



**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



GEF/R.7/Inf.07  
September 12, 2017

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Second Meeting for the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund  
October 3-5, 2017  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

## **GEF-7 REPLENISHMENT: FIELD TRIP AGENDA**

## GEF-7 Replenishment Meeting

### Proposed Field Visit

Friday October 6, 2017

### World Bank/GEF Sustainable Land Management II Project (SLMP2)

The Government of Ethiopia, the GEF and the World Bank are extremely proud to be able to offer the opportunity for replenishment participants to visit the award-winning land degradation projects in the Tigray region.

#### *What to expect*

The proposed field trip will visit Ethiopia's Tigray region which, supported by the World Bank/GEF Sustainable Land Management II Project (SLMP2), has achieved impressive progress in fighting land degradation under extremely challenging conditions in the past few years.

The project focuses on watershed rehabilitation through a multi-sectoral landscape approach, helping restore degraded lands and ecosystem services to benefit smallholder farmers.



Tigray recently won the World Future Council's (WFC) 2017 Gold Award for best policies to combat desertification and land degradation. In their announcement, the WFC noted that "*the people of Tigray are restoring land on a massive scale.....erosion has decreased significantly, groundwater levels are recharged, and the uptake of sustainable agricultural practices made a significant contribution to food self-sufficiency and economic growth.*"

#### *The project*

The Sustainable Land Management II Project financed by the GEF (US\$ 13.0 million) and implemented by the World Bank and the Ministry of Agriculture was designed to reduce land degradation and improve land productivity in 135 watersheds in Ethiopia. It began implementation in November 2013. The project's objectives were pursued by providing capital investments, technical assistance and capacity building to smallholder farmers in the targeted watersheds, and to national and sub-national government institutions. The project covers 937 villages in the National Regional States of Amhara, Tigray, Oromiya, the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNNP), Gambela, and Benshangul Gumuz. The project emphasizes a multi-

sectoral landscape approach, supporting government in coordinating efforts on land use, land management, and land administration. It has helped to not only improve agricultural productivity, but also build resilience to floods and droughts, foster reforestation, food and water security, ultimately helping reduce poverty.

***Tentative timetable for the field trip***

<b>Time</b>	<b>Stops and Activities</b>
<b>07:00 – 08:15</b>	Flight ET100 from Addis Ababa to Mekele
<b>08:15 – 09:30</b>	Transfer to site visit 1
<b>09:30 – 11:30</b>	Site visit at Watershed 1 (exact location TBD). Welcome and overview of the Project by Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development. Introduction of practices, and meeting with beneficiaries.
<b>11:30 – 12:30</b>	Lunch
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	Transfer to site visit 2
<b>13:30 – 15:00</b>	Site visit at Watershed 2 (exact location TBD) – overview of practices and meeting with beneficiary communities.
<b>15:00 – 16:00</b>	Transfer to Mekele airport
<b>17:00 – 18:15</b>	Flight ET109 to Addis Ababa

***Other logistical information***

The GEF and the Government of Ethiopia will organize airline tickets. In order to express interest in participating in the field trip, **please return the attached form to Ms. Susan Waithaka, (swaithaka1@thegef.org) no later than Wednesday, September 20, 2017.** Only persons who submit the form will be considered for participation. Places may be limited, so participation is not guaranteed, but will be confirmed as soon as possible after September 20.

Wear comfortable shoes and carry a jacket for possible early morning chill. Temperatures in Mekele in October are between 75°F and 62°F (24° C and 17°C).

***Additional background material***

[World Bank Policy Brief \(2017\): Secure land access, secure environment: Lessons from landless youth receiving land rights in exchange for restoring degraded natural resources in the World Bank-financed Ethiopia Sustainable Land Management Project II](#)

[Haregeweyn, N. et al \(2012\): Integrated watershed management as an effective approach to curb land degradation: a case study of the Enabered watershed in northern Ethiopia, Environmental Management](#)

**REGISTRATION FORM For GEF-7 Replenishment Meeting**

**Proposed Field Visit to Tigray Region**

**Ethiopia**

**Friday October 6, 2017**

<b>Full Name</b>		
<b>Female/Male</b>		
<b>Organization</b>		
<b>Passport No.</b>		
<b>Nationality</b>		
<b>Departure time from Addis</b>		
<b>Hotel Booked</b>		