



Ethio - Italy Cooperation in the Field of Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change

New Business Opportunities for the Italian Companies in the Implementation of the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy in Ethiopia

September 17 - 18, 2018

Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa

1. Background

Ethiopia has experienced rapid and broad-based economic growth and is quickly becoming a prime investment destination. Increased market liberalization and public investments in infrastructure projects, such as roads, railways and power generation, continue to drive economic growth. Recent government reforms and incentives have also unlocked new investment and business opportunities, with a special focus on the manufacturing sector. In addition, the government is embarking on major privatization policies to attract potential domestic and foreign private investments.

To sustain the current growth trajectories and minimize the impact of climate change, Ethiopia is striving to build climate resilient economy through developing policies and strategies, which aim to ensure that growth and development goals are achieved in green, climate resilient, and sustainable ways. In order to lay out this vision, the country has launched the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy in 2011. This is indeed in line with the ambition set in the consecutive Growth and Transformation Plans (GTPs) which target middle income status by 2025. Moreover, the CRGE strategy has given due emphasis for the expansion of electricity generation from off-grid renewable energy system; and integrated waste management and sustainable water resources use.

The government is mobilizing significant resources to build and implement its green economy, but to capture the full potential of the strategy, it recognizes the role of private sector investment. Particularly, the government has opened the renewable energy sector such as hydro, solar, geothermal and wind for private sector involvement. As a result, many domestic and foreign companies are investing in the sector. There is also tremendous potential for private companies to engage in an integrated waste management and sustainable water resources development in the country.

Building on the ongoing collaboration agreement between Ethiopia and Italy in the field of climate change vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation, Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS), Ethiopian Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MEFCC) and Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) are organizing a business to business (B2B) event aiming at creating a business platform and matchmakings between Italian and Ethiopia private companies involved on green investment. The B2B event will present:

- Specific investment opportunities in off-grid renewable energy system, integrated waste management and sustainable water resources development;
- Ethiopia's current business climate and investment incentive regimes;
- Experiences of Italian and Ethiopian private investors on the predefined sectors;
- Financing opportunities.



In addition, the B2B event will provide participants with an occasion to:

- Create strategic partnerships and expand their network through B2B meetings and matchmakings;
- Create an opportunity to meet with representatives of the Government of Ethiopia;
- Filed site visits.

2. Objective

The objective of the B2B event is to highlight Ethiopia's favorable investment climate, facilitate technology transfer and business matchmaking between Italian and Ethiopian private companies and promote investment opportunities in the areas of off-grid renewable energy system, integrated waste management and sustainable water resources development.

3. Participation

Around 60 participants from the public and business sector are expected to join the event, including representatives of the Government of Ethiopia, domestic and foreign private investors, professional associations, and international organizations. The public sector of Ethiopia will be represented by delegates of the Federal Government, CRGE line ministries as well as national institutions such as the Ethiopian Investment Commission.

4. Date and Venue

The B2B event will take place from 17 to 18 September 2018 at Sheraton Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.