

June 2024

The UN in Ethiopia has identified four interconnected outcomes that will guide its development cooperation over the next five years:

- All people in Ethiopia enjoy the rights and capabilities to realize their potential in equality and with dignity.
- All people in Ethiopia live in a cohesive, just, inclusive and democratic society.
- All people in Ethiopia benefit from an inclusive, resilient and sustainable economy.
- All people in Ethiopia live in a society resilient to environmental risks and adapted to climate change.



UN Ethiopia holds strategic discussion to identify priorities for its support to the country over the next five years



The UN Country Team meeting aims to develop a shared understanding of the country context and have agreement on key priorities in support of Ethiopia

The United Nations in Ethiopia held its annual strategic meeting with a focus to identify priorities for the UN collective response to help Ethiopia address its national priorities and gaps in its pathway towards meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The priorities that have been identified in the discussion

will contribute to develop the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), which is the most important instrument for planning and implementation of the UN development activities at country level.

In his remarks to the meeting, Dr. Ramiz Alakbarov, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator,

“Measuring our impact, providing evidence of our relevance, and delivering results are at the heart of our mission in Ethiopia,” said Dr. Alakbarov.

underlined that an integrated and coordinated approach is essential for achieving the SDGs in Ethiopia and should guide the development and implementation of the next UNSDCF 2025-2030. “Measuring our impact, providing evidence of our relevance, and delivering results are at the heart of our mission in Ethiopia,” he said.

The Cooperation Framework—an agreement between the UN and the host government—determines and reflects the UN development system’s contributions in the country.

[Full story](#)



Surviving conflict: An Ethiopian Returnee who fled Sudan



When Abdi Siraj migrated to Sudan 17 years ago, he was hoping to find a better-paying job in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum.

Metema, Ethiopia – When Abdi Siraj migrated to Sudan 17 years ago, he was hoping to find a better-paying job in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum.

“I was working on a small maize farm in Afar before I migrated to Sudan through Metema,” he reminisces.

After crossing over to Sudan from Ethiopia, through the bordering town of Metema, he then set off to a journey that took days, and eventually arriving in Khartoum.

Abdi was working as what he calls as gesala (cloth washing and ironing clerk). The job he found in Khartoum was not what he had in mind. But he

did not complain.

Life was ok, for Abdi, as years passed by, he married his wife who was working as a housemaid in Khartoum. The two never had children, yet they were supporting each other and saving what they can, hoping to establish themselves someday. They thought they could perhaps return to Ethiopia and set up a decent business which will help their family.

That dream never materialized. After 17 years of peaceful life, a conflict broke out in Khartoum. Abdi and his wife were hopeful that the situation would get better, and they would return to work. On the contrary, the situation only got worse.

Abdi was forced to give money to the armed men. When he was not able to provide them more, they shot him on his leg, leaving him bleeding on the floor while his wife was locked in another room.

[Full story](#)

PEOPLE

UN Ethiopia organizes webinar series to counter hate speech and disinformation

The UN Ethiopia Taskforce on Hate Speech and the UN Communications Group organized a webinar series on hate speech and disinformation in the observance of the 2024 International Day of Countering Hate Speech and Disinformation.

The webinar series aims to promote a safe, diverse, and democratic space for various expressions within the framework of human rights and freedom of expression. Additionally, it seeks to enhance multi-stakeholder engagement to prevent, mitigate, and respond to hate speech and

disinformation in Ethiopia.

The four two-hour sessions of the webinar series held for two weeks brought together a wide array of stakeholders, including representatives from the UN, civil society organizations, human rights-based organizations, media, social media influencers, religious institutions, youth groups, academia and tech companies.

The webinar series focused on legal and conceptual framework for hate speech; artificial intelligence;

online harassment and technology-facilitated gender-based violence; and media literacy.

[Full story](#)

PEACE



UNIDO Regional Director and Representative to Ethiopia bidden farewell



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UNIDO Representative and Director of the Regional Hub in Addis Ababa, Ms. Aurelia Calabro, who concluded her term in Ethiopia, was bidden farewell by the leadership of the Government of Ethiopia, the UN Country Team and staff as well as partners in Ethiopia.

Recognizing the contribution of Ms. Calabro, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said, "A true friend of Ethiopia who had a deep understanding of local context and an unwavering commitment to the nation's development."

UN Resident and Humanitarian



Coordinator Dr. Ramiz Alakbarov thanked the Prime Minister for recognizing the contribution of Ms. Calabro and UNIDO and expressed the UN commitment to continue to support the national development priorities and accelerate progress towards SDGs.

UNIDO strengthens honey value chain for greater market access



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UNIDO's support to ensure the capacity of quality compliance of the honey value chain has led to enhanced market access for Ethiopia.

UNIDO launched the Global Market Access Programme (GMAP) in Ethiopia with a view to ensuring compliance with international standards, improving honey products quality, facilitating business linkages, and sustaining project results

throughout the honey value chain.

Jimma is one of the towns in Oromia that witnessed substantial progress following the introduction of the program. Mr. Yusuf Sharo, Administrator of Jimma Zone, pointed out that remarkable growth of honey production and export has been achieved in Jimma.

"Honey production has been jumped



up from 15 tons in 2023 to an astounding 90 tons in the first two quarters of 2024, a testament to the boundless potential of our area."

In April 2024, three processors and beekeepers' community in Gera woreda (Jimma zone) signed business agreements to export nearly 90 tons of quality honey and beeswax to the international market.

[Full story](#)

Strengthening Women-Led CSOs to Catalyze Women's Empowerment and Peace Building in Ethiopia



Ms. Zinet Yimer, Co-founder and Executive Directress of ELiDA



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By strengthening CSOs working in peacebuilding and conflict resolution, UN Women aims to support the promotion and implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda and the effective participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, and peace building to create a cohesive, just, inclusive, and democratic society.

PEOPLE

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) play a key role in promoting women's equal and meaningful participation in peace processes and peacebuilding. A Context Assessment on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Situation in Ethiopia undertaken by UN Women, highlights that increased number of CSOs working on the WPS field is an opportunity for women's rights to be further improved and realized. Hence, by strengthening CSOs working in peacebuilding

and conflict resolution, UN Women aims to support the promotion and implementation of the WPS agenda and the effective participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, and peace building to create a cohesive, just, inclusive, and democratic society.

To realize this aim, UN Women Ethiopia has awarded grants to CSOs to support their work related to the WPS Agenda. Among these CSOs is New Millennium Women Empowerment Organization

(NMWEO), a non-governmental humanitarian organization dedicated to empowering women, girls, and youth across five regions of Ethiopia namely Tigray, Amhara, Afar, Gambella, Benishangul-Gumuz, and Addis Ababa through various programs focused on capacity building, advocacy, leadership development, and humanitarian interventions.

[Full story](#)

Improved social dialogue fostering industrial peace in garment factories



Workers and employees' associations, workers and employers in Hawassa Industrial Park and industrial zones improve relations towards exploring mutual interest

With continuous engagement with associations (of workers and employees), workers and employers in Hawassa Industrial Park and industrial zones in the Sidama

region now see each other as partners with mutual interests.

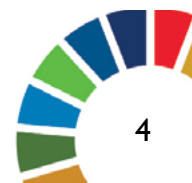
Stakeholders of the Sidama region garments industrial zone disclosed

that improved social dialogue among workers', employer associations and the government foster industrial peace and improve productivity in garment factories in and around Hawassa Industrial Park.

According to Tewodros Gebiba, Sidama Bureau of Labor and Skills (BoLS), Deputy Head in Charge of Workers and Employers' Affairs, "What creates a conducive and peaceful industrial environment is the relationship among the actors in the sector, particularly the workers, employers and us, the regulators. Hence, social dialogue and worker-employer affairs board are strengthened and proved to be crucial for industrial peace."

[Full story](#)

PROSPERITY



UNOPS Ethiopia and partners launch project to improve health conditions in South Omo Zone



"The 3-year project will improve the uptake and quality of healthcare service delivery for more than 25,000 beneficiaries in Dimeka, South Ethiopia, as well as improve the quality and uptake of education in primary schools through improved nutrition, water accessibility and hygiene services benefiting over 800 children."

UNOPS's project aims to improve the uptake and quality of healthcare service delivery for more than 25,000 beneficiaries in Dimeka, South Ethiopia

UNOPS Ethiopia, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), and South Ethiopia regional office representatives launched a new project to improve health conditions in Hamer woreda, South Omo zone.

The project launch took place at Dimeka Health Center marking the official start of field-level activities of this multi-sectoral intervention that will be implemented in collaboration with the regional bureaus, and includes,

among others, the rehabilitation and expansion of Dimeka Health Center and Aeriya Qeyissa Primary School.

In particular, the 3-year project will improve the uptake and quality of healthcare service delivery for more than 25,000 beneficiaries in Dimeka, South Ethiopia, as well as improve the quality and uptake of education in primary schools through improved nutrition, water accessibility and hygiene services benefiting over 800

children.

The intervention worth around 3M Euro will help address the health challenges faced by a community that is affected by climate change. The project will guarantee that all built or renovated infrastructures is disability and gender-sensitive to meet the target population and people living with disabilities (PLWD) demands.

[Full story](#)

Portraits of Hope

A staggering 21 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Ethiopia, as they grapple with the impacts of hostilities and devastating climate shocks. We have a window of opportunity to aid it, with urgent action and funding.

These people however, go beyond just the statistics. Every Ethiopia in needs has dreams, aspirations and hopes that are worth telling.



UN agencies and NGOs in Ethiopia, including IOM, UNOCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and ZOA, have come together to humanize their stories through photographs. Meet some of the people who are embodying resilience and hope through this virtual photo exhibit. Scan the QR code or click this [link](#)

WFP advocates for integrated climate risk management instruments



WFP advocates for integrated climate risk management instruments such as insurance to protect farmer's investments and help them recover from crop failures

Funded by Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the partnership between ATI, WFP, and Pula helps realize Ethiopia's Largest Crop Insurance Program that aims to secure the future of smallholder farmers. As part of this initiative, the Oromia Insurance is to pay 39 million ETB to smallholder farmers.

For millions of Ethiopians, farming is not merely a profession, but a way of life. It is also a risky endeavour impulse of nature and unpredictable market forces. About 24 million smallholder farmers

depend on rainfed subsistence agriculture as their main livelihood in Ethiopia. However, climate-related risks and pests affect yields and discourage farmers from investing in improved agriculture practices that minimize the risk exposure on their investments, increasing their vulnerability to food insecurity.

WFP advocates for integrated climate risk management instruments such as insurance to protect farmer's investments and help them recover from crop failures, livestock losses, or damage caused by shocks. WFP

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enables farmers and pastoralists vulnerable to climate extremes to manage climate risks using an integrated set of tools that include access to microinsurance, financial services and participation in nature-based solutions to reduce overall risk. Through its R4 programme in Ethiopia, WFP planned and oversaw the rollout of the agricultural insurance scheme in Amhara region and provided the insurance premium for the farmers.

[Full story](#)

UN reiterates commitment to partnership with AU, echoes urgency to address the relationship between climate change, security



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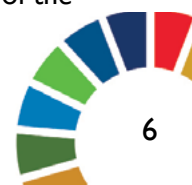
Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of UNOAU Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga reiterated the UN's commitment to the partnership with the African Union and echoed the urgency to address

the intricate relationship between climate change and security, focusing on two key areas: addressing conflict root causes and enhancing preventive measures to achieve lasting peace, and tackling the climate emergency through emissions reduction, climate

finance fulfillment, and robust early warning systems.

The SRSG made the remarks at the Exhibition Day on Humanitarian, Peace and Security organized by the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) and held at the African Union headquarters as a key activity to commemorate its 20th Anniversary to showcase the efforts deployed over time to address humanitarian situations across the continent. The Exhibition was organized in collaboration with World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

[Full story](#)



UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator visits Ethiopian Police University



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UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Dr. Ramiz Alakbarov, visited Ethiopian Police University and discussed with officials of the University.

The visit aims to enhance and ensure coordination in the UN's support to the University towards the implementation of SDG 16, which focuses on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies and building

effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Different UN entities have partnered with the University on a range of capacity building initiatives that have helped the University to mainstream and deliver courses, fostering a more effective, professional and accountable police service in line with international laws.

Highlighting the changing nature



of crimes that involve trafficking, cybercrimes and technology facilitated crimes, Mesfin Abebe, Deputy Commissioner of Federal Police Commission and President of the University, said the University seeks to enhance partnership with the UN in order to produce professional, efficient and accountable police force and increase the role of Ethiopian Police officers in peacekeeping missions.

[Full story](#)

PEACE

Preparing future industry leaders inside the Hawassa Industrial Park



Technical and leadership skills training has helped in empowering new line managers in Hawassa industrial park

Technical and leadership skills training has helped in empowering new line managers in the labour-intensive textile and garment industry in Hawassa industrial park.

With the skills gained from ILO Siraye's Leadership Development Programme, new leaders are finding their way to deal with complex problems and advance in their career. This program is piloted in

Hela Indochine and Sumbri Intimate Apparel factories based on specific training request. In the program, a total of 18 supervisors and industrial engineers have successfully completed the 6 months program implementation. Out of which, 9 LDP leaders got salary increment and 4 were promoted to the next managerial position.

Yared Habtamu is an Industrial

"The skills that I gained from the training and mentorship is more valuable than a financial gain."

Engineer at Hela Indochine Apparel plc inside the Hawassa Industrial Park. He thinks, he was "lucky to have received training through the ILO Siraye programme that enhanced his skills." "The training was given face to face for four consecutive days followed by mentoring of our progress and periodic coaching support."

The program helped us become assertive leaders. I also gained skills in terms of minimizing production waste solving problems; distributing tasks among the human resources; increasing quality, productivity, reducing absenteeism, proper utilization of annual leave; and creating safe and conducive work environment.

[Full story](#)

PROSPERITY

Rebuilding Lives and Livelihoods through Forests



Mamitu Mekelew works in the greenhouse taking care of seedlings as part of the forest programme

Alemayehu Toga remembers the years when frequent flooding in the area meant that his community in Mirab Abaya area in the south of Ethiopia were often displaced from their land. This meant that a sustainable livelihood was out of the question as the already vulnerable community was forced to sell off their livestock and assets during disasters and try to rebuild again and again.

Through the Sweden-supported forest programme engaging with communities, 560 hectare of land was restored through assisted natural reforestation. A banana plantation was also established on 300 hectares.

These activities helped to tackle flooding in the area and at the same time created livelihoods. Alemayehu no longer lives in fear of the damages wreaked by flooding in the area. He is also one of 1,520 people directly benefiting from the banana plantation and he is using the income to send his children to school.

Mamitu Mekelew is a young woman who works in the greenhouse taking care of seedlings. She also recalls the days when the displaced community would camp out waiting for the

floods to subside. Mamitu is now happy at the jobs created for the young people in the community and speaks of how she and her peers feel stable enough to now plan on building their assets.

According to Kibruyisfa Sisay (Phd) who is the national coordinator for the Forest Sector Development Programme, the average annual income generated from banana plantation is around 180 million ETB, with markets now accessed by the community's cooperatives in major towns of the country.

Income is also generated from honey, with the Tailo Honey and Products Cooperation earning 400,000 ETB last year. The cooperative has started selling their honey products to the nearest Arba Minch town as well as the capital Addis Ababa.

In April 2024, the area was visited by staff from the Swedish international Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and UNDP's Nature Hub. Maria Vink, Programme Specialist for SIDA, noted that she found it very encouraging to see how restoration has led to sustainable livelihoods for the communities, benefiting both people and the planet.



Through the Sweden-supported forest programme engaging with communities, 560 hectare of land was restored through assisted natural reforestation. A banana plantation was also established on 300 hectares.

Tim Scot, Senior Policy Advisor at UNDP's Nature Hub, agrees with this observation, reflecting on the empowered role of communities to promote change in a sustainable manner. He also stressed that both SIDA and UNDP shared the same vision for promoting sustainable development, eradicating poverty, reducing inequalities, and advancing inclusive green growth.

The field visit was organised within the context of a SIDA pilot project (2021-2024) on environment and climate change.

[Full story](#)

UN Ethiopia

Bimonthly Newsletter by the UN Communications Group

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UN in Ethiopia



UN Ethiopia

