



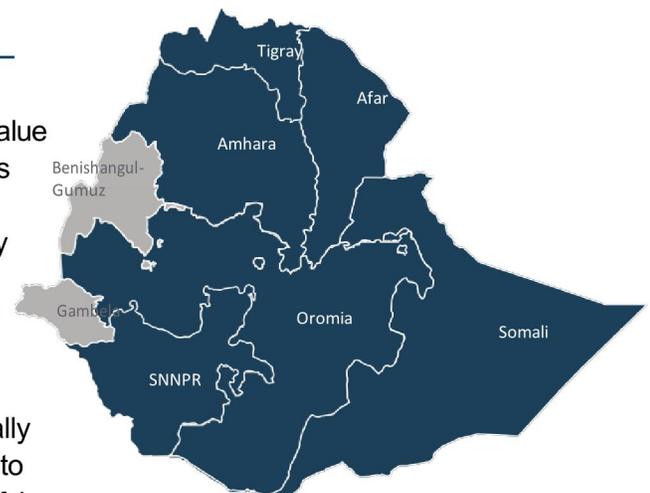
## Heifer International

Heifer International is a global development organization on a mission to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way. Working with farmers and their communities to identify and invest in business opportunities that deliver living incomes, Heifer International creates solutions to local challenges designed to build inclusive, resilient economies. Since launching in 1944, Heifer International has assisted more than 39 million households, with millions more now on a pathway to Sustainable Living Income.



## Heifer Ethiopia

Heifer International started work in Ethiopia in 2004, supporting women and youth engaged in the poultry and small ruminants value chains, using a market systems approach. Implementing projects in selected districts in Oromia, Heifer International encouraged increased participation of women and youth, using its community development model to strengthen social connections and build inclusive markets. Since then, Heifer Ethiopia has provided farmers with the resources they need to increase their incomes as they improve production, while integrating climate-smart agriculture practices that ensure their businesses are economically and environmentally sustainable. Families are using horticulture to increase access to vegetables for consumption and sale, diversifying their diets and increasing incomes. Every Heifer Ethiopia project tackles gender inequality through gender equity trainings for women and men, increasing women's decision-making power over land use and household finances. Past projects have helped increase water access and improved soil fertility, increasing land productivity.



■ Potential Project Areas



Small ruminants



Poultry



Vegetables



Dairy



Honey



## Partnerships

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Heifer Ethiopia partners with a range of organizations to develop projects that strengthen the economic security of farmers, including the government, the private sector and public and non-governmental organizations. It coordinates implementation of projects focused on capacity building and agricultural development, engaging with communities, the Ministry of Agriculture and local partners.

To address food insecurity in an environmentally degraded and drought-prone part of the Rift Valley in Southeastern Ethiopia, Heifer Ethiopia implemented the *Integrated Dairy and Horticulture Project* through its partnership with Send a Cow UK. Since 2021, Heifer Ethiopia has been providing technical assistance to a flagship government livelihoods project, the *Lowlands Livelihoods Resilience Project (LLRP)*, implemented in six regions (Afar, Benshangul Gumuz, Gambella, Oromia, SNNPR and Somali). The total cost of the project is \$451 million for 2019 to 2026, with 2.5 million target beneficiaries (about 500,000 households). Funding is provided by the World Bank and IFAD. The project aims at improving the livelihood resilience of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in Ethiopia and is aligned with the Government of Ethiopia's Livestock Master Plan, the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II) and the Climate Resilience Green Economy (CRGE). Heifer Ethiopia supports the development of viable commercial production systems for small-scale pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in the LLRP project area focusing on the **beef, dairy, fish, hides and skin, honey, live animals, and poultry value chains**.

## Strategy

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Strategic partnerships with governments, foundations and the private sector are key to scaling Heifer Ethiopia's work, creating new business opportunities for farmers. During a project's design phase, Heifer Ethiopia works with farmers to undertake economic analysis so they can make informed decisions on where to invest, based on potential return on investment and anticipated margins. Heifer Ethiopia is engaging private sector companies to collaborate and partner on projects within the **dairy, honey, poultry, small ruminants and vegetables value chains**.

These opportunities integrate digital technologies and innovations that will support youth, as jobs are created and project participants work toward building sustainable livelihoods. With support from Heifer Ethiopia and its partners, farmers can connect to new markets and capital, expanding their businesses. Heifer International's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team works closely with Heifer Ethiopia to generate evidence and analytics for informed decision-making, enhancing collaboration, learning and adaptation.