

**Assessment of Selected Development Policies and Strategies
of Ethiopia from a Climate Change Perspective and Cross Border
Cooperation.**

Introduction

- Climate change is a real threat to the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in Ethiopia.
- Ethiopia has witnessed a wide range of policy and institutional reforms in the socioeconomic, political and environmental spheres since 1991.
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Environmental Policy

- GoE issued the country's first ever Environmental Policy in 1997. The aim was to rectify the economic and social costs of environmental damage from widespread mismanagement of environmental resource
- The policy covers a wide range of resource sectors: soil, forest, woodlands, biodiversity, water, energy, minerals, urban environment, environmental health, industrial pollution, atmospheric pollution, and cultural and natural heritage.

Climate Change issues in the Policy

- The policies consider the vulnerability of the country to climate variability
- Maximize the standing biomass in the country through a combination of reforestation, agroforestry, rehabilitation of degraded areas, revegetation, control of free range grazing
- There is no mention of the need for full integration of climate change adaptation and nationally appropriate mitigation measures in the E PE

Agriculture and Rural Development Policy and Strategies

- Agricultural Development Led Industrialization (ADLI) strategy (adopted in 1993);
- Although the problem of climate change is not explicitly mentioned or directly addressed , the principles such as promoting agricultural development were explained;
- It also recommends rangeland management and conservation based on traditional management systems.
- The pastoral development policy, which should have addressed the climate change concern, appears not to have adequately captured the ecological, economic and social realities of the diverse pastoral communities in Ethiopia.

Water Policy, Strategy and Program

- The Ethiopian Water Resources Management Policy (WRMP) was issued in 1999
- In view of the enormous water demand in the country, the program has made the availability and expansion of clean water supply for drinking and sanitation, expansion of irrigated agriculture, hydropower generation needs, industrial development, and the supply of water for livestock, fisheries, tourism and transport major priority areas

...Water Policy, Strategy and Program

- However, the policy has not adequately considered climate change as a major variable affecting amount, distribution and quality of water resources.
- It is thus very crucial that the water policy of Ethiopia factors in climate change. Such measures may include, among others, assessment of the vulnerability of water resources to climate change, water harvesting and management measures, flood management, and promoting equitable water for multiple uses.

Energy Policy and the Biofuels Strategy

- The energy policy of Ethiopia was issued in May 1994.
- Diversify and transform energy consumption in the country from traditional biomass to modern sources.
- Ethiopia also issued a biofuels development and utilization strategy in 2007 ;
- By blending ethanol with gasoline and biodiesel with diesel,

...Energy Policy and the Biofuels Strategy

- The impact of climate change on energy is directly linked to its impact on water and biodiversity
- The energy policy has not adequately considered climate change as a major variable affecting energy production and supply in the country. But, the biofuels strategy that gives emphasis to the sustainable use of biofuel presents a major opportunity to address climate change by reducing CO₂ emissions

National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA)

- The country prepared its NAPA in 2007
- There were concerns about the participation of all relevant stakeholders in the preparation of the NAPA document (e.g. MoH not represented).
- With the requirements of the Copenhagen Accord, Ethiopia prepared and submitted its NAMA in January 2010
- The Ethiopian NAMA has failed to include important mitigation actions in land use planning (e.g. in DR Congo), energy efficiency (e.g. in Botswana), fiscal incentives and traffic management regulatory policy measures (e.g. in Jordan)

...National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA)

- More recently, a separate work program for action on adaptation to climate change (EPACC) has been developed by the EPA
- The GTP recognizes climate change as a threat as well as an opportunity for Ethiopia,
- CRGE framework is in place.

Conclusion

- Despite the lack of explicit linkages, many of the existing government policies, strategies and action plans may be directly or indirectly relevant to climate change adaptation;
- Lack of clear implementation mechanisms and implementation gaps, lack of strong institutional linkages and effective coordination among the various sectors, ministries and regional and federal organs,
- Approaching climate change through a sustainable development lens would allow the country to maintain its focus on its long-term plan to move towards a climate resilient green economy

Cross Border Cooperation

- Member of PACJA
- CAN
- Rio+20 Ethiopia input for the sustainability Submit

Thank you