SNV in Ethiopia

SNV, in response to the 1974 drought in northern Ethiopia, started working on the Food for Work Programme, called Kobbo-Lalibella Road Construction project - which involved 6,000 farmers. Successfully completing the project, SNV started implementing other rural development projects focusing, particularly, on capacity development of key stakeholders in different sectors. Currently, we are working in agriculture, energy and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sectors to make a lasting difference in the lives of people. In Agriculture, SNV works to alleviate poverty through increased income, food and nutrition security, sustainable markets, and climate change resilience for smallholder farmers. In energy, SNV has been working in Ethiopia from 2006 and started its partnership with the Government from 2009 for development of sustainable market for bio-digesters in the eight regions. SNV also had a project on development of sustainable market for Improved Cookstoves and it is exploring opportunities to continue it while adding other projects on off-grid electrification. In WASH, we are facilitating access to improved drinking water services and sanitary facilities through enhancing local capacities to ensure functionality of water systems, WASH service delivery and sustained positive change in hygiene behaviour in WASH. SNV goes for ensuring that women, men and youth balance benefits from their efforts. SNV is implementing 13 projects in more than 410 woredas of Addis Ababa, Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Oromia, Somali, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region, and Tigray National Regional States.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>Donors</th>
<th>Woredas</th>
<th>Regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 million</td>
<td>1 million</td>
<td>1819</td>
<td>7408</td>
<td>10,217</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>&gt; 400</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Core capabilities

Value chain development: We have applied the value chain approach in our agriculture, energy and WASH projects. In this process, we focus on improving the capacities and competitiveness of value chain actors (producers, processors and traders), addressing systemic market constraints, linking producers to markets, and facilitating participation in the value chain related policy development.

Business development: we emphasise on creating linkages among value chain actors and ensuring reliable supply and market outlets for the commodities of smallholders through food processing companies, WASH market centres, biogas market hubs, business-to-business linkages, business clusters and exhibitions/trade fairs.

Knowledge development: SNV informs policy dialogue, shares innovative solutions and lessons from implementation, and addresses underlying systemic constraints through facilitating multi-stakeholder platforms, research partnerships, trade fairs, exchange visits, international workshops, conferences and meetings to maximise peer learning and ensure sustainability.

Capacity development: SNV supports government structures, cooperatives/unions, WASHCos, LCB/PLSPs, producer groups, SME, farmers and agro-dealers to enable them to take the lead in addressing development constraints.

Localisation: strengthening our local presence, we work with existing structures aligning our strategy within national priorities. Moreover, we tap on local capacities (local capacity builders/Private Local Service Providers), the private sector, cooperatives/unions and producer groups, Water Sanitation and Hygiene Committees, Small and Medium Enterprises and agro-dealers to ensure sustainability and implementation at scale.

Inclusive implementation: SNV advisors support planning, implementation and monitor progress in collaboration with government, local and international development organisations and community partners.

Partnership: based on complementarity we jointly work with government structures, donors, implementing partners, the private sector, financial, farmers’ organisations and knowledge institutions, local service providers etc.

Youth employment: our projects focus on ensuring the youth have greater opportunities to improve their skills and find rewarding employment.

Balancing benefits: we are working to balance economic benefits of men and women in all our projects and programmes.

Environmental sustainability: we make sure that our interventions positively contribute to addressing environmental issues.

Agriculture capabilities

SNV’s approach in Agriculture is aligned to the priorities of the GTP, with a focus on building the resilience of rural smallholder households through increasing agricultural productivity and improving livelihood options, while strengthening the environmental sustainability of agricultural production and meeting the challenges of a changing climate.

In agriculture we work to provide Income, food, and climate solutions for smallholder farmers
Core capabilities

In agriculture, SNV focuses on creating income, food, and climate solutions for smallholder farmers. We provide support to and link honey, dairy/livestock, pulses, cereals and horticulture producing smallholder farmers to sustainable market. These farmers have contributed for the increment of the quality and quantity of the exported agricultural products.

For example, unions working with Cooperatives for Change project have started establishing edible oil and flour processing complexes motivated by the business and union management, coaching and mentoring. Diary processing units supported by Enhancing Dairy Sector Growth in Ethiopia (EDGET) project have started to take important steps that will help them establish dairy processing complexes. Beekeepers and input suppliers are working hard to sustain and expand their businesses. Communities in Gambella who have ample honey and other bee products have started producing honey for the market in addition to consumption.

SNV’s agriculture projects are also working in technology transfer and promotion of improved innovations to improve production and productivity. We are enhancing the capacity of smallholder farmers through supporting the establishment of demonstration sites, practical field farm and farm field schools, promoting improved technologies, building the capacity of technical and farmer training facilities, government partners as well as sector associations.

The capacity development support has contributed to the graduation of productive Safety Net Households from food insecurity; the transformation of unions into food processing companies. For example, Cooperatives for Change supported unions have shown the potential of similar entities in becoming food processing companies while EDGET supported dairy cooperatives are demonstrating similar potential. Our partnership with Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) bag promoter puzzled out farmers’ storage related issue. The bag became a solution for supplying quality product to the market.

Financial institutions and the community played a key role in making our agriculture projects successful. Microfinance institutions developed confidence on smallholder farmers to increase their access to finance for expanding their agricultural engagements. Men, women and the youth are participating by becoming beekeepers, lead beekeepers, input dealers and suppliers, spray service providers, establishing dairy processing units and village Saving and Loan Enterprises members.

We have also track record in supporting and enhancing the apiculture sector associations, promoting commercially sustainable and innovative inclusive business models and enhancing community awareness on the impacts of value chain approach.

Energy capabilities

In Ethiopia, SNV’s energy projects are directly aligned with Government of Ethiopia’s Growth and Transformation Plan and the goal of developing a Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE). SNV focuses on creating market-based solutions to energy poverty in its energy projects. To strengthen the energy sector in Ethiopia, SNV has been working with the federal and regional governments and others in development of sustainable markets, mainly focusing on bio-digesters through the flagship National Biogas Programme of Ethiopia (NBPE) for clean cooking and for bio-slurry as high value organic fertiliser. Under NBPE, SNV has been working with the government partners in developing a public-private partnership through product development and introduction, capacity development, awareness creation and creating enabling environment for micro, small and medium enterprises. SNV’s support also includes partnership development with financial institutions for access to credit for end-users and for private sector as well as with agriculture sector actors for mainstreaming bio-slurry promotion activities within their regular programmes. In addition, SNV is promoting sectoral integration among agriculture and WASH initiatives to maximise benefits from bio-digesters. SNV had an innovative project on development of sustainable market for Improved Cookstoves and wants to continue it while it is exploring opportunities to support in other clean cooking and heating fuels and well as on off-grid electrification.

SNV, globally, has a successful track record in development of sustainable bio-digester market as well as in strengthening the value chains of improved and cleaner cooking stoves and fuel, supporting the production and distribution of improved cooking stoves and fuels while linking producers with sustainable market.
WASH capabilities
SNV’s WASH programme in Ethiopia supports the Government of Ethiopia’s (GoE) national WASH strategy. Our WASH projects are facilitating access to improved drinking water services and sanitary facilities through enhancing local capacities to ensure functionality of water systems, WASH service delivery and sustained positive change in hygiene behaviour. The projects integrate supply chain, hygiene behavioural change communication, governance to ensure sustainability, setting-up of facilities and services for waste management through collaboration between the public and private sectors and communities. Our WASH in Schools initiative tackles the structural causes behind non-sustainability of WASH services in schools. SNV reached more than four million people through hygiene promotion on handwashing, Open defecation Free (ODF) and improved access to sanitation; linked private local service providers to provide operation and maintenance of the water systems, biogas, and irrigation generators and pumps; work to reach more than two million people through building WASH governance; creating demand; availing low cost quality WASH products, and knowledge management through development and testing of scalable and replicable market-based models, support the GoE and the One National WASH Programme (OWNP) to increase use of improved WASH products and services among women and their families.

Gender and Youth Employment
SNV aims to promote equity in decisions, entrepreneurial opportunities and benefits including income share between men and women in agri-businesses. Across our three sectors SNV works to make sure that men, women and the youth benefit from their efforts; have greater opportunities to improve their skills and find rewarding employment. Our projects are benefiting women and youth through capacity building and creating employment opportunities. Our projects are also facilitating access to loan, investing in their skills and entrepreneurship trainings to enable these groups of people to become entrepreneurs.

SNV is a not-for-profit international development organisation, working in Agriculture, Energy, and Water, Sanitation & Hygiene. Founded in the Netherlands 50 years ago, we have built a long-term, local presence in 30 of the poorest countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Our global team of local and international advisors works with local partners to equip communities, businesses and organisations with the tools, knowledge and connections they need to increase their incomes and gain access to basic services – empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and guide their own development. In Ethiopia SNV is registered on 18 April 2011 in accordance with the Charities and Societies proclamation No.621/2009 under number 1976.

SNV Netherlands Development Organisation in Ethiopia
6th Floor, Tracon Tower  Arada Sub City, Kebele 01/02
P. O. Box: 40675 Addis Ababa, F  +251 (0) 11 1 26 20 90,
T  +251 (0) 11 1 26 21 00, M +251 (0) 91 6 82 36 94,
www.snv.org

20 million
People
will improve the
quality of their life
by 2018

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