

Land Governance in Ethiopia

Boosting agricultural productivity and secure land tenure rights through land consolidation efforts

The challenge

In Ethiopia, up to 70% of the population is dependent on agriculture, which brings in some 38% of the gross national product. The uplands are densely populated and depending on the region, the average parcel size is 0.25 ha and average farm size is between 1.5 and 2 ha with a trend toward even smaller farms, coupled with a national population growth of 2.6%. The farming of fragmented mini-plots is extremely inefficient, which is why they are known as 'starvation plots'. It prevents the modernisation of agriculture and an accompanying increase in agricultural productivity, which undermines the food security of the households. The Ethiopian Government has recognized the need to encourage farmers to create larger plots by exchanging agriculture parcels. However, there are no laws, regulations or guidelines that regulate land consolidation procedures or stipulate their design. In addition to the unclear legal framework, the responsible authorities at regional level and the private service providers lack in-depth knowledge regarding how a procedure for land exchange or land consolidation can be prepared and carried out using a participatory approach.



Map of project region in Ethiopia

Project name	Land Governance
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Amhara region
Lead executing agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Implementation partner	Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
Duration	01/2020-12/2022
Budget	EUR 10 million

Objective

The overall aim of the project is to create necessary conditions to implement participatory land consolidation procedures at federal, regional and local level.

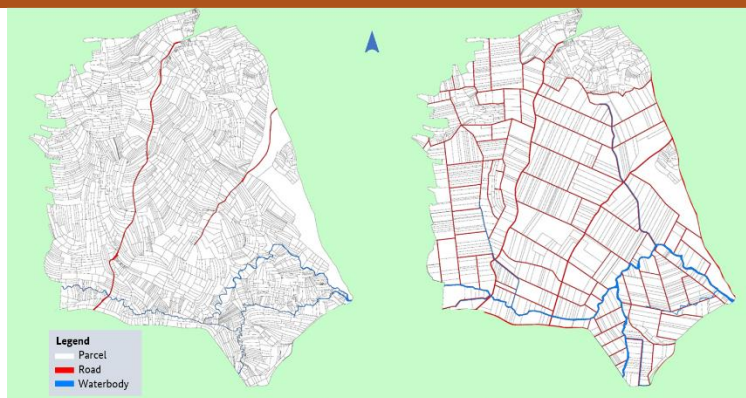
Our approach

The Land Governance (LaGo) project follows a multi-level (national, regional and local) approach supporting authorities through capacity development and policy advice to plan and prepare land consolidation procedures and voluntary land exchange a legal framework based on experience from piloting LC procedures in Amhara Region and in accordance with FAO Legal Guide on LC. The project will strengthen capacities and enable the authorities to implement land-ownership certification in accordance with other international partners.



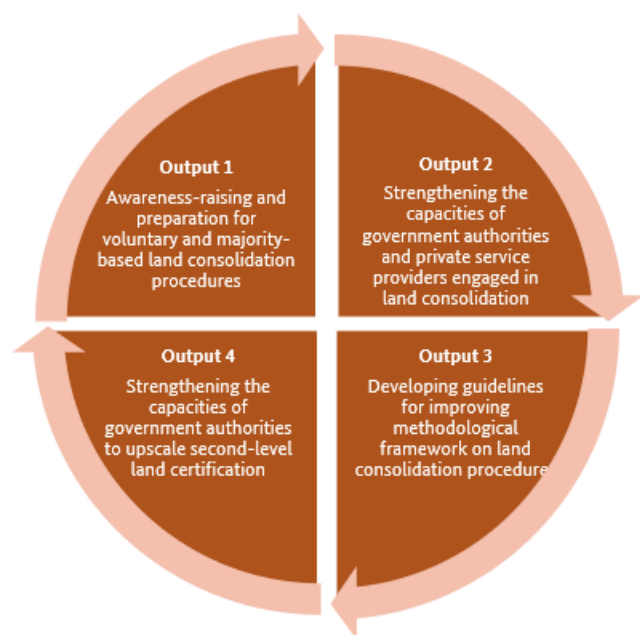
Farming of fragmented mini plots is extremely inefficient and prevents better land and natural resource management

Dr Helga Fink
Project Manager
helga.fink@giz.de
M +251 (0)96 0606362



Agriculture parcels before and after land consolidation

Outputs



The project is working with national and regional institutions, civil societies, the private sector and local land users.

- 3. Improving framework conditions and procedures:** As a key prerequisite, the project supports the development of guidelines for LC procedures based on experience from pilot projects, a set of rules for equal compensation of land, draft of LC law, as well model to evaluate land consolidation procedures.
- 4. Building preconditions:** To ensure sustainability of land consolidation process, it also strengthens capacities of selected private service providers and authorities about land certification. It will improve the capacities of Government authorities to upscale second-level land certification in the context of the Climate Action through Landscape Management programme.

Expected Results



Six pilot experiences: land consolidation committees have decided that they want to implement the prepared land consolidation procedures.



1600 households (30% women) are satisfied with the awareness raising preparation of the process.



Key prerequisites: A set of rules for equivalent compensation of land (measurement and criteria) has been developed.

- 1. Gathering experience:** In selected pilot areas in Amhara, the project accompanies the government authorities and Land Consolidation Committees (LCC) in gathering experience on awareness-raising and preparation methods for land consolidation and voluntary land exchange procedures.
- 2. Strengthen capacities:** Government authorities and private service providers will be strengthened to run land consolidation procedures and voluntary land exchange.

Published by

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Land Governance Project
Rahem Building, Diaspora Square, Megenagna
P.O.Box 100009, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Phone +251 (0)11 662 8880/84
Fax +251 (0)11 662 9975

<http://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/336.html>

As at

February 2021

Design

GIZ-LaGo

Photo credits

GIZ-S2RAI

Text

GIZ-LaGo

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

On behalf of

Federal Ministry for Economic
Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

In cooperation with

Ministry of Agriculture