

Advancing resilience and sustainability in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

GCCED Fragile States Portfolio 2026

Ethiopia — Resilience Through Restoration

Snapshot: Population ~126 million | GDP per capita ~US\$1,250 | Fragility context: High climate vulnerability | Region: Horn of Africa

Integrated Context

Ethiopia's development trajectory is increasingly shaped by climate variability, land degradation, and water stress. Drought in pastoral and agricultural zones, episodes of flooding, and long-term soil erosion continue to threaten livelihoods and food security. At the same time, Ethiopia has built an important policy base for restoration and green development, making it a key case for linking resilience investments to broader structural transformation. The country demonstrates that climate resilience can be framed as a development strategy rather than only as an emergency response. The challenge lies in implementation at scale, especially in areas facing conflict, fiscal pressure, and uneven service delivery. Water management, landscape rehabilitation, and productivity gains must move together for resilience investments to generate durable results.

Key Climate and Environmental Challenges

- Recurrent drought and variability
- Soil erosion and watershed decline
- Water insecurity in farming zones
- Pressure on degraded landscapes

GCCED Engagement Priorities

- Landscape restoration at scale
- Climate-smart agriculture systems
- Integrated water governance support
- Green development policy advice

Strategic Note

Ethiopia shows the value of treating restoration, water management, and agricultural resilience as core elements of long-term development strategy.

SDG Alignment: 2 • 6 • 13 • 15