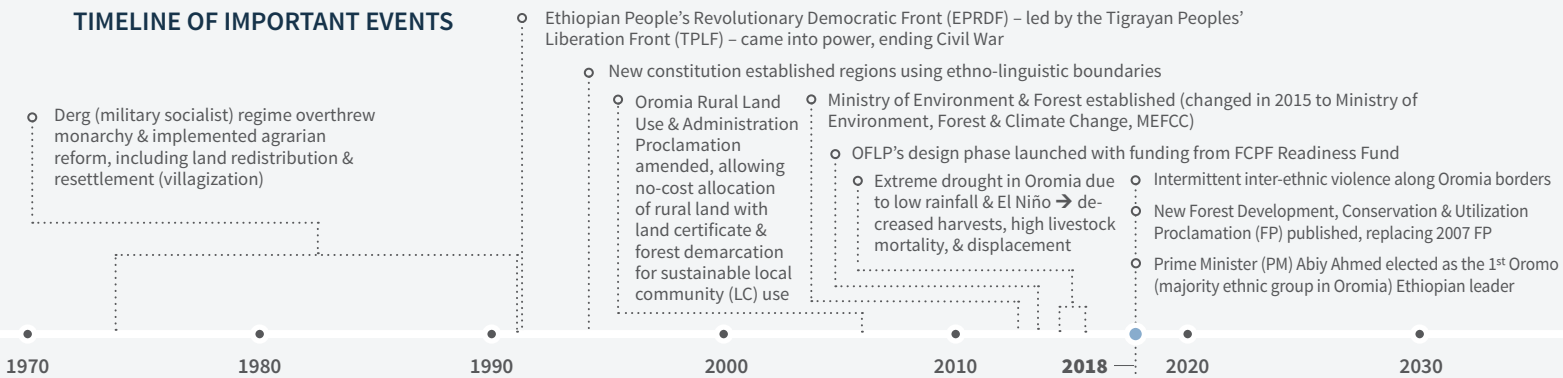


## SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

The Oromia Forested Landscape Program (OFLP), evolving from a jurisdictional REDD+ program piloted in Oromia, brings together various financing sources, stakeholders, and sectors. Under the BioCarbon Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL), it is funded by two complementary schemes: a five-year (2017-2022) USD 18 million mobilization grant from BioCarbon Fund Plus, and an Emission Reductions Purchase Agreement (ERPA) of up to USD 50 million over 10 years through BioCarbon Fund Tranche 3. OFLP fosters equitable and sustainable low-carbon development through enabling investments that address deforestation, emissions, and forest carbon stocks via on-the-ground activities (e.g., participatory forest management (PFM), reforestation, extension services). Additionally, OFLP strengthens region- and local-level enabling environments by enhancing

institutional capacity, improving forest information systems, safeguards management, and technical assistance for research on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES). There are existing REDD+ projects within OFLP, such as BMERPP, that received Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and Climate, Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Standards verifications in 2017 for its 2012-2015 carbon emission reductions (ER). Such projects can independently account for an sell pre-2017 ER, but since establishing OFLP, Oromian forests are accounted for as one unit using the jurisdictional baseline. As the federal and regional governments develop REDD+ in other regions, OFLP provides learning and capacity-building opportunities, such as development of cross-sectoral and multilevel coordination and benefit-sharing.

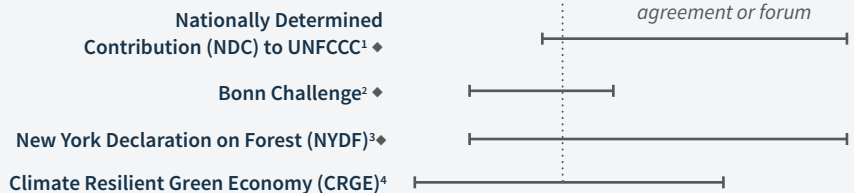
## TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS



## PLEDGES & COMMITMENTS

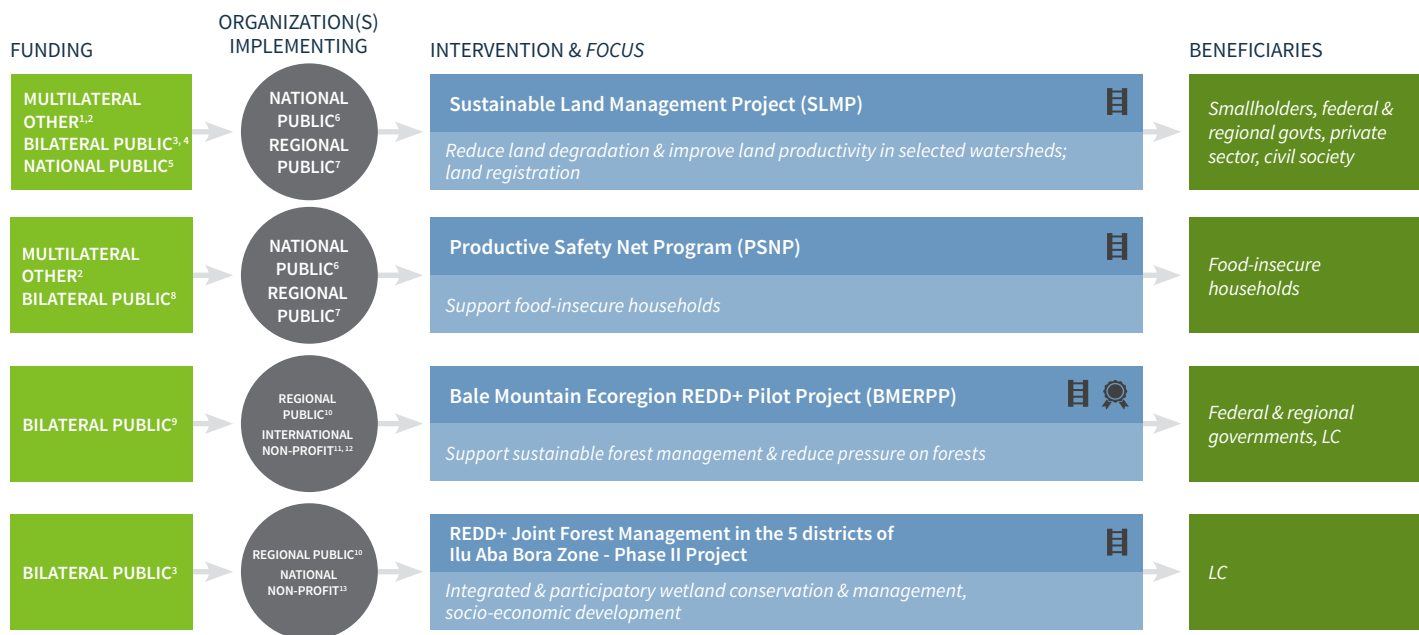
- 1 Reduce emissions 64% below BAU, including 90 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e from agroforestry, afforestation/reforestation, forest rehabilitation.
- 2 Reforest 15 million ha of degraded land.
- 3 End deforestation.
- 4 Reach middle-income status while limiting GHG emissions to 150 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e

### NATIONAL



## KEY INTERVENTIONS

✘ DISINCENTIVES    📊 ENABLING MEASURES    🏆 INCENTIVES



1 Global Environmental Facility (GEF). 2 World Bank (WB) managed loans & trust fund. 3 Government of Norway. 4 GIZ (German Society for International Cooperation). 5 Federal government. 6 Ministry of Agriculture & Natural Resources. 7 Oromia regional bureaus. 8 United States Agency for International Development, UK Department for International Development, European Commission, Canadian International Development Agency, Irish Aid, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Swedish International Development Agency. 9 Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 10 Oromia Forest & Wildlife Enterprise. 11 Farm Africa. 12 SOS Sahel, 13 Ethio Wetlands & Natural Resources Association.

## PROGRESS TO JURISDICTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

○ EARLY    ◐ INTERMEDIATE    ● ADVANCED

<b>Integrated LED-R Strategy</b>	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CRGE, the national green growth strategy, fosters sustainable development</li> <li>OFLP acts as the jurisdiction's integrated action plan, implemented by 5 regional bureaus (agriculture, forests, livestock, energy, &amp; land administration)</li> </ul>
<b>Spatial plan</b>	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No finalized national or jurisdictional spatial plan</li> <li>Watershed-based land use plan for the region under development</li> </ul>
<b>Performance targets</b>	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CRGE &amp; Growth &amp; Transformation Plan 2 (GTP 2) include national social, economic &amp; environmental targets, tied to NDC &amp; Bonn Challenge commitments</li> <li>Oromia will contribute to GTP 2 through targets set in OFLP</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring, reporting &amp; verification (MRV)</b>	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) developed in 2016</li> <li>National &amp; regional MRV structures under development &amp; being piloted in Oromia</li> </ul>
<b>Policies &amp; incentives</b>	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National policies &amp; programs exist for land use sectors &amp; for large-scale private agricultural investments favoring exported commodities (involving regional govt)</li> <li>OFLP offers incentives to establish forested landscapes, e.g., through USD 50 million ERPA</li> <li>Tax breaks for forest owners &amp; managers recently announced; needs further regulation</li> </ul>
<b>Multi-stakeholder governance</b>	◐	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government, private sector, donors, &amp; civil society provide guidance &amp; technical inputs for OFLP implementation through steering &amp; technical committees</li> <li>Input from LC influenced OFLP benefit-sharing, safeguards &amp; PFM design</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable agriculture</b>	◐	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing regional initiatives to improve agriculture/livestock productivity &amp; land certification, &amp; reduce land degradation; limited resources restrict agricultural extension services</li> <li>Small-scale private sector initiative (Nespresso &amp; WB-led) to improve sustainable coffee production includes smallholders</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous peoples &amp; local communities</b>	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land is publicly owned; LC may have use rights</li> <li>Land certification initiatives provide farmers with boundary delineation &amp; registration of agricultural lands</li> <li>2018 FP allows forest ownership by LC &amp; associations; implementation needs further regulation</li> </ul>
<b>LED-R finance</b>	◐	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future funding sources: federal funds, international grants (e.g., BioCarbon ERPA), private sector, carbon offset sales (BMERPP)</li> <li>International donors, WB, &amp; domestic budgets finance agricultural &amp; some landscape rehabilitation initiatives (e.g., SLMP)</li> </ul>

**CITATION** | S. Atmadja & S. Peteru. 2018. "Oromia, Ethiopia" in C. Stickler et al. (Eds.), *The State of Jurisdictional Sustainability*. San Francisco, CA: EII; Bogor, Indonesia: CIFOR; Boulder, CO: GCF-TF.

**COMPLETE REFERENCES & DATA SOURCES PROVIDED AT** [www.earthinnovation.org/state-of-jurisdictional-sustainability](http://www.earthinnovation.org/state-of-jurisdictional-sustainability)  
2019/03/26

TECHNICAL TEAM



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based on a decision of the German Bundestag

## CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

### CHALLENGES

- Insufficient funding & technical capacity to address agriculture & fuelwood/charcoal as drivers of deforestation & forest degradation & to contribute to achieving national ER targets
- Low technical capacity to account for all sectors' emissions, disaggregate limited national & regional data, & develop regional MRV (currently limited accessibility)
- Conflicts between land use policies & lack of national land use plans
- MEFCC transformed from Ministry to a Commission, with unknown impacts on institutional capacity & functionality
- Despite negotiations with the federal government on performance targets, the regional government is expected to implement federally defined commitments

### OPPORTUNITIES

- MoU for regional bureaus' joint implementation of OFLP fostering improved inter-sectoral coordination
- Strong political will & support to achieve targets under GTP 2 & CRGE strategy
- New PM is introducing radical changes & allowing for greater political freedom; Oromo now have more representation & political role at national level