

Inception Report

Analysis of the Legal and Institutional Framework for a National and Regional REDD+ Progam in Ethiopia

- Draft Version -

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Content

1 Introduction 2 1.1 Objective of the Assignment	
Conceptual framework 5 2.1 Legal and institutional arrangements	
3 Institutional, policy and legal context 10 3.1 Policy context	12 12 14
4 Areas of investigation 20 5 Approach, methodology and work plan 21 5.1 Phase 2 – Situational analysis and initial option scoping	27
ANNEX 1: Indicative list of references, policy documents, legislation and informants 31 ANNEX 2: Indicative list of initiatives and actors 35 A. Initiatives	35

1 Introduction

On April 25, 2014 the World Bank contracted Climate Focus for an assignment "Analysis of the Legal and Institutional Framework for a National and Regional REDD+ Program in Ethiopia" (the Assignment). The Assignment is placed in the context of emerging national and regional Oromia REDD+ programs that have considerably advanced during recent months. The Government of Ethiopia has identified REDD+ as an opportunity and viable source of sustainable finance for investments in forest management, conservation and restoration to enhance multiple benefits of forests. In close cooperation with its consortium partners UNIQUE and CONSCIENTIA, Climate Focus has been mandated to execute an in-depth analysis of institutional and legal frameworks, including benefit-sharing mechanisms, and based on this analysis and stakeholder consultations propose arrangements for REDD+ implementation at the national level and at the regional level (Oromia State).

Our team is comprised of leading international and national REDD+ experts, including:

- **Dr. Charlotte Streck**, land use, legal and finance expert, and Director of Climate Focus, is the team leader and consortium coordinator for the Assignment and will provide oversight and ensure the quality of the project.
- **FranziskaHaupt**, land use expert at Climate Focus is the project manager. She will coordinate and lead the benefit-sharing analysis, proposals and evaluation, and coordinate the stakeholder consultations and community focus groups.
- Darragh Conway, REDD+ legal expert, will coordinate and lead the legal and institutional analysis, proposals and evaluation and support the stakeholder consultations.
- **John Costenbader**, senior REDD legal expert, will support the legal and institutional analysis and the benefit-sharing analysis.
- **Dr.MelakuBekele**, senior Ethiopian REDD+ natural resource management (NRM) expert, director of CONSCIENTIA, will support the benefit-sharing analysis, proposals and evaluation, stakeholder consultations and community focus groups.
- MelleseDamtie, senior Ethiopian REDD+ Legal Expert will support the legal and institutional analysis, proposals and evaluation, stakeholder consultations and community focus groups.
- Alemayehu Belay, Ethiopian NRM expert, research fellow at Climate Focus will support both analyses.
- **Dr.TimmTennigkeit**, Climate-smart Land Use Expert and **Sophia Carodenuto**, Social Expert, from the company UNIQUE will provide input for the benefit-sharing analysis, proposals and evaluation and support the stakeholder consultations.

This inception report (the Report) is dedicated to laying the groundwork for the Assignment in order to ensure it is carried out in the most effective and efficient manner possible. With this report we try to describe the basic context and backdrop for our approach, methodology and work plan, and include a preliminary list of key questions for the development of successful legal and institutional arrangement. The Report is based on desk reviews. We conducted a preparatory analysis of the conceptual framework and Ethiopian context for legal and institutional frameworks. After the kick-off meeting and the receipt of the comments from the client, the Government of Ethiopia (the Client) represented by the National REDD+Coordinator Dr. YitebituMoges, we will revise this document and prepare a final report that integrates the views and comments of the Client, the World Bank and other stakeholders.

1.1 Objective of the Assignment

The overall objective of the Assignment is to enable Ethiopia to reduce forest-related emissions, to actively participate in the international REDD+ framework and to effectively access international funds. Ultimately, the Assignment will propose effective, efficient, and equitable arrangements to promote and support a transformation towards reduced deforestation, improved livelihoods, alleviated poverty and increased resilience.

We seek to achieve the following outcomes:

- Provide an in-depth analysis of institutional and legal frameworks, and based on this
 analysis a proposal for arrangements for REDD+ implementation at the national level
 and at the regional level, focusing on the national pilot region, Oromia State.
- Build capacities on legal and institutional aspects of REDD+ among key Ethiopian governmental and civil society stakeholders at national and regional levels. This will be achieved through regular engagement and information sharing with stakeholders in designing arrangements and through targeted presentations at stakeholder meetings. This will assist decision-makers in designing any potential future reforms beyond those identified in this Assignment.
- Create national, regional and local level ownership over REDD+ arrangements through consistent engagement and consultation, leading to their greater acceptance and contributing to their success.
- Promote participative processes to support information provision, consultation and decision-making of stakeholders, especially that of local communities affected by deforestation or strategies to address its drivers.

1.2 Context

Ethiopia has Africa's second largest population, with one of the world's highest population growth rates. It also has one of Africa's fastest growing economies, with growth averaging over 10% per year. Despite having relatively low forest cover, Ethiopia's forests play an important role in the provision of timber, fuelwood, forest coffee and other non-timber forest products relied on by communities. The informal nature of forest-related economic activities however has led to them being undervalued and often excluded from GDP estimates. Between 2001 and 2012, almost 275,000 hectares (ha) of forests were lost, more than half in Oromia (close to 140,000ha) the largest state and home to 60% of the country's high forest cover. Deforestation was particularly intense in a few hotspots e.g. the Bale Zone in Oromia. High losses in forest cover were also estimated for the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region and BeneshangulGumu (more than 70,000ha and 10,000ha, respectively). Figure 1 illustrates tree cover and tree cover loss from 2000-2012.

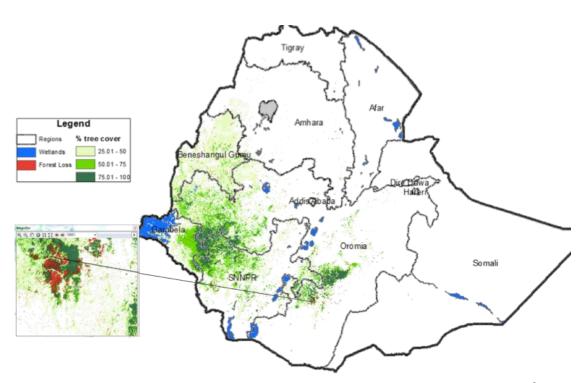


Figure 1: Tree cover and loss between 2000 and 2012 and one of the deforestation hotspots in Oromia.³

While agricultural expansion and unsustainable fuelwood collection are assumed to play a key role, understanding of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation is limited. The agriculture sector forms the backbone of the Ethiopian economy, accounting for almost half of GDP. It is dominated by small-scale farmers and often mixed livestock-crop systems, which contribute to 95% of agricultural GDP and 85% of jobs⁴. Recently the government started promoting large-scale industrial agriculture, which has been linked to deforestation. Ethiopia is also home to Africa's largest livestock population and this sector has also been linked to forest degradation, with systems often characterized by low productivity, poor animal nutrition, low levels of veterinary care and overgrazing.

Insufficient cropland management and rapid depletion of vegetation cover lead to erosion and significant losses of arable land. It is estimated that approximately 40 million ha of land are degraded. Among other reasons, frequent land redistribution, insecure tenure systems and various barriers (e.g. related to markets and finance) have encouraged farmers to opt for short-term exploitation and insufficient investments ("nutrient mining"), leading to degradation, low farm productivity and as a result encouraging further expansion into forests. While conversion to cropland is assumed to be the main driver of deforestation, unsustainable exploitation of fuelwood contributes to substantial degradation of forests and woodlands. Fuelwood is a major source of energy for the rural population, with consumption estimated at about 53.6 million tons per year.

³Modified from World Resources Institute, 2014, Country Analysis of GFG for Ethiopia(?)

⁴ Information sourced from the Ministry of Agriculture's website found at www.moa.gov.et

⁵REDD+ Desk Organisation Website. 2014. Ethiopia REDD+ Profile.

⁶ Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP): Federal Democraric Republic of Ethiopia. Addis Ababa; Tadesse 2013. Sustainable Land Management Program in Ethiopia "Linking Local REDD+ Projects to National REDD+ Strategies and Initiatives"

WBISPP. 2005. A national strategy plan for the biomass sector. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

2 Conceptual framework

2.1 Legal and institutional arrangements

Legislative and institutional frameworks facilitate the implementation of REDD+ strategies. They provide certainty to REDD+ actors and establish an operational framework in which specific REDD+ actions can be based. The functions of such frameworks can be regarded as largely procedural and frameworkscan develop the necessary foundations upon which substantive activities can be further developed. Legislative and institutional frameworks are tools to achieve REDD+ goals and facilitate the transition to activities that reduce forest carbon emissions. Anchoring REDD+ in legislation and public policy facilitates political processes to meet goals, but also offers a means to entrench them over the long term.

REDD+ also requires the creation, development and strengthening of institutions that allow countries to receive REDD+ payments as well as institutions that facilitate the implementation of REDD+-related policies (e.g. in agricultural and forestry sectors). Institutions cover multiple levels of governance and range from government, civil society, universities and research institutes, to local entities, e.g. forest user association, important for collective action. The cross-sectoral and nested nature of REDD+ means that the setup of institutional and legal frameworks goes beyond assigning additional powers to new or existing bodies but also to encompasses broad inter-sectoral and vertical coordination between federal, sub-national and local institutions. Coordination mechanisms need to ensure allocation and clarity of mandates, resources, political capital, legal personalities and functional capacities. In addition to executive bodies, mechanisms to ensure effective oversight by legislative and judicial bodies are important. All institutions should also have access to the required competences, expertise, capacity and political capital to carry out their mandates, and where capacities are restricted, it is worth considering how to best use available resources, including existing formal and informal structures and mechanisms.

2.1.1 Land, forest and carbon rights

A clear, consistent and secure land and forest tenure system is widely recognized as an important enabling condition for the success of REDD+. Security of tenure provides communities and individuals with long-term incentives to manage land more sustainably and allows them to make long-term investment decisions. Clarity on the respective rights of land users avoids land conflicts and is a pre-condition for land users to enter into long-term agreements with public or private entities. Moreover, clarity on land rights is closely connected to rights and obligations surrounding carbon and other benefits or impacts from REDD+.

In many countries land and forest tenure is subject to some conflict, including issues related to the recognition of traditional rights and an absence of widespread land registration. A related issue in federal systems may be an absence of clarity regarding the division of land management rights between federal and sub-national entities. Clarity on the legal status of various rights and their relationship is important for the success of REDD+. Introducing reforms clarifying the respective scope of rights of different groups such as the national government, sub-national government, private entities or individuals and local communities may be required. The creation of a clear and accessible process for obtaining land rights and resolving conflicting claims to land is similarly important.

Specific regulation of carbon rights is not a prerequisite for REDD+ but may provide an element of certainty. Carbon rights are closely tied to land and forest tenure rights; hence any uncertainty with respect to the latter will make it challenging to regulate the former. Since clarifying land tenure is frequently a long-term process, exploring interim solutions is frequently attractive. One option may be to combine two systems of REDD+ entitlements: one relating to areas where rights are secure, and the other relating to areas where they have yet to be clarified. In the former full carbon rights could be assigned, while in the latter equitable

incentive systems that are not strictly tied to land rights could be instituted. Procedures authorizing REDD+ projects or programs without prejudice to the future determination of rights on disputed lands and ensuring consultative processes can further mitigate uncertainty in this context.

Where a country decides to regulate carbon, the legislator may consider:

- What ownership applies to (e.g. avoided emissions/removals; naturally/actively sequestered carbon);
- 2. Who can claim ownership (e.g. persons with land ownership rights, usufructuary rights etc.; communities, traditional users);
- 3. How ownership is established (e.g. formal recognition process; or by virtue of holding a related land right);
- 4. What associated responsibilities does ownership imply (e.g. liability for reversals).

In discussing carbon rights, regard will be made to forest law, land law, and Ethiopia's obligations under relevant treaties. On public lands, the Government may have a strong claim to carbon rights. However, it may also often possible to identify rights to access, use, manage, and benefit from forests, and these may play an additional role in determining carbon rights. Where carbon credits are provided for under a future UNFCCC mechanism, past experience under the Kyoto Protocol, under which Parties create, own and hold carbon credits but can transfer these rights to private actors through authorization letters, may provide some precedent on how carbon credits will be treated if and when introduced.

2.1.2 Land use planning and allocation

Land and forest planning and coordination of competing land uses is a means to ensure that decision-makers are able to balance respective land uses and encourage particular land uses where they are most suited and exploit synergies where available. In the specific context of REDD+, effective planning arrangements and structures can help identify priority areas for mitigation and allow for successfully designing interventions and provide certainty to communities, land users and other stakeholders taking part in REDD+. Moreover, this way REDD+ can be coordinated with land use planning across all sectors of the economy.

A range of landuse planning mechanisms is already in existence across a range of developing countries. Integrated national spatial planning frameworks may have the capacity to incorporate multiple perspectives and address a variety of goals. Such frameworks may seek to:

- Contain both substantive elements, such as rules prohibiting or encouraging certain activities in certain types of areas and procedural elements, such as zoning and strategic planning processes;
- Provide for participatory planning processes that incorporate not only different relevant national institutions but also regional and local governments and, to the extent practicable, local communities or other land managers;
- Provide for coordination and participation in both the planning and implementation stages, for example following up on initial planning with inter-sectoral coordination meetings or the use of shared electronic planning systems; and
- Be grounded in consistent and unambiguous legislative provisions, for example through harmonizing existing legislative provisions in a single overarching spatial planning law.⁹

In tandem with overall national-level planning, it is advisable to integrate REDD+ within sectoral land-use planning processes. These include laws that define eligible areas for given activities or land uses, zoning processes for defining such areas and developing programs or settling activities.

⁸Usufructary rights refer to rights to enjoy the products of land, for example it agricultural produce.

⁹Lopes et al. 2013. The Globe Forest Legislation Study: A Review of Forest Legislation in Four Countries. London

2.1.3 Safeguards and participation

Integration of, and compliance with REDD+ safeguards is vital for the long-term success of REDD+. The formulation of safeguard policies for REDD+ is important to ensure a common approach to safeguards across projects, programs and initiatives, and integrating safeguards in national legislation provides a clear legal foundation for the practical implementation of mechanisms such as the application of principle-criteria-indicators approaches.

As a first step in this process, countries may assess their existing frameworks to determine the extent to which existing laws and institutional structures are compatible with and perhaps already encourage REDD+ safeguards. Relevant national or sub-national laws in this area may include those on biodiversity, protection of natural forests, indigenous peoples' rights and public participation in land-use decision-making. International conventions that apply to the country also often have a high relevance in this area, particularly with respect to property and consultation rights of land-users, and in monist legal systems may already form part of national law. The foregoing review steps can be taken to reconcile existing law with REDD+ safeguards, for example amending laws to address inconsistencies and introducing new laws to provide for safeguards that would otherwise not be addressed. Some countries may adopt a set of safeguards that are specific to REDD+. A more integrated approach that other countries have adopted involves adopting a set of safeguards that applies to all activities and investments in the land-use or forestry sector.

The multiple safeguard standards that are emerging and in use by respective donors should also are taken into account in designing safeguard systems. While the Cancun Safeguards provide a common framework for safeguards approaches, some standards set additional or more stringent requirements. Countries must be careful to consider which standards they expect to apply and ensure that their safeguard systems and the laws underpinning them are compatible with them. The implementation of safeguards is likely to require the appointment of competent institutions at multiple layers of governance. Such institutions would ideally be responsible for monitoring and ensuring the implementation of safeguards at all stages of REDD+ implementation, including national and sub-national strategy design, legislative development and national, sub-national and local-level implementation. They would also be responsible for reporting on safeguard implementation to international donors and the UNFCCC They should be vested with sufficient formal power, resources and political gravitas to allow them to implement their mandates.

2.1.4 Fiscal governance and transfer mechanisms

Fiduciary principles should guide the management of international REDD+ contributions. Such principles should apply to the receipt, management and disbursement of results-based payments and other monetary or in-kind benefits (or compensation) in a transparent, effective and efficient manner and across multiple levels of governance. Tested and capable institutions will be capable to manage funds from multiple sources — often with different purposes — and able to effectively track monies they disburse. This role may be assumed by existing organizations, broader climate change funds or dedicated REDD+ funds. The possible fiscal governance mechanisms are determined by a country's national legal and institutional system. Existing vehicles such as public or private funds may provide a good start for further analysis.

In addition to managing public finance, countries that contemplate private REDD+ finance may want to ensure that legal and institutional frameworks are designed so as to facilitate private sector investments in REDD+. In this case, it is important to provide for consistency and predictability in the legal and bureaucratic system and avoid overly burdensome processes that may have a chilling effect on potential investors.

¹⁰United Nations Convention on Climate Change, 2011. Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held in Cancun from 29 November to 10 December 2010, (?)

2.1.5 Implementation frameworks and enforcement

Implementation frameworks for REDD+ comprise institutional, economic, legal and financial arrangements including the establishment and operationalization of appropriate institutions, information systems and incentives.

Even well-designed primary legislation or policies may lack implementation, often as a result of political and financial effort being front-loaded at a design stage, with insufficient attention given to the capacity of relevant entities to implement legislation, or of legislation being designed without sufficient regard to national or local realities and customs. Equally, overregulation can present a significant challenge to the successful implementation and enforcement of legislation. It is therefore important to ensure that legislative provisions are carefully adapted to current domestic capacities and realities and that, where possible, implementation and enforcement mechanisms are built in or provided for at the design stage and quickly followed up with relevant secondary legislation or other implementation frameworks.

Federal and decentralized governance systems may face additional implementation difficulties due to the addition of institutions and agencies with concurring jurisdictions and competences. Beyond the executive branch, national- and subnational-level legislative and judiciary bodies are can provide additional scrutiny and oversight in implementing and enforcing forest governance laws and regulations. However, law enforcement should come as a last resort, and efforts to promote compliance with forest laws cannot be left to forest rangers and judges alone. One of the best means for increasing adherence to sustainable forest sector legal norms is the recognition and empowerment of forest dwellers via local community forest management, ownership, control and benefitsharing.¹¹

2.2 Benefit sharing¹²

In the context of REDD+, benefitsharing refers to the distribution of monetary and non-monetary benefits generated through REDD+ policies. ¹³Benefit-sharing mechanisms encompass the institutional means, governance structures, and instruments through which REDD+ incentives are channeled. In a nested approach, mechanisms also need to link multiple levels of governance. Ultimately, international finance should incentivize sustainable change in behavior across multiple levels (national to local) that will result in a reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

REDD+ policies require a policy decision on how to distribute the burden of mitigation policies and distribute the incentives that come with international finance. Setting up REDD+ policies requires extensive consultation, analytical work (e.g. cost-benefit analyses), negotiation of definitions, standards and principles, and a capacity assessment of institutions involved. Madeira et al. summarize the following key factors that should be considered when designing a REDD+ benefit sharing system:

- Tailoring of incentives,
- · Targeting of actors and activities,
- Legitimacy of stakeholders (i.e. their ability and power for meaningful participation), and;

¹²Luttrell et al. 2012. Who should benefit and why? Discourses on REDD+ benefit sharing. in: Angelsen et al. Analyzing REDD+: challenges and choices, 129–152. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia; Pham et al. 2013 Approaches to benefit sharing: A preliminary comparative analysis of 13 REDD+ countries. Working Paper 108.CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.

¹³ Phamet al. 2013 Approaches to benefit sharing: A preliminary comparative analysis of 13 REDD+ countries. Working Paper 108.CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.

¹⁴Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), 2012. Background Note on Benefit Sharing for REDD+ regional dialogue: FAQ about Benefit Sharing. (?)

¹⁵Madeira et al. 2012. Sharing the Benefits of REDD+: Lessons from the Field. The Nature Conservancy

¹¹Lopes et al. 2013

The alignment, scale and integration of the REDD+ system.

To the extent possible, REDD+ policies should be built on existing arrangements, e.g. for community forest management and payment-for-ecosystem services (PES) schemes, although lessons from other sectors (e.g. the energy sectors) should be taken into account. They should be firmly embedded in the legal system, for example through using appropriate contracts to define benefits and burdens and taking land rights into account in identifying beneficiaries. Several aspects of benefit-sharing mechanisms, e.g. monitoring and grievance procedures are closely linked to the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment and the Environmental and Social Management Frameworks designed for REDD+. Transfer mechanisms are discussed in section 2.2.4.

2.2.1 Defining costs and benefits

An understanding of the different types of benefits and costs is essential in order to tailor them towards key actors and activities, and to determine the role they could play in incentivizing change, or in compensating or avoiding losses attributable to REDD+ implementation. Careful cost-benefit analyses are required to understand the complex implications of REDD+; whether benefits can outweigh costs and to what extent benefits and costs are tangible and can be used as incentive for a change of behavior.

REDD+ involves the following types of costs:

- 1. Direct costs associated with the implementation of REDD+ policies, changes in practices and the pricing of formerly free public goods. This includes:
 - Implementation costs e.g. capacity building, reforms and new land use planning,
 - Transaction costs e.g. finance mechanisms, consultation and participation, safeguards, feasibility assessments etc.
 - Opportunity costs e.g. forgone profits, taxes or concessions.¹⁶
- 2. Indirect monetary or non-monetary costs (impacts) from changes in land use practices, e.g. economic, social, environmental or cultural impacts.
- 3. Political costs associated with the adoption of a certain policy (such as impact on vulnerable groups, vested interests, political processes, or distribution of powers).

Benefits can be categorized into: 17

- Direct benefits from the implementation of a change in land use practices or the REDD+ policy. This includes results-based payments for emissions reductions and other ecosystem services or any other direct profits gained from production and sale of products.
- 2. Compensation of opportunity costs, monetary (e.g. direct payments, tax relief) or in kind (e.g. human capacity development, infrastructure development, and preferential access to loans, microfinance).
- 3. Incentives supporting sustainable land use and livelihoods, ranging from salaries, cash payments and tax relief or land titles, access and/or concession rights, materials and goods, human capacity development, premium product market access, guarantees on price, cost sharing arrangements and access to loans and other microfinance.
- 4. Incentives supporting forest governance and institutional development e.g. capacity building initiatives.
- 5. Indirect benefits from changes in land use practices and REDD+ policy implementation e.g. improved provision of ecosystem services or non-timber forest products, improved

¹⁶Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, 2012. Estimating the Opportunity Costs of REDD+: A Training Manual (?); White (?).Transactions and Implementation costs of REDD+ (World Bank, FCPF) (?) ¹⁷Lutrell et al. 2012; Peskett2011. "Benefit sharing in reDD+." Unpublished.cited in: PwC. 2012. Assessing Options

[&]quot;Lutrell et al. 2012; Peskett2011. "Benefit sharing in reDD+." Unpublished cited in: PwC. 2012. Assessing Options for Effective Mechanisms to Share Benefits: Insights for REDD+ Initiatives. Washington, DC: Program on Forests (PROFOR); Phamet al. 2013

governance, technology transfer, enhanced participation in decision-making, infrastructure provision.

2.2.2 Identifying beneficiaries

To be effective, incentives and compensation should be targeted and tailored to key actors. Lutrell et al. 2012 and Pham et al. 2013 define four different possible discourses that should be considered for the distribution of benefits:

- Incentives should be shared with legal right holders; in this context land ownership does not necessarily guarantee the owner the right to benefit from carbon sequestration and/or REDD+; with;
- Forest stewards that have actively contributed to forest protection, including past efforts; with:
- Those actors incurring implementation, transaction and opportunity costs for REDD+; and with:
- 4. Facilitators of implementation such as government agencies and project developers.

2.2.3 Monitoring mechanisms

Monitoring mechanisms must ensure proper implementation. First and foremost they track emission reductions and help to assess the effectiveness of a program. Global reviews have also emphasized the importance of the development of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system for benefit sharing. Capacity for community monitoring and reporting is critical for performance-based REDD+ policies. However, using an independent monitoring and audit organization may foster transparency, tighter financial controls and good governance. Whichever approach is selected, it is important that the approach is simple and therefore easily communicated to the wider public.

2.2.4 Grievance procedures

Appropriate mechanisms are required for resolving grievances and disputes that arise from REDD+ policies, whether during their development or during implementation. Issues are likely to arise where land tenure or user rights have already been unclear and inconsistent. Participatory processes, initial stakeholder consultations and, as soon as available, the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment should contribute to the up-front identification of potential issues and associated positions of stakeholders. The Environmental and Social Management Framework should further clarify the roles and capacities of institutions in grievance procedures. If available, grievance procedures can build on existing arrangements and institutional structures, e.g. those established for participatory forest management schemes, national-level Ombudsmen.

3 Institutional, policy and legal context

3.1 Policy context

Washington, DC: Program on Forests (PROFOR)

REDD+ is embedded in Ethiopia's national Climate Resilient Green Growth (CRGE) strategy, which aims to advance development through an environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economy that will be able to cope with, mitigate and avoid GHG emissions while achieving Ethiopia's ambitious growth targets. The REDD+ Readiness Program serves as a

¹⁸ Van Noordwijk et al. 2012. Payments for Environmental Services: evolution towards efficient and fair incentives for multifunctional landscapes. Annu. Rev. Environ; Pattanayak et al. 2010. Show me the money: do payments supply environmental services in developing countries? Review of Environmental Economics and Policy 4:254–74.
¹⁹Behr 2012. Assessing Options for Effective Mechanisms to Share Benefits: Insights for REDD+ Initiatives

vehicle through which to achieve the CRGE Strategy's goals on land use and forestry. Two of the four key pillars of the cross-sectoral CRGE relate directly to forestry and agriculture: 1) "protecting and re-establishing forests for their economic and ecosystem services, including as carbon stocks", and 2) "improving crop and livestock production practices to increase food yields, hence food security and farmer income, while reducing emissions".

The CRGE is closely related to the Growth and Transformation Plan, a five-year economic growth plan that aims to advance the economic status of Ethiopia to a middle-income country by 2025. The REDD+ process is also an integral part of the Comprehensive Africa Development Program (CAADP), a government initiative within the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development and was adopted in 2009 by the Government of Ethiopia. CAADP aims to increase economic growth based on agriculture-led development and participating nations have agreed to invest at least 10% of their national budgets to increase agricultural productivity by at least 6%. A Policy and Investment Framework identifies strategic objectives related to productivity and production increases, commercialization and agro-industrial development, reduced degradation, and food security. Ethiopia has already exceeded commitments.

The Government of Ethiopia has identified REDD+ as an opportunity and viable source of sustainable finance for investments in forest management, conservation and restoration to enhance multiple benefits of forests. The country adopted a nested approach and is implementing a National REDD+ Program and the Oromia Regional REDD+ Pilot Programme, both currently in the design phase.

The country is a participant of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and submitted a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) in 2011. After some revisions, the R-PP was approved in October 2012 and the REDD+ Readiness Phase was officially launched in January 2013, funded jointly by the FCPF and the Norwegian and UK governments. Currently in its second phase, the process takes a landscape and multi-sector approach. The R-PP defines the following principles guiding the implementation of REDD+:

- Recognize and respect rights to forest resources, including customary claims by forest dependent people.
- Share benefits equally among all relevant rights holders and stakeholders.
- Improve the long-term livelihood security and well-being of local forest dependent communities with special attention to vulnerable groups: women, marginalized ethnic groups, etc.
- Contribute to broader sustainable development and good governance objectives.
- Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Ensure that all relevant rights holders and stakeholders participate fully and effectively in the REDD+ programme.
- Ensure that all rights holders and stakeholders have timely access to appropriate and accurate information to enable informed decision-making and good governance of the REDD+ programme.
- Comply with all applicable local and national laws and international treaties, conventions and other laws/policies/treaties.

Further to this, the BioCarbon Fund provides financial support to achieve readiness and plans to supply results-based payments to the Oromia REDD+ Program. Oromia State was selected as the first jurisdictional entity of the BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes, a program supported by donor governments and managed by the World Bank. Among other objectives, the initiative aims to mobilize the private sector to encourage the use of innovative and sustainable practices for the mutual benefit of global and local communities and companies. It provides financing through technical assistance and grant funding for the implementation of REDD+ and results-based payments.

3.2 Institutions in the forest and land use sector²⁰

Ethiopia is a federal parliamentary republic, where the Prime Minister is the head of government and executive power lies with the Government of Ethiopia. Federal legislative power is vested in both the government and the two chambers of parliament. The Federal Government oversees nine regions and two chartered cities. Regions are divided into 68 zones, further divided into districts (*Woredas*) and neighborhood associations (*Kebele*).

At the federal level, the main government institutions responsible for forestry, environment, land use and rural development include the new Ministry of Environment and Forest (MEF, established in 2013) and the Ministry of Agriculture. Other important federal ministries for the REDD+ process include the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy. The administration of land use is decentralized to regional governments and Regional Bureaus of Agriculture (BoA). In addition, the Government plans further institutionalization of MEF also at subnational levels. ²¹ In recent years, several states have established public forest and wildlife enterprises, such as the Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE) that have contributed to improved forest management.

In Oromia, OFWE manages about 1.75 million ha of land, including 1.2 million ha of natural forest. OFWE contributed to the advancements in REDD+, by initiating the Bale Mountains REDD+ project, together with civil society partners Farm Africa and SOS Sahel, among others. 25%of the forest in Oromia is under Participatory Forest Management schemes, and OFWE has partly transferred responsibilities to local institutions e.g. Forest User Cooperatives. An Early Idea Note of an ER-PIN for the Regional Oromia REDD+ Program recommends OFWE as a managing organization and the BoA as an implementing organization of REDD+ intervention outside of the forest, e.g. for agricultural intensification.

In addition, a variety of NGOs play an important role in the forest and land use sector or are concerned with important related aspects (e.g. social and gender issues), such as universities and research institutions (e.g. the Hawassa University Wonde Genet College of Forestry, Addis Ababa University, Jima University, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, etc.) and NGOs and associations (e.g. Farm Africa, SOS Sahel, Climate Change Forum, Biological Society of Ethiopia, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, Frankfurt Zoological Society, Kaffa Forest Coffee Union, Pastoralist Forum etc.).

3.3 REDD+ institutions²²

The REDD+ Secretariat is the institution responsible for R-PP implementation on behalf of the Government and the grant manager for the Readiness grant, the latter task performed in consultation with the World Bank as trustee. Currently it is staffed with a national coordinator and five other sector specialists and is responsible to the State Minister of the Forest Sector, who reports to the CRGE Inter-ministerial Committee. The REDD+ Secretariat acts on behalf of the MEF, which is also implementing the CRGE. A federal level REDD+ Steering Committee provides overall oversight of the REDD+ readiness process and regular feedback to the REDD+ Secretariat. It is chaired by the MEF and comprised of high-level representatives from relevant ministries, bureaus, NGOs and regional/district level groups. It simultaneously serves as a CRGE Technical Committee. The current institutional framework for REDD+ in Ethiopia is outlined in Figure 2.

²⁰REDD Desk

²¹Moges and Tenkir, 2014. Overview of REDD+ Process in Ethiopia. Ministry of Environment and Forest, Addis Ababa:

²²Moges and Tenkir 2014

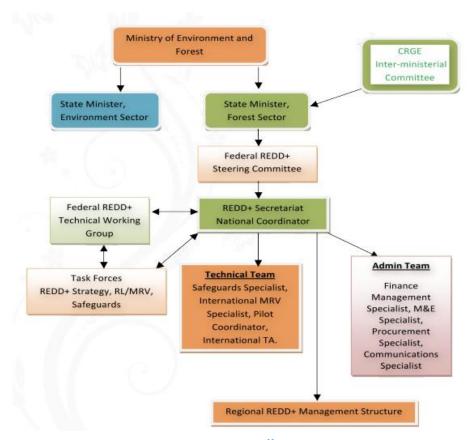


Figure 2.REDD+ national management structure.²³

The Secretariat is supported by the federal level REDD+ Technical Working Group, providing technical guidance on the REDD+ Readiness process. It is supported by three Technical Task Forces that provide input on specific aspects: System of Safeguards and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments (SESA Task Force); National REDD+ Strategy (Strategy Task Force); and Reference Scenario and Monitoring Reporting and Verification system (MRV Task Force). The federal level Technical Working Group has been established under the National CRGE Technical Committee (TC) with the primary function of reviewing REDD+ policies, programs and projects to inform decision-making by the TC and REDD+ Secretariat. It is made up of active practitioners in the REDD+ field, with representation from research, academic, government, development and NGO organizations, and chaired by the MEF. The CRGE Facility, set up for the mobilization, access and combination of international funding for the implementation of the CRGE, will serve also as a financing mechanism for REDD+. UNDP, DFID and the GGGI support the process by providing technical and financial support.

Regional Technical Working Groups and Regional Steering Committees are responsible for ensuring multi-stakeholder representation, including representation of communities, at the regional level. Currently eight REDD+ focal points (at the same time CRGE focal points) have been established to coordinate the REDD+ Readiness Process at the regional level and serve as an intermediary between national and regional levels. Focal points also provide representatives for the national REDD+ Technical Working Group. In some states a REDD+ Coordination Unit will be set up, e.g. the OFWE is currently establishing a REDD+ Technical Unit with one coordinator and several key experts, including a legal/institutional specialist.

In addition, Regional Working Groups and Focal Points are supported by Woreda-level Technical Working Groups, which are comprised of community delegates and

²³Ibid.

representatives from local government. In the R-PP further Topic Specific Focus Groups (TSFPs) were outlined to ensure that issues arising during REDD+ implementation are addressed in an integrated and holistic manner. These groups will be comprised of experts in distinct fields and will provide advice to the steering committees and working groups.

3.4 Legal context

The Ethiopian Constitution vests the right to ownership of land and other natural resources, including forests, in the State and people of Ethiopia. The Government administers land on behalf of the people. The Constitution further states that land may not be subject to sale or other means of exchange, therefore prohibiting any form of private or communal ownership. On the other hand, the right to use land can be transferred by the Government to individual users, communities, and private investors through the issuance of land holding certificates, concessions, or other agreements made pursuant to the law. Under the Constitution, 'peasants' and 'pastoralists' – those whose direct livelihoods depend on the land they farm or use for grazing – have the right to be allocated land without charge and not to be displaced from these lands. Private investors, meanwhile, have the right to use land in accordance with "payment arrangements established by law"²⁴. Land users are to be issued a landholding certificate that serves as proof of rights, and this is an important tool in ensuring clarity and security of land rights.

Under both the Constitution and the Federal Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation (hereinafter the Federal Rural Land Proclamation) land use is to be jointly regulated by the federal and regional levels of the Government. In practice, this means that all aspects of land use that are specifically regulated at federal level (including by the Constitution) are applicable across the regions; aspects that are not specifically regulated may be regulated by the regional states. This means that if the appropriate proclamations are established, regional authorities could allocate state forests in the form of concessions for the purpose of privately managed plantations, or for conservation purposes managed by regional authorities and/or NGOs in participation with local communities.

Even where they are for long periods, however, landholding certificates do not offer full tenure security and rights may be revoked by the government, in particular where the land is needed for a 'public purpose'. In some regions this may include the redistribution of land by the Government, which until relatively recently was undertaken frequently with a view to ensuring a more equitable distribution of usufructary rights among land users²⁷. The Federal Rural Land Proclamation, adopted in 2005, restricted redistribution to a few defined instances, for instance with respect to irrigable land and where a 60% majority of persons in the region are in favor²⁸. In Oromia, however, no redistribution of peasant or pastoralist land by the government is permitted²⁹, though families frequently redistribute their own land to their children, often resulting in land portions becoming too small to be viable. Where land is re-appropriated by the State, the Constitution entitles holders to compensation. This does not apply to communal holdings, which may be re-assigned as private holdings as "may be necessary"³⁰; however, communities who are party to land-use agreements are entitled to compensation where such agreements are terminated. In addition to the potential for land to

²⁴Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE), 1995. *The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*. Federal NegaritGazeta, first year No. 1, Addis Ababa. Article No. 40

²⁵ Ibid. Articles No. 50:5 and 52:2; FDRE 2005. Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa

²⁷USAID. 2011. USAID Country Profile: Property Rights and Resource Governance: Ethiopia, (?) ²⁸Ibid.

²⁹FDRE 2007.Oromia Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation No. 130/2007, Finfinee. Article No. 10: Article No. 14:1

³⁰FDRE 1995. *The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*. Federal NegaritGazeta, first year No. 1, Addis Ababa: Article No. 40:8; FDRE 2005. Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa: Article No. 5:3

be re-appropriated by the State, land use rights may be forfeited where the user does not take adequate care of the land.31 In Oromia, land may also be forfeited where the user ceases to use the land.32

Under federal law private investors may be provided the right to use land for "agricultural development activities" in accordance with federal and regional laws. Meanwhile. governmental and NGOs and "social and economic institutions" may be granted rural land to use in line with their development objectives. The regional government may determine the terms of such allocation.³³ In general, applications are vetted for technical and financial feasibility and environmental and social acceptability³⁴.In Oromia, decisions on allocation of land must be taken with a view to protecting the region's natural resources, and investors are obliged to plant indigenous trees on 2% of the land. The lease price is determined by contract, but is subject to revision "as necessary". In all cases such allocation of land is subject to sufficient land being available for peasants and pastoralists³⁵

In contrast to the prohibition of private land ownership, all rural land and communal users can sell or bequeath property they have produced from the land by their labor or capital.³⁶ In Oromia, however, it is prohibited to sell fixed assets such as fruit trees, and the right to sell products of those assets (i.e. fruits) is limited in time and to half of the proportion of land.

The Forest Development, Conservation and Utilization Proclamation (hereinafter the Federal Forest Proclamation) confirms State forest ownership as well as private land use rights.³⁸ All "major forestlands" are to be designated as State forests, though this should be done in consultation with the relevant local community and in accordance with their priorities.³⁹ State forests are to be utilized by public entities or persons who are granted concessions, though harvesting of certain non-timber forest products is allowed in accordance with local necessities. Provision is also made for the participation of local communities in the management of, and sharing of benefits from, State forests.⁴⁰

Private forest rights may be granted to communities, associations or investors and are similar in substance to general land use rights. Forest Management Plans (FMP) must be prepared. Under the Oromia Forestry Proclamation No. 72/2003 (hereinafter OFP) community ownership is recognized as a further category. Under this law, regional authorities allocate state forests as concessions to privately managed plantations or for conservation purposes. In practice these provisions are implemented through local communities, partnering NGOs and regional Bureaus of Agriculture entering into Joint Forest Management Agreements (JFMAs), which set out respective responsibilities and benefit sharing rights among the parties. The federal Government is currently seeking to scale-up this form of forest management in four regions, including in Oromia.

3.4.1 Rights to emission reductions

³¹FDRE 2005. Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa: Article No.10: 1

³²FDRE 2007.Oromia Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation No. 130/2007, Finfinee: Article No. 15:11

³³FDRE 2005. Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa: Article No. 5:4
34USAID 2011

³⁵FDRE 2007.Oromia Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation No. 130/2007, Finfinee: Articles No. 11 & 12 36FDRE 2005. Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa: Article No.1:4; FDRE 2007. Oromia Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation No. 130/2007, Finfinee.: Article No. 6:1

³⁷FDRE 2007.Oromia Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation No. 130/2007, Finfinee: Article No. 6

³⁸ The Forest Development, Conservation and Utilisation Proclamation No. 542/2007(No 2007/109)

³⁹ Ibid. Article No. 8

⁴⁰ Ibid. Article No. 9:3.

⁴¹ Ibid. Article No. 4:6

⁴²FDRE 2005. Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa: Article No.4:3; The Forest Development, Conservation and Utilisation Proclamation No. 542/2007(No. 2007/109): Article No.4:3

Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE).2003. Oromia Forestry 43Federal Democratic Proclamation 72/2003. Megeleta Oromia. Finfinee

There is no current legislation in Ethiopia that directly addresses ownership or other rights over emission reductions or similar environmental services. Existing analysis indicates that emission reductions derived from forests could be considered a forest product and that, since the State is the owner and administrator of all land and natural resources in Ethiopia - including forest - it is also the owner of forest emission reduction rights (hereinafter "forest carbon rights"). 44

Several factors, however, indicate that a complete picture of forest carbon ownership is more complex. Firstly, regional states are charged with administering forests, and this could give them a claim to forest carbon rights in those forests. ⁴⁵ Previous analysis undertaken in the context of the Bale Mt Project indicated that in Oromia OFWE has a claim to forest carbon rights arising out of any forests under its management, a claim strengthened by specific references to the implementation of carbon trading in OFWE's founding instrument. ⁴⁶

A second factor is that private forest rights may be assigned to communities, associations or investors. Though these rights fall short of outright ownership and thus do not necessarily vest the holders with forest carbon rights, it is conceivable that rights in such areas are shared between the holders and the Federal and/or Regional Government. Similarly in Oromia JFMAs created under the Bale Mt Project establish shared forest management rights between OFWE and local forest cooperatives (see further below). Among the rights granted to the cooperatives are rights to benefit from ecosystem services, though the right to create and sell carbon credits from the land would appear to remain with OFWE⁴⁷. This arrangement may be a useful guide for how forest carbon rights could be interpreted with respect to other, similar, forest management situations.

A third factor that should be considered is the Constitution's recognition of the right to "private property" - a term that includes intangible property - and right of persons with land use rights to sell property they have produced from the land by their labor or capital. If forest carbon is considered a product or service by communities or investors in REDD+ projects or programs, then forest carbon rights may be considered private property, despite the presumption of State ownership over natural resources. ⁴⁸

Ownership of forest carbon is likely to be nuanced and vary depending on factors such as the type of forest involved and the range of forest and land rights that have been granted thereover. They also indicate that ownership of forest carbon will in many places be unclear and that legal measures - whether federal or regional legislation or contractual arrangements - will be needed to determine the respective rights and obligations of parties involved.

3.4.2 Land Use Planning

The Federal Rural Land Proclamation provides for the preparation of a "guiding land use master plan" that takes into account conditions such as soil type, weather and socio-economic conditions⁴⁹. At federal level this is the responsibility of the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee together with the National Task Force and line ministries. In Oromia, the Oromia Agricultural and Rural Development Bureau is tasked with preparing a similar, regional-level plan⁵⁰. Various other legal and policy documents, including the Growth and Transformation Plan and the Ethiopia Sustainable Investment Framework for Sustainable Land Management provide for investments to be linked to land use plans. Despite being required by the law, the last federal master plan was prepared in 1988⁵¹. In Oromia a regional master plan is currently under preparation, but at the time of writing has yet to be finalized.

⁴⁴O'Sullivan and Damtie2010. Bale Mt. Eco-Region REDD Project. Legal Due Diligence Report, Washington DC.

⁴⁵The Forest Development, Conservation and Utilisation Proclamation No. 542/2007(No 2007/109): Article No. 18:1

⁴⁶O'Sullivan and Damtie 2010

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Norton Rose LLP. 2010, Forest Carbon Rights in REDD+ Countries: A Snapshot of Africa, London.

⁴⁹FDRE 2005. Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa: Article No.13: 1

⁵⁰FDRE 2003. Oromia Forestry Proclamation No. 72/2003.MegeletaOromia. Finfinee: Article 18:1

⁵¹Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, 2013. Land Use Planning Guidelines: Ethiopia (?)

heFederal Rural Land Proclamation requires a system of study that identifies and suggests solutions for problems in land administration and use⁵².

Federal law establishes protected areas, including national parks, wildlife reserves and protected forests, all of which may have some relevance for REDD+⁵³. Protected forests may be created for purposes of environmental protection, education or conservation of history, culture or biodiversity.

Both protected forests and other State forests are to be managed in accordance with forest management plans and the participation of local communities is required in both the preparation and implementation of these plans.⁵⁴ Private forests must similarly be managed in accordance with management plans, while in Oromia community forests are subject to a "utilization schedule" that must be approved by the relevant authorities⁵⁵. JFMAs are subject to Forest Management Plans, jointly developed by regional authorities, communities and partnering NGOs, which state the specific uses of the forest and management activities. These plans are then implemented by a designated community Forest Management Group for the forest in question.

3.4.3 Implementation and compliance

Ethiopia has a reasonably complete and well-designed legal framework on land-use and forestry. However, this framework is not always implemented. Implementation of land administration at the regional and local levels is often constrained by a shortage of trained staff and finance, and attempts to further decentralize land administration to Land Administration Committees at the Woreda- and Kebele levels are often not accompanied by sufficient resources to see them through⁵⁶. Studies have identified a number of specific gaps in implementation of the land-use legal framework:

- Progress made on the demarcation and designation of land has been slow. In the case of the forest estate this has been linked to lack of investment in the sector and a lack of capacity and resources at the local level⁵⁷. Moreover, even where State forest areas have been identified, the lack of clear boundaries and weak on-the-ground enforcement has meant that these forests in practice tend to be treated as "open access"⁵⁸.
- Similarly, while the law requires rights holders to be issued land use certificates in practice many remain without, often leading to reduced tenure security and difficulties in leasing or attracting investment on land. At the same time, certification efforts are increasing, and the federal Ministry of Agriculture is supporting a broad titling and certification initiative that is being implemented in several regions, including Oromia⁵⁹.
- The process for long-term commercial leasing is not always participatory, and key stakeholders such as existing land users are not always adequately consulted. Meanwhile, the terms of the leases and the allocation process are not transparent, making the benefits of a given land allocation to the economy to local communities frequently unclear⁶⁰.

59USAID 2011

⁵²FDRE 2005.Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Federal Negarit Gazeta No. 44, Addis Ababa: Article No.15

⁵³FDRE 2007.Oromia Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation No. 130/2007, Finfinee.: Article No. 22; The Forest Development, Conservation and Utilisation Proclamation No. 542/2007(No 2007/109): Article 11; Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE), 2007. Wildlife Development, Conservation and Utilization Proclamation No. 541/2007. Addis Ababa.

 $^{^{54}}$ The Forest Development, Conservation and Utilisation Proclamation No. 542/2007 (No 2007/109): Articles 9-11

⁵⁵FDRE 2003. Oromia Forestry Proclamation No. 72/2003. Megeleta Oromia. Finfinee: Article 11:1

⁵⁶USAID 2011.USAID Country Profile: Property Rights and Resource Governance: Ethiopia, (?)

⁵⁷REDD+ Desk

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁶⁰ Ibid.

• The right to compensation for appropriation of lands is not always respected, and many instances have been reported of expropriation without payment. Various reasons may underlie this, including lack of awareness of the right to compensation among both Government staff and land users. In addition, there is currently no legally recognized right to challenge in the courts government's determination of whether land is needed for a "public purpose" when expropriating property, potentially giving the Government a wide margin of interpretation here⁶¹.

In terms of contract enforcement, the country has made a number of recent reforms to improve contract enforcement, including (i) introduction of a computerized case management system; (ii) implementation of a program to reduce case backlogs; and (iii) making enforcement of judgments more efficient ⁶².

3.5 Examples of existing frameworks relevant for REDD+

3.5.1 Bale Mountains Eco-Region REDD+ Project⁶³

The Bale Mountains Eco-Region REDD+ Project is the largest REDD+ pilot project in Ethiopia to-date. Funded by the Norwegian Government, it builds on the Bale Eco-Region Sustainable Management Programme that took place between 2007 and 2013 and was implemented by OFWE, Farm Africa and SOS Sahel Ethiopia. The original Programme focused on introducing Participatory Forest Management in the Bale Eco-Region in order to help local communities sustainably manage land and forest resources. REDD+ payments are envisaged to help incentivize communities and ensure the project's sustainability. The project covers an area of 500,000 ha and is forecast to run for 20 years. Estimates calculate that in its lifetime the project will generate 18 million tons of CO2 emissions reductions. The project will establish a Forest Union to organize different cooperatives in the region. These groups will be responsible for running concession areas with the aid of the OFWE through Forest Management Agreements that will detail benefit-sharing mechanisms.

3.5.2 Sustainable Land Management Programme⁶⁴

The Sustainable Land Management Programme (SLMP), soon going into its second phase, has established robust policy instruments and institutional arrangements that are highly relevant for REDD+, with a focus on croplands. Initiated in 2008, the first phase focused on watershed management, rural land certification and administration, at a cost of USD29 million. The project achieved remarkable progress in targeting degraded areas, which had previously proved uneconomical and unproductive. Implemented across 45 critical watersheds in six separate regions, the programme identified and designed appropriate interventions for degradation factors and impacts and benefitted a total of 98,000 rural households. Donors include: DFID, REILA, GIZ, USAID, and JICA. The project was directed at the federal level by the MoA and implemented at the *Woreda/Kebele* level by regional BoAs.

Under the SLMP land certification programme, Ethiopia adopted a two-level certification process: (a) first-level certification, which captured information on rights but provided very limited spatial information (the names of people with rights on adjacent land and an estimate

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶²O'Sullivan and Damtie 2010.

⁶³REDD+ Desk

⁶⁴*Ibid.*; World Bank. 2008. Ethiopia – First Phase of the Sustainable Land Management Project. Washington DC; World Bank. 2013. *Ethiopia - Second Phase of the Sustainable Land Management Project.* Washington DC; World Bank; World Bank. 2013. Ethiopia - Second Phase of the Sustainable Land Management Project. Washington DC; World Bank; Tadesse 2013. Sustainable Land Management Program in Ethiopia "Linking Local REDD+ Projects to National REDD+ Strategies & Initiatives". Hawassa

of the parcel areas), and (b) second-level certification, which surveyed parcel boundaries and produced cadastral maps. For first-level registration and certification, a highly decentralized, participatory, pro-poor, low cost and rapid process was achieved. A Directorate of Land Administration was established as the responsible institution for land certification and administration. At the Woreda and Kebele levels, on-the-ground implementation of the process was undertaken by Woreda Offices of Agriculture through the Woreda Watershed Development Committee, the Kebele Watershed Development Committee, and the communities.

The second phase is expected to cost a total of USD107.61 million and is divided into components with the overall aim of reducing land degradation and increasing land productivity in the targeted regions: 1) Integrated watershed and landscape management; 2) Institutional Strengthening, Capacity Development and Knowledge Generation and Management; 3) Rural Land Administration, Certification and Land Use. The project will be implemented at the Woreda/Kebelevel institutions as in the first phase. At the regional and zonal levels, the BoA will lead the implementation and appoint one senior technical expert as Regional Coordinator for the SLM Project. Regional Steering Committees will continue to provide overall guidance and leadership for the project. The Zonal Agricultural Office will collaborate with the WOAs to provide technical support, extension services and M&E to Woredas under its jurisdiction. The MoA will collaborate with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the MEF, the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy, and other relevant agencies. A National SLM Steering Committee will be chaired by the State Minister for Natural Resources in the MoA and will include representation from all the aforementioned ministries. Responsible for providing technical advice to MoA, the National SLM Steering Committee will be composed of senior members from the aforementioned institutions and will constitute a coordination mechanism / platform.

3.5.3 Humbo Community Assisted Natural Regeneration Project⁶⁵

Initiated in 2005 and developed by World Vision Ethiopia with funding from the World Bank BioCarbon Fund, the Humbo Ethiopia Assisted Natural Regeneration Project restores indigenous tree species in the mountainous Humbo region of South-Western Ethiopia. The project's regeneration of primary forest seeks also to re-establish biodiverse conditions and in doing so, create new employment and economic opportunities in the region. In addition, reduced soil erosion as a result of the project aims to stabilize the region's water supply. The project aims to restore 2,728 hectares of natural forest and encourages community forest management by establishing seven community cooperative societies with legal ownership over forestland. In addition, it supports the establishment of an institutional structure through which Certified Emissions Reductions can be produced. A system to monitor changes in carbon stocks has also been developed and the project is Ethiopia's first carbon-trading initiative. Through farmer managed natural regeneration, the project will re-introduce various autochthonous species to the region. In 2009, the project was identified and validated as an afforestation / deforestation project under the Clean Development Mechanism. Profits generated from carbon trading through the project have been invested in further sustainable development techniques in the selected region and the project hopes to replace tradition unsustainable economic activities, such as collection of fuel wood.

⁶⁵REDD+ Desk; World Bank, 2009. Validation Report: Humbo Ethiopia Assisted Natural Regeneration Project (?)

4 Areas of investigation

During our preparatory desk review, we identified a number of questions relevant to the formulation of institutional and legal frameworks. These issues are initial and non-exhaustive, and will be reviewed during Phase 2.

One of the key questions pertaining to the formulation of REDD+ generally is how to link and integrate frameworks across multiple government levels (i.e. national, regional and district), and with existing initiatives (e.g. the Bale Mountain Project). Specific questions relate to the division of power amongst national and regional institutions, entitlements to develop REDD+ and receive international payments, transfer mechanisms, authorization processes, responsibilities for achieving emission reductions (including reversals), arrangements for risk mitigation and safeguards. Similarly, institutional and legal questions arise related to the landscape approach and the extent other environmental services can or cannot be integrated with the legal and institutional REDD+ framework (e.g. mitigation in the agriculture sector).

Another key question is how the REDD+ process can design appropriate and participatory benefit-sharing mechanisms while avoiding over-expectations among potential beneficiaries and those incurring direct or indirect costs from REDD+ policies. It is uncertain where and when benefits can outweigh costs of REDD+ - overall, from the perspective of different stakeholder groups and in various local contexts. This is an important issue also at the design stage e.g. for the stakeholder consultations of benefit-sharing mechanisms.

The following provides a non-exhaustive list of preliminary legal and institutional issues that have been identified during the preliminary analysis and will be considered in more detail during the second phase of the Assignment:

- Recognition of resource ownership rights, including the lack of certification for landuse rights. Ownership rights arrangements may need to be clarified to identify those who should be involved in generating and benefit - at least partly - from emissions reductions. Uncertainty exists over the ability to sell forest products separately from the land; were carbon to be considered, say, a forest resource or non-timber forest product, this could become an important question for the Assignment.
- Insecurity of land use rights.Potential land redistribution leads to insecurities at the
 national level, though this is less a concern in Oromia. Insecurity may also arise from
 the inadequate implementation of policies that claim land for public purposes. The
 effects this may have on successful REDD+ implementation need to be further
 examined and recommendations considered accordingly.
- Planning processes. The extent to which existing land-use planning processes at federal and regional level are adequate for supporting effective REDD+ implementation. Important factors include the lack of implementation of legislative provisions requiring land-use master plans and lack of information regarding the quality and effectiveness for forest management plans.
- The effectiveness of JFMAs. JFMAs and associated forest management plans may be reviewed with a view on assessing their effectiveness in achieving goals and their suitability for REDD+, taking into account other legal and contractual agreements for participatory forest management.
- Private sector involvement. Processes and vehicles to be used for private sector investment in REDD+ should be considered. One potential aspect of this is the level of participation and transparency in existing processes for long-term commercial leasing. Furthermore, analysis of a wider investment framework may help identify any major barriers and opportunities for private sector investment.

5 Approach, methodology and work plan

The Assignment will comprise several components, which each play an important part in meeting this overall objective. According to our terms of reference, we propose the following:

- Legal, policy and institutional reforms at national and regional levels, which may include both the development of new legislation, policies or institutions or adjustments to existing arrangements.
- Specific regulatory, contractual and other legalarrangements for implementing REDD+ policies and actions, for example, land use planning and allocation procedures, participation processes, grievance procedures or contracts setting out benefit and burden-sharing among participants.
- 3) Practical arrangements for implementing REDD+. This refers to specific arrangements that, though they may be implemented through legal measures, also require certain practical systems to be established, such as payment distribution systems or systems to monitor benefit sharing.

Wepropose to analyze the legal and institutional arrangements and benefit-sharing systems, in parallel at the federal and at the Oromia State level. As input for our advice, we rely on the analysis of original legal texts as well as background documents combined with expert interviews and stakeholder consultations. All proposals will be vetted through consultations to ensure broad acceptance and ownership.

We propose to structure the Assignment in three distinct phases, each leading to the listed deliverables, as depicted in Figure 3 below. The inception phase, which started with the signing of the consultancy contract, will not be covered in detail in this Report. The work plan was slightly adapted from the proposal. We propose to not hold the first round of stakeholder consultations during the inception phase but at the beginning of the second phase.

Phase 1: Inception

- Context, draft approach and methodology established
- Kick-off meetings
- Inception report

Phase 2: Situational analysis and initial option scoping

- Stakeholder consultations conducted
- Adequacy of legal and institutional frameworks and benefit-sharing systems assessed
- Community focus groups conducted
- Preliminary issues, questions and challenges identified
- Preliminary options identified and assessed

Phase 3: Evaluation of options and proposals

- Preliminary options evaluated by stakeholders
- Options refined in coordination with Client
- Final report

Figure 3: Description of Assignment phases and corresponding milestones

5.1 Phase 2 – Situational analysis and initial option scoping

Phase 2 aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the existing legal and institutional setting for REDD+, including the specific factors relevant to benefit sharing and, based on this, seek to make an initial identification of the options for legal and institutional reform and for constructing an effective benefit sharing system. We then propose to refine and develop these options during Phase 3 to reach final recommendations.

Task 2.1 - Stakeholder consultations

Methodology

Following the preparation of this Report, we aim to organize two stakeholder consultations meetings – one event at the national and one at the regional (Oromia State) level. The purpose of the meetings will be twofold. Firstly, we hope to gain information and insights from stakeholders to complement the preliminary research undertaken for the inception report and ensure it is aligned with the situation on the ground. Secondly, the meetings seek to introduce important stakeholders to the Assignment and begin to build understanding and debate around the main issues raised by the development of legal and institutional frameworks for REDD+.

We will organize and implement the workshop in close coordination with the Client. We seek the Government's assistance in identifying and contacting invitees and hope that representatives will find the time to co-facilitate the meetings. Where agreed with the Client, we will share a summary of the final Report with meeting participants in advance of the meeting in order to provide background to the project and allow stakeholders to comment on the approach. We will also distribute suitable background materials during the meetings, as agreed with the Client, to provide additional context and facilitate informed discussions.

Consultation workshops, focus groups, bilateral and Client meetings should be designed to promote capacity building and in-country ownership of this analysis, ensuing decision-making processes and the REDD+ procedural outputs. Furthermore these groups are asked to provide input for the assessment and these outcomes will be prerequisites for meaningful stakeholder participation. Relevant briefing materials will be provided to stakeholders; this includes background information tailored to respective stakeholders, and the dissemination of results e.g. meeting summaries and minutes. We will make presentations and hold question & answer sessions, which will facilitate their review, validation, and follow-up. Workshops and focus groups are proposed to be structured and designed based on appropriate tools and consultation methods to ensure dynamic, informed, and concrete discussions. Proposed stakeholder groups include government agencies, environmental law enforcement agencies, private sector, civil society, indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers, local communities, people who depend on forests for their livelihoods, vulnerable groups, and academia ⁶⁶.

The R-PP identified several tools for stakeholder consultations related to forest management that will guide our methodology for workshops and community focus groups. In our methodology we propose to rely on the tools described in the R-PP: Preliminary stakeholder mapping and analysis, synthesis brainstorming on problems, problem and solution analysis, priority ranking and SWOT analysis. We will coordinate the implementation of consultations and methodologies with the Client, with Farm Africa, currently preparing a stakeholder consultation plan, and with our Consortium Partners.

Deliverables

Organization and implementation of one stakeholder consultation meeting at national and one at regional level; Preparation of meeting materials; Preparation of meeting minutes;

⁶⁶Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), May 2009, National Consultation and Participation for REDD, (?)

Task 2.2 – Situational analysis and initial option scoping of national and regional legal and institutional frameworks

Methodology

In this task we propose to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the principal legal and institutional issues relevant to the program, and to REDD+ in Ethiopia more generally, assessing the adequacy of existing arrangements for achieving the objectives of the program and identifying legal and institutional changes to support the program.

We aim to perform parallel situational analyses at the national and regional level. While each analysis will be independent, we coordinate them closely to reflect the relationship between many of the issues addressed on both levels and, as relevant, feed the findings of each into the other. Where possible, this will include arranging interviews with experts that can provide insights into both the federal and regional analysis and conducting field visits to areas that are relevant to both.

The analyses will be focused on a set of clearly defined issues, which are fully defined in the Inception Phase together with the Client and other stakeholders. An indicative list and description of such issues is set out in Table 2 below.

Table 1: Issue to be assessed in situational analyses at national and regional levels

National analysis Regional analysis (Oromia State) Institutional arrangements:

- This includes, inter alia, the mandates, specific roles, functional capacities and horizontal coordination of federal institutions, as well as vertical coordination with state institutions. This applies both to specific REDD+ and other institutions relevant to REDD+ activities (e.g. in agricultural and forestry sectors).
- 2. Land/forest tenure and carbon rights: This includes the national regulation of the various forms of land and forest tenure rights (e.g. ownership, use) of different actors and their relationship with rights of ownership over or rights to benefit from carbon or similar ecosystem services.
- Land use planning and allocation: This includes national systems for land use planning in forest and non-forest sectors, their consistency with each other and their relationship with REDD+ goals and activities.
- Safeguards and participation: This comprises legal mechanisms to ensure national REDD+ safeguards and international safeguard principles

- **Institutional arrangements:** This includes, inter alia:
 - assessing the current and prospective mandates. specific roles and responsibilities, functional capacities, rights over forest areas, fiduciary standards of statelevel institutions, as well as their presence at regional, Woreda and community levels;
 - ii. assessing how regional institutions can work together under the Oromia REDD+ Program, including mechanisms for horizontal coordination;
 - iii. assessing the roles of federal institutions in regional programs and coordination with regional institutions;
 - iv. specifically assessing the institutional mandate of OFWE, including the nature of its legal personality and ability to enter into a range of legal arrangements (as detailed in the terms of reference) and mechanisms solving legal disputes;

This part of the analysis will cover a selection of the most relevant regional institutions, including OFWE, BOA and local associations responsible for participatory forest management (PFM).

- Land and forest tenure: This includes existing land and forest tenure arrangements in Oromia, including their adequacy for the implementation of the REDD+ Program and/or a broader PES scheme.
- Legal title to emission reductions: This includes assessing title to REDD+ emission reductions that may be generated by the REDD+ Program in different areas and land types.
- Land use planning: This includes land use planning at regional level for the forest and non-forest sectors and coordination between them, including between areas under

(Cancun safeguards) are met, including provisions for participation of stakeholders in REDD+ decisions.

Implementation framework:
 This includes legal mechanisms to ensure that the legal and institutional framework is properly implemented and enforced.

OFWE control and those outside its remit.

- 5. Legal arrangements between entities: This includes identifying the potential legal arrangements that can be implemented to allocate rights and responsibilities between the various entities involved, including communities. These may include contractual arrangements or the establishment or adaptation of local or community institutions.
- Fund management and payment distribution: This
 includes mechanisms for receiving, managing and
 disbursing ER payments, potentially via the CRGE Facility.

In respect of each issue, we propose to undertake the following steps:

Step 1: Identify objectives and goals

In this step, we identify the objectives of legal and institutional arrangements at the national and regional level to effectively support the REDD+ Strategy and pilot program:

- Identifying the goals of the emerging national REDD+ strategy and Oromia REDD+ Program and extrapolate the legal and institutional requirements that are required to fulfill or support them,
- Drawing lessons from other countries' national and subnational level efforts to build strong legal and institutional frameworks to implement REDD+ strategies and programs. This will include identifying both best practices and potential pitfalls that should be avoided in the Ethiopian context.

Step 2: Assess adequacy of Ethiopian framework

In a second step, we propose to assess the extent to which the existing legal and institutional frameworks in Ethiopia and in the state of Oromiafulfill the objectives identified in Step 1 with respect to each issue. It comprises two elements:

- A factual element that maps out the existing situation regarding each issue;
- An analytical element that assesses the adequacy of the existing situation and identifies its main gaps and shortcomings.

The analysis will give equal attention to both formal and practical considerations in the following stages.

Accordingly, the formal situation will first be assessed through an analysis of existing legislation, institutional mandates, licensing procedures and other legal and policy documents. This will be followed by interviews with national experts, including Government of Ethiopia, Oromia State officials, OFWE and, where relevant, academics and civil society representatives, in order to gain insights into how laws and institutional arrangements are implemented in practice.

Step 3: Identification of preliminary options for legal and institutional arrangements

Following on from the gap analysis in Step 2, in this step we seek to identify a number of potential changes to the legal and institutional framework. For the regional analysis, this includes identifying options for institutional arrangements for the Oromia REDD+ Program, how the Program could fit under the CRGE Facility and options for channeling REDD+ payments to the Oromia REDD+ Program funds through the Facility. For each potential

reform a SWOT analysis will be undertaken to provide deeper understanding of their implications and identify the most promising reforms to further refine and develop in Phase 3.

Deliverables

- 1. A draft report detailing the existing legal and institutional frameworks for each federal level issue identified above and identifying preliminary options for reform;
- 2. A draft report detailing the existing legal and institutional frameworks for each regional (Oromia) level issue identified above and identifying preliminary options for reform

Task 2.3 - Situational analysis and initial option scoping of national and regional benefit sharing arrangements

Methodology

Task 3 includes a comprehensive assessment of the existing legal, institutional, policy and practical situation relevant to REDD+ policies at both federal and regional levels and identify preliminary options for establishing reliable and transparent benefit-sharing mechanism for the National REDD+ Strategy and the Oromia REDD+ Program.

The approach to Task 3 will be similar to that taken in Task 2. We aim to undertake the activities in parallel at the national and regional levels and propose incentive and benefit-sharing strategies for each. It is recognized that the regional benefit-sharing strategies must be squarely framed in the context of the nationallevel system, so analyses of the two levels will be closely linked and all proposals designed to ensure compatibility between the levels.

Table 2: Components of benefit sharing arrangements at national and regional level

National analysis

Defining benefits (and burdens): This includes, firstly, identifying and distinguishing between costs and benefits and within the latter, the different benefittypes, such as financial and in-kind benefits, different kinds of financial benefits (e.g. direct, indirect) and between net benefits, compensation and avoided losses; and, secondly, assessing the respective roles each form of benefit could play.

- 2. Links between carbon ownership and benefit/burden sharing: While the question of carbon ownership will be assessed under Task 1 above, here the links between carbon ownership and benefit/burden sharing will be assessed, including how to differentiate between beneficiaries with clear carbon rights and those without;
- 3. Identifying beneficiaries and conditions: This addresses criteria for determining beneficiaries and establishing conditions for receiving benefits (e.g. participation in forest management). This may include different criteria for recipients of different benefit types and for those with different degrees or types of carbon rights.
- **4. Transfer mechanisms:** This includes identifying effective and efficient procedures for transferring different types of benefits to different kinds of beneficiaries, including possibilities of effecting

Regional analysis (Oromia State)

- Defining benefits: This includes, firstly, identifying and distinguishing between different benefit- and cost types that could apply under the Oromia REDD+ Program; and, secondly, assessing the respective roles each form of benefit and cost could play.
- 2. Links between emissions reduction ownership and benefit/burden sharing:
 While the question of carbon ownership will be assessed under Task 1 above, here the links between benefit/burden sharing and emissions reductions ownership, including ownership of any emissions reduction credits generated by the REDD+ Program, will be assessed;
- Identifying beneficiaries and conditions:
 This addresses criteria for determining beneficiaries and establishing conditions for receiving benefits (e.g. participation in forest management). This may include different criteria for recipients with carbon rights.
- Transfer mechanisms: This includes identifying effective and efficient procedures at regional and local levels,

- transfers through community associations. This will also include identifying links with results-based GHG transactions and considering the roles of government and local communities in those transactions.
- Scale: This involves assessing links between the national, regional and local levels in designing a benefit sharing system.
- 6. Monitoring systems: This includes identifying means to monitor the proper implementation of the benefit sharing system and, where relevant, links between benefits and monitoring of emission reductions/removals or other environmental outcomes.
- 7. **Grievance procedures:** Identifying appropriate mechanisms for resolving grievances or disputes that arise from the benefit sharing system.

- including different types of benefits and different kinds of beneficiaries, links with emission reduction transactions.
- 5. Monitoring systems: This includes identifying means to monitor the proper implementation of the benefit sharing system and, where relevant, links between benefits and monitoring of emission reductions/removals and/or generation of carbon credits under the Program.
- Grievance procedures: Identifying appropriate mechanisms for resolving grievances or disputes that arise from with respect to benefit sharing under the Program.

We aim to conduct the situational analysis through a combination of desk review, expert interviews and field research, to be conducted in the following steps:

Step 1 - Identify objectives, goals and best practices

This step will comprise three elements:

- Identifying and describing the essential components of a benefit-sharing system and the key issues it must address (using the elements in Table 2 above as a starting point)
- Assessing international experience with addressing these issues in the context of REDD+ and PES schemes, including identifying best practices;
- Identifying specific features of the Ethiopian REDD+ context, including any guidance from the emerging REDD+ strategy and existing documents such as the R-PP, which together shape the design choices for a benefit sharing system.

Step 2 – Assess Ethiopian situation and existing mechanisms

This step involves assessing the legal, institutional, economic and social factors in Ethiopia and Oromia relevant to REDD+ incentive frameworks and how they affect the design of components and the means of addressing issues identified in Step 1. This includes assessing ways in which a benefit-sharing system can build upon and be integrated with existing legal and institutional structures. We will also assess existing benefit-sharing mechanisms under Participatory Forest Management, pilot PES schemes and similar initiatives to determine their suitability for REDD+ benefit sharing.

We propose to undertake this step through a combination of desk review, interviews and field visits. The desk review will include review of, inter alia, laws, policies and social and economic data, where available, as well as reports on existing projects and schemes, and will include an assessment of existing benefit sharing frameworks at national level in Ethiopia, most notably that regarding genetic resources and community knowledge

We will then conduct a series of interviews with governmental and non-governmental experts working around benefit sharing, including those involved in participatory forest management and pilot PES projects.

Finally, we seek to carry out to a representative sample of local areas, to be determined together with the Client. In each site, we will organize focus groups with local stakeholders in order to validate findings on the ground and identify local concerns and issues that should be addressed to ensure workable and acceptable benefit sharing systems.

Step 3 – Identification of preliminary options for benefit sharing system

In this step we identify options for benefit sharing systems at national and regional levels that cover all the issues and components identified above. We will identify 2-3 options for each component and in each case:

- A SWOT analysis will be undertaken, which will include evaluating both the substantive value and procedural/political feasibility of each option;
- The potential to combine the option with other options, and with other mechanisms such as non-carbon PES schemes will be assessed, as relevant; and
- Potential legislative and regulatory procedures for institutionalizing the system will be identified.

Deliverables

- 1. A draft report detailing the necessary components of a benefit-sharing system at national level, assessing existing legal, institutional, social and economic conditions relevant to designing such a system and identifying preliminary options for each component.
- 2. A draft report detailing the necessary components of a benefit sharing mechanism for the Oromia REDD+ Program, assessing existing legal, institutional, social and economic conditions relevant to designing such a system and identifying preliminary options for each component.

5.2 Phase 3 – Evaluation of options and proposal

In Phase 3 we propose to refine the options identified in Phase 2 and, once preferred options have been determined, develop these in detail.

Task 3.1 - Stakeholder consultations on evaluation of options

Methodology

At the beginning of Phase 3, we propose to carry out a set of two-day stakeholder consultations: one at national and one at regional level. In each consultation the first day will be dedicated to legal and institutional frameworks and the second day will be dedicated to benefit-sharing systems.

The objective of the consultations is to attain feedback on the preliminary options identified in Phase 2 and allow for the preferred options to be identified and further elaborated (Tasks 3.2 and 3.3). We will carefully manage the consultations to ensure that feedback is structured and balanced between substantive assessment of the options and discussions around the feasibility and process-related issues surrounding the options.

In order to ensure that participants are able to fully engage and provide informed feedback on options, we propose to provide participants with a summary of the preliminary options and their pros, cons and other implications (based on the SWOT analysis undertaken in Phase 2) in advance, together with other background materials on the issues to be discussed. In addition, both local and international members of our team will provide presentations at the beginning of each day to explain the context of the Project, the main issues at play and the options that have been identified.

The organization and implementation of the workshop will be undertaken in close coordination with the Government of Ethiopia, who will assist in identifying and contacting invitees and may co-facilitate the meetings.

The methodology for stakeholder consultation is described in more detail in Task 2.2.

Deliverable

Organization and implementation of two two-day stakeholder consultations, provision of background material and preparation of meeting minutes.

Task 3.2 – Detailed elaboration of legal and institutional arrangements

Methodology

Based on the feedback obtained in the stakeholder consultations, we propose to refine the preliminary options together with the Client into a final set of options for legal and institutional arrangements at national and regional levels. In addition to being chosen based on their individual merits, the final options will be adopted as a complete framework, ensuring that they are compatible and consistent, maximizing synergies wherever possible.

For the **national level study**, this will involve identifying amendments to existing laws and where new laws are required.

We will identify the laws in which the amendment is required, indicate which part of the legislation should be amended, describe the content of the amendment, assess any potential implications for other laws that may arise from the amendment, identify potential practical issues relating to adopting it and propose an indicative timeline that sets out steps to adopting the amendment.

In the case of legislative instruments, we will set out the proposed objectives and content of the new law, assess its relationship with other laws (including whether it should replace or complement existing laws), identify practical issues regarding its enactment and implementation and suggest institutions that could be involved in preparing and advocating for the legislation and propose an indicative timeline that sets out steps to adopting the legislation.

Where relevant, we may also draft model clauses for amendments or certain parts of new legislation to guide drafters.

For the **regional study**, this will involve setting out the preferred options for all legal and institutional aspects of the Oromia REDD+ Program, as identified in Table 2 above. In the case of each aspect it will include:

- Detailed description of recommended option and reasons it is considered the most appropriate option;
- Identification of legal and regulatory measures required to institutionalize the option including, where relevant, identifying where amendment to existing laws or new laws or secondary legislation may be required at national or regional level, taking into account the recommendations under the national study;
- Identification of practical steps required to implement the option and indicative timeframes for each step;
- Identification of potential risks and barriers associated with the options and strategies to minimize them.

Deliverables

- 1. A complete national level report that incorporate the results of Phases 2 and 3, including detailed proposals for reforms and, if applicable, model clauses to be included as annexes.
- 2. A complete legal and institutional due diligence report for the regional level (Oromia State) that incorporates the results of Phases 2 and 3, including assessing the existing situation and proposing detailed options for each element.

Task 3.3 – Detailed elaboration of benefit-sharing systems

Methodology

Similar to Task 3.2, we proposeto refine the preferred options for each element of the benefit sharing system at national level and benefit sharing arrangements for the Oromia REDD+ Program. This will be done in coordination with relevant state authorities and drawing on feedback from the stakeholder consultations. In each case, we will choose the options with a view to forming a complete and consistent system. We will elaborate each element of the national benefit sharing system and the regional benefit sharing arrangements that includes the following:

- Detailed description of recommended option and reasons it is considered the most appropriate option;
- Description of how the recommended option interacts with other options;
- Identification of legal and regulatory measures required to institutionalize the option including, where relevant, identifying where amendment to existing laws or new laws or secondary legislation may be required at national or regional level, taking into account the recommendations under the national study;
- Elaboration of institutional arrangements or responsibilities for implementing the option:
- Identification of other practical steps required to implement the option and indicative timeframes for each step;
- Identification of potential risks and barriers associated with the option and strategies to minimize them.

Deliverables

- 1. A complete national level report that incorporates the results of Phases 2 and 3, including detailed proposals for a benefit sharing system for the national REDD+ Program including, where applicable, identification of legal, policy and institutional reforms required to implement the benefit sharing system.
- A complete regional level report that incorporates the results of Phases 2 and 3, including detailed proposals for benefit sharing arrangements for the Oromia REDD+ Program including, where applicable, identification of legal, policy and institutional reforms required to implement the arrangements.

Task 3.4 – Present final results to Client for evaluation

We propose to present the final results to the Client in a meeting to explain the key conclusions of the project and to provide an opportunity for the Client to pose questions about the implementation, final product, and follow-up of the Assignment.

Deliverable

Final Client meeting

5.3 Work Plan

Note: The proposed work plan was slightly adapted from the proposal. The first round of stakeholder consultations will not be held during the inception phase but at the beginning of the second phase.

Phase	Tasks	Timeframe	Outcome(s)
1. Inception	Draft of inception Report	15 days after signature of the contract	Draft inception report
	Kick-off mission	May 12-16, 2014	Participation

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	Incorporate comments into Inception Report	One week after receipt of the comments	Final Inception Report
2. Situational analysis and initial option scoping	Stakeholder consultations	After six weeks	One stakeholder consultation in Oromia and one at national level; meeting materials and minutes;
		After nine weeks	Quarterly Progress Report (based on the Inception Report)
	Situational analysis and initial option scoping of national and regional legal and institutional frameworks	After 20 weeks	Draft report on national legal and institutional framework Draft report on regional legal and institutional framework
	Situational analysis and initial option scoping of national and regional benefit sharing arrangements	After 20 weeks	Draft report on a national benefit sharing system Draft report on benefit sharing arrangements for the Oromia REDD+ Program
		After 18 weeks	Mid-term progress report
3 Evaluation of options and proposal	Stakeholder consultations on evaluation of options	After 24 weeks	Organization and implementation of two two- day stakeholder consultations, provision of background material and preparation of meeting minutes
		After 27 weeks	Quarterly progress report
	Detailed elaboration of legal and institutional arrangements	After 32 weeks	1. Complete draft report on legal and institutional frameworks for national level that incorporate the results of Phases 2 and 3 and any comments from the Client on the draft report in Phase 2 2. Complete draft legal and institutional due diligence report for regional level that incorporates the results of Phases 2 and 3 and any comments from the Client on the draft report in Phase 2
	Detailed elaboration of benefit sharing systems	After 32 weeks	1. Complete draft report for national level that incorporates the results of Phases 2 and 3 and any comments from the Client on the draft report in Phase 2 2. Complete draft report for regional level that incorporates the results of Phases 2 and 3 and any comments from the Client on the draft report in Phase 2
	Incorporation of Client's comments and submission of final reports; presentation of final results to Client	After 36 weeks	Final versions of all reports Final Client meeting

ANNEX 1: Indicative list of references, policy documents, legislation and informants

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ANNEX 2: Indicative list of initiatives and actors

Information contained in this list is still very preliminary and may not be complete. It will be reviewed, expanded upon, and corrected, where necessary, during phase 2.

A. Initiatives

Initiativa	Description
Initiative	Description
Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP)	The SLMP, soon going into its second phase, has established robust policy instruments and institutional arrangements that are highly relevant for REDD+, with a focus on croplands. Initiated in 2008, the first phase focused on watershed management, rural land certification and administration, at a cost of USD 29 million. The project achieved remarkable progress in targeting degraded areas, which had previously proved uneconomical and unproductive. Implemented across 45 critical watersheds in six separate regions, the programme identified and designed appropriate interventions for degradation factors and impacts and benefitted a total of 98,000 rural households. Donors include: Department for International Development (DFID), Government of Finland (REILA), GIZ, USAID, and JICA. The project was directed at the federal level by the MoA and implemented at the Woreda/Kebele level by regional Bureaus of Agriculture. The second phase is expected to cost a total of USD107.61 million and is divided into components with the overall aim of reducing land degradation and increasing land productivity in the targeted regions: 1) Integrated watershed and landscape management; 2) Institutional Strengthening, Capacity Development and Knowledge Generation and Management; 3) Rural Land Administration, Certification and Land Use. Sources: Theredddesk.org; World Bank. 2013. Ethiopia - Second Phase of the Sustainable Land Management Project. Washington DC; World Bank. 2008. Ethiopia - First Phase of the Sustainable Land Management Project. Washington DC; World Bank, World Bank. 2013. Ethiopia - Second Phase of the Sustainable Land Management Project. Washington DC; World Bank, World Bank. 2013. Ethiopia - Second Phase of the Sustainable Land Management Project. Washington DC; World Bank.
The Bale Mountains Eco- Region REDD+ Project (BMNP & BERSMP)	The Bale Mountains Eco-Region REDD+ Project is the largest REDD+ Pilot Project in Ethiopia to date and is funded by the Norwegian Government. It builds on the Bale Eco-Region Sustainable Management Programme that took place between 2007 and 2013 that was implemented by the OFWE, Farm Africa and SOS Sahel Ethiopia. The original Programme focused on introducing Participatory Forest Management in the Bale Eco-Region in order to help local communities sustainably manage land and forest resources. REDD+ payments should help incentivize communities and ensure the project's sustainability. The project covers an area of 500,000 ha and is forecast to run for 20 years. Estimates calculate that in its lifetime the project will generate 18 million tons of CO2 emissions reductions and it is expected to issue credits soon. The project will establish a Forest Union to organize different cooperatives in the region. These groups will be responsible for running concession areas with the aid of the OFWE through Forest Management Agreements that will detail benefit-sharing mechanisms. Sources: Theredddesk.org; Climate, Community & Biodiversity Alliance, 2012. Case Studies of Existing Smallholder- And Community-Led Carbon Projects in Africa, (?); R-PP
The Great Green Wall for Sahara and Sahel (Ethiopia)	Initiated in 2007, the Great Green Wall for Sahara and Sahel project is a pan-African initiative that aims to establish a green buffer zone of planted trees across the Sahara-Sahel region to combat deforestation, desertification and the associated problems. The programme was initiated and is directed by the African Union with support from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), and the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (GM-UNCCD), and is to reinforce the Ethiopian Government's

Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy. The organisation responsible for the project leadership in Ethiopia is the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). Sources: Theredddesk.org Initiated in 2006 and with a forecasted duration of 35 years, the Sodo Community **Sodo Community** Managed Reforestation (Forest Regeneration) project is being implemented by World Managed Reforestation Vision Ethiopia (WVE) and World Vision Australia (WVA). The project develops the (Forest work of the Humbo community-managed reforestation project. The project focuses on Regeneration) the restoration and protection of high montane forest on the slopes of Mt. Damota in **Project** the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Regional State (SNNPRS). The project intends to sell carbon credits as part of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and CarbonFix Standard estimates that the project may generate a total of 189,027 metric tons of CO2 emissions reductions. The project spans seven Kebeles and a total land area of 4593.34ha. All revenues from carbon offsets belong to the communities involved in the project. Sources: Theredddesk.org Scaling up Implemented across four regional states (Amhara, Oromia, Benshangul-Gumuz, and **Participatory** the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Regional State (SNNPRS)), and **Forest** funded by the European Union (EU) and Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), the Scaling Up PFM Project is expected to run until 2014 and covers an overall land area Management Project (PFM) of 435,767ha. With an estimated cost of USD 7 500 000, the project aims to build the capacity of forest communities and the MoA to develop mainstream PFM and Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) enterprises. The project is linked to the Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Forest Management (SSLFM) programme and contributes to REDD+ in a similar manner by increasing forest cover and sustainable forestry in Ethiopia. Sources: Theredddesk.org Support to Launched in early 2013, the Support to National Forest Resources Assessment of **National Forest** Ethiopia project aims to provide current accurate qualitative and quantitative data on Resources the state, usage and management trends of forests and forestry in Ethiopia. The Assessment of project aims to facilitate the development of a sustainable management plan for Ethiopia. The project will contribute towards the development of a national forest **Ethiopia Project** inventory that will prove useful to REDD+ by aiding Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) work and the development of a reference scenario. Sources: Theredddesk.org Capacity Launched in early 2013 and with a total cost of USD361,000, the 'Capacity Development for the Preparation of the National Master Land-use Plan in Ethiopia' **Development for** the Preparation project works to reinforce the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). The of the National forecasted outcome of the project is to strengthen the capacity of the Land **Master Land-use** Administration and Use department of the MoA responsible for the formulation of the Plan in Ethiopia national master land use plan. The project, alongside the Support to National Resource Assessment of Ethiopia project, aims to gather data on land and resource usage and will therefore contribute towards the national REDD+ process. It will aim to help develop a national forest inventory and establish necessary baselines, as well as helping in the development of a national Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Sources: Theredddesk.org 'Climate and Initiated in 2009 and with a total cost of USD760.000, the Climate Protection and **Forest Project** Preservation of Primary Forest project is being implemented in the Kafa Biosphere Ethiopia' Reserve in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Regional State (Climate (SNNPRS). Led by the German Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) **Protection and** with the Regional and Local Ethiopian Government, the project aims to protect and preserve the dense mountain forests in the Kafa Biosphere Reserve and to support Preservation of **Primary Forest)** local communities in land use and management. Funded by the German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) as part of the International Climate Initiative (ICI), the project is divided into separate components encompassing climate, forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods. The project has created a favourable environment for introducing REDD+ that may ensure longterm financing for the sustainable management and preservation of the biosphere reserve. The Wildlife Works Carbon (WWC) has worked alongside NABU to carry out a feasibility study for REDD+ in the Kafa Biosphere Reserve and a project area has been developed comprising 247,498ha. The estimated total of CO2 emissions reductions is 165,000 tonnes. Sources: Theredddesk.org NTFP-PFM Covering a total area of 347,381ha, the Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) Research

Project to Analyse Carbon

Research and Development Project	and Development project is a PFM Programme of FARM-Africa and SOS Sahel Ethiopia and has been operational since 2002 in Ethiopia and Tanzania. The project aims to foster conservation through the establishment of sustainable forest management systems. Complementary natural resource management and NTFP technologies have been adopted as part of the project by local communities. Sources: R-PP
Carbon Finance in Ethiopian Rangelands project	The Carbon Finance in Ethiopian Rangelands project can be classified as a REDD+ feasibility study that has not been carried forward towards REDD+ project development. The project represents a preliminary effort by Save the Children/US (Save the Children) and the Tropical Forest Group (TFG) to explore opportunities for carbon finance in the rangelands of Ethiopia. The TFG team conducted analyses of terrestrial carbon, trained Save the Children staff in soil analysis and performed fieldwork with pastoralists at three sites in the Oromia Region. Following the fieldwork and analysis, TFG and Save the Children convened various Government and NGO stakeholders to present their findings and discuss challenges and opportunities in carbon finance for the rangelands. Sources: Theredddesk.org; Niles et al. 2010. Carbon Finance in Ethiopian Rangelands: Opportunities for Save the Children/US Leadership: Final Report, (?)
Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Forest Management Programme (SSLFMP)	Implemented by the NGOs Farm Africa and SOS Sahel, the five-year project Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Forest Management Programme (SSLFMP) has been implemented in four regions; Amhara, Benishangule-Gumz, Oromia and in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Regional State (SNNPRS). With funding worth EUR 2.46 Million from the European Union (EU), the project aims to secure sustainable forest management and the user rights of over 200 000 people. The project area covers 270 000ha of forest and is expected to benefit around three million people indirectly. The programme is being implemented by four Regional Advisory Support Units (RASUs) and one Participatory Natural Resource Management Unit in Addis Ababa. The SSLFMP works closely with the EU-funded Scaling Up Participatory Forest Management Programme implemented by the MoA. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Abote Community- Managed Reforestation Project	Focusing on existing communal lands and croplands in the Oromia region, the afforestation, reforestation and revegetation (ARR) project, Abote Community-Managed Reforestation project is being implemented by World Vision Ethiopia (WVE) adhering to the Climate Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Standards. The preparatory costs of the project have been covered by World Vision Canada, World Vision Australia and World Vision International. The project area comprises 8119ha of badly degraded land with poor soil productivity and scarce forest cover and biodiversity. The project aims to increase the productivity of this land by establishing sustainable management practices such as replanting indigenous trees, agroforestry and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR). Over the course of 30 years the project is predicted to sequester approximately 2.667 million tonnes of CO2 emissions. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Humbo Ethiopia Assisted Natural Regeneration Project	Initiated in 2005 and developed by World Vision Ethiopia with funding from the World Bank BioCarbon Fund, the Humbo Ethiopia Assisted Natural Regeneration Project restores indigenous tree species in the mountainous Humbo region of South Western Ethiopia. The project's regeneration of primary forest seeks also to reestablish biodiverse conditions and in doing so, create new employment and economic opportunities in the region. In addition, reduced soil erosion as a result of the project aims to stabilize the region's water supply. The project aims to restore 2,728ha of natural forest and encourages community forest management by establishing seven community cooperative societies with legal ownership over forestland. In addition, it supports the establishment of an institutional structure through which Certified Emissions Reductions can be produced. A system to monitor changes in carbon stocks has also been developed and the project is Ethiopia's first carbon-trading initiative. Through farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR), the project will reintroduce various autochthonous species to the region. In 2009, the project was identified and validated as an afforestation / deforestation project under the Clean Development Mechanism. Profits generated from carbon trading through the project have been invested in further sustainable development techniques in the selected region and the project hopes to replace tradition unsustainable economic activities, such as collection of fuel wood.
Project to	Sources: Theredddesk.org The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) is presently investigating the

The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) is presently investigating the carbon potential of its protected areas. It is suggested that during the REDD+

Potential of Protected Areas	readiness process, one or two of its protected areas will be included as REDD+ readiness pilots. EWCA is charged with the management of 13 NPs, 9 of which had under regional authority until mid 2009. EWCA is also in charge of the 8 wildlife reserves of the country and administers the hunting industry. The nominal protected area system (including forest priority areas, national parks and sanctuaries, wildlife reserves, and controlled hunting areas) covers an impressive 14% of the country. Some of the PAs under EWCA contain substantial forests, which protect important watersheds. Forests outside the PAs are a regional responsibility. Sources: R-PP; Vreugdenhil et al. 2012, Carbon Baseline and Mechanisms for Payments for Carbon Environmental Services from Protected Areas in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa
Eastern Africa Bamboo Project	The Eastern Africa Bamboo Project has reportedly undertaken various tasks to generate foreign currency for the country by developing bamboo resources. The project estimates that over 12 billion Birr can be generated every year if the country's bamboo resource is properly utilized. The specific objectives of the project are targeting employment and income generation for poverty alleviation and sustainable development through improving the technological and skills inputs in bamboo processing, developing capacity for the sustainable supply of raw bamboo materials, and improving technical, functional and aesthetic aspects of products to diversify into new markets. Sources: R-PP; www.eabp.org.et/

B. Actors

Actor	Description
Ministry of Environment (Protection) and Forestry (MEF)	Established in July 2013, the Ministry of Environment Protection and Forestry consists of a merger between the former Environment Protection Authority and the former Forestry Case Team previously part of the Natural Resource Management Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture. It is the main federal institution overseeing the forestry and environment sector. It is currently further institutionalized at the subnational level. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)	The Ministry of Agriculture the main federal government institution in charge of the agricultural sector. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA)	Under Proclamation No. 581/2007, the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority was established under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism with a mandate to administer parks and wildlife sanctuaries. The EWCA controls and administers 13 national parks and eight wildlife reserves. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Bureaus of Agriculture and Development (BoARD)	Each separate Ethiopian region has its own Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development (BoARD) under the federal Ministry of Agriculture and Development (MoARD) (now known as the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)). Each BoARD is responsible for agricultural and rural development policy implementation, coordination, and evaluation. Sources: The Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Worldwide Website, available at: www.worldwide-extension.org/Africa/ethiopa
Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE)	Established with regulation 122/2009, the Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE) is an autonomous and fully government-owned organisation working to ensure conservation, sustainable development and the use of forest and wildlife resources in its jurisdictions through community participation. The OFWE controls approximately 1.75 million ha of forest land and re-demarcation of OFWE's concessions has been underway since 2009. OFWE has initiated REDD+ projects within its concessions with the aim of generating climate finance. With the help of Farm Africa and SOS Sahel, the Bale Mountains Project has advanced significantly. OFWE is also involved in the national REDD+ planning process. It is one of the initiators behind the Emissions Reductions Programme (ER-P) for the Oromia Region. Sources: Theredddesk.org
The CRGE Facility within the Ministry of	The CRGE Facility is a financial mechanism designed to support the implementation of the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy, which includes the REDD+ Program. Overseen by the Ministry Of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED),

Finance and Economic Development (MoFED)	the facility is responsible for sourcing domestic and international sources of funding for the CRGE implementation. The facility is also in charge of managing results-based payments such as REDD+ project generated carbon credits. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations	Operating in Ethiopia since 1981, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) focuses on agricultural productivity and competitiveness, sustainable natural resources development and management, and food security and nutrition. The FAO has established 35 Participatory Forest Management (PFM) sites in the Kefa zone and assisted in the demarcation of forest and wetland resources. The FAO launched the Support to National Forest Resource Assessment of Ethiopia and the Capacity Development for the Preparation of the National Master Land-Use Plan in Ethiopia projects in 2013. The FAO will provide technical expertise in the development of a national MRV system for REDD+. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources	Part of the Hawassa University, the Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources (WGCF-NR) trains forestry professionals with financing from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). It is the sole forestry training institute in Ethiopia. It therefore provides one representative to sit on the REDD+ Steering Committee and will help the REDD+ process through research and MRV work. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Ethiopian Mapping Agency/Authorit y (?)	The Ethiopian Mapping Authority (EMA) is a branch of the Ethiopian government and the department within the Ministry of Interior that is responsible for cartographic mapping and remote sensing activities in Ethiopia. The EMA employs about 350 people engaged in aerial photography, geodetic surveying, photogrammetric, cartographic and photo lab activities. Sources: Theredddesk.org
University of Wageningen (Netherlands)	With 6500 staff worldwide and 10,000 students, the Wageningen University and Research Centre has particular expertise in the fields of food and food production; living environment; health, lifestyle and livelihood. It also specializes in land monitoring. The University and Research Centre are actively working in developing a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system in Ethiopia that will be needed for REDD+ implementation. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Forestry Research Centre (FRC)	The Federal Forestry Centre (FRC) is a government institution responsible for scientific research concerning forestry. It has 35 permanent research centres in the country. It is a member of the REDD+ Steering Committee and will help in the implementation of the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) roadmap for REDD+. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)	The Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) in Ethiopia conducts research on forest and dry-land management. Since 2013 CIFOR has taken a more active role in preparations for REDD+ in Ethiopia. It is expected to provide advice in policy and implementation development of REDD+ and in Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) implementation and design. Sources: Theredddesk.org
FARM Africa	FARM Africa is a UK-based NGO that together with SOS Sahel was one of the first organisations to introduce Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Ethiopia in the 1990's. FARM Africa plays a role in the development and implementation of the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) and the REDD+ Programme in Ethiopia and is a member of the REDD+ Steering Committee. FARM Africa has collaborated with SOS Sahel on the following projects: the Bale Eco-Region Sustainable Management Program (BERSMP), the Bale Mountains REDD+ Project and the 'Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods Forest Management Program' (SSLFMP). Sources: Theredddesk.org
SOS Sahel	SOS Sahel Ethiopia focuses on reducing food insecurity and vulnerability in rural areas by assisting farmers to sustainably manage the environment which they depend on for their livelihood and income. Their work also focuses on empowerment and in assisting the rural poor to exercise their environmental, social and economic rights; for example by providing advocacy at the policy level and by lobbying for policy change to lift traditionally marginalized farmers and pastoralists out of poverty. SOS Sahel Ethiopia is a member of the REDD+ Steering Committee and was actively involved in the development of the REDD+ R-PP. Alongside FARM Africa SOS Sahel Ethiopia is involved in the following projects: the Bale Eco-Region Sustainable Management Program (BERSMP), the Bale Mountains REDD+ Project and the 'Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods Forest Management Program' (SSLFMP).

011 1 21	Sources: Theredddesk.org
Climate Change Forum Ethiopia	Based on an initiative from Oxfam America East Africa regional office, the Climate Change Forum's (CCF-E) main task is to advance advocacy in the area of climate change adaptation and mitigation, and it provides research and awareness raising campaigns on climate change issues. It collaborates with government institutions, such as the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), to carry out climate change vulnerability assessments and to implement projects aimed at reducing vulnerability. The CCF-E sits on the REDD+ Steering Committee and provided information to the REDD+ Secretariat during R-PP development. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate Change (ECSNCC)	Comprised of Action for Development (AfD), Dan Church Aid (DCA), Forum for Environment (FfE), Poverty Action Network Ethiopia (PANE), SOS Sahel Ethiopia and Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF), the Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate Change (ECSNCC) is a network of over 60 members working on climate-related issues. The main objectives of the network are to raise awareness on climate change by facilitating knowledge exchange and by carrying out action research to inform policy at the national and international levels. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Forum for Environment	The Forum for Environment (FfE) is an environmental communication and advocacy group established to provide a platform for advocacy and communication amongst individuals and institutions concerned with the Ethiopian environment. FfE's main activities include awareness raising through public engagements; research and publications; mobilizing the public through establishing and strengthening local groups; capacity building; policy level debates and discussions; and incentive and acknowledgement schemes. The FfE also hosts the Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate Change (ECSNCC). It is not currently actively involved with REDD+ but cooperated during the development of the REDD+ R-PP development stage of REDD+ implementation. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Department for International Development (UK)	The Department for International Development (DFID), part of the UK government, works to eradicate poverty in developing countries. DFID works with governments of developing countries as well as charities, businesses and international bodies, including the World Bank, UN agencies and the European Commission. DFID has an International Climate Fund totaling around GBP 2.9 billion. Around GBP 300 million of this is for tackling deforestation and climate change and therefore REDD+. DFID is committed to work with other international groups to accelerate the REDD+ implementation and planning process. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Nature Conservation Research Centre (Ghana)	The Nature Conservation Research Centre (NCRC), although based in Ghana, has played a role in capacity building and training in Ethiopia and has helped to build expertise on climate change and carbon issues within the area. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (Ethiopia)	The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is the main institution responsible for the finance and economy of Ethiopia. It aided in the development of both the Growth Transformation Plan (GTP) and the Climate Resilient Green Economy Plan (CRGE), and is responsible for overseeing the CRGE Facility. It also sits on the REDD+ Steering Committee. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Horn of Africa Regional Centre and Network	The Horn of Africa Regional Centre Network is a network spanning 42 different organisations and focuses on environmental concerns and options for sustainable development in the East African region. It contributed to the development of the R-PP, and a designated Carbon Project Team within the network that is designed to work directly on the ground with REDD+ Projects and provide capacity building for carbon project developers. Sources: Theredddesk.org
United Nations Development Programme (Ethiopia)	The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) aids the Ethiopian Government in its achievement of its Growth Transformation Plan (GTP), and as part of the REDD+ process, has helped in the development of the R-PP and the initial formulation of the R-PIN. It has also worked closely with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) to access funds from the UN-REDD Programme. The UNDP also played a role in the development of the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Facility and administering its funds. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Norwegian Embassy Addis	In Ethiopia, the Government of Norway is one of the main bilateral donors of the national REDD+ program and related efforts. It helped to finance the R-PP with USD 5

Ababa (Ethiopia) (RNE)	million, the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Roadmap with USD 2 million, Bale Eco-Region Sustainable Management Program (BERSLMP) and completely financed the Bale Eco-region REDD+ project. In addition the Government of Norway finances the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy with USD 60 million a year. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Environment and Coffee Forest Forum	The Environment and Coffee Forest Forum (ECFF) focuses on developing strategies for sustainable usage and development of the Ethiopian environment with a particular interest in Ethiopian coffee forests through research, conservation planning, education and implementation of pilot projects. It was involved in the development of the R-PP and will play a role in the Oromia REDD+ Programme through capacity building and knowledge transfer. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union	In Ethiopia, the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) is implementing the 'Climate Protection and Preservation of Primary Forest' project in the Kafa Biosphere Reserve together with local government partners and international research institutions. NABU is also working in partnership with Wildlife Works Carbon on the potential of developing a REDD+ project in the Kafa Biosphere Reserve. Sources: Theredddesk.org
Ministry of Mines and Energy	Currently known as the Ministry of Mines (MoM) can be described as having a moderate effect on forestry decisions. It was identified as one of the organisations in the R-PP that should become more accountable to local stakeholders to better balance local and national priorities. It took part in the consultation process of the R-PP. The Ministry was involved in the first stages of the Woody Biomass Inventory and Strategic Planning Project (WBISPP), specifically in the energy component and is to play a role in the development of an Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system in Ethiopia by producing the necessary sustainable energy supply. Sources: R-PP; Information sourced from the Ethiopian Ministry of Mines and Energy Website, available at www.mom.gov.et/
GOPA Consultancy Group	GOPA Consultancy group has implemented over 3000 projects in more than 130 countries; at present over 140 are being carried out. It was involved in the R-PP development process and was involved in the Scaling-Up Participatory Forest Management (PFM) Project between 2011 and 2014. It aided in the development, adoption and distribution of a simplified PFM methodology and has expertise in capacity building for PFM. Sources: www.gopa.de; R-PP
Relief and Environment Society of Tigray (REST)	The Relief and Environment Society of Tigray (REST) is an indigenous Ethiopian non-governmental organization working since 1978 on relief, rehabilitation and long-term development programs in partnership with local communities of the National Regional State of Tigray. It is a member of the REDD+ Technical Working Group (RTWG) and was involved in the R-PP development process. The society is involved in a number of environmental issues from forestry to soil and water conservation and crop development and diversification. Sources: R-PP; www.rest-tigray.org/
Tigray National Regional State Environmental Protection, Land Administration and Use Agency	The Tigray National Regional State Environmental, Protection, Land Administration and Use Agency (EPLAUA) is a member of both the REDD+ Steering Committee and the REDD+ Technical Working Group (RTWG) in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP
Frankfurt Zoological Society	The Frankfurt Zoological Society has been extensively involved in conservation efforts in the Bale Mountains region of Ethiopia. The society was involved in the development and consultation process of the R-PP. During the R-PP Process, the society's remote sensing forest inventories in the Bale Mountains National Park were identified as part of the development of a reference scenario for REDD+ in Ethiopia and the society was identified as a potentially suitable monitoring partner as part of REDD+ Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) work on activity data and emissions factors. Sources: R-PP
Halemeyha University	Halemeyha University was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP. Sources : R-PP
Mekele University	Mekele University was identified during the R-PP Process has having key expertise in GIS Remote Sensing technology and is a member of the REDD+ Technical Working Group (RTWG). Mekele University was also identified as an actor capable of building

	capacity in Ethiopia. It is also to play a role in MRV work through compiled woody biomass inventories, with a specific focus on dryland agriculture and biodiversity. Sources: Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP): Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Addis Ababa
Save the Children US	Save the Children US was identified has having particular expertise useful to REDD+ development in Ethiopia. In particular its experience with a grass land carbon sequestration project was seen as useful in the development of appropriate mechanisms for impact assessment. Sources: R-PP
Environmental Economics Policy Forum for Ethiopia (EEPFE)	The Environmental Economics Policy Forum for Ethiopia (EEPFE) is the Ethiopian node in the EfD network. The Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI) is hosting EEPFE as one of its projects to work on Environment and related issues. EDRI provides financial and administration support services to EEPFE. The forum was founded in 2003. Its goal is to support poverty alleviation and sustainable development through increased use of environmental economics in policy making processes. Sources: www.efdinitiative.org/ethiopia/about; R-PP
Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI / AAU)	The Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI) conducted the Ethiopia Green Growth Project in 2010 with support from the Global Green Growth Institute that provided preliminary analysis of deforestation in Ethiopia that helped in the development of the R-PP. A preliminary assessment of each strategy option to reduce deforestation and forest degradation was done by the EDRI in 2010 in order to quantify the impact, cost and feasibility of each mitigation mechanism and then be able to prioritize them. In addition it identified various solutions for sustainable forest management and helped in the identification of key drivers of deforestation in Ethiopia. It is a member of the ministerial REDD+ Steering Committee. Sources: R-PP; www.edri-eth.org/Home.php
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) conducted socio-economic research on land use policy in Ethiopia where primary cross-sectional data was collected at community, household and plot levels in the highlands of Tigray beginning in late 1998, and the highlands of Amhara beginning in late 1999, covering 500 and 434 households respectively. Sources: R-PP; www.ifpri.org/dataset/ethiopia; ; Policies for Sustainable Land Management in the Ethiopian Highlands Dataset 1998-2000. 2005. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) (datasets)
The London School of Economics and Political Science	The London School of Economics and Political Science conducted on the ground assessments of forest carbon stocks in the Bale Mountains region and was also involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP
Albert- LudwigsUniversi tät Freiburg	The Albert-LudwigsUniversität in Freiburg conducts ongoing research for REDD+ for the German Federal Environment Ministry (BMU), it was identified as having special expertise on biodiversity issues during the R-PP development process. Sources: R-PP; www.landespflege-freiburg.de/institut/international.en.html
German Development Institute (DIE)	The German Development Institute (DIE) has conducted research into the various NGOs present in Ethiopia and is actively engaged in the field of adaptation to climate change. It has also conducted research into industrial policy in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.die-gdi.de/en/
International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)	The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. In 2014 it provided daily web coverage and a summary report of on-goings during the Second High-Level Meeting (HLM) of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP). Sources: R-PP; www.iisd.ca/energy/aeep/hlm2/intro.html
Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society	The Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society (EWNHS) is an independent membership based Society legally established in Ethiopia in September 1966. EWNHS is a not-for-profit grassroots indigenous national-level conservation NGO. EWNHS promotes understanding, appreciation and conservation of nature by working closely with government and nongovernment conservation institutions, individuals, schools, higher learning institutions, community groups and other conservation organizations engaged in issues pertaining to conservation of biodiversity. Sources: R-PP; www.ewnhs.org.et/
Lem Ethiopia	Lem, the Environment & Development Society of Ethiopia, is a citizen's movement working on sustainable development. Lem Ethiopia has entered into a voluntary partnership with communities, schools, civil societies, national & international NGOs, government institutions at different levels, etc. working on environment/natural resources conservation and promotion of alternative technologies to translate ideas of

	sustainable development and livelihood security into everyday action. Sources: R-PP; www.lemethiopia.org.et/
The Woods Hole Research Centre	The Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC) is a private, non-profit research organization focusing on environmental sciences. Scientists at the centre combine analysis of satellite images of the Earth with field studies to measure, model, and map changes in the world's ecosystems. Sources: R-PP; www.whrc.org/
International Network on Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR)	The International Network on Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) works to improve the well-being of producers and users of bamboo and rattan while maintaining a sustainable resource base by supporting innovative research and development. Under an EU and Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) funded project, INBAR is working in Ethiopia and Ghana to reduce deforestation and land degradation by using bamboo as a highly-renewable alternative for firewood and for charcoal production. Sources: R-PP; www.inbar.int/
Common Fund for Commodities (CFC)	The Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) has financed projects by the International Network on Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) to use bamboo as a renewable energy alternative in Ethiopia and has funded various other agricultural sustainable projects in Ethiopia that aim to sustainably produce food. Sources: R-PP; Summary of Ongoing Regular Projects: Bamboo and Rattan Report, available at: www.common-fund.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CFC_downloads/Ongoing.10.pdf
Ethiopia-Canada Cooperation Office (ECCO)	The Ethiopia-Canada Cooperation Office (ECCO) is a project of the Canadian Embassy in Ethiopia with a mission to support development activities in the country. As a project of the Embassy, ECCO is funded by the Government of Canada and is accountable to Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada, and to the Auditor General of Canada. Sources: R-PP; www.cida-ecco.org/WP/wordpress/
African Development Bank Group (AfDB)	Working with a network of 53 African countries and 25 non-African countries, the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) has funded various development projects in Ethiopia and has an Ethiopian Field Office from which these projects are coordinated. Sources : R-PP; www.afdb.org/en/
TerrAfrica	TerrAfrica is involved in a project concerning sustainable land and climate change in Ethiopia focusing specifically on watershed management and on smallholder-driven Sustainable Land and Watershed Management (SLWM) practices. The Project is one of the projects encompassing the Sahel and West Africa (SAWAP) program in support of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) and builds on TerrAfrica's Platform for SLWM. Sources: R-PP; www.terrafrica.org/projects/ethiopia/
LTS International	LTS International provides professional consultancy and project management services to support sustainable development in the public and private sectors across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. It has provided a wide range of consultancy services to a number of sustainable development projects in Ethiopia and was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.ltsi.co.uk/
International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)	The International Institute for Environmental Development (IIED) is an international development and environment policy research organization that carries out research, advice and advocacy work. Amongst the research carried out by the IIED it published a paper on community-based natural resource management and climate change adaptation in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.iied.org/
Biorescon	Bioresources Consulting (BIORESCON) is a provider of global advisory services focusing on natural biological resources. BIORESCON is located in Austria. Biorescon was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia Sources: R-PP; www.biorescon.com/
MELCA Mahiber	MELCA (Movement for Ecological Learning and Community Action) was founded in 2004 by a group of environmental practitioners and lawyers. MELCA aims to work for the revival and enhancement of traditional ecological knowledge and to protect the rights of communities to the same in Ethiopia. This involves research on policies, legislation and initiatives that affect culture and ecology relationships; advocacy and campaigning on community rights and the safeguarding of traditional ecological knowledge; capacity building and in-depth training through experiential learning, to educate youth and other change agents; and raising public awareness on culture, biodiversity and development issues, including culture and biodiversity celebrations. In 2008 it published a report providing an overview of Environmental Impact Assessment

	in Ethiopia - Gaps and Challenges. MelcaMahiber was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP;
Danca Ethiania	www.wiser.org/organization/view/4dd8ac3af56c6129fd5202f7a83e5eb3
Panos Ethiopia	Panos Ethiopia was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources : Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP): Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Addis Ababa
Environmental Development Action Ethiopia (ENDA)	ENDA-Ethiopia is the Ethiopian branch of ENDA TW (Environmental Development Action in the Third World) based in Dakar, Senegal. Its aims are to support local initiatives to fight poverty, preserve or improve the environment and promote active citizenship in Ethiopia. Its present activities centre on urban popular economy and ecology, environmental education, sustainable farming and communication. It was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: www.akababi.org/enda.htm; R-PP
Ethiopian Rural	The Ethiopian Rural Energy Promotion and Development Centre (EREPDC) aims to
Energy Promotion and Development Centre (EREPDC)	promote efficient and environmentally sound energy technologies in a sustainable manner, and facilitation of energy development in rural areas through the provision of information, technical assistance, loan financing to the private sector, community organization, non-governmental and governmental organizations in order to contribute to accelerated economic and social development. It has worked extensively on the distribution, design and benefits of new stove technologies in Ethiopia. The EREPDC was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; http://www.pciaonline.org/node/143
Meteorology Agency	The Ethiopian Meteorological Agency aims to investigate and study the weather and climatic condition of Ethiopia in order to exploit the beneficial effects for economic and social development. The agency was identified during the R-PP development process as an institution sufficiently qualified to provide or support capacity building on REDD+related topics. The agency was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.ethiomet.gov.et/
Ethiopian	The Ethiopian Foresters Association was involved in the consultation process and
Foresters	development of the R-PP in Ethiopia.
Association	Sources: R-PP
Biological Society of Ethiopia	The Biological Society of Ethiopia aims to contribute towards sustainable lifestyles and other natural resources through promoting the roles of biological sciences. The Biological Society of Ethiopia was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.etharc.org/resources/organizations?sobi2Task=sobi2Details&catid=3&sobi2Id=17
Forum for Social Studies (FfSS)	The Forum for Social Studies (FSS) is a non-government, non-profit policy think tank dedicated to independent research and providing a forum for informed public debate of development issues and policy initiatives. Sources: R-PP; www.fssethiopia.org/#
Christian Relief	Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA) formerly known
and Development Association (CRDA)	as CRDA is an indigenous non-profit umbrella organization. It is an association of NGOs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) engaged in relief, rehabilitation, and diverse developmental activities focusing on poverty alleviation. The CCRDA was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.crdaethiopia.org/index.php
JICA (Belete Forest)	The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been actively involved in Participatory Forest Management (PFM) activities in the Belete Forest in Ethiopia since 2003. The group was identified during the R-PP process as suitable to provide REDD+capacity building and support. JICA was also involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.jica.go.jp/project/english/ethiopia/0604584/02/index.html
Ethiopian Wetlands and Natural Resources Association (EWNRA)	The Ethiopian Wetlands and Natural Resources Association is a local non- governmental organization established in 2000 with environmental and development objectives specifically focusing on wetlands and natural resource conservation in the country. The organization strives to realize its vision of seeing healthy Ethiopia's wetlands and related ecosystems providing sustainable benefits to local and global environment and development. EWNRA was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia.

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Tigray	Sources: R-PP; www.ewnra.org/ The Tigray Development Association (TDA) is an internationally recognized association
Development Association (TDA)	with hundreds of thousands of members residing in the remotest areas of Tigray and elsewhere internationally. The TDA is particularly concerned with primary education, basic health services with a main focus on maternal and child healthcare and targeted skill training for income generation to achieve food security for people living in drought-prone areas through continually raising resources from its members, supporters and donor organizations and with active community participation. The TDA has developed a three year strategic plan to guide the successful implementation of its projects and development programs in the areas of capacity building, promotion of health services and skill training for income generation. The TDA was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.baringfoundation.org.uk/IntorgTigray.htm
South Ethiopian People's Development Association (SEPDA)	The South Ethiopia Peoples' Development Association (SEPDA) is a local and not-for-profit nongovernmental development organization. SEPDA has supported the implementation of 783 projects with over birr 170,422,522.15 in partnership with National Development Associations (NDAs) and other CBOs. These activities ranged across different sectors and were implemented in different areas of the region and have benefited over 4 million people. SEPDA has organized several trainings that enable NDAs to plan, monitor and evaluate projects. SEPDA was involved in the consultation process and development of the R-PP in Ethiopia. Sources: R-PP; www.sepdasnnp.org/
CONSCIENTIA	Conscientiaprovides management, ethics and governance consultancy services to INGO'S, commercial entities, legal service firms and government bodies throughout Africa. The firm has worked with the GIZ that has been working in Ethiopia on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development since 1964. Sources: www.conscientia-africa.com/
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) – GesellschaftfürIn ternationaleZusa mmenarbeit(GIZ)	GIZ has been working in Ethiopia on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) since 1964. With about 100 international and 600 national staff, one of GIZ's largest in-country teams worldwide can be found in this country. In addition, 14 development workers are working in various programmes, and 15 CIM experts are deployed in institutions and programmes in Ethiopia. German development cooperation with Ethiopia currently focuses on labour market oriented education and training and sustainable land management. Sources: www.giz.de/en/worldwide/336.html
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)	The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the World Bank (FCPF delivery partner) is supporting Ethiopia in its efforts towards REDD+ Readiness. The FCPF Readiness programme is a multi-donor initiative that assists countries in establishing the key pillars of REDD+ Readiness, including: 1) developing their national reference scenarios for emissions from deforestation and degradation; 2) adopting and complementing national strategies for reducing deforestation and forest degradation; and 3) establishing national monitoring, reporting and verification systems for REDD+. The objective of the FCPF Readiness Programme is to strengthen the capacity of Ethiopia's institutions dealing with land use and REDD+. Sources: Theredddesk.org
German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB)	The German Environment Ministry's International Climate Initiative has funded climate projects in developing and emerging countries since the end of 2008. A prime focal area under the Initiative is the promotion of biodiversity conservation efforts that have a bearing on climate change. As a contribution towards conserving the forests and their biodiversity, a research project (Conservation and Use of Wild Populations of 'Coffea Arabica' in the montane rainforests of Ethiopia (CoCE)) was carried out from 2002 to 2009 by the University of Bonn and partners, with funding from the German Ministry of Education and Research in Ethiopia. The project aimed to study the remaining locations where wild coffee grows in South-Western Ethiopia and to develop ideas for their conservation and sustainable use. The German Environment Ministry and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) have been supporting the preservation of wild coffee since 2006. Sources: www.bfn.de/0310 steckbrief aethiopien+M52087573ab0.html; Further information can be accessed at: www.bmub.bund.de/en/
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)	The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) is designed to be an open, global platform to support experimentation and collective learning by developing countries seeking to leapfrog the resource-intensive and environmentally unsustainable model of industrial development. The GGGI is supporting the Government of Ethiopia in both the Green

	Economy and Climate Resilient components of the CRGE as well as designing and scoping of a Sector Reduction Mechanism, which will serve as the principal vehicle through which the CRGE, and therefore emissions reduction, will be put into action. Sources: www.gggi.org
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) is a government organization under the Swedish Foreign Ministry. Swedish development aid follows three thematic priorities; democracy and human rights, environment and climate change and gender equality and womens' role. The Swedish cooperation with Ethiopia mainly focuses on efforts in democracy and human rights, but also supports economic and social development. SIDA funds educational capacity building directly through Addis Ababa Univeristy and aims to develop sustainable and efficient agricultural practices in Ethiopia. SIDA has also provided funding to the Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources. Sources: www.sida.se/English/About-us/ ; www.sida.se/English/Countries-and-regions/Africa/Ethiopia/Our-work-in-Ethiopia/
Ethiopian Association for Combating Desertification (EADC)	The Ethiopian Association for Combating Desertification (EADC) provides capacity building to members of the association, organizes training and awareness raising on desertification and related issues through collection, analysis and dissemination of data to users. It also shares best practices among association members and others, undertakes various activities that contribute to poverty reduction nationwide and desertification threatened areas in particular and maintains networking among its member non-governmental and/or community-based organizations (NGOs)/(CBOs) and other organizations working in environment-related areas. Sources: www.wiser.org/organization/view/7c79fb61a90cfacd20422241d98ca6d2
Ethiopian Forestry Society	The Ethiopian Forestry Society is a society of all Ethiopian foresters that aims to raise awareness and advocate for the sustainable use of Ethiopian forest and forest products, to advance forestry science in Ethiopia to ensure the sustainability of all forest resources, resulting in benefits for today and in the future, to establish and enhance professional excellence to contribute to the sustainable use of Ethiopian forest and forest products. Sources: www.fsethiopia.org/
Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organisation	The EARS consist of EIAR, Regional Agricultural Research Institutes (RARIs), and Higher Learning Institutions (HLIs). EIAR is responsible for the running of federal research centers, and RARIs are administered by the regional state governments. In addition to conducting research at its federal centers, EIAR is charged with the responsibility for providing the overall coordination of agricultural research countrywide, and advising Government on agricultural research policy formulation. Currently, the EARS comprise 55 research centers and sites located across various agro-ecological zones. The research centers vary in their experience, human, facility, and other resources capacities. Some of the research centers and sites have one or more subcenters and testing sites. Sources: www.eiar.gov.et
GOPA Consultancy group	Currently, GOPA is carrying out over 140 projects in more than 50 countries and maintains project offices in all locations. GOPA provided consultancy services for the Scaling-Up Participatory Forest Management project in Ethiopia and have worked extensively with the Civil Society Fund. Sources: www.gopa.de
International Livestock Centre for Africa (ILCA)	The objectives of International Livestock Centre for Africa's systems research are to diagnose constraints to increased animal production, to develop prototype technologies under farm conditions, to develop research methodologies, to monitor technology adoption and to help develop the systems research capacities of national institutions in Africa. ILCA was established in 1974 to: serve as a multidisciplinary institution for research to improve livestock production systems in sub-Saharan Africa, provide training to increase regional competence in the systems approach to livestock research and development and act as a multidisciplinary documentation centre. Sources: www.ilri.org/InfoServ/Webpub/fulldocs/Bulletin25/Research.htm
Pastoralist Forum	The Ethiopian Pastoralist Forum has been registered as local umbrella NGO since August 2003. Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia (PFE) is re-registered by the Charities and Societies Agency (CSA) as an Ethiopian Residents and Foreign Charities Consortium. PFE aims to bring positive changes in the livelihood of pastoralists through pastoral capacity building, empowerment, commercialization and entrepreneurship in Ethiopia. Sources: www.pfe-ethiopia.org/about.html
Agricultural Transformation	The Government of Ethiopia established the Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA) by Federal Regulation in December 2010 as a catalyst for positive, transformational,

Agency (ATA)	and sustainable change. The primary aim of the ATA is to promote agricultural sector transformation by supporting existing structures of government, private sector and other non-governmental partners to address systemic bottlenecks in delivering on a priority national agenda for achieving growth and food security. Sources: www.ata.gov.et/about/
Ethiopian Investment Agency (EIA)	The Ethiopian Investment Agency (EIA) is a government agency established in 1992 to promote private investment, primarily foreign direct investment. The overall activities of the Agency are supervised and followed up by an Investment Board which is chaired by the Minister of Industry. The EIA is headed by a director general who is also a member of the Board and two deputy director generals. The EIA aims to enhance investment, both foreign and local, in the country by promoting its resource potentials and investment opportunities, initiating policy and implementation measures to create conducive investment climate and providing efficient services to investors so as to bring fast and sustainable economic development in the country. Sources: www.eia.gov.et/english/about/about eia
Oromia Cooperative Promotion Agency	Oromia Cooperation Cooperative Promotion Agency (OCPA) is a Governmental Institution in charge of Promotion, Registration and Regulation of Cooperatives in the Region. The mission of OCPA is to highlight the importance of Cooperatives in the National economic development. A policy document and a strategic plan have been designed to orient all actors who should ensure that cooperatives become a viable tool for socio – economic development in Oromia Region. Sources: www.ocpa.gov.et/index.php/en/news/41-well-come-note-two