

Stakeholder mapping Ethiopia

Summary

Despite being one of the world's fastest growing economies, Ethiopia remains one of the world's poorest countries, with high rates of unemployment and underemployment.

Since the early 2000s, economic growth has to be seen in relation to three consecutive development plans (Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme, Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty, and Growth and Transformation Plan).

In 2003, the government introduced a Food Security Programme composed of four complementary programmes (Productive Safety Net Programme, Household Asset Building Programme, Complementary Community Investments, and Resettlement) spanning from agriculture to infrastructure. In 2009, a National Employment Plan was launched, which aims to achieve the concurrent objectives of social welfare, economic growth and political stability.

The Netherlands Embassy in Addis Ababa focuses its development cooperation activities in three areas, namely: food security, sexual and reproductive health rights, and security and rule of law. The Embassy's Multi Annual Strategic Plan 2014-2017 announces that the linkage aid-trade will be explored further as a tool to promote inclusive development in the country and to create a favourable business climate for Dutch companies.

Three NWO-WOTRO-funded research groups have been formed that will conduct research activities in Ethiopia. First, 'Feeder Road Development for Inclusive Productive Employment', led by Dr. Maggi Leung (Utrecht University), will provide fresh insight into a core policy theme by exploring the multiple linkages between road construction and productive employment. Second, 'How Inclusive Business Strategies Can Contribute to Inclusive Development in Sub-Saharan Africa', led by Prof. Rob van Tulder (Erasmus University Rotterdam), will respond to the Netherlands Embassy's new focus on aid and trade by investigating how business strategies employed by Dutch multinationals can become more inclusive through interaction with non-market actors such as NGOs, national governments and local stakeholders. Finally, 'Creating Opportunities? Economic Empowerment, Political Positioning and Participation of Sex Workers in Kenya and Ethiopia', led by Dr. Lorraine Nencel (VU University Amsterdam), will produce new knowledge on the specifically vulnerable social group of sex workers, by studying how they can be economically empowered and included in development.



KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM ON INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

All three of the research groups mentioned above have established partnerships with a local knowledge institution and/or government agency. This report lists and where possible describes a number of Ethiopian stakeholders operating in the fields of social protection and productive employment, from ministries to independent research institutes and think tanks. Also, an overview of policy web-links is provided.