



No One Down Relief Organization (NODRO)

|Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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|Our Ref No.: NODRO/June/2025/L.No.25

Project Title:

🌱 **Green Futures: Empowering Ethiopian Youth through Livelihoods & Land Restoration**

Vanity URL (proposed): globalgiving.org/projects/green-futures-ethiopia

Submitted by: No One Down Relief Organization (NODRO)

Funding Goal: \$1,000,000

Project Duration: March 2026 – March 2030 (4 years)

Project Location: East & West Wollega Zones (Nekemte, Gimbi, Nadjo, Dambi Dollo, Qelem Wollega), Oromia Region, Ethiopia

Key Themes:

Primary Themes:

1. Youth Economic Empowerment

- Creating employment opportunities for marginalized and unemployed youth
- Supporting youth-led businesses and entrepreneurship



2. Environmental Restoration & Climate Resilience

- Restoring degraded land (agroforestry, reforestation, soil conservation)
- Promoting eco-friendly livelihoods (eco-tourism, sustainable agriculture)

3. Sustainable Livelihoods

- Providing skills training in green jobs and natural resource management
 - Increasing income generation through agro-based and nature-based enterprises
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Secondary Themes:

1. Education & Skills Development

- Life skills, technical training, entrepreneurship, and vocational education
- Collaboration with TVETs and universities for long-term capacity building

2. Food Security & Agricultural Innovation

- Promoting climate-smart agriculture to improve productivity
- Introducing sustainable farming techniques to enhance resilience

3. Community Engagement & Peace building

- Building inclusive platforms for youth and faith-based organizations
- Reducing conflict and migration through opportunity and participation

4. Gender Inclusion

- Targeting women and girls for training and leadership in environmental work
- Ensuring equitable access to resources and opportunities

🔍 Project Summary:

In Ethiopia's Wollega region, thousands of youth face poverty, land degradation, and limited opportunities for employment or education. This project will empower over 72,000 youth through life skills, entrepreneurship training, and hands-on experience in sustainable land restoration, eco-tourism, and agroforestry. It aims to combat unemployment while restoring 1,500 hectares of degraded land and promoting ecological balance and peace.



📌 Pressing Issue and the Problem

Ethiopia's Wollega region is at the intersection of two urgent crises: youth unemployment and severe land degradation. Over 56% of the land is degraded due to deforestation, soil erosion, and unsustainable farming practices. This environmental decline has destroyed livelihoods, reduced agricultural productivity, and accelerated food insecurity.

At the same time, thousands of youth in East and West Wollega face chronic joblessness, lack of vocational skills, and exclusion from decision-making. With limited access to quality education and entrepreneurship opportunities, young people are increasingly vulnerable to poverty, migration, and conflict.

Despite national programs like the Green Legacy Initiative and TVET reform, implementation gaps, especially in rural and conflict-affected areas, have left the most marginalized youth behind.

Key problems identified include:

- ✓ High youth unemployment due to lack of skills and economic opportunity
- ✓ Severe land degradation threatening food security and livelihoods
- ✓ Low youth participation in sustainable development efforts
- ✓ Weak local infrastructure to support youth entrepreneurship
- ✓ Inadequate environmental education and awareness at the community level

Unless these intertwined challenges are addressed together—by equipping youth with skills and restoring their environment—future generations in the region will continue to face ecological collapse, poverty, and instability.



(Source: NODRO field Reports, UN OCHA): which NODRO has identified these critical needs from field reports and coordination with youth's Rights Advocacy Ethiopia (YRAE) (Existing Partner)

🔥 Why This Matters

- ✓ Over 56% of Ethiopian land is degraded
- ✓ Youth unemployment in Wollega is widespread and rising
- ✓ Degradation causes food insecurity, migration, and local conflict
- ✓ Young people lack access to training, funding, and mentorship without immediate intervention, thousands of youth will remain unemployed, and the region's environmental crisis will worsen.

"Just \$25 can help one youth restore land and reclaim their future!"

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"Ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of a better life."



💡 How the project will solve the problems (Our Solution)

This four-year project will:

- ✓ Train 72,400 youth across five cities in sustainable livelihoods
- ✓ Establish 500+ youth-led businesses through seed funding
- ✓ Create 5,000+ jobs in agroforestry, eco-tourism, and small enterprises
- ✓ Restore 1,500 hectares of land using community-based approaches
- ✓ Form and support 5 youth associations for leadership and peace building
- ✓ Partner with local universities, TVETs, and government for sustainability
- ✓ Provide life skills, entrepreneurship, and technical training
- ✓ Offer seed capital to start green and profitable businesses
- ✓ Involve youth in soil conservation, tree planting, and eco-tourism
- ✓ Build institutional partnerships with government, universities, and CSOs
- ✓ Ensure long-term sustainability through youth associations and market-driven models

📊 Key Activities and Budget Snapshot

Activity	Amount (USD)
Skills & entrepreneurship training	\$280,000
Land restoration (1,500 hectares)	\$300,000
Youth-led businesses (seed funding & mentoring)	\$180,000
Community engagement & awareness	\$80,000
Monitoring, learning & evaluation	\$60,000
Admin, staff, logistics	\$100,000
Total	\$1,000,000



Expected Potential Long-Term Impact (By 2030)

- ✓ 5,000 jobs created across 5 cities
 - ✓ 500 youth-led enterprises established
 - ✓ 1,500 hectares of land restored
 - ✓ Youth unemployment reduced by 25% in target areas
 - ✓ Enhanced food security through sustainable agriculture
 - ✓ Improved peace and environmental stewardship
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Sustainability Plan

After the project ends:

- ✓ Youth associations and green enterprises will operate independently post-funding
 - ✓ Trained youth will become local trainers and mentors
 - ✓ Revenue from eco-tourism and agriculture will sustain local efforts
 - ✓ Long-term partnerships with TVETs, universities, and CSOs for continued support
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Donation Options

- ✓ **\$25** - Train one youth in eco-tourism or agroforestry
- ✓ **\$50** - Train two youth in climate-smart agriculture
- ✓ **\$75** - Restore one hectare of degraded land
- ✓ **\$100** - Supply materials for land restoration in one hectare
- ✓ **\$1,000** - Support a full training program for 10 youth
- ✓ **\$2,000** - Seed fund for a youth-led microenterprise
- ✓ **\$3,000** - Set up a youth-led agroforestry hub in one village
- ✓ **\$5,000** - Restore 50 hectares, create 20 green jobs, Establish a nursery and tree-planting program in one city



📍 Coordination, Partnering and Community Engagement

- ✓ Local Government of Oromia
- ✓ Wollega University
- ✓ TVET Institutions
- ✓ Community-based youth platforms and FBOs

Why Trust NODRO?

- ✓ **Proven Track Record:** NODRO has successfully implemented multi-sectorial projects in youth empowerment, sustainable livelihoods, and environmental restoration across Ethiopia.
- ✓ **Field-Tested Partnerships:** NODRO have worked hand-in-hand with local governments, youth associations, and faith-based institutions in East and West Wollega to deliver community-driven impact.
- ✓ **Experienced in High-Need Areas:** We have operational presence in some of the most environmentally and economically vulnerable regions of Ethiopia, including Oromia, Amhara, Tigray, Somali, and SNNPR.
- ✓ **Transparent & Accountable:** We maintain audited financial records, conduct regular monitoring & evaluation, and comply fully with GlobalGiving's financial and reporting standards.
- ✓ **Locally Rooted, Community-Led:** Our approach ensures youth and community ownership at every level—planning, implementation, and sustainability.
- ✓ **Technical Expertise:** Our teams include environmental scientists, livelihood experts, and youth mentors trained in sustainable development, agroforestry, and vocational training.

📷 Photos & Visuals Documentation

📷 Primary Photo One:

Caption: Youth-led land restoration campaign in Qelem Wollega

Description: Local youth planting native tree species as part of a reforestation effort, demonstrating ownership and leadership in environmental recovery.



📷 **Primary Photo Two:**

Caption: Skills training workshop for unemployed youth in Nekemte

Description: Young participants learning eco-tourism and small business skills during a technical training session supported by NODRO.



📷 **Primary Photo Three:**

Caption: Community dialogue on sustainable farming in Dambi Dollo

Description: Farmers, youth leaders, and local officials engaging in a participatory workshop on climate-resilient agriculture and soil conservation methods in fields with their children.



📷 **Primary Photo Four:**

Caption: Farming and alternative livelihoods demo in Gimbi

Description: A female and youth group showcases their farming production techniques, highlighting green enterprise and gender inclusion.



📷 Primary Photo Five

🗨️ **Caption:** Youth and Stakeholders Assess Degraded Sites for Restoration project across Oromia

📌 **Description:** Project staff, local government officials, and youth champions conduct a field assessment across East and West Wollega and identify severely degraded land areas for the upcoming project. These sites have been prioritized for restoration and green enterprise development under the upcoming Youth Empowerment & Land Restoration initiative by NODRO.









Monitoring & Reporting Plan

- ✓ **Quarterly Progress Reports:** Regular updates with stories, photos, and key performance indicators (KPIs), highlighting milestones in job creation, land restoration, and youth business development.
- ✓ **Baseline and End line Surveys:** Detailed assessments at project start and end to measure change in youth employment rates, land quality, and community awareness on environmental stewardship.
- ✓ **Outcome Tracking Using GlobalGiving Indicators:** Utilize standard metrics such as:
 - **MB3.1a:** Number of jobs created or sustained
 - **ENV1.2:** Hectares of land restored or protected
 - **EDU5.1:** Number of youth completing skills training
- ✓ **Community Scorecards and Feedback Forums:** Regular community consultations to ensure transparency, ownership, and real-time learning from beneficiaries and local stakeholders.
- ✓ **Geo-Mapped Land Restoration Records:** Use GIS and field logs to track restored hectares, tree planting survival rates, and erosion control progress across all five cities.
- ✓ **Youth Business Monitoring:** Track the growth, income, and impact of supported youth-led enterprises using mobile data collection tools and quarterly mentorship reports.
- ✓ **Joint Supervision with Government & Local Partners:** Collaborative site visits with woreda/zonal officials, FBOs, and universities to validate progress and build accountability.
- ✓ **Annual Learning Reviews:** Document lessons learned and adaptive strategies to inform sustainability and replication in other regions.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- ✓ Trained 72,400 + youth in life skills, green entrepreneurship, and sustainable agriculture over four years.
- ✓ Created 5,000+ green jobs in eco-tourism, agroforestry, sustainable farming, and small enterprises.
- ✓ Restored 1,500 hectares of degraded land through community-led reforestation, soil conservation, and agro ecological practices.
- ✓ Supported 500+ youth-led businesses with seed funding, mentorship, and market linkage support.



- ✓ Established 5 functional youth associations to promote peace building, advocacy, and cooperative action in all five project cities.
- ✓ Reduced youth unemployment by at least 25% in targeted areas (East & West Wollega).
- ✓ Conducted 250+ environmental awareness events involving faith leaders, schools, and community members.
- ✓ Engaged 100+ local trainers and mentors to support youth-led initiatives and ensure sustainability.
- ✓ Improved food security and household income for at least 15,000 families through climate-smart agriculture and alternative livelihoods.
- ✓ Mobilized community participation in environmental protection efforts through youth-led campaigns and stewardship platforms.

Implementing Organization:

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Project Location:

- ✓ East & West Wollega Zones (Nekemte, Gimbi, Nadjo, Dambi Dollo, Qelem Wollega), Oromia Region, Ethiopia

Contact Information

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“Restoring land. Empowering youth. Growing Ethiopia’s future!”