



# Regreening Ethiopia with Trees



Funded by the European Union

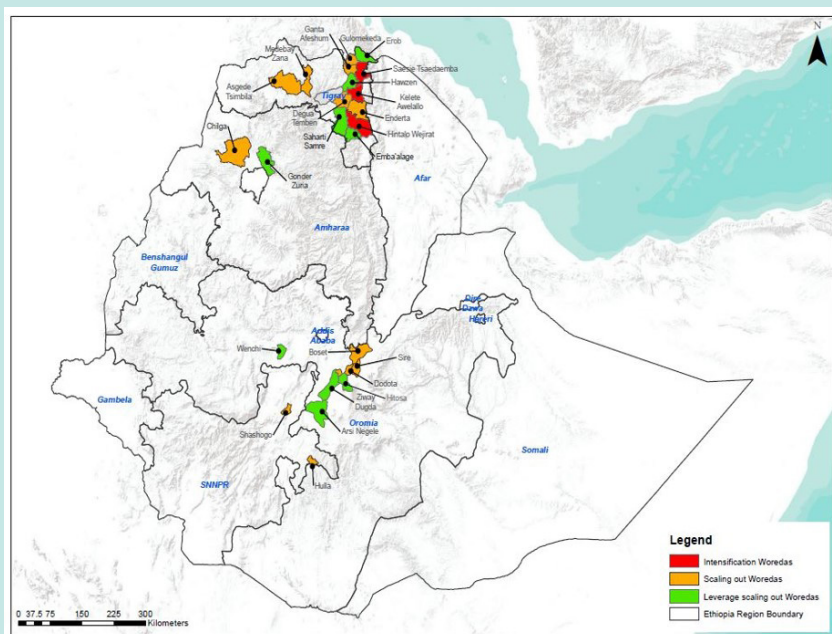
By 2022, Regreening Africa with Trees in Ethiopia aims to:

-  **reverse land degradation through trees on 200,000 hectares of land, and**
-  **contribute to food security for some 120,000 households.**

In Ethiopia, the program is using the following approaches:

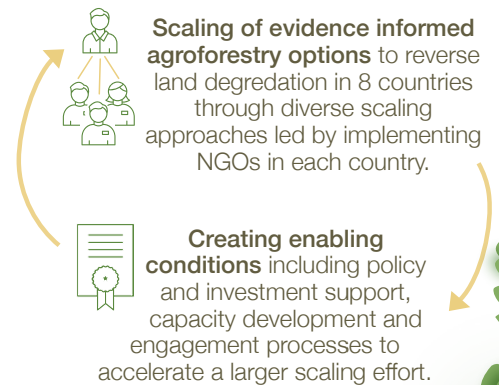
- Sensitize, mobilize and train communities to adopt Regreening interventions through existing community organizations
- Support establishments of FMNR community groups and strengthen “Conservation Groups”
- Develop and strengthen government and community nurseries
- Organize farmers’ field days, experience sharing visits and volunteer farmers to facilitate farmer-to-farmer extensions
- Provide capacity building training to relevant local partners, NGOs, CBOs, FBOs and nursery operators
- Document success stories and disseminate them to stakeholders

In Ethiopia, the program is implemented by Catholic Relief Service in collaboration with World Vision Ethiopia, Ethiopian Catholic Church - Social and Development Coordinating Office (ECC-SDCO) of Adigrat, Mekelle and Meki branches.



Regreening Africa with Trees is an ambitious five-year program that seeks to **reverse land degradation among 500,000 households, and across one million hectares in eight countries** in sub-Saharan Africa. This program supports the government of Ethiopia’s commitment to **restore 15 million hectares of land** as part of the Bonn Challenge and the Africa Forest Landscape Initiative (AFR100), and **strengthen the Agroforestry Platform.**

## Regreening Africa project approach



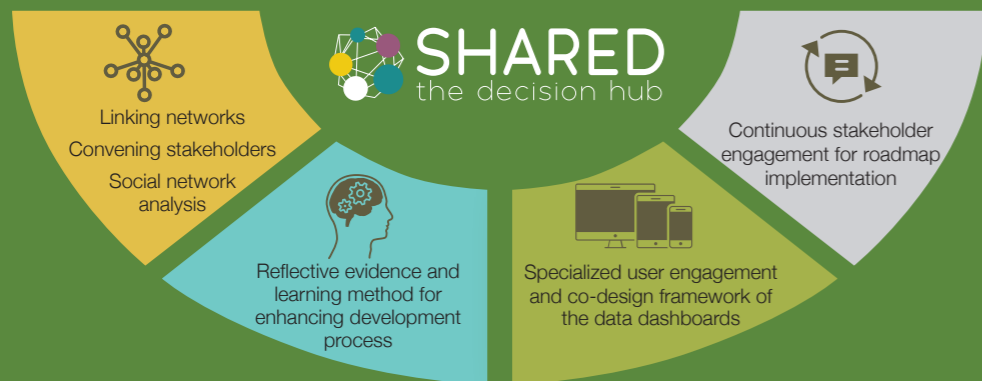
## A process for successful regreening

- **Baseline:** measure initial conditions of livelihoods, environment and capture successful regreening practices
- **Options:** compile set of suitable tree species, management, value chain and policy interventions for the target area
- **Involve local actors** in defining their preferences amongst options and needs to locally adapt them
- **Promote options** and gather feedback from stakeholders on their performance
- **Reflect** on successes and failures and the reasons for them
- **Leverage:** communicate successes and co-ordinate with other initiatives to spread regreening more widely
- **Evaluate impact:** measure the extent regreening has changed lives and landscapes

OPTIONS FOR LOCAL CONTEXTS

LESSONS LEARNT

Structured stakeholder engagement processes in the regreening project are designed and implemented by the ICRAF SHARED Decision Hub. The four key project roles of the SHARED Decision Hub include:



## Phase 1. Context

A multi-stakeholder workshop using the SHARED methodology for evidence based decision making was held in November 2018 to bring together stakeholders on regreening Ethiopia.

This workshop brought together national and regional government officials, donors, IGOs, NGOs, grassroots organizations and farmer representatives to:

- Review the evidence and benefits associated with integrating trees into agricultural and pastoral landscapes
- Introduce the Agroforestry Platform
- Identify opportunities that can be realized through taking agroforestry practices to scale and establishing enabling policy processes
- Collectively develop a road map for scaling up

“*Regreening Africa is embedded in research ... we cannot ignore an evidence based approach to development, we cannot ignore the scientific data and data bases as tools to implement agroforestry practices.*”

**PROF. MITIKU HAILE**  
PROFESSOR IN SOIL SCIENCE AND SENIOR RESEARCHER, EX-PRESIDENT OF MEKELLE UNIVERSITY

## Phase 2. Integrating Evidence

Stakeholders reviewed posters of agroforestry scaling techniques and efforts, land health and how households and communities have benefitted.



### Key terms

**Agroforestry** Land-use systems and practices in which woody perennials are deliberately integrated with crops and/or animals on the same land management unit

**Evergreen agriculture** A form of more intensive farming that integrates trees with annual crops or pasture, maintaining a green cover on the land throughout the year

**FMNR (Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration)** Systematic regeneration and sustainable management of trees and shrubs from living tree stumps, roots and seeds

## Phase 3. Prioritize Implementation

### A roadmap for Regreening Ethiopia

# 2019

# 2020

**Design integrated approaches that incentivise farmers**  
Who: MoALR, smallholder farmers, policy makers, through the Agroforestry Platform, scientific community, international think tank group

**Policies and strategies scanned and then strengthened or new ones develop to fill gaps**

**Review and strengthen the existing agroforestry draft strategy**

**Strengthen the Agroforestry Platform**  
Who: Government bodies and ministries from different levels, MoALR, NGOs, development agencies, Agroforestry Platform, ICRAF

**Develop a mechanism to link agroforestry extension and research**  
Who: MoALR and MEFFC with national council for linkages

**Dedicated staff and capacity for those staff for monitoring**  
**Develop policies and procedures for the monitoring themes with dedicated resources**  
**Define a monitoring and evaluation working group and a protocol for information dissemination**  
**Identify tools of information dissemination by the project team**

**Coordinate between upper and lower catchment**  
Who: Farmers, NGO, Government

**Characterise the existing grazing system and if best practices exist then document and synthesize them. Led by MoALR and NGOs**

**Awareness creation led by Government, CSOs, NGOs**

**Policy advocacy on land use and agroforestry 2019-2020 led by MoALR, NGOs, Universities and research**

**Pilot new farm enclosures on model farms led by MoALR and NGOs**

**Gather best practices led by MoALR and research**  
**Train farmers to produce quality seeds so they can sell and raise trees for seed purpose**  
Who: Government, NGOs, farmer associations, seed enterprise, research and universities can give some training based on the research outputs

**Develop an agroforestry policy Influence the Agroforestry Task Force and boost the Agroforestry Think Tank to:** contextualize local plans; embed in all agricultural efforts; focus on common pool resources; effective, ambitious outreach; markets and infrastructure

**Farmer driven advocacy for agroforestry policy and strategy**

**Start the Evergreening Academy.** Define a specific mandate within agroforestry and assign appropriately to MoALR and MEFFC

**Establish a learning forum** with deliberate learning by the project management team  
Use of technology such as dashboards and tablets

**Redistribute mountain areas for individuals and youth groups** and consider areas for non-business investment  
After 2022 - Diversification and intensification of hillside / mountain activities  
Who: Farmers, NGO, Government, Universities and research institutions, private companies

**Fodder trees, germplasm distribution, access to alternative feed supply led by MoALR, NGOs, Universities and research**

**Scaling-up of learnings led by MoALR, NGOs**

**By-law development led by MoALR and local administration**

# 2021

**Capture lessons and develop policy briefs**  
Who: MoALR, NGOs, researchers

**Create market linkages** and selection of seed led by NGOs and Government  
**Farmers producing and collecting seed**

# 2022

**Strengthen market and linkages**

The Agroforestry Platform has been established to accelerate the scaling up of the adoption of agroforestry through technical capacity development, and coordination across sectors, public and private actors.

#### Key:

Agroforestry Strategy and Policy

Farm Enclosures: On farm sustainable grazing systems

Monitoring and learning

Agroforestry products and value chains- seed supply and markets

Agroforestry Platform - Coordination and leveraging for scaling up in Ethiopia

Hillside/Mountain Enclosures: sustainable management and utilization in watersheds

Capacity of agricultural innovation systems: research, development and extension

#### Acronym glossary:

**CBOs** Community Based Organizations  
**CSOs** Civil society organizations  
**FBOs** Faith Based Organizations

**ICRAF** World Agroforestry Centre  
**IGOs** Intergovernmental Organizations  
**MEFFC** Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

**MoALR** Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock Resource  
**NGO** Non-governmental organizations

“ No problem at the top, no problem at the regional level, even at the woreda level no problem. But the action is at the kebele level, at the community level, at the bottom, if there is a strong leadership and a commitment of that leadership they can mobilise resources and people. ”

- **GEBREMICHAEL GEDY** (ABOHAWI),  
ABREHA WE ABA ATSBEHA COMMUNITY LEADER AND MODEL  
FARMER - ON THE BOTTLENECK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
LANDSCAPES

“ Broader partnerships, local capacity development, evidence based decision making and enabling policy processes can bring about the reversal of land degradation with trees and ensure food security. ”

- **DR. AWEKE MULUALEM**  
ADVISOR TO STATE MINISTER, MINISTRY OF  
AGRICULTURE

## Stakeholder commitments to regreening Ethiopia

Commitments made by stakeholders at the close of the workshop

### Support the vision

“Help ensure **regenerative agriculture** becomes the new black!”

“**Work tirelessly with all stakeholders without any preconditions** to see restored landscapes”

“**Implement regreening in two woredas**  
Facilitate Regreening Africa and Global Soils Week”

“Support an **economic valuation of agricultural ecosystem services**”

“Implement the **road map**”

“Work hard to primarily **understand the challenges of agroforestry scaling up** and work on solutions”

“**Implement the roadmap to all zones of the Tigray region.** I will cooperate with all stakeholders relevant to the field”

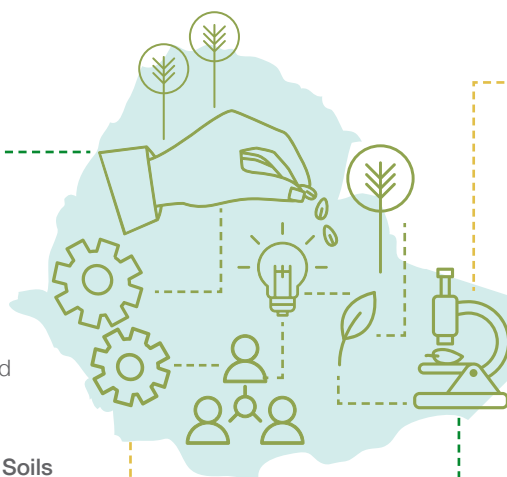
### Coordination and enabling environment

“Bring **approaches and scaling mechanisms for sustainable land management** to the agricultural policy discourse”

“**Capacity Building**, research, engage with the Agroforestry Platform, strengthen the Think Tank”

“Provide **Agroforestry Platform facilitation**”

“Ensure **future EU cooperation** is strongly rooted in green land”



### Monitoring and learning

“Commit to work hard to **make effective and efficient monitoring system** to achieve the intended results”

“**Train experts and farmers** to plan and monitor activities”

“**Assist in research and monitoring** using satellite imageries, assisting by training”

“**Share experience** with others”

### Technical support and research

“**Provide technical backstopping**, material and germplasm support”

“**Provide technical advice** for agroforestry”

“**Provide technical training** and capacity building”

“Exert all the necessary effort as an agroforestry expert to **make sure regreening works**”

“**Support PhD and Masters students** and synthesize work”

“**Build agroforestry capacity** of agriculture”

“**Technical support in Sustainable Land Management**”

“**Program** to the regions and woredas and provide capacity development and financial support”

“**Facilitate the activities** to be incorporated in environmental and forest development projects starting from project proposal”

“**Be an adhoc resource person**, available online and in country from time to time”

“**Scale up best practices of agroforestry for regreening efforts** through teaching and implementing research in agroforestry”