

FAST FACTS

United Nations
Development Programme



Governance and Democratic Participation Programme

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is rolling out a new USD 40 million¹ governance and democratic participation programme in Ethiopia (June 2017 to December 2021) to further advance good governance and deeply embed democratic principles at all levels across the country.

The new programme seeks to capitalize on the existing momentum and opportunities offered by the government's commitment to enhance its responsiveness and promote an inclusive and sustainable development agenda.

The intervention builds on UNDP's past experience in supporting a number of good governance programmes in Ethiopia. The new programme will also seek to expand the partnership space around support for good governance by introducing interventions that will include a focus on facilitating dialogue on political issues, enhancing civil society environment, strengthening media, promoting civic engagement and participation, as well as engagement around electoral reform, promoting transparency and accountability, and strengthening core functions of the legislator.



The programme has **three pillars**:

Improved
inclusion, social
cohesion and
sustainable peace

Responsive,
accountable and
inclusive systems
of governance

Empowered and
responsible
citizens

Through its interventions, the programme will contribute to the below **5 outcome areas** to ensure:

- Political processes of federal and regional state legislative bodies are more inclusive and effectively deliver on their constitutional mandates;
- Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent and are delivering public services in more inclusive and responsive ways;
- Citizens are more empowered to voice their concern and actively participate in decision-making processes at all levels of the development, governance and political processes and systems;
- Systems and mechanisms at national and sub-national level are strengthened to promote social cohesion, manage diversity, prevent and manage conflicts, foster dialogues and build peace; and
- Access to justice is enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across Ethiopia.

¹USD 15million will be allocated for the first two years and \$25 million for the remaining three years of the programme period

Approach

- The Governance and Democratic Participation programme has distinct design features including placing greater emphasis on interventions that support implementing partners to deliver on their core mandates. This is expected to enhance benefits to citizens, particularly access to services for vulnerable groups such as women, youth, children and the disabled. The programmes will seek to bring about transformative outcomes by deliberately focusing on tailored and targeted support as opposed to a 'blanket approach' to capacity building.
- The programme is designed flexibly in an agile manner to respond to emerging issues in terms of programming and developments in the national context that offer opportunities or pose challenges in delivering on the 5 identified outcome areas. The programme's approach will emphasize monitoring, learning, adapting responses & activities in real-time.
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships is a key approach of the programme bringing together a wide range of government institutions (from the three branches), civil society organizations, religious institutions and development partners.
- Promoting synergy and complementarity across governance institutions as well as with other concerned UN agencies and similar initiatives is another key element of the new programme. The programme will look at opportunities to create economies of scale & reduce long term operational costs by building joint initiatives that benefit several of the implementing partners.
- The key focus will be to strengthen governance institutions, mechanisms and processes that facilitate and promote transparency, accountability, rule of law and justice, wider civic participation, dialogue, national cohesion and peace.

Implementing partners

11 government implementing institutions are identified;

1. House of Peoples' Representative (HoPRs/RSCs)
2. Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC)
3. Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman (EIO)
4. Office of the Federal Auditors General (OFAG/ORAGs)
5. National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE)
6. House of Federation (HoF)
7. Council of Constitutional Inquiry (CCI)
8. Office of the Attorney General (OAG)
9. Federal Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission (FEACC/REACCs)
10. Ministry of Federal and Pastoralist Development Affairs (MoFPDA)
11. Government Communication Affairs Office (GCAO)

Other stakeholders

Government implementing partners will be strongly encouraged to engage and forge partnerships with other relevant non-state actors in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme.

The non-state actors would involve a range of civil society organizations who would be enlisted through the Prime Minister's Office/MoFPDA and CSO networks, journalist associations/media houses through GCAO and the Media Council, as well as academia, some of which already work with the various democratic institutions.

Programme management structure

