



CLIMATE RESILIENT GREEN
ECONOMY (CRGE)
FORUM TERMS OF
REFERENCE



January 2024

Addis Ababa

1. Background

Ethiopia's CRGE strategy, launched in 2011, put forth the country's plan to undertake measures that reduce emissions across economic sectors and it is the basis for Ethiopia's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation and resilience under the UNFCCC process. Ethiopia developed an ambitious updated Nationally Determined Contribution in 2021, targeting a 68.8% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 as compared to 2010 levels, and incorporating 40 adaptation actions for the first time, in line with Ethiopia's National Adaptation Plan (NAP-ETH, 2019), which prioritized sectors and identified 18 adaptation options. The recently launched Long-Term Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) sets out the country's approach to achieve net zero emissions and build a climate resilient economy by 2050. If the CRGE and succeeding climate policy instruments are supported and successfully implemented, Ethiopia's emission reduction and resilience targets of the 2030 and 2050 could be achieved. Furthermore, Ethiopia strengthens its commitment for building climate resilient and green economy by considering it in the 10 Year Development Plan of the country which runs from 2021 to 2030.

The success of the CRGE strategy and other climate policy instruments depends on effective coordination among relevant actors, including development partners, for better outcomes. The CRGE Forum is one of the sector working groups under the Development Partners Group (DPG, previously DAG) structure. It serves as DPG–Government dialogue platform with the goal of ensuring aid effectiveness, engage in a strategic and structured resource mobilization and working towards ensuring sustainability of development partnership. The CRGE Forum was endorsed by the DPG High Level Group in October 2018 and had its first establishment meeting in January 2019. During the covid-pandemic, the meetings were conducted online.

Since the development of the first ToR (endorsed in Oct 2018), Ethiopia submitted its NAP-ETH (2019), updated NDC (2021) and its Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) (2023) to the UNFCCC and conduct the CRGE implementation progress in 2019. Moreover, there has been several institutional restructuring involving key institutions and sectors in the CRGE forum. Hence, the TOR was updated in January 2024.

2. Objective

The objective of the CRGE Forum is to:

- to create a dynamic platform that fosters meaningful dialogue and robust collaboration between development partners and the Ethiopian Government. By providing a space for open and constructive communication, the forum seeks to bridge gaps in understanding, align priorities, and harmonize efforts among stakeholders.
- to maximize the effectiveness of development assistance. Development partners bring valuable resources, knowledge, and technical support to the table. Through this forum, the intent is to streamline the coordination of these resources, minimizing duplication of efforts and ensuring that they are strategically channelled to areas where they can have the most impact. The aim by doing so, is to optimize the allocation of financial and technical aid, ultimately benefiting the Ethiopian people through the successful realization of CRGE/NDC initiatives.
- recognize the critical importance of mobilizing the necessary resources for CRGE-related projects. It provides a dedicated space for discussing and strategizing resource mobilization efforts, including the identification of and partnering for potential funding sources, innovative financing mechanisms, and

partnerships.

3. Scope

The CRGE Forum plays a pivotal role in advancing Ethiopia's Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy and broader climate related goals. Its scope encompasses a wide array of activities, including convening stakeholders around key international climate related issues, serving as a collaborative platform for stakeholders to collectively address sustainability, climate resilience, and the adoption of green practices across multiple sectors, fostering a resilient and environmentally conscious Ethiopian economy. It will complement work conducted under other thematic sector working groups, but focus on the results, challenges and opportunities from all CRGE-related sectors that plays a role towards achieving the net-zero target and building adaptive capacity and resilience.

4. The Structure of CRGE Forum

The CRGE forum will have three separate but interlinked entities, namely *High-level Group* (HL), *Technical Working Group* (TWG) and *Task Forces* (TFs).

4.1. The High-level Group of the CRGE Forum

4.1.1 Function, Role and Responsibilities

The High-level Group of the CRGE Forum serves as a critical body that offers overarching direction and strategic guidance, ensuring the effective operation of the Forum. Its roles and responsibilities are multifaceted and pivotal to advancing the objectives of the Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy and other climate related plans. The High-level Group fosters a collaborative environment and provide steers on strategic issues. It plays a significant role in elevating the collective wisdom and recommendations of the Forum to the attention of decision makers.

4.1.2 Membership in the High-level Group

Membership in the High-level Group is carefully curated, comprising esteemed individuals and institutions with a deep commitment to the CRGE's success.

Membership in the High-level Group of the CRGE Forum is essential for:

1. The Ministers of the Federal Ministry of Planning and Development, and the Ministry of Finance, .
2. Climate partners, and those with interest in the CRGE and climate agenda in general, including the ambassadors of the:
 - Delegation of the European Union to Ethiopia
 - Embassy of Canada
 - Embassy of France
 - Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
 - Embassy of Japan
 - Embassy of Netherlands
 - Embassy of New Zealand
 - Embassy of the Republic of Korea
 - Embassy of Sweden
 - Embassy of the United States of America

- Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Italian Embassy
- Royal Danish Embassy
- Royal Norwegian Embassy

4.1.3 The Chair for the High-level Group

The Chair for the High-level Group of the CRGE Forum is the Minister for Ministry of Planning and Development and co-chair is the Minister for Ministry of Finance. Two Co- chairs from the development partners side are rotated every second year, and the same development partner will also serve as co-chairs of the Technical Working Group. .

4.1.4 Meetings of the High-level Group

The High-level Group of the CRGE Forum convenes at least once a year. The Technical Working Group (see 4.2) will give the High-level Group an update on progress relevant for the implementation of the CRGE Strategy.

4.2 The Technical Working Group (TWG) of the CRGE Forum

4.2.1 Function, Role and Responsibilities

To improve harmonization of efforts in the CRGE sector, the Technical Working Group of the CRGE Forum, under the stewardship of the Secretariat of the CRGE Forum, aims to:

1. Share information on who is doing what.
2. Share relevant research, analysis and other pertinent documents.
3. Foster information exchange on experiences, best practices, innovations, evaluations, and lessons learned.
4. Keep members posted on upcoming missions and scheduled events;
5. Work towards attaining greater efficiency in climate-related operations, mobilizing support and additional resources.
6. Facilitate greater inter- ministry coordination and multi-stakeholder consultation; and
7. Work towards international engagements on climate dialogues and negotiations.

4.2.2 Membership in the Technical Working Group

Membership in the Technical Working Group of the CRGE Forum is essential for CRGE relevant units in the following institutions:

- Ministry of Planning and Development (Climate Change Sub-Sector)
- Ministry of Finance (The CRGE Facility)
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Water and Energy
- Ministry of Irrigation and Lowlands
- Ministry of Urban and Infrastructure
- Ministry of Transport and Logistics
- Ministry of Industry
- Ministry of Mines

- Ethiopia Forestry Development
- Ethiopia Biodiversity Institute
- Ethiopian Investment Holdings
- CRGE associated research institutions
- All key bilateral and/or multilateral development partner institutions that are active in CRGE related sectors.
- The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) i.e., agencies that are active in the CRGE sector and those which are a convener of the UNCT. United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Results Group¹.

Membership in the Technical Working Group of the CRGE Forum is optional for:

1. Any associated government platforms or institutions that are engaged in the CRGE sector;
2. Non-DPG development institution that is engaged in funding and/or implementing activities in the CRGE sector can be invited by the Secretariat or Chairs and Co-Chairs of the CRGE Forum.

4.2.3 The Chair for the Technical Working Group

The Chair for the Technical Working Group of the CRGE Forum is the State Minister for Ministry of Planning and Development. The Co-chairs from the development partners who serve as the co-chairs of the High-level Group having a tenure period of two years.

4.2.4 Meetings of the Technical Working Group

The Technical Working Group of the CRGE Forum convenes quarterly.

4.3 Task Forces

4.3.1 Function, Role and Responsibilities

The Task Forces (TFs) are meant for enhancing participation of partners/members in a specific thematic area(s) of interest, and facilitating harmonization of efforts, better coordination, and lesson learning. TFs are sub-working groups under the CRGE Forum and will be responsible to facilitate discussions among members, document discussion outputs, communicate with members and regularly report to the TWG of the CRGE Forum.

The permanent TFs are:

- Forestry Task Force
- MRV Task Force
- International Climate Engagement and Climate Finance Task Force

4.3.2 Membership in the Task Forces

Membership is open to all stakeholders listed in the CRGE Forum Technical Working Group and other implementing partners.

¹ The UNDAF Results Groups bring together United Nations agencies with a shared purpose and interest in achieving the same UNDAF outputs/outcomes to collaborate in joint planning, implementation and monitoring and resource mobilization. It aims to serve as a mechanism to achieve coherence, consistency and adequate funding of all programmatic activities under UNDAF. There are currently 12 groups: agriculture, social protection, health and nutrition, water and sanitation, disaster risk management, education, industry, climate change, HIV, data and demographics, gender and governance.

4.3.3 The Chairs of the Task Forces (TFs)

The Chair of each TF is assigned by the government ministry/institution mandated to oversee the thematic area of the TFs. The Co-Chair of each TF is selected from the Development Partner Group (DPG).

4.3.4 Meetings of the Task Forces

The TFs shall meet at least quarterly. The Task Forces shall report to the TWG on progress made in achieving their objectives.

5. The Secretariat of the CRGE Forum

The Secretariat of the CRGE Forum is hosted under the Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Secretariat is responsible for the overall management of the CRGE Forum including the organization of the different meetings, report and proceeding preparation and circulation, and follow-up, recording of the all relevant documents of the forum and other related activities. They are also responsible for keeping the CRGE forum membership list up to date.

6. Reporting

The reports and proceedings for all the CRGE Forum meetings are produced and circulated by the Secretariat of the CRGE Forum with the guidance of the chair and co-chairs. The Secretariat is responsible for producing a synthesis report of the Technical Group meetings and for presenting this information to the High-level Group. The synthesis report summarizes the activities, progress, constraints, and other pertinent matters encountered during the period since the last High-level Group meeting as well as bringing challenges to the attention of the High-level Group. Correspondingly, the proceedings of the High-level Group meetings are produced by the Secretariat of the CRGE Forum and key outcomes of the sessions are reported to the Technical Group.

ANNEX A: The updated CRGE Governance, 2023

