

Agricultural Mechanisation for Smallholder Farmers in Ethiopia

Improving the framework condition for the spread of agricultural mechanisation in Ethiopia

The Challenge

Agriculture is the main livelihood, source of employment and significant contributor to the GDP of Ethiopia.

Although the climate condition is suitable for agricultural production, the country has not fully used its farming potential. The productivity and income of smallholder farmers remains low, post-harvest loss is high and food insecurity is an issue.

Application of modern technology and innovations is limited and inaccessible by smallholders. In areas where agricultural machineries are used by contractors, the technology is often outdated and poor in quality, reducing the efficiency, performance and quality of field operations.

Currently the Ethiopian government is striving to improve agricultural production and productivity by promoting mechanisation for smallholder farmers.

Project name	Agricultural Mechanisation for Smallholder Farmers (AMS)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Amhara, Oromia, Sidama and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and people's (SNNP) Regions
Lead executing agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Partner organisations	Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) Regional Bureaus of Agriculture (RBoA)
Duration	2021 – 2024
Budget	EUR 10,000,000

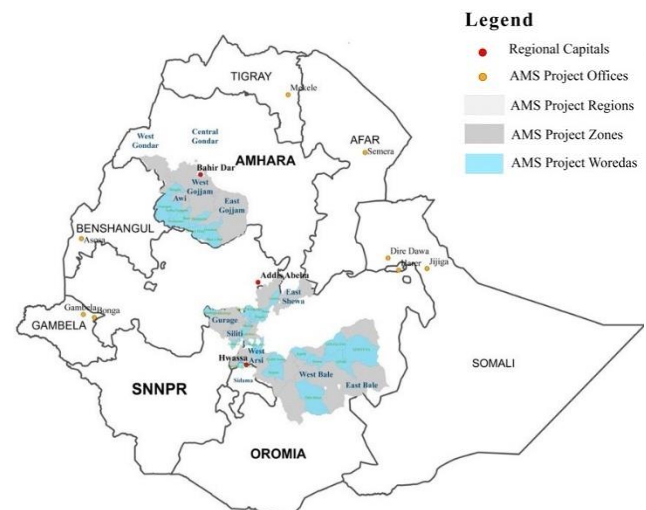
The Objective

The project aims to improve framework conditions necessary to spread agricultural mechanisation in Ethiopia.

Our Approach

- Support the Ethiopian government to develop and implement a proper strategy to promote agricultural mechanisation
- Promote use of appropriate machinery on smallholders' farms by skilled service providers for better farming quality, decreased drudgery and increased productivity
- Strengthen institutional capacity of actors in the agricultural mechanisation sector
- Capacitate mechanisation service providers to deliver improved services
- Develop awareness on the merit of agricultural mechanisation among stakeholders
- Promote innovative mechanisation ideas and technologies that contribute to improving smallholders' production, productivity, income and food security

Operational area





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Our Activities

Capacitating people

The project practically demonstrates the advantages of applying various machineries on farms to promote the use of modern agricultural mechanisation among smallholders. This enables farmers to select the most proper mechanisation technology for their purpose. The project also introduces capacity development measures to improve the technical and management skills of mechanisation service providers (private as well as Farmers Cooperative Unions). This increases the quality of mechanisation services offered to smallholders and allows the machinery owners to profitably run and expand their business, reaching more smallholders in the future. In addition, the project provides technical knowledge to various actors (such as a buyers' guide for agricultural machinery and equipment to enable informed investment).

Strengthening institutions

The project strengthens institutions in the agricultural mechanisation sector by consulting and supporting them with specific capacity building measures. This includes, for example, training institutions that offer training on agricultural machinery operation and maintenance. This way, institutions can contribute best to promoting agricultural mechanisation. The project also facilitates exchange among public, private and civil society actors in mechanisation, both nationally and internationally.

Improving overall conditions for agricultural mechanisation

The project supports the Ethiopian government to form the necessary legal and institutional foundations required to promote quality mechanisation services to smallholders. The project advises political actors, in decision making in the field of agricultural mechanization, to create an enabling environment for the various actors in the sector. Measures include, strengthening and consulting the Mechanisation Directorate in the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) as well as in the Bureaus of Agriculture (BoA) of Amhara, Oromia, Sidama and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Regional States.

Promoting innovations in agricultural mechanisation

The project implements various methods to find innovative mechanisation ideas and technologies that can improve agricultural production and productivity, while reducing the challenges which smallholders usually faces.

Outcomes

Capacitating people

- Smallholder farmers are aware of agricultural mechanisation options and understand their benefits.
- Agricultural machinery operators have the technical skills to professionally manage the machinery.
- Mechanisation service providers have the managerial skills to run their business profitably and expand it.
- Instructors in training institutions have the technical and methodological skills to capacitate actors in the mechanisation sector.

Strengthening institutions

- Farmer organisations and private service provider associations for agricultural mechanisation have improved their technical and management skills.
- Training institutions have improved their training offer in the field of agricultural mechanisation.
- Government offices have the capacities to promote agricultural mechanisation.

Improving overall conditions for agricultural mechanisation

- The conditions for mechanisation have improved in line with the government's agenda for agricultural mechanisation.
- Policy makers have created a conducive policy framework for agricultural mechanisation.
- Authorities in the field of agricultural mechanisation are in a better position to fulfil their tasks and duties.

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