

Ethiopia (population 89 million) is quickly catching up on its low water supply and sanitation coverage levels. The Universal Access Plan (UAP) aims to raise water and sanitation coverage of the Ethiopian towns to 100% in 2015. This project aims to improve the capacity of stakeholders in Oromia Regional State for sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure development and water resources protection.

Partnership for Capacity Building in Sustainable Infrastructure Development and Water Resources Protection in Oromia region

Ethiopia



Land / regio

Oromia State, Ethiopia. In first instance, the project focuses on two selected towns Adama and Bishoftu. Best practices developed under the project will be upscaled to other towns in Oromia.

Project objectives

This action addresses a number of constraints that were identified by the Ethiopian government (UAP): (1) limited capacity of the Water Bureaus in the country's nine regions and the Water Desks in the 550 Districts, (2) insufficient cost recovery for proper operation and maintenance at the level of the services providers, (3) inadequate water resources protection to ensure safe supply at long term, and (4) insufficient administrative capacity to implement projects with (external) funding for drinking water and sanitation infrastructure investments.

The specific objectives of this project are:

- To improve project management capacity of the Oromia Water, Mineral and Energy Bureau (OWMEB) for sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure development and water

resources protection in the Oromia region.

- To improve management capacity for operation & maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure in Adama and Bishoftu and sharing of best practices with other towns in the Oromia region.

Main Project activities

- Support the introduction of the 'Oromia Project Approach' (based on the Vitens Project Approach) and train staff of OWMEB to develop capacity for water infrastructure development.
- Introduce water quality monitoring for the upper Awash river and support development of a emission reduction plan.
- Develop capacity in protection of boreholes.
- Introduce new Billing & Collection software at Adama and Bishoftu Town Water Enterprises and verify all data entries
- Support introduction of GIS asset registration system.
- Develop capacity for improved operation & maintenance of water abstraction and treatment systems.



Population

The project will benefit residents of Oromia Regional State in Ethiopia (27 million inhabitants). More specifically the project supports Adama and Bishoftu, with a population of respectively circa 415,000 and 165,000 inhabitants. The best practices developed will benefit all urban water companies in Oromia Regional State.

Financing

The project is co financed by the ACP-EU Water facility.

Type of contract

Grant.

Contract value

The total contract value amount 1.2 million euro with 0.89 million euro co financing by the EU.

Duration of the contract

Four years (2 March 2012 - 2 March 2016)

Partners

Oromia Water, Mineral and Energy Bureau, Adama and Bishoftu Town Water Enterprises, Waterschappen Vallei & Veluwe and Zuiderzeeland, Adama University.

Vitens Evides International

Vitens Evides International supports water companies in developing countries to improve their quality of services and enhance their customer base, especially for the poor in the

world's most rapidly developing urban areas. This we do by sharing the extensive and prolonged experience of the two largest water companies of the Netherlands: Vitens and Evides. Through technical, operational and management support, we enable local utilities to improve in areas such as Water Quality and Safety, Non-Revenue Water, Asset Management, and Financial Planning & Control.

By teaming up for better performance, we aim to generate the investments required for our partners to improve and expand their water services. This means that more people will enjoy reliable and safe drinking water and sanitary facilities, now and in the future. With its activities Vitens Evides International contributes to achieving the Millennium Development Goals set by the United Nations. Over the past ten years, Vitens Evides International has already supported water services improvements for more than twenty million people in Asia, Africa and Latin-America.

Business model

Vitens and Evides make € 3.5 million available for international projects on an annual basis. This internal budget is leveraged by commercial public-private contracts and by project funding from various donors, including the Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation and Economic Affairs, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Asian Development Bank. Vitens and Evides have also established an independent charity foundation called Water for Life, which enables customers in The Netherlands to contribute to international water projects via their water bills.

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